

## Step Onto the Lenten Pathway... 'Coming Back to Life'

During winter we are aware that much of the world lies dormant, and in spring a truly amazing thing happens, no less amazing because it happens every year: the world comes back to life!

As the days lengthen we become aware of the waking world, rising again. That's where the word 'Lent' comes from: an old English word for 'lengthen,' referring to the longer days. 40 days for waking up and getting ready for Easter, a festival of new life celebrating Jesus' resurrection and the new world that's on the way.

This year's Lenten theme is: **'Coming Back to Life'** and we invite you to use the Lenten devotional booklet (provided by the Worship Committee) available on the Welcome Table—devotions and activities for the season of Lent.

Additionally, begonia plants will be available for the next two Sundays (March 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>). Through the solemnity of Lent there is ample proof of home that comes to us in growth; Clear evidence of God's ongoing acts of Creation. You are invited to nurture your plant over the coming weeks, returning it in blossom for Easter Sunday worship to brighten and enliven our worship space.

You may wish to have a tangible reminder of your own personal journey through Lent; river stones are available on the Welcome Table; pick a stone that speaks to you and carry it through the season to Good Friday when we will place them at the foot of the cross.

This year's Lenten study, **'Something Sacred: Reflections on Music and Faith'** can be accessed by Zoom, every Wednesday evening between March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup> @7pm. (Details are in the announcements pages.)

Further Lenten resources can be found on the AUC website at: [auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://auroraunitedchurch.ca) with new resources posted every week.

The Worship Committee wishes you a meaningful Lenten season.



Palm Sunday-April 13<sup>th</sup>/Good Friday-April 18<sup>th</sup>/Easter Sunday-April 20<sup>th</sup>

### Contacting Our Church Staff by Phone 905-727-1935 or Email

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar x 23 Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care  
 Rev. Andy Comar x 22 Minister of Faith Formation & Pastoral Care  
 Suzanne Whitehurst x 21 Secretary  
 Affe Zhao x 24 Bookkeeper  
 Margaret Heney x 26 Music Coordinator  
 Lisa Kyriakides x 27 Handbell Choir Director

lorraine@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
 andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
 info@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
 bookkeeper@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
 margaret@auroraunitedchurch.ca  
 handbells@auroraunitedchurch.ca



## Aurora United Church

March 30, 2025~11 am

Church Office Hours 9 am ~ 12 pm (noon) Monday ~ Thursday


Aurora United Church Office 905-727-1935 x 21 ~ [www.auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)

Annual License w/Podcasting, no. A-718074 for Mar 01, 2024- Feb 28, 2025

*\*Hearing assists available on the Welcome Table and from the volunteer in the sound booth.\**



### March 30 to April 6~ Lent 4

Sun. Mar 30	11 am Lent 4 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11) 12:30 pm AUC AGM ~ Sanctuary
Mon. Mar 31	7 pm Affirming Ministry Movie night - Will & Harper~ Binions Hall 
Tue. Apr 1	7 pm EDGE Property Committee ~ Zoom
Wed. Apr 2	10 am - 2 pm Aurora Community Café ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 5 pm Welcome Table ~ Trinity Anglican 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm Faith-A-Peal, Handbells ~ Sanctuary 7 pm-8:15pm Bellissimo, Handbells ~ Sanctuary 7 pm Lenten Study Group ~ Zoom
Thurs. Apr 3	11:30 am - 1 pm Martha's Table ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 1 pm - 3 pm Prayer Shawl Crafters Circle ~ Nursery 7 pm - 8:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
Sat. Apr 5	9:30 - 10:30 Rise & Shine Community Breakfast 10 am - 2 pm AUCW Booksale ~ Trinity Anglican
Sun. Apr 6	11 am Lent 5 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11)



### Annual General Meeting

Today following worship!

Lunch provided by UCW



### RISING FROM THE ASHES

#### Congregational Challenge - Donor Match


The Rising from the Ashes Campaign is thrilled to announce that an anonymous donor has made an initial gift of \$25,000 and committed up to another **\$25,000** to match donations to this campaign **made in the month of March. Help us reach our goal – a potential total of \$75,000!**

Here's your chance to double your donation if you get it in before midnight on March 31st.

Go to: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/auc-rising-from-the-ashes>

The Donor Match Campaign has raised **\$15,635.00**

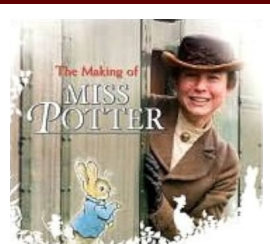
The Life and Work of our Congregation continues.....



