

for immediate release
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Local jazz musicians host relaxing evening service

Media Release

On Sunday Evening June 3rd at 7:30 pm at Trafalgar Presbyterian Church, local musicians will lead a Jazz Vespers service. Oakville jazz pianist Brian Hayman and local sax player Toby Stewart as well as Toronto vocalist Mae Cromwell will join Trafalgar's skilled regulars Michael Lemiski (vibraphone) and Imants Abols (flute), all led by Andrew Donaldson.

Jazz Vespers services are held in churches all over the United States and Canada, in many different forms and in many different denominations. The phenomenon began in New York City in 1961 when the late Reverend John Garcia Gensel started an evening service at St. Peters Lutheran Church, designed for those musicians of his growing night ministry who couldn't make it to Sunday morning service after playing those late Saturday night gigs. It soon became the church home for many of the musicians and their families, including the legendary "Duke" Ellington.

Recognizing that the lifestyles of many people prevent them from attending Sunday morning services, especially in the summer, the church is hoping to draw in those who are ready to relax. In its first service of this kind at the church, minister Rev. Kristine says it will be "a free-flowing, prayerful liturgy for those who need the time and space to catch their breath".

Music will be a mixture of jazz tunes and traditional hymns in a jazz style. "You will recognize hymns such as "Just a closer walk with thee" and "Fairest Lord Jesus"", says the church's music leader Andrew Donaldson. "And with such fine musicians, the experience will be that all kinds of people will enjoy".

To reach Trafalgar Presbyterian Church(905-842-2800) take Trafalgar Road, to White Oaks Blvd, turn onto Litchfield Rd.

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