29TH ANNUAL

Markham Prayer Breakfast

Friday, November 20, 2026

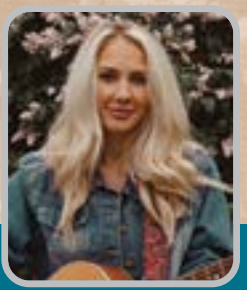
Angus Glen Golf Club, 10080 Kennedy Road

PRAYING FOR THE LEADERS AND PEOPLE OF MARKHAM



SPEAKER

Dan Carter



MUSIC BY

Amber-Jo Bowman

PRESENTING SPONSOR

TREES FOR LIFE
Trees for Heroes

MAJOR SPONSORS

The Coptic Orthodox Churches of York Region

Chapel Ridge
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTRE



SPEAKER

Dan Carter



SPECIAL MUSIC

Amber-Jo Bowman

Soloist

The Markham Prayer Breakfast is operated by a volunteer steering committee of church representatives, on a non-profit, cost recovery basis. All costs are borne by ticket sales and sponsorship by churches or local companies. For copies of the financial statements, please call Treasurer Rod Russell at 905-479-7001 Ext. 312, rrussell@nmcpa.ca

O CANADA

O Canada
Our home and native land
True patriot love
In all of us command
With glowing hearts
we see thee rise
The true north, strong and free
From far and wide, O Canada
We stand on guard for thee
God keep our land
Glorious and free
O Canada
We stand on guard for thee

Ruler Supreme
Who hearest humble prayer,
Hold our dominion
In thy loving care,
Help us to find,
O God, in thee
A lasting rich reward.
As waiting for
The Better Day
We ever stand on guard.
God keep our land
Glorious and free
O Canada
We stand on guard for thee

INFORMATION & MAILING ADDRESS

Markham Prayer Breakfast
c/o 9 Cypress Point Court, Thornhill, ON L3T 1V6
Tel: 416-540-6947
MarkhamPrayerBreakfast@gmail.com
www.markhamprayerbreakfast.ca

PROGRAM

Music in the Lobby	Tak Kwan, violin & Steve Buck, cello
Breakfast	
Welcome & Grace	Chaplain Ryan Mitchell
Introduction of the Head Table	Chaplain Ryan Mitchell
O Canada	Amber-Jo Bowman
Greetings	His Worship Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Scripture	Police Chief Paulo Da Silva
	Ron Lynn
Prayer For Leadership	Rev. Lorraine Diaz
	Pastor Jeremiah Vijey
	Allison Alvares
Ministry in Music	Amber-Jo Bowman
Introduction of the Speaker	Chaplain Ryan Mitchell
Speaker	Dan Carter
Closing Comments & Benediction	Allan Tam
Coffee & Mingling in the Lobby	Tak Kwan, violin & Steve Buck, cello

MARKHAM PRAYER BREAKFAST 2026 STEERING COMMITTEE

Chaplain Ryan Mitchell
The Campus in Aurora

Allan Tam
The Olive Branch Community Church

Rev. Jim MacDonald
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Markham

Lloyd Mather
Thornhill United Church

Michael Wong
Unionville Alliance Church

Ramzi Shenouda
St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church

Rod Russell
Springvale Church

Allan Abrigo
the bridge

Michelle Gibbons
Blessed Frederic Ozanam Parish

Rev. Dr. Jim Clubine
Markham Baptist Church

Sunita Alexander
Canadian Mar Thoma Church Toronto

Rev. Dr. Tina Pitamber
Impact Church of the Nazarene

Rev. Dr. Peter Ma
Flow Ministries

Pastor Jeremiah Vijey
The Olive Branch Community Church

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the many companies, churches and individuals on the enclosed insert for their generous partnership and sponsorship of the Markham Prayer Breakfast.

About Our Participants

Our speaker is former Mayor of Oshawa, **Dan Carter**. Dan Carter's life is proof that no story is beyond redemption. For 17 years, he battled addiction while also struggling with severe dyslexia that left him unable to read. Yet with courage, perseverance, and the support of family, he rebuilt his life. First as a broadcaster, then as a community leader, and ultimately as the Mayor of Oshawa, Ontario. His remarkable journey was profiled in The New York Times' prestigious "Saturday Profile" series, and in 2023, that story was honored as one of the paper's "12 Favourite Saturday Profiles of the Year." What makes Dan's story so powerful is not only his personal triumph but how he has transformed that experience into a mission of service. As mayor, he has worked to humanize and address some of Oshawa's toughest challenges, from homelessness and addiction to economic recovery. He is admired for his authenticity, compassion, and unshakable belief in the dignity of every person. It is a privilege to introduce a leader who proves that resilience can change a life, and leadership can change a community.

