

Welcome to First! We are glad you are here!

We extend a warm Welcome to Rev. Marlene Britton.

Reverend Marlene Britton is a minister in her 32nd year of service to Christ's Church. She was ordained as a Diaconal Minister in the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, and served in the Caribbean for the first 20 years of her ministry. She served 4 years in Belize, then 16 years in Barbados, before transferring to the United Church of Canada. Revd. Britton has served pastoral charges in Alberta and Northern Ontario, before moving, in 2019, to the General Council Office to serve in the Office of Vocation. She currently serves as Director of Programs and Policy for Ministry Personnel in the United Church, and this includes being Director of the Office of Vocation. In addition to her qualifications in theology, Revd. Britton also holds a degree in Marine Sciences and Geology. She is married to Clyde, and is the mother of 2 young adult sons.

Rev. Hoeun Lee is on leave. If you have any messages that you would normally send to Hoeun, please send them to our Church Administrator Sheena Curwood at office@firstunitedchurch.ca. If you have any personal message to Rev. Hoeun Lee, please mail it to: Rev Hoeun Lee, First United Church, 16 William St, W., Waterloo N2L 1J3 or drop the message at the church office and we will see that it is delivered to Hoeun.

For Emergency Pastoral Care between Jul 26 to 31, please contact:
Rev. Gary Clark
CELL: 226-963-1175

For Emergency Pastoral Care between Aug 1 to 18, please contact:
Rev. Michael Schewburg – Westminster United
revmichaelschewburg@gmail.com

For Emergency Pastoral Care between Aug 19 – Sept 1, please contact:
Rev. Brenda Torrie – Emmanuel United
519-886-1471 Ext. 101
revbrendat@emmanueluc.ca

OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, AUGUST 4th CIVIC HOLIDAY

OFFICE HOURS – JULY 2ND TO AUGUST 28TH

Starting Tuesday, July 2nd to Thursday, August 28th the office will be open **Monday-Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00pm.**

Have a great summer.



Sunday August 3rd – Eighth after Pentecost

Hosea 11: 1-11; Psalm 107: 1-9, 43 (VU p. 831 Part One);
Colossians 3: 1-11; Luke 12: 13-21

Regional Council Prayer Cycle
First, Owen Sound



Deadline for submission to the weekly updates is Tuesday by 12:00 p.m.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

To get your offering to the office you can use PAR, e transfer to firstunitedchurch@rogers.com, website donation www.firstunitedchurch.ca or send a cheque. Cheques can be dropped off at the church mailbox which is located at the Entrance on the William Street side of the building.

Also, you may send your cheque to
First United Church
16 William St. West
Waterloo ON
N2L 1J3

Reminder, credit card companies have a fee of around 3-5%. If you wish First to get the full amount, then please add that percentage to your contribution.

AUGUST SERVICES

During the month of August, the four United Churches in Waterloo hold joint worship services. All are welcome at each service. Please note that some of the services start at 10:00 a.m.

August 3	Westminster at 10:30 a.m.
August 10	Service will be led by Emmanuel but held at Westminster Church at 10:00 a.m.
August 17	here at First United Church at 10:30 am
August 24	Parkminster at 10:00 am
August 31	Parkminster at 10:00 am

Did you know there are 12 kinds of popular pickles?



It's Summer Time

Time for making Jams and
Jellies,
Pickling and Preserving,



Please save a jar or two or more of your preserves for the Bake Table at the November's "Artisan's at First". - Alice Biemen

ARTISANS AT FIRST 2025

Mark **Saturday, November 29th** on your calendar for **Artisans at First 2025**, the market First United will host for local crafters to sell their creations. We will have a bake sale and lunch room also. Three matters for you to consider at this point:

1. If you, or someone you know, wish to be a vendor at Artisans at First, please contact Joan Westcott at handatfirst@gmail.com
2. Now is the time to craft some items you wish to donate to First's craft table.
3. As Alice Bieman noted in last week's Update, consider preserving a few extra jars of your specialty to donate to the bake table. Have you identified the twelve kinds of pickles Alice noted?

