

NEIGHBOURING CHURCHES ROAD TRIP

STOUFFVILLE UC to GOODWOOD UC

3999 Concession 3 Rd., Goodwood, ON, L0C 1A0

From the parking lot, turn left onto Duchess St. and head west.

Left on George St., around the right-hand curve, then left on Mill St. to the lights

Left at the lights onto Main St. Travel 1.2 km

Left onto Tenth Line. Travel 4.2 km

Right onto Durham Regional Hwy. 47. Travel 3.6 km to Goodwood.

Right onto Goodwood Rd/Durham Regional Road 21. Travel along to Front St./Concession 3. Goodwood UC will be on the right corner. Park in the parking lot. Get out and take a walk around the church. Discover their unique rock garden. Do any of the depicted “rock” buildings look familiar? Maybe have a snack/picnic at the picnic table. Take your leftovers away with you.

Scavenger Hunt Question: Three names of valued church members are engraved on a stone on our church property. Can you name them?

GOODWOOD UC to MT. ZION UC

3000 Concession Rd. 8, Goodwood ON, L0C 1A0

From the parking lot, turn right onto Goodwood Rd/Durham Regional Rd. 21.
Travel 10.5 km

Right onto Lake Ridge Rd./Durham Regional Rd. 23. Travel 9.8 km Hy-Hope Farm is on the right if you need some fresh produce.

Just past Dutch Master Nursery, turn right onto Concession Rd 8. Travel 2.3 km. Mt. Zion UC will be on the right. Pull in and park in the parking lot. Get out and take a walk around the church and drive shed. “Mt. Zion was a spiritual home for people through the Great Depression, the wars, and the Spanish flu pandemic. It was a place of hope and source of strength and comfort through some of the most trying times. Surely, that should give us hope for today, too,” says Pastor Kim Lawrence.

Scavenger Hunt Question: What does it say on the stained-glass window above the front doors of the church?

MT. ZION UC to CLAREMONT UC

5052 Old Brock Rd., Claremont, ON, L1Y 1B3

From Mt. Zion UC, head west on concession Rd 8 about 400 m

Right on Sideline 6. Travel 2.0 km (This is a T-intersection.)

Left onto Durham Regional Rd. 5. Travel 4.9 km

Right onto Old Brock Rd. at the flashing red light. Claremont UC will be a short distance along on the left side. Turn left into the parking lot, get out and take a walk around the church. You will discover a mini-library – such a good idea!

Notice the interesting brick pattern between the windows.

Scavenger Hunt Question: What is the date on the corner stone to the left of the front steps? (Hint: If you can't find it on the left, look to the right)

CLAREMONT UC to ST. ANDREWS UC

32 Main St. N., Markham, ON, L3P 1X5

From Claremont UC, turn right and head south on Old Brock Rd to Central St./Durham Regional Road 5.

Right onto Central St./Durham Regional Rd 5. Travel 7.0 km

At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto York Durham Line/York Regional Rd 30. Travel 6.4 km

Right on Hwy 7. Travel 6.9 km

Right onto Main St. N./Markham Rd.

In a few metres, turn left onto Thomson Ct. which is also the driveway to St. Andrews UC. Travel down the long driveway to park closer to the church building and have a walk around it. Enjoy a snack/picnic on the picnic tables in the front yard. Take your leftovers and trash away with you. See if you can identify all the additions to the building. Did you count all the entrance/exit doors into it?

Scavenger Hunt Question: Looking at the sign beside the church, complete the following phrase: "Worshipping since _____"?

ST. ANDREWS UC to LEMONVILLE UC

13523 McCowan Rd., Whitchurch-Stouffville, ON, L4A 7X5

From St. Andrews parking lot, turn right on Main St./Markham Rd. and travel a few metres south.

Right onto Hwy 7. Travel west 2.0 km

Right on McCowan Rd. Travel 14.0 km north passing Markham Fairgrounds and Stouffville Rd. You will see Lemonville UC on the right. Pull over onto the shoulder and park. BE MINDFUL OF THE TRAFFIC!! Get out and walk around the church building. Discover how the congregation renovated the building to make it accessible. Wander through the cemetery and spend a moment in the Garden of Reflection.

Scavenger Hunt Question: What is written on the back of the big sign in front of Lemonville United Church?

LEMONVILLE UC to STOUFFVILLE UC

34 Church St. N., Whitchurch-Stouffville, ON, L4A 1E3

From Lemonville UC, head north on McCowan Rd. to Bloomington Rd.

Right onto Bloomington Rd. Travel 2.0 km

Take the first exit at the roundabout onto Hwy. 48 south. Travel 4.0 km

Left on Stouffville Rd./Main St. Travel 3.0 km, passed Ninth Line to Church St.

Turn left onto Church St. N. Stouffville UC is on the left. Pull into the parking lot and park. Get out and walk around the church building. Like St. Andrews, it has had additions. Discover the purpose of the Open Cupboard on the south side of the building. Take a moment to rest in the Prayer Garden on the north side of the building.

Scavenger Hunt Question: Look at the statue in the Prayer Garden. Who is it representing? What do you know about Him?

Dear Travellers,

Members of your congregation have been gathering on Zoom every couple of months for the last year to get to know each other a little better and to find out in what ways we can work together to further our work in God's kingdom. The restrictions of COVID-19 protocols have hampered our endeavours a little, but nevertheless, we have found energy and joy as we have shared thoughts and worship services together.

Now, it's time for YOU to get to know your neighbouring congregations a little better too. The first way is to find out where they live. So . . .

You are off on an adventure, close to home, to learn where these congregations are worshipping and to begin to get to know your neighbouring churches, too. Take along copy of the route as provided. (You can start at any church you wish, but the route as laid out does move in a clockwise direction.) Bring a pen or pencil with you to answer the Scavenger Hunt questions. Don't forget your camera to record your adventure in photos. You might even want to pack a picnic lunch or snacks to enjoy along the way.

The route should take about 1-1/2 hours to just drive. The kilometres are from Google maps and therefore approximate. Stops and visits along the way to explore the various churches and surrounding area will increase the amount of time. Having a picnic or coffee break will also. All those parts of the adventure are your choice so relax and enjoy yourself.

When you are finished, head back home. Let your minister/Neighbouring Churches rep. (the ones who told you about this Road Trip) know what you saw and did and what you liked best as well as the answers to the Scavenger Hunt Questions so they can share your reports with the rest of the group. Share your photos, too. You might even like to "publish" a book of each of the traveller's road trip experiences to keep at your church or online to share with others at your church.

Have fun!

