



On the evening of June 18, 2015 just outside Cincinnati, Ohio - 39 year old Suliman Abdul-Mutakallim was shot and killed, as he walked home, carrying food for himself and his wife. Authorities say he was an innocent and unsuspecting victim, murdered for less than \$60. At a court hearing more than two years later, on Nov. 2, his mother Rukiye Abdul – did something courtroom veterans said they'd never seen. She walked up to one of the young men - Javon, who'd just admitted involvement in her son's death, and hugged him. She also embraced Javon's mother. She wanted them to know she could see beyond the act that took her son's life. And she pledged to do everything possible to make Javon a better man. [You can check out the video here.](#)

How was she able to do that? How did she embrace the person who brought her incalculable pain and suffering? You simply can't fake that kind of action. It's beyond human effort. It comes from a heart that is different, doesn't it? It comes from a heart that knows real freedom. This Sunday - we're continuing our SHIFT series - looking at the powerful difference that God's love and grace make to transform our hearts. This week we look at Love that suffers a long time with patience. Check out the story Jesus told in [Matthew 18:21-35](#) of a servant who acted like a king and a king who acted like a servant.

Church Events

- * Jan 14 : Hearing God's voice @ 10am
- * Jan 16: Women's Connect and Grow @ 7pm
- * Jan 21: Pot luck & Elder update after service
- * Jan 27: Man UP
- * Jan 30: Women's connect and grow

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 – POT-LUCK LUNCH AND INFORMATION MEETING

For some time now, the elders have been engaged in a process of discernment about a possible change of denomination for the church. It has become a priority to better align our church beliefs regarding the role of women in leadership, with denominational beliefs. Following the gathering on Sunday, January 21, we would like to provide an opportunity for the elders to share our journey with you, and to hear from you through a time of discussion. Please plan to bring a dish that can be shared for lunch and ask God for his leading in our time together.

Praise & Prayer:

- ♦ Prayer would be appreciated for a family from the Caledon East Fellowship Baptist Church. Arn and Elaine Adams have a 37 year-old son Ben, father of four little girls. Ben was involved in a head-on collision on January 4th. The situation is critical but he is stable in Sunnybrook hospital. The immediate concern is to stabilize his brain pressure so they can do surgery to repair multiple fractures.
- ♦ Please continue to pray for Gloria Bannon as she battles an aggressive form of cancer. Her husband is Gerald. Please pray for strength for both as they travel to and from treatment appointments and the physical stress that places on Gloria.
- ♦ Giovanna Heron's father was diagnosed with prostate cancer last year, and on a more recent trip to the doctor has found that he needs to start radiation and other treatment soon. Please pray for him as he begins those treatments. Pray also for strength for Giovanna as her father lives in Florida and she is here.
- ♦ Hugh Caldwell, a friend of the Kennedy and Redlich families has been diagnosed with stage 3 colorectal cancer. He is currently receiving chemotherapy. Please ask God to give Hugh and his wife Sharon strength for the days ahead.
- ♦ We have much for which to be thankful as Kelly's pregnancy continues while she is on bedrest at the hospital. Kelly and baby are doing well as are Kyle, Jeremy and Justin. Our NRCC family is greatly appreciated for their ongoing prayer support for not only Kelly's and the baby's well-being, but also for our entire family as demonstrated through many kindnesses. God is good and is extending His grace to us indeed.



CONNECT CARDS:

Church is a people who God's love and grace are changing! We get to be a large family! Families communicate the important stuff that's happening in their lives often around a dinner table! We'd love to celebrate, support and pray for one another when we hear about what's happening.

One way to do that is with the Connect Card. Think of it as the family dinner table in convenient card form! You can pick one up any time and place it in the offering plate on a Sunday or the Connect Card box



Youth Winter SNOCamp March 2-4, 2018:

We're excited about the possibility of heading away for a great weekend adventure with tons of other young people at Muskoka Woods! It's a great weekend to enjoy all of what Muskoka Woods has to offer while also being immersed in worship and teaching from God's word. Snocamp can be a major highlight for our year! The cost is \$155 and we'll be carpooling! We need to know how many young people are in for the SNOcamp Adventure - so please let Kelly Martin know asap so we can book our spaces!!



Hearing God's voice will be meeting once again starting this Sunday, January 14th at 10am., and running the program, every other week. The group will be meeting in the staff room. Remember to bring your journals!



Women's Connect:

After a short Christmas break - our Women's Connect group will begin it's Winter session on January 16th at 7pm. If you'd like to be part of our group - come on out that Tuesday evening as Martha Lawson will be sharing with us about *Listening for the Voice of God!* At our next gathering after that we'll begin our regular study on *The Power of a Praying Woman*. Women's connect is a great time to get to know other woman and journey together. Please speak to Gail Lister for more details.