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ONTARIO MENNONITE MUSIC CAMP (OMMC)

There's still time to register for, August 10–22, 2025. OMMC is a place where youth develop and enrich relationships, faith, musicality, and leadership in a fun and supportive summer camp environment. More information at grebel.ca/ommc

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT AND CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

Save the date September 23 -26 for "Leading the Church Through Conflict and Polarities" workshop, offered online. Visit www.uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management/workshops

THE INTER-MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir is excited to start planning for Fall 2025 and would love for you to join us! Our rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings at W-K United Mennonite Church for children in Grades 1 and up and provide an excellent music education experience while singing with friends.

Please go to our website: www.mennosingers.com/imcc under "Join Us" for more information or contact: conductor@imcchoir.org

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE EVENTS AT PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

October 19 – WOW Executive Minister is speaking at a Mission and Service Fund themed service. Mark Laird was recently part of an overseas trip to see M&S funds in action and will be incorporating that information and insights from the trip in his reflection.

November 23 – Brenna Baker, WOW Stewardship Support Staff, will preach at a Stewardship Sunday service with a focus on legacy giving. Follow the service she will lead a legacy giving workshop, intended to help people think about and plan how they can leave a lasting legacy to the church through their will, a life insurance policy or other deferred gifts, where the gift is realized sometime in the future.
More details about registration will be provided later if you are interested.

10,000 STEPS FOR MENTAL HEALTH – SHALOM COUNSELLING SERVICE

Join us for our 10th annual walk, in support of accessible mental health care in Waterloo Region. The route travels from Shalom to the Iron Horse Trail and back, followed by a community barbecue to celebrate a decade of steps toward healing.
Whether your goal is 10,000 steps or 1,000, raising \$10,000 or \$100 – every step and every dollar counts.
Signup or donate at: www.shalomcounselling.or/steps

Date: Saturday September 20, 2025
Where: Shalom Counselling Services – 9 Avondale Ave. S., Waterloo
Registration at 9:00 am – Walk begins at 9:30 am

	<i>Sunday July 27</i>	
10:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Sunday School	Parlour/Labyrinth Rm.
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
6:00 pm	MTSpace (Cinema Club Project)	Parlour
	<i>Monday, Jul 28</i>	
7:15 am	STEM Camp	Classrooms
9:00 am	Bailey's Foods	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	<i>Tuesday, July 29</i>	
7:15 am	STEM Camp	Kitchen/Hilliard Hall
	<i>Wednesday, July 30</i>	
7:15 am	STEM Camp	Kitchen/Hilliard Hall
	<i>Thursday, July 31</i>	
7:15 am	STEM Camp	Kitchen/Hilliard Hall
	<i>Friday, Aug. 1</i>	
7:15 am	STEM Camp	Kitchen/Hilliard Hall
	<i>Saturday, Aug 2</i>	
	<i>Sunday Aug. 3</i>	
10:30 am	Worship	Westminster United
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen

WEEKLY UPDATE
of happenings, events and concerns of our
First United Church Family



July 27, 2025

Minister	Rev. Hoeun Lee
Music Director	Kathleen King Martin
Church Administrator	Sheena Curwood
AV Technician	Harold Arnett
Custodian	Jay Brooker
Assistant Custodian	Craig Lennox

16 William Street West
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1J3
Office: 519-745-8487 x201
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

email: office@firstunitedchurch.ca
website: firstunitedchurch.ca

Chair of the Board
email: firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com

Guest Minister:	Rev. Marlene Britton
Guest Musician:	Dr. Lee Willingham
Greeter(s):	Jean Hoffman
Reader(s):	Nancy Lennox
Lay Leader:	Cathie Stewart Savage

Serving refreshments this week: Heather Redden-Greer & Cheryl Melnik