



# Kingsview Connected

January—February 2023

## BE FREE

### WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FREE METHODIST



As we continue into the New Year and our schedules return to a normal rhythm, it's a good time to consider our connection with new families and prospective members. It's also a good opportunity for all members to review our identity and renew our commitment to the mission of the church. This includes a new preaching series called *Be Free – What it means to be a Free Methodist*, which we began in January.

Recently, our National

Leadership Team in the Free Methodist Church in Canada (FMCiC) revised the foundational statements that give the FM church its unique flavour in the larger body of Christ. This series is structured around these statements.

Traditionally, we referred to 5 “free” statements that make up the free in Free Methodism. They are; 1. Freedom from slavery, 2. Freedom from the domination of sin, 3. Freedom in worship, 4. Free seats for everyone,

and 5. Free from secret societies. The updated version, below can also be found online at [fmcic.ca](http://fmcic.ca).

**Justice.** Free Methodists were supporters of the anti-slavery movement and believed in equality for all, regardless of ethnic background. Today, we continue to pursue diversity and call out systemic and racial injustice.

**Discipleship.** Early Free Methodists renewed John Wesley's teaching that all Christians could be free from sin ruling their lives. Today, we want to support each other in our choices, attitudes, and behaviours and continue to point each other towards God.

**Innovation.** Early Free Methodists moved away from strict formality and encouraged Spirit led freedom in their services. Today, we welcome a wide

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**(Be Free cont'd)** variety of worship and church ideas, in whatever shape, size, or creative expression God is revealing.

**Inclusion.** Methodists rented seats in their churches, but Free Methodists saw this as disenfranchising the poor and stopped the practice. Today, we continue to serve & advocate for the vulnerable, oppressed, and marginalized.

**Jesus.** Early Free Methodists wanted all their members to be free from secret

societies that often divided their loyalties. Today, we still believe that our first priority and pledge is to Jesus.

Over the next few weeks leading up to Lent, we will consider each of the five distinctive belief statements in more detail as the preaching team delves deeper into how these apply to us today.

As part of the focus on understanding our belief system more clearly, we are

also offering a seminar series called *Partnership – Joining the Ministry Community*, for any one interested in knowing more, or exploring membership at Kingsview more seriously. There are 3 sessions, Jan. 22, Feb. 26 and March 26, each following the morning service, with lunch provided. Please contact the office or Pastor Darrin directly, if you plan to attend.

**Pastor Darrin**

## Board Update

We're very excited to officially announce that the "repayment" of the money used from the Free Methodist Foundation (which was primarily the Edith Mitchell Bequest) has now been completely re-invested! This project that the board recommended, was approved by the Kingsview Society back in 2013, following significant flood damage and afforded us an opportunity to re- envision the purpose of the property at #17 Kingsview, and renew it for use as 2



high-quality, affordable, 2-bedroom rental units. At the time of completion of the project in 2014, we estimated a "repayment" plan over a period of up to 7 years. Due to the uncertainties the pandemic brought with it, the board discerned that it was wise to wait to complete the

reinvestment of money when conditions were more stable. Praise the Lord that he enabled us to complete this project at the end of 2022 with only our local church resources! We continue to have a very viable ministry asset that is now very much balance positive. Please continue to pray for the Board, and Finance and Property Teams as they discern how the Lord is leading us to utilize all of our resources for the kingdom.

# Spotlight

It's been a great start to the new year!



Baby Jordan Smith (L) , Baby Taliyah Willocks (C) & Baby Ezra Carrasco (R) held by Sharon



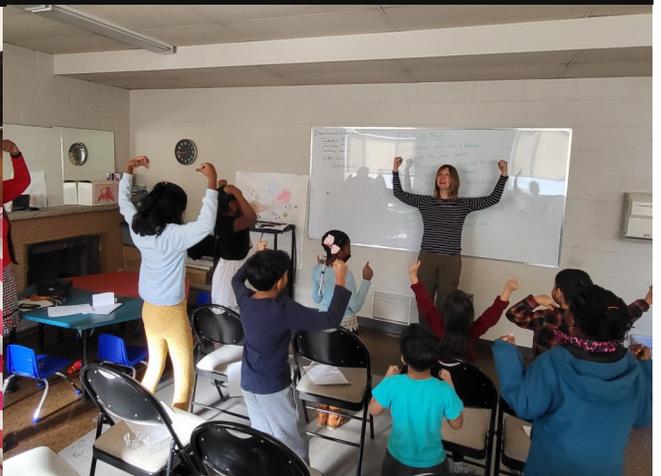
Pastor Darrin leading Partnership seminar



