

# ELUCO

## East London United Church Outreach

### ELUCO ANNUAL REPORT 2019

In Archbishop Oscar Romero's Prayer: A Step Along the Way he says "This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, but there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well."

This prayer encapsulates the work of ELUCO. After 36 years the work is not complete but there have been milestones along the way. Hopefully it will not take that long to right the injustices faced by our brothers and sisters in the Marconi community and elsewhere in London and Canada. As we begin a new decade we can hope that the seeds we have planted within community will grow and prosper. In the last few years the ELUCO Memorial trust fund has provided monetary support to three young people who will be graduating from post-secondary institutions this spring as a Child and Youth Worker, Travel and Tourism Consultant and a Computer Games Designer. They are looking to find employment in their areas of

expertise and are looking to give back to their community. ELUCO's programs and camping opportunities help to build the life skills necessary for young people such as these to pursue their dreams. This past summer Nancy (our community worker) sent children to Camp Kee-Mo-Kee, to Stevenson Camp and to Social Skills Camp. One of the Social Skills Junior leaders was from Marconi and one of our young people was a counsellor at Kee-Mo-Kee.

ELUCO provides programs at the unit in the Marconi Community as well as outreach programs such as the Food Cupboard and Welcome Wednesday.

ELUCO could not continue without the ongoing support of our member churches and their followers, the UCW's, and organisations and many individuals who bless us with their money, time or goods. Romero's prayer says, (our work)" may be incomplete but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest."

To read the complete 2019 Annual Report, go [www.eluco.ca](http://www.eluco.ca).

East London United Church Outreach (ELUCO)  
Community Outreach Worker: Nancy Howard  
267 Marconi Blvd London, ON

Phone: 519-451-3709  
Email: [eluco@bellnet.ca](mailto:eluco@bellnet.ca)  
Website: [www.eluco.ca](http://www.eluco.ca)

Grateful Thanks to all ELUCO Supporters!



## Christmas Share

It takes a community of generosity and love to offer our Christmas Share Program to our ELUCO families. Stress from financial burdens is never-ending for our low-income families and particularly magnified at Christmas. You may never know the impact of your gifts in bringing hope, joy and love to our families. Thank you to members of First-St. Andrew's United Church, Richards Memorial United Church and UCW, Siloam United Church and Rose Birrell group, Thorndale UCW, and individuals. We are truly grateful and our hearts are full. May God bless you and keep you.



## Annual Family Christmas Brunch

It's right in the middle of the busiest time of preparations for celebrations of Christmas, but our Annual Family Christmas Brunch is one of the most anticipated programs for our families. What a wonderful gathering of family and friends as we join together in cooperative games and crafts, share a traditional meal of ham, potatoes and vegetables, and delight in a visit from Santa. Due to some scheduling conflicts we had to scramble for a date and location for this event. Many thanks to Richards Memorial United Church for the use of their beautiful space on Saturday, December 21st. The spacious kitchen and lovely decorated hall were absolutely perfect for us! This location is on a direct bus route and in walking distance from our community. Heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers and sponsors who made this event possible. What a blessing to share love and joy with one another.



## ELUCO Post-Secondary Education Scholarship Recipients are Making their Mark!

Well we surely haven't been able to provide great amounts financially but we are so invested in our young people and hope that even our small contribution helped to ease the burden. Undoubtedly these ladies are self-motivated and have worked very hard to achieve their goals. We watched you grow from children to the amazing young women you have become. Our hearts are filled with love and pride as we follow the paths of two of our Scholarship Recipients, Samantha Powless and Makhaila Wright.



### Makhaila Wright

Makhaila began her post-secondary education in Psychology at Carlton University but being away from her family and the prospect of being part of the Fanshawe Falcons Basketball team brought her back home to London. Likely she honed some of her skills playing basketball with her older brothers and she's had some good coaches along the way, but she's a natural born athlete. Earning accolades as Rookie of the Year, MVP, and most recently surpassing 1000 points as Shooting Guard, Khaila is in her element on the basketball court with her teammates. In fact, she graduated with a Diploma in Recreation and Leisure but wasn't ready to give up basketball and move on. She is now enrolled in the Travel and Tourism Program and will graduate this spring. After graduation, Kaila expects to work, travel (potentially going overseas) and spend time with family. The possibilities are open for the next chapter in her life.



### Samantha Powless

Samantha studied at Brock University and received her Bachelor of Arts (with distinction). She went on to complete her Master of Arts in Political Science at Brock. I am so excited to read her Major Research Project, "Sexual Assault Trials: Legal Education and the Justice Gap" She has her sights on broadening the scope of this project in a PhD program, but first she is looking forward to returning to Camp Kee-Mo-Kee as the 2020 Summer Camp Director. How fitting that Sam (aka Peaches) be part of the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the camp she attended since she was six years old. In the past she's worked on the staff as Counsellor, Programmer and Program Director. "This camp has always felt like home to me and I've always appreciated the strong community environment at camp-you simply can't get that anywhere else." It's going to be an amazing summer for the entire camp community. Welcome home Sam/Peaches!



Good work Makhaila and Samantha!!





## Welcome Wednesday

Welcome Wednesday Hospitality Lunch is held each Wednesday from 11 am to 2 pm weekly at Rowntree United Church at Cheapside and Elliott Street from September until the end of June. Each Wednesday, a hot meal is provided by volunteer groups from Rowntree Memorial, Siloam United, Valleyview Mennonite and ELUCO, to the 60 plus folks who attend. The doors open early so people can socialize over coffee, play games or meet with a worker to sort out their problems. The annual Christmas dinner with turkey and fixings had over 120 in attendance. Many of the weekly volunteers are actually persons who partake of the weekly meal.





# 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Outreach Fundraiser

featuring

the **voices** of  
Broadway

**Saturday, March 7, 2020 - 7:30pm**

**Siloam United Church  
1240 Fanshawe Park Road East, London**

**Tickets: \$20**

**Available at the door, or in advance, by contacting:**

Janice Elliott  
janiceelliott04@gmail.com  
519-859-7183

Proceeds go to the life and work of ELUCO. Google:Voices of Broadway Show Choir for more information and sample performances. Here is the link to youtube showing a video of Amazing Grace sung by the Voices of Broadway show choir:

<https://youtu.be/EoOWDJ273U0>