

Welcome to First! We are glad you are here!

Welcome Rev. Fred Monteith

**For Emergency Pastoral Care please contact:**

Rev. Fred Monteith  
519-575-6407  
fwmonteith@gmail.com

Starting Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> the office will be open **Monday-Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00pm.**

Hope you had a great summer.

**REMINDER TO ALL GROUPS** – Please ensure that **ALL** Windows are closed and **ALL** doors are securely locked before leaving the Church.



**Sunday September 14th – Fourteenth after Pentecost**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14: (VU p. 735); 1 Timothy 1:12-17;  
Luke 15:1-10

Regional Council Prayer Cycle  
Wesley Pastoral Charge



**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](mailto:firstunitedchurch@rogers.com), website donation [www.firstunitedchurch.ca](http://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.

**THE CHOIR SEASON HAS BEGUN!**

**All choirs welcome new participants. See Kathleen King Martin for more information.**

**Gallery Choir** rehearses Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Chapel. This SATB choir sings weekly at Sunday services and other events.  
**Family Choir** for children, their parents and caregivers, and other friends begins Thursday, Sept. 11, 4:15 to 5:30 pm with snacks, singing and music games.  
**Handbell Choir** will begin in October.

**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

**WELCOME TO OUR 47TH / 48TH SEASON OF FREE NOON HOUR CONCERTS!**

A very exciting season of 22 concerts is ready, featuring many favourite ensembles as well as 9 newcomers. The half-hour concerts run from 12:15 – 12:45 with lunches ready for pickup in Hilliard Hall from 11:30. Remember to pre-order your lunches by THURSDAY NOON at [firstunitedconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:firstunitedconcerts@gmail.com) The menu offers egg, ham, salmon or tuna on whole wheat bread; butter tart, date or nanaimo square; coffee or tea all for \$10. Pickles are FREE! (Cash only please) Separate items may also be purchased. DONATIONS are also very welcome and necessary to allow us to continue. Hard copies of the schedule are available in the Narthex and online. Here are the first 2 concerts:

**Tuesday September 16**

Cuore Piano Trio (Poland – next European STARS!)  
Zuzanna Budzynska - violin Antoni Orłowski - cello, Szymon Ogryzek – piano

**Tuesday September 23**

Mary-Catherine Pazzano - singer, Miriam Stewart-Kroecker - cello,  
Carol Ann Weaver – piano

**ARTISANS AT FIRST 2025**

First United will be hosting Artisans at First 2025 on Saturday, November 29th from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. This is a market of a wide variety of new handcrafted items by thirty or more crafters from Waterloo Region and beyond. The event also includes a large bake sale and a lunchroom. There are still a few spaces available for vendors. Anyone interested in being a vendor should contact Joan Westcott at [handatfirst@gmail.com](mailto:handatfirst@gmail.com)

**BOOK STUDY - VALLEY OF THE BIRDTAIL**

A 2023 national bestseller, Valley of the Birdtail tells the story of two communities – one white and one Indigenous – situated across from each other along the Birdtail River in Manitoba. It follows multiple

generations of two families, weaving their lives into the larger story of Canada.

In preparation for a Meet-the-Authors event in October, we are organizing a book study. Anyone is welcome to join, and we will organize dates and times based on the preferences of those who show interest. Contact Briar at the Parkminster office at [admin@parkuc.ca](mailto:admin@parkuc.ca) if you would like to join. Discounted books (\$14) are available. Contact Nancy Dykstra at [nancydykstra@gmail.com](mailto:nancydykstra@gmail.com) if you'd like one.

**MEET-THE-AUTHORS - VALLEY OF THE BIRDTAIL**

October 24 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church, 50 Erb St Waterloo. Hosted by the KW Living Into Right Relations ecumenical group. No charge but please register to reserve a seat. More information and registration can be found at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/meet-the-authors-valley-of-the-birdtail-tickets-1545352764719?aff=oddtcreator> .

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**FIRST UNITED ARE WARMLY INVITED**

—to an Ecumenical Prayer at Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church on Saturday, September 20 at 1:00 PM, marking the opening of our 100th Jubilee Year.