Men's breakfast was held on Jan. 28th



Youth enjoying a game at T'n'T



Kids singing in Sunday School

# Upcoming Events

- Sunday, Feb. 12th** - Superbowl party @ 6 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 12th** - PB&Jam Music Session
- Sunday, Feb. 19th** - PB & Jam Music Session
- Wednesday, Feb. 22nd** - Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)
- Sunday, Feb. 26th** - Partnership Seminar pt. 2



Join the FMCIC National Prayer team at 12 pm (ET) Mon. to Sat. for prayer time via Zoom: Meeting ID:833 9849 7735



The Breakfree Family Center is inviting you to their Annual Fundraising Brunch. Call 647-856-9192 to purchase tickets.

## Connect with Us

Sunday Morning Worship Services, 10:30 a.m.

For more information visit us at:



[kingsviewfm.com](http://kingsviewfm.com)



[facebook.com/KingsviewFMC](https://facebook.com/KingsviewFMC)



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KINGSVIEW  
CHURCH

Kingsview Church is a Free Methodist Church in Canada Congregation

# Ours To Tell

Celebrating Black History Month 2023



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It's February and that means that it is Black History month! That time of year where Canadians come together to celebrate and honor the legacy and contributions of black Canadians, past and present.

This year's official theme is "**Ours To Tell**" coined with the hope of inspiring each of us to engage with and learn more about our black community—their histories, successes, sacrifices and triumphs. From the first recorded person of African heritage to arrive in Canada in 1604 (Mathieu DaCosta), Canadian Black History has

been and continues to be a rich one. Many within the black community have played important and integral roles in shaping the country we call home. Their impact has spanned many areas of life; serving in the armed forces, politics, sports, the arts, science, technology, and the list goes on. These are indeed worthy of celebrating! Most recently on January 21st, we took time out to recognize the life and legacy of the Honourable Lincoln Alexander who was Canada's first Black Member of Parliament and also the first visible minority to be

appointed Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. He had a strong belief in the power of education to create racial equity and social change and did his part to effect change. His legacy serves as an inspiration to many today.

As Free Methodist Christians, we have a legacy of our own, being advocates for the anti-slavery movement and believing in equity and equality for all regardless of their race. It's one of our fundamental freedoms. We continue to do our part to advocate for racial justice and equity through the work of the FMCIC Intercultural Engagement Team and the

**(Ours cont'd)** Racial Justice and Ethnic Equity Task Force, in order to realize a church that is reflective of the Kingdom, right here on earth. This work has only just begun and requires the participation of the entire church body, especially our local churches.

So, as we reflect on the theme **“Ours To Tell”**, let’s see it as an engaging dialogue between the story-

teller and the listener that will in turn spur us into action! The anti-racism efforts have seen some successes and yet systemic struggles remain. We continue to see their effects on display in every sphere of life - our school systems, financial and economic systems, political systems, social systems etc. As Christians, we know the power of our Lord and how He

can make all things new and bring reconciliation and restoration. So as we engage in the process, let’s ask Him to show us how we can reflect His image and light in the dark and difficult situations that the black community continues to face, to bring about a positive change for future stories to be told.

## Black History Month Events

**Exhibit: Mary Ann Shadd Cary: “Breaking the Editorial Ice”** - Celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mary Ann Shadd Cary, the first Black woman to publish a newspaper in North America. Wednesdays and Sundays at Mackenzie House. Register at : <https://mackenziehouse.streamintickets.com/events>

**Exhibit: A Glimpse of Black Life in Victorian Toronto** - Despite the prejudices imposed upon Black individuals in the 1800s, their communities made significant contributions to Toronto. This exhibition recognizes how Black residents have enriched our city. Exhibition on view until February 23 at [Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery](#).

**For more events visit:** <https://nowtoronto.com/culture/celebrate-black-history-month-in-toronto-events/>

## Appointment Update!

### **Pastor Darrin officially appointed Lead Pastor!**

On January 26th, Bishop Cliff Fletcher informed us that the Ministerial Education, Guidance and Placement Committee (MEGaP) has approved the change of Pastor Darrin’s appointment status from Interim Pastor to Lead Pastor at Kingsview FMC. This is great news in moving Kingsview’s ministry forward. We congratulate Pastor Darrin on this appointment and look forward to how God will use him in this role.