

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 2nd 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 21st – Fifteenth after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, 22-28; Psalm 79: (VU p. 793); 1 Timothy 2:1-7;
Luke 16:1-13

Regional Council Prayer Cycle
Saugeen: 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, 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.

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.

KNITTING GROUP

The Knitting Group is starting up again this Fall. Our first get together will be Saturday September 20th at 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Parlour. You don't have to be a knitter or crocheter – bring any craft you like. Join for some fellowship and wonderful conversation.

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 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

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 if you would like to join. Discounted books (\$14) are available. Contact Nancy Dykstra at 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

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

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
www.waterloowayside.org
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

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

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 5th, 2:30pm-4:00pm
100 Rosenberg Way, Kitchener, ON

FULL HOUSE BRASS

Concert on **October 5, 2025** 3:00pm at St. Matthews featuring the Full House Brass musical ensemble. Called "Treble Makers", this concert will feature jokes and tricks composers play on musicians and audiences. You'll hear light classical numbers as well as popular songs in this amusing and light-hearted presentation.

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.

	<i>Sunday Sep 14</i>	
10:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Monday, Sep 15</i>	
9:00 am	Bailey’s Foods	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
5:00 pm	KWYO (Youth Sinfonia)	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Scouts	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Tuesday, Sep 16</i>	
5:00 pm	KWYO(Youth Strings)	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	KWYO (Preludium Strings)	Chapel
	<i>Wednesday, Sep 17</i>	
6:30 pm	Embers	Hilliard Hall
6:30 pm	Sparks	Chapel
	<i>Thursday, Sep 18</i>	
4:15pm	Family Choir	Chapel
7:00 pm	Gallery Choir	Chapel
	<i>Friday, Sep 19</i>	
	<i>Saturday, Sep 20</i>	
9:00 am	Knitting Group	Parlour
1:00 pm	Dungeons & Dragons	Labyrinth Room
	<i>Sunday Sep 21</i>	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall

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



September 14, 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. Fred Monteith
Greeter(s):	Leah & Mike Todd
Reader(s):	Rick & Jana Heemskerk
Lay Leader:	Lee Willingham
Serving Refreshments this week: Outreach	