

Welcome to First! We are glad you are here!

We welcome Eva Mezo-Wellingham and Lee Wellingham this morning.

**For Emergency Pastoral Care please see below:
From December 25th to January 10th 2026 – contact Rev. Roz
Vincent Haven Phone: 519-741-6098**

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 January 11, 2026

**Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29 (VU p.756); Acts 10:34-43;
Matthew 3:13-17**



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.

CONTRIBUTIONS ENVELOPES FOR 2026

Please contact the office at 519-745-8487 Ext 201 or email at office@firstunitedchurch.ca if you would like pre-printed contribution envelopes for 2026.

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

All groups and committees preparing information for the Annual Meeting on March 1, 2026, are reminded of the following timelines:

Sunday January 18, 2026 All reports must be in Word Document format, are to be sent electronically to the **new address only** (not the church office). firstunited.annualreport@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2026

First United Church Waterloo Stewardship appeal 2026

Have YOU returned your Commitment Response Form??

We are grateful for those of you who have returned your completed response forms including indicating areas you are offering to volunteer your time.

It's not too late

Although we asked to have them returned by Nov 30, we believe the saying "Better Late than Never" and strongly encourage you to give us your best indication of how you are planning to support our Ministries at First, by returning a Commitment Response Form before the end of December.

(Copies can be found on the table or shelves in the Narthex, and returned to the office)

ARTISANS AT FIRST 2025

Thanks to the many hands that made Artisans at First 2025 a successful event netting \$4053. for First United. The Bake Sale flew even higher this year, netting \$1985! The Lunch Room also exceeded last year. Unfortunately the craft table had few new items this year so brought in only \$98. I guess the message is "Stick to the baking, not the sewing/knitting/crocheting". Coordinators Alice Bieman, Cathie Stewart Savage, Lynne Blake- Dickson and Muriel Omand-Naylor were key to a smooth running day.

Joan Westcott

KNITTING GROUP

We will resume knitting, chatting, crocheting, chatting, card making and of course chatting in the new year on Saturday January 10th in the Parlour. Wishing you all the best for the new year.

Joanne (The Knitting Elf)

CHURCH OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS



The Church Office will be CLOSED:

Thursday December 25th
Friday December 26th
Wednesday December 31st
Thursday January 1st

The Church Office will be OPEN:

Monday December 22nd – Regular Hours
Tuesday December 23rd – Regular Hours
Wednesday December 24th – Closing at 1:00 pm
Monday January 5th, 2026 – Regular Hours

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WRITE FOR RIGHTS – AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Join in the world's largest human rights event!

Sign letters and craft cards of support in defence of human rights around the world.

Saturday January 10, 2026

1 – 4pm

Hilliard Hall, First United Church

CONTACT: groupnine9@gmail.com

CONRAD GREBEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Conrad Grebel University College invites student residence applications for the 2026-27 academic year. Grebel is an

enthusiastic residence community, rooted in Christian values, that houses University of Waterloo students on the UWaterloo campus.

Students in any year of study are welcome. Learn about rooms, spaces, food, fees, and important dates at uwaterloo.ca/grebel/apply.

Registration for Ontario Mennonite Music Camp (OMMC) is now open! Running from August 16–28, 2026, OMMC is a place where youth develop and enrich relationships, faith, musicality, and leadership in a fun and supportive summer camp environment. Based in Waterloo, ON. Register by April 15 for the early-bird discount. **More information at** grebel.ca/ommc

Looking for more purpose in your life? Whether you are interested in exploring vocations of ministry and service, deepening your understanding of Christianity and the church, or seeking personal enrichment, the Master of Theological Studies program at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo, ON could be a great fit for you. Apply by February 1. Full tuition scholarships available for full-time Canadian students. uwaterloo.ca/theological-studies

Be part of a vibrant, interdisciplinary learning environment with the **Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS)** at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo. Connect theory, analysis, reflection, and practice to advance nonviolent peacebuilding and community-led change in a rigorous course-based professional degree program. For more information, visit uwaterloo.ca/mpacs or register for an [upcoming information session](#) on January 15, 2026.

WATERLOO REGION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Community by Design: Exploring Social Infrastructure in Waterloo Region. Thursday, January 22, 2026 6 – 8:15pm
Join Waterloo Region Community Foundation (WRCF), and partners Kitchener Public Library and Midtown Radio for a panel discussion and the official launch of the 5-part Podcast Series – Community by Design: Exploring Social Infrastructure in Waterloo Region.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY WATERLOO WELLINGTON

Virtual and In-Person Education Sessions

You can register over the phone by calling our office at 519-650-1628 (Cambridge Area), 519-836-7672 (Guelph Area) or 519-742-1422 (Kitchener Area).

Anticipatory Grief, January 13, 6-7 pm , Virtual via Zoom

With speaker Julie Martin-Jansen. Anticipatory grief occurs prior to a death. It is a normal emotion, but it can also be confusing and painful. This workshop will help you understand anticipatory grief and learn helpful coping strategies.

Overview of Dementia, January 14, 1-2:30 pm, In person - Guelph location

This session will cover learning about dementia, adapting to changes in the brain and living well with dementia. If you are beginning your dementia journey, this is the place to start.

	<i>Sunday Jan 4</i>	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Sunday School	Parlour/Labyrinth Room
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Monday, Jan 5</i>	
5:00 pm	KWYO – Youth Sinfonia	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Scouts	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Tuesday, Jan 6</i>	
1:30 pm	Property	Parlour
5:00 pm	KWYO - Youth Strings	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	KWYO - Preludium Strings	Chapel
	<i>Wednesday, Jan 7</i>	
6:30 pm	Embers	Hilliard Hall
6:30 pm	Sparks	Chapel
	<i>Thursday, Jan 8</i>	
9:30 am	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
11:00am	Baileys Foods	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
1:30 pm	UCW	Parlour
4:00 pm	Family Choir	Chapel
7:00 pm	Gallery Choir	Chapel
	<i>Friday, Jan 9</i>	
1:00 pm	Fridays at First	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	<i>Saturday, Jan 10</i>	
9:00am	Knitting Group	Parlour
1:00 pm	Dungeons & Dragons	Labyrinth Room
1:00 pm	Amnesty International	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Sunday, Jan 11</i>	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Sunday School	Parlour/Labyrinth Room
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall
1:00 pm	KW Chamber Music (Concert 3pm)	Sanctuary

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



January 4, 2026

Minister	Rev. Hoeun Lee
Music Director	Kathleen King Martin
Church Administrator	Carla Drake
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: Eva Mezo-Willingham
Greeter(s): Jean Hoffmann
Reader(s): Nancy Lennox
Lay Leader: Paul Miller
Serving Refreshments this week: