



Dear Clarkson Community Church Family

This has been a year like no other. It has been a year filled with change and with challenges, with difficult decisions and unusual forms of being the church. Yet as I reflect on the year I am deeply grateful for a church family who have walked the ups and downs of 2020 together. Our times together on Zoom and Facebook and other online technologies have been meaningful and helped many of us have a sense of comfort and continuity in the midst of so much change. Your commitment to Jesus, to the church and to continued faithful generosity have played such a significant role in enabling us to continue to be present in peoples' lives this year.

Like the rest of the year, this also seems like a Christmas that is unlike any other. Except perhaps that very first Christmas. The family who are away from friends because of government decisions. The regular traditions broken. The challenges of navigating uncertainty and worry about the future. The first Christmas seems a lot like ours is going to be this year. Yet as we reflect on the first Christmas one of the things we discover is that even in the midst of turmoil and difficulty, hope is born. Even when the world is turned upside down, peace is born. In Jesus we find that love and joy are born, even when they are born in a stable in Bethlehem. We are entering into a Christmas that is nothing like we would have planned, yet we enter into it knowing that we are following in the footsteps of Mary and Joseph who chose to let God to be at work in and through them.

While this has been a challenging year for so many, we are grateful for ministries and organizations that have continued to support those in need. This Christmas we are inviting you to be generous by supporting our local or national primary mission partner, or by giving to the Clarkson Community Church ministry fund .

### **1. Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative** ([click here](#) for more information)

Bob and Margo Cameron started DWCC 10 years ago as a means of serving the community of downtown Windsor. While we support them on a monthly basis our hope is to provide them with additional funds this Christmas.

### **2. The Compass** ([click here](#) for more information)

As a founding Church we continue to partner with The Compass who exist to serve those in need in south Mississauga. Their provision of food and support for people who are at risk continues to be an important ministry and we want to ensure they have all that they need to care for people this Christmas.

### **3. Clarkson Community Church**

As always, our church is dependant on your generosity to continue the ministry to which God has called us in south-west Mississauga. December is a month that anticipates significant giving and our hope is that we are able to meet that need this year while also supporting other ministries in need.

To give to any of these organizations you can send an e-transfer to [donations@clarksonchurch.ca](mailto:donations@clarksonchurch.ca) and in the message write “Christmas Offering: \_\_\_\_\_” (fill in the blank with the name of the organization you would like your donation directed toward.) If you do not indicate a specific organization we will split your donation between the three. Please include your name and email address if you are giving by e-transfer for the first time so that we can issue you a tax receipt. You can also give by dropping an envelope in the church mailbox with the message above written on the envelope.

Our hope is that this Christmas Offering gives you an opportunity to express generosity beyond your regular giving to Clarkson Community Church. We are grateful for your continued support and trust that you are able to continue to be generous toward your church family this Christmas.

Over the past few weeks each of you has received a Christmas Gift that we hope has been a reminder to you of a church family who love you and the God who loves you. As we celebrate the Gift of Christmas together this year, we invite you to also take the opportunity to share love with DWCC, The Compass or our church ministry fund through your generosity.

This Christmas may you know that you are part of the family of the God who is with us.

Peace,  
Jamie (On behalf of the staff and elders)

**Jamie Bay**

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