This will be a simple, symbolic service of prayer and Scripture as a sign of Christian unity in our city. Your community has often supported the local Ukrainian community and has shown such openness to collaboration; for that reason, your presence would mean a great deal to us.

We would be delighted to welcome you, your fellow clergy, and parishioners. If you are able to join us, kindly let me know.

With gratitude and warm regards,

Fr. Yaroslav Kopychyn

Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church

131 Victoria St S, Kitchener, Ontario

**WATERLOO WAYSIDE**

Waterloo Wayside has been doing mission work in Waterloo, since 2007, and incorporated as a nonprofit in 2024. We house our programs at 22 Bridgeport St. West Waterloo.

With the mission of building and nurturing community, **Waterloo Wayside** offers several programs in Kitchener-Waterloo, including a weekday drop-in centre, a clothing exchange and seniors programming. Waterloo Wayside focuses on the needs of seniors and the marginalized. Through partnerships with other community based organizations and a dedicated team of volunteers, Waterloo Wayside is able to host and foster grass-roots programs that address real needs within the community.

**Reach out to Volunteer or Participate!**

519-886-1471

[info@waterloowayside.org](mailto:info@waterloowayside.org)

[www.waterloowayside.org](http://www.waterloowayside.org)

[www.facebook.com/waterloowayside](https://www.facebook.com/waterloowayside)

**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](http://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](http://www.mennosingers.com/imcc) under “Join Us” for more information or contact: [conductor@imcchoir.org](mailto:conductor@imcchoir.org)

**WEEKEND FOR UNITED CHURCH YOUTH GROUPS**

Friday, Sept 12 – Sunday, Sept 14, 2025  
Avondale United Church, Stratford  
Grades 7+ and Their Leaders - \$25 per person  
Attend Stratford Theatre for Annie the Musical, Free time in downtown Stratford for a scavenger hunt, river walk and lots of ice cream spots.  
Contact: Kathy Douglas [kdouglas@united-church.ca](mailto:kdouglas@united-church.ca)  
Terri Sparling [sparlingterri@gmail.com](mailto:sparlingterri@gmail.com)  
Elaine Strawbridge [brunidgirl@hotmail.com](mailto:brunidgirl@hotmail.com)

**SING FIRES OF JUSTICE**

Honouring Place. Celebrate with Southwest Community Library. Acknowledging shared relationships, a net-zero energy-efficient building and responsibility to the land with music and stories. Featuring guest speakers Taylor Hill and Dr. Mary (Joy) Philip. Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2:30pm-4:00pm  
100 Rosenberg Way, Kitchener, ON

**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. Following 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.org/steps](http://www.shalomcounselling.org/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

	<b><i>Sunday Sep 7</i></b>	
10:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall
	<b><i>Monday, Sep 8</i></b>	
7:00 pm	Board Meeting	Parlour
9:00 am	Bailey’s Foods	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	<b><i>Tuesday, Sep 9</i></b>	
6:30 pm	UCW	Calvary Memorial Church
	<b><i>Wednesday, Sep 10</i></b>	
5:00 pm	KW Chamber Music Society (Concert 7pm)	Chapel
	<b><i>Thursday, Sep 11</i></b>	
4:15pm	Family Choir	Chapel
7:00 pm	Gallery Choir	<b>Chapel</b>
	<b><i>Friday, Sep 12</i></b>	
	<b><i>Saturday, Sep 13</i></b>	
1:00 pm	Dungeons & Dragons	Labyrinth Room
	<b><i>Sunday Sep 14</i></b>	
10:30 am	Worship Service	<b>Sanctuary</b>
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall

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



**September 7, 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](mailto:office@firstunitedchurch.ca)  
**website:** [firstunitedchurch.ca](http://firstunitedchurch.ca)

**Chair of the Board**  
**email:** [firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com](mailto:firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com)

Guest Minister:	Rev. Fred Monteith
Greeter(s):	Edith Coyle
Reader(s):	Nancy Lennox
Lay Leader:	Paul Miller

Serving Refreshments this week: Ministry & Personnel