**Sunday Morning Nursery**  
Infants to 4yrs

If you are interested in serving as Nursery volunteer (ages teen to adult) contact the office at:


[info@auroraunitedchurch.ca](mailto:info@auroraunitedchurch.ca)



**Movie Night**  
**Miss Potter**

Tuesday April 8  
7:00 pm  
Binions Hall,

*Miss Potter* is a 2006 biographical drama film directed by Chris Noonan. It is based on the life of children's author and illustrator Beatrix Potter, and combines stories from her own life with animated sequences featuring characters from her stories, such as Peter Rabbit.



**The Aurora Community Café**  
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
Wednesday 10 am - 2pm

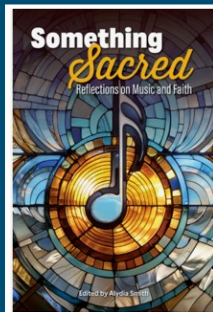
Would you like to volunteer at the Café?  
Contact: Rev. Andy [andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca](mailto:andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca)



**Coming Back to Life**

Be sure to pick up your free copy of 'Coming Back to Life: Devotions and activities for Lent', available on the Welcome Table today.

Also...add a river stone to your Lenten journey (Welcome Table) and return it to the foot of the cross on Good Friday.


**Lenten Study Group on Zoom**

Lent is here; instead of giving something up, why not think about what you would like to learn from your journey this year? What we sing together has the power to change us. What music do you hope will be sung in churches generations from now? What music helps you become the follower of Christ you hope to be?

Copies of *Something Sacred: Reflections on Music and Faith* are available through the UCRD store  
<https://ucrdstore.ca/products/something-sacred-reflections-on-music-and-faith>

You do not need to have the book to join the study group! Every Wednesday from March 12 to April 23 at 7:00 pm

Check out the AUC website for the Zoom link: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/something-sacred-reflections-on-music-and-faith>



**RISING FROM THE ASHES**

Check out the AUC website:  
<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/auc-rising-from-the-ashes>

As of Sunday March 23, we have raised  
**\$224,267.76**


**Thank you for your support!**



**Funday Sunday—Children's Program**

The Funday Sunday Children's Program is for children from age 5-11. Children go downstairs to Binions Hall following the lighting of the rainbow candle.

Children will return upstairs following the service.  
For <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/children>



**BOOK SALE**

Saturday, April 5, 2025  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Trinity Anglican Church Foyer  
79 Victoria Street, Aurora

**Donations Needed:**  
Accepting all children's books and only paperback adult books.

**Donation Drop Off Details:**  
Friday, April 4, 2025 4:00 – 7:00 pm  
Saturday, April 5, 2025 8:00 – 10:00 am

**Volunteers Needed:**  
Members of the congregation are invited to donate a couple of hours of their time for sorting or selling. Teens are encouraged to earn community service hours.

**Inquiries:** Paula Hanna 905-727-2584


Sponsored by Aurora United Church Women  
Proceeds to support local charities



**Cash Cards**

When you purchase gift cards for everyday items you are buying anyway - groceries, gas, coffee, etc. - the church benefits because the retailers offer the cards to us at a discount. For example, if you purchase a \$100 Loblaw gift card, AUC makes \$4.00.


To purchase Cash Cards go to: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/cash-cards--43>



**Rising from the Ashes Spring Concert**  
Saturday May 24 - 7 pm

The AUC Chancel Choir, Handbell Ensembles, and soloists are preparing for our upcoming Rising from the Ashes Spring Fundraising Concert

**Singers** are invited to join the Chancel Choir for this concert. We will rehearse weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm  
Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**Affirming Ministry**  
(Affirming is a verb!)

**MOVIE NIGHT**

Join us on **Monday, March 31 at 7 pm** in Binions Hall for our first ever *Affirming Movie Night*. Named one of the top 5 documentary films of 2024, *Will & Harper*, follows actor Will Ferrell and SNL writer Harper Steele (who has recently completed a gender transition), as the duo takes a 17-day road trip across the USA.

Enjoy a piece of delicious PIE as you watch this intimate, honest and heartfelt documentary!



Affirming ministries work in many different ways toward the healing and wholeness of creation, challenging bias and discrimination based on appearance, culture, class or age; working to end racism; promoting economic justice; increasing accessibility or caring for the planet.

Check out the Affirming Ministry table in the entranceway for resources, key fobs, buttons, and other items relating to our Affirming ministry.

See: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/ministries>

The Life and Work of our Congregation continues....