

Welcome to First! We are glad you are here!

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, **ALL** lights are off and **ALL** doors are securely locked before leaving the Church.



Sunday October 12 – Thanksgiving Sunday

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 100: (VU p. 820-824);
Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35

Regional Council Prayer Cycle
Letterbreen 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.

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.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS WANTED

To have a smooth-running Sunday Worship experience requires a lot of people taking part. It is something many of us really enjoy. Most tasks are easy and not very time-consuming. It helps us to connect better with each other and makes the worship experience better. If you would like to help, some of the places we could use you are:

- **Greeting- Contact Marg Dickson**
- **Reading the Scripture-Contact Nany Lennox**
- **Lay Leadership (Opening worship, leading announcements)-Contact Cathie Stewart Savage**
- **Ushering-Contact Joe Hipperson**
- **Serving Communion (a few times a year)-Contact Cathie Stewart Savage**
- **Serving Coffee-Contact anyone in the kitchen after church.**

UPDATE ON PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT WITH KINDRED WORKS

The Property Development Committee met with Kindred Works on September 24 to hear the latest progress on the business plan. Currently, they are looking at building a 25-40 storey building, to have up to 485 units (max 3 bedrooms), 30% of which will be more affordable (60-70% of market rent) and exploring underground parking. Timeline: 24 months for entitlements, 36-44 months for construction, 12-18 months for leasing. It would generate significant annual income for the church.

Please feel free to be in touch with committee members Teresa Edge, Vern Hall, Matthew Savage, Lee Willingham and Mary Joan Brooker with comments or questions.

TUESDAY NOON HOUR CONCERTS

48th SEASON! Join us on **Tuesday Oct 7th** for our FREE Noon Hour Concerts. The Ian Whitman Duo – Jazz and Bossa Nova with a twist – Ian Whitman – double bass, Patti Payne – vocals & piano – will thrill us with a performance you won't want to miss. Remember to pre-order your lunches by Thursday Noon at firstunitedconcerts@gmail.com. (egg, ham, salmon or tuna on whole wheat \$6; butter tart, nanaimo or date square \$2; tea or coffee \$2) See you there!

UCW GARAGE AND PLANT SALE

... Friday October 24th. 2p.m.- 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 25th. 9a.m.-11a.m.

Please bring your donations of house plants and perennials, clothing, linens, shoes, boots, skates, purses, CD's DVD's, jewelry, art, small appliances, dishes, household items, tools, books, games and toys to **Hilliard Hall on Thursday, October 23rd.** from 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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

40 DAYS OF ENGAGEMENT ON ANTI-RACISM

This United Church's program to assist congregations in becoming an anti-racist church will run from **October 14 – November 28** this year. There are many new aspects to this year's program including a weekly online speaker, videos and additional materials.

I am interested in coordinating a program this fall for First United. But I would like at least one other person to work with me. We do not have to create materials. Our challenge may be to select which materials will be the appropriate ones for our congregation and how extensive First's program will be.

Anyone interested in helping to plan our First United program should please contact me at your earliest convenience at westcottj@rogers.com.

I look forward to hearing that others in the congregation are ready to participate in whole or part in a program this fall.
Joan Westcott

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.

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.

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

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

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | Sunday Oct 5 | |
| 10:30 am | Worship Service | Sanctuary |
| 11:30 am | Refreshments | Hilliard Hall |
| | | |
| | Monday, Oct 6 | |
| 9:00 am | Bailey’s Foods | Hilliard Hall/Kitchen |
| 5:00 pm | KWYO (Youth Sinfonia) | Sanctuary |
| 7:00 pm | Scouts | Hilliard Hall |
| 7:00 pm | Board | Parlour |
| | Tuesday, Oct 7 | |
| 8:00 am | Noon Concert Prep | Hilliard Hall/Kitchen |
| 12:00 pm | Noon Hour Concert | Sanctuary |
| 1:30 pm | Property | Parlour |
| 5:00 pm | KWYO(Youth Strings) | Sanctuary |
| 5:00 pm | KWYO (Preludium Strings) | Chapel |
| 5:00 pm | KWYO (Sectionals) | Parlour/Labyrinth Room |
| | Wednesday, Oct 8 | |
| 9:30 am | English at First | Parlour |
| 6:30 pm | Joint Youth Group | Parlour/Kitchen |
| 6:30 pm | Embers | Hilliard Hall |
| 6:30 pm | Sparks | Chapel |
| | | |
| | Thursday, Oct 9 | |
| 4:15 pm | Family Choir | Chapel |
| 7:00 pm | Gallery Choir | Chapel |
| | | |
| | Friday, Oct 10 | |
| | | |
| | Saturday, Oct 11 | |
| 9:00 am | Knitting Group | Parlour |
| 1:00 pm | Dungeons & Dragons | Parlour |
| | | |
| | Sunday Oct 12 | |
| 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



October 5, 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): | Jean Hoffmann |
| Reader(s): | Joanne MacPhail |
| Lay Leader: | Paul Miller |
| Serving Refreshments this week: Stewardship/Finance | |