Our vocalist, **Amber-Jo Bowman** has served as a Worship Pastor at The Campus Church since 2016, alongside guest worship leading at local churches across Ontario to PEI. Her ministry includes leading youth retreats, past collaborations with Worship Project Toronto, and special music appearances at Change Conference and Fluid Gathering. Amber also writes and records country music featuring uplifting, real-life stories. She and her husband Zack (who also pastors at The Campus) have been married since 2015 and have a loyal Border-Setter named Rowdy. Together, they love bringing their faith into the country industry through CCMA Prayer Gatherings and sharing Jesus through music wherever the Lord leads them.

Chief Paulo Da Silva was sworn in June of 2026 and is entering his 32nd year of policing. He brings extensive operational, administrative, innovation and technology experience, and is committed to delivering effective and efficient police services. As a strong advocate for collaborative community safety, Chief Da Silva continues strengthening partnerships across stakeholders and recognizing public safety succeeds when communities and police work together. Chief Da Silva is a proud Member of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces and recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal. Chief Da Silva is married and the proud father of two daughters.

Ron Lynn is a dedicated community leader, former Chair of the York Region District School Board (YRDSB), former elected School Board Trustee for Markham, and Licensed Paralegal with 25 years of professional experience. By God's grace, Ron recently completed eight years as an elected School Board Trustee (2018–2026), including four consecutive years as Chair (2022–2026). Throughout his tenure, he championed student achievement, well-being, parent engagement, and community collaboration. Professionally, Ron spent 25 years with X-Copper Professional Corporation, serving clients as a Licensed Paralegal and Branch Manager before concluding this chapter in April 2026. Faith and servant leadership remain central to Ron's life. A longtime member

About Our Participants

of Peoples Gospel Church in Markham, he served on its Board of Directors from 2004 to 2016 and as Board Chair from 2016 to 2018. He continues to serve in church ministries and enjoys sharing his faith and life experiences with youth and men's fellowship groups. Ron and his wife, Priscilla, have been married for over 25 years and are proud parents of their son, Preston, who is pursuing post-secondary education.

Rev. Lorraine Diaz has been in ministry for 25 years and is currently the Lead Pastor at Central UC, Unionville. She is currently in the process of writing her final project for a Doctor of Ministry at Acadia Divinity College, focusing on Spiritual Formation for older adults and seniors. She lives in Unionville with her husband, Chris, and their cat, Blueberry.

Pastor Jeremiah Vijey is the Lead Pastor of The Olive Branch Community Church. A pastor's kid who grew up in the church, he has served in pastoral leadership for 13 years. A University of Toronto Commerce graduate specializing in Marketing, Jeremiah spent seven years in the corporate world at companies like DoorDash, ADP, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Staples Canada. He joined The Olive Branch in 2021 as Youth and Young Adults Pastor and became Lead Pastor in 2026. His greatest passion is helping people encounter Jesus and raising up the next generation of leaders. Outside of ministry, he enjoys coffee, music and cheering on his Toronto teams, even when they fail him year after year.

Allison Alvares has been serving as the Pastor of Children's Discipleship at Unionville Alliance Church for the past 5 years. She is also pursuing graduate studies in health sciences and hopes to bring together her love for Jesus and her passion for health to serve others and reach the unreached in the future.

Co-Chair, **Chaplain Ryan Mitchell**, is a proud husband, father of three, and longtime Markham resident dedicated to family and community. A humanitarian, veteran, and coach, he brings a lifetime of service and leadership through his work as a Chaplain and volunteer. After nearly 20 years in the military and a decade in banking, Ryan continues to serve by mentoring youth and supporting families, veterans, and mental health causes. Passionate about travel and global learning, he teaches his children the value of giving back—both in their community and around the world.

Co-Chair, **Allan Tam** immigrated to Toronto from Hong Kong in 1990 and has built a successful career in the I.T. sales industry for over 30 years. Guided by his Christian faith and passion for community service, he currently serves as Chair of the Hong Kong Entrepreneurs Chamber of Commerce (HKECC), Lions Club Zone Chair, and National Vice President of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship in Canada. A former Chair of the York Region District School Board, Allan dedicated 12 years to public education and continues to serve his community through various leadership roles. Allan lives in Markham with his wife, Brenda, and their three children, remaining committed to making a positive impact through faith, leadership, and service.

