



## FAIRLAWN

### Refreshing Our Call and Vision for Ministry

We are a community of believers, seekers, and doubters, concerned more with thoughtful questions than simple answers. While we honour our historic religious traditions and texts, we do so with a twenty-first century perspective. We take the Bible seriously, but not literally, looking for the lessons that it offers for today's challenges. We also draw wisdom and inspiration from philosophers, ethicists, social commentators, poetry, and prose, as we consider life's sacredness, mystery, and wonder. We welcome all those who wish to join us, wherever they are on their life journey.

We challenge and inspire and learn from one another. We create space for people to come together and have conversations that matter – about our relationship with God and with each other, about life and death, about diversity and inclusion, and about what it means to lead a “good life” in a complex world. It is in partnership with others that we can work for change, social justice and peace.

#### Call

Our call as a community reflects the core of our purpose, sharing who we strive to be with curiosity, creativity, and courage in uncertain times.

We are not alone. We are connected to God and each other by love. We seek to connect with what matters in life by providing a safe place for everyone to:

- **Explore Spirituality** and risk asking the big questions of God and ourselves
- **Experience Belonging** through caring, active partnerships with all people
- **Embrace Action** as we push the boundaries of what it means to be church in the world

#### Pathway to Our Vision

**Fairlawn Avenue United Church is a caring community of faith committed to supporting each other and those around us in practical and spiritual ways. We seek to discern where God is calling us next by identifying needs and communities that we have the resources, ability, and passion to serve.**

We have called this a Pathway to Our Vision because we believe that we need to work together to best identify our future direction. Part of this work is taking place, now, through these consultations.

We are passing through a threshold that leads into a new way of being church. We trust the Spirit to guide us through the challenging space between where we have been and where we are going and lead us on to new pathways and possibilities.