

Chair's Report for website

Stonegate Ministry is an ecumenical ministry that helps those in need in both the Stonegate and Lake Shore neighbourhoods. Our Ministry partners with 5 local churches: All Saints Kingsway Anglican, Royal York United, Christ Church St. James Anglican, Kingsway-Lambton United and Kingsway Baptist.

Stonegate Ministry serves two low-income communities in southeastern Etobicoke. These two communities are Stonegate and Lake Shore. Stonegate is populated by a high proportion of new immigrant families who live in a neighbourhood consisting of 70 low-rise apartment buildings in the Berry Road/Park Lawn Rd area. It is a lovely well cared for community but the residents have limited income. In the case of the Lake Shore community, apart from poverty, there are a high number of singles, seniors and disabled individuals. The needs are actually greater here than in Stonegate.

Stonegate Ministry provides support to both communities through it's thrift store, Great Finds located at 2358 Lake Shore. We sell gently used clothing and household items. It is also a place where residents come to find a friendly atmosphere.

We also run programs for people within both communities. Examples of these programs are our Women's Group program, which are held in both communities. The Stonegate Group averages between 25 and 30 attendees who meet over lunch and have a social activity. We also run the God, Coffee and Me program, which is a very practical Bible study program that is run in one of the restaurants during a low restaurant activity period.