29TH ANNUAL MARKHAM

Prayer Breakfast

PRAYER CARD

Mission of Markham Prayer Breakfast:
An annual gathering of the Christian community
to pray for the leaders & people of Markham.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY LEADERS, FOR:

- A strong, healthy family life
- Physical, emotional and spiritual well being
- Discernment & compassion
- Endurance & patience
- Safety & protection
- Wisdom & courage to do what is right, and
- Grace in doing it

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR NATION:

- That Canada will be a country that honours and serves God
- Pray for the Prime Minister, Cabinet, Senators, Party Leaders and MP's
- Pray for the Premier, Cabinet, Party Leaders & MPP's
- Pray for the Supreme Court, Judges & the Judicial System
- Pray that God will protect Canada & Canadians
- Pray for our soldiers, police officers, fire and emergency services workers
- Pray for doctors and other health care workers
- Pray for teachers, principals, Board officials and students
- Pray for our youth & children
- Pray for national unity
- Pray for the spiritual life of the nation
- Pray for peace in the world, and here in Canada

"If my people will humble themselves and pray, and search for me, and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear them from heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land."

2 CHRONICLES 7:14 (LIVING BIBLE)

29TH ANNUAL MARKHAM

Prayer Breakfast

Governor General Her Excellency The Right Honourable Louise Arbour
Prime Minister Right Honourable Mark Carney
Lt. Governor The Honourable Edith Dumont
Premier The Honourable Doug Ford
Assembly of First Nations, Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, President Natan Obed
Metis National Council, President Victoria Pruden
Chief of the Defence Staff, General Jennie Carignan

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

The Honourable Helena Jaczek, MP Markham-Stouffville
Tim Hodgson, MP Markham-Thornhill
Michael Ma, MP Markham-Unionville
Melissa Lantsman, MP Thornhill

MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The Honourable Paul Calandra, MPP Markham-Stouffville
Billy Pang, MPP Markham-Unionville
Logan Kanapathi, MPP Markham-Thornhill
Laura Smith, MPP Thornhill

CITY OF MARKHAM MAYOR & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

His Worship Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Amanda Yeung Collucci
Councillor Keith Irish, Ward 1
Councillor Ritch Lau, Ward 2
Councillor Marina Antonoglou, Ward 3
Councillor Karen Rea, Ward 4
Councillor Andrew Keyes, Ward 5
Councillor Kenneth Li, Ward 6
Councillor Nimisha Patel Ward 7
Councillor Isa Lee, Ward 8

MARKHAM CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Andy Taylor

YORK REGION CHAIR • Steven Del Duca

YORK REGION POLICE CHIEF • Paulo Da Silva

YORK REGIONAL EMS • Chris Spearen

CITY OF MARKHAM FIRE CHIEF • Chris Nearing

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Jennifer Sarna, Director

Save the date for next year,
November 19, 2027

Sponsors

We thank our Presenting Sponsor:

TREES FOR LIFE
Trees for Heroes

Major Sponsors:

The Coptic Orthodox Churches of York Region

Chapel Ridge
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTRE

Supporting Sponsors:

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Printing Legacy

RBC Dominion Securities - David Leong

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Markham

Veritas Design Studio

Wincon Security

Community Sponsor:

Central United Church UCW

Purchase Tickets for the
Friday, November 19, 2027 Breakfast Now!

Featuring **Herbie Kuhn**



Herbie Kuhn is known as the "Voice of the Toronto Raptors" and has been the announcer for the team since their inception in 1995. His voice is instantly recognizable to any fan who has ever attended a game at the Scotiabank Arena. In addition to announcing, Herbie is the co-Chaplain of the Raptors, leading the teams' players in a chapel service before games and conducting Bible studies and supporting them in their personal challenges. He is also Chaplain for the Toronto Argonauts, an accomplished master of ceremonies and motivational speaker. He and his wife Stephanie also team up to do marriage retreats and conferences.

Special Music by
Bev Foster
PIANIST



Bev Foster is the Co-founder and Executive Director of the Room 217 Foundation, a Canadian health arts organization making music more integral to care through tools, training and certification. An experienced musician and a Community Research Fellow with the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community, Bev speaks and writes extensively on the transformative power of music—particularly in life-limiting situations. Her passion for enhancing quality of life through music is contagious.

NOTE: *e-tickets will be sent electronically. No tickets will be reserved without payment. Thank you for your interest and support of the Markham Prayer Breakfast!*

FOR INFORMATION contact MarkhamPrayerBreakfast@gmail.com

Please fill out this card and leave it at the registration table in the lobby
or email to markhamprayerbreakfast@gmail.com
or e-transfer to markhamprayerbreakfast@gmail.com
or go to www.markhamprayerbreakfast.ca

Name: _____

Church or Company (if it applies): _____

Address: _____ Town: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

# of tickets: _____ **X $45.00 = $** _____ **# of tables (10/table)** _____ **X $450.00 = $** _____

○ Cheque attached ○ Visa ○ Mastercard ○ Amex ○ Debit ○ E-transfer

Card # _____

Expiry Date: _____ CVV# (from back) _____

Signature: _____