

Welcome to First United Church
We are glad you are here!

Rev. Hoeun Lee will on vacation –
from Tuesday, August 11th thru Monday, August 17th

**For Emergency Pastoral Care in Rev. Hoeun's absence,
please contact
Rev. Gaylyn McLean
Forest Hill United Church
Phone 519-744-3481**

OFFICE HOURS – JULY 2nd TO AUGUST 27th

Starting Thursday, July 2nd to Thursday, August 27th the office
will be open **Monday-Thursday 9:00 am to 3:00pm.**

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 August 23, 2026

**Exodus 1:8—2:10; Psalm 124 (VU p. 848)
Romans 12:1–8; Matthew 16:13–20**

Annan-Woodford 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
Etransfer to firstunitedchurch@rogers.com,
Website donation www.firstunitedchurch.ca
or cheque. Please make cheques payable to
- **FIRST UNITED CHURCH**

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.

FUTURE PLANNING TIMELINE

Apr 19 – All Day Board Retreat with Rev. Greg Smith-Young
Apr 20 – Worship & Congregational Conversations that Matter
with Rev. Greg Smith-Young
Apr 21 – Jun 12 Envisioning Team and individuals working
with Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne
Jun 13 – All Day Board Retreat with Right Rev. Dr. Carmen
Lansdowne
Jun 20 – Half Day Board Retreat with Right Rev. Dr. Carmen
Lansdowne
Jun 21-Aug 9 – Envisioning Team & Board Members working
with Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne
Aug 10 – Board Meeting following new format
Sep 13 - Worship & Congregational Conversations that Matter
with Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne
Sep 13-Oct – Congregational Conversations that Matter led by
Envisioning Team
Late Oct - Congregational Meeting to make decisions on the
future of First United

ARTISANS AT FIRST 2026

Artisans at First 2026 is scheduled for Saturday, November 28th
here at First United. This fundraiser for First United is a market of
25+ vendors selling their handcrafted creations. There are still a
few openings for vendors. If you are interested in donating a few
items you have handcrafted to First United's table at the market,
now is the time to be creative. Items for First's table will be
collected in early November. The event on November 28th also
includes a large sale of baking by First United participants plus a
lunchroom. Any questions should be directed to
handatfirst@gmail.com. Joan Westcott

UPCOMING JOINT SERVICES		
EVENT	DATE	TIME
At Emmanuel	Sunday, August 23	10:00 am
At Parkminster	Sunday, August 30	10:30 am

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE

The September/October issue of the Broadview Magazine will be
a special one dedicated entirely to small churches; celebrating
the creativity, resilience and faithfulness of small churches across
Canada, offering encouragement, practical ideas and hope for
their future.

Broadview is offering a pre-publication discount. If we order
10 or more copies, the cost will be \$5 per copy. Please let the
office know if you are interested in ordering a copy.

NEIGHBORING UNITED CHURCHES

WE LEND A HAND

When – Friday, October 16, 2026 7:00pm
Where – Cedar Hill United Church, 241 Cedar St, Cambridge
Cedar Hill United Church in Cambridge is proud to present –
WE LEND A HAND. The forgotten story of Ontario Farmerettes.
This 50-minute documentary tells the story of young girls from the
cities going to work harvesting fruits and vegetables on farms in
Southern Ontario during World War II. Tickets are \$20 each.
Please contact the church office at 519-623-1820 or
cedarhillchurch@bellnet.ca to reserve your ticket.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

You can help!

Summer can be a difficult time for people in our community. Your
Outreach Committee is aware of a few ways you can help.

The House of Friendship is completing their project, Welcome
Home: Friendship Village. Your gift today can provide the
essentials that turn a space into a home:

- Cleaning supplies (\$40)
- Towels and household basics (\$80)
- Bedding or basic furniture pieces (\$150)
- A basic bed frame (\$300)

<https://houseoffriendship.org/friendshipvillage/>

The need for emergency food hampers and meal programs is
particularly high this summer. You can help with Supporting
hunger relief across Waterloo region by connecting people with
nutritious food, mobilizing community support, and offering simple
ways to donate, volunteer, or access food assistance.

<https://www.thefoodbank.ca/>

The Waterloo Regional Police Service is once again challenging
the community to take part in its ninth annual Backpack
Challenge. The challenge encourages businesses and residents
to purchase new backpacks, lunch bags, school supplies, or gift
cards to be donated to children and families in need.

<https://wrps.ca/backpacks>

Please reach out as you are called and able or speak to one of
the members of the Outreach Committee for more help if you are
unable to access the information online.

Cathie Stewart Savage,
On behalf of First United Outreach

THE MAJDI-BOU-MATAR BURSARY

Are you a talented artist, performer, leader, or visionary? The Majdi-Bou-Matar Bursary, named after the visionary founder of MT Space, offers \$5,000 and a year-long mentorship with MT Space designed to fit the recipient. This bursary is open to performers, leaders, and administrators who are Racialized (newcomer, immigrant, refugee) and/or Indigenous and emerging in their craft/career in the Canadian performing arts sector and within commuting distance of MT Space (located in KW region). Deadline – August 31, 2026 at 11:59pm EST Apply today - @mtspace.ca

GRASSY NARROWS WALK TOWARDS MERCURY JUSTICE & FREEDOM



River Run 2026
Join Grassy Narrows for their walk towards Mercury Justice & Freedom

Date: September 23rd, 2026 @ 12:00pm

Location: Downtown Toronto, exact location TBD

Grassy Narrows people are powerful leaders in the movement for Indigenous sovereignty and environmental justice. They have shown that together we can fight for justice against all odds and make real gains. Please see Ripples, Reflections and Weekly Update for more information to register for this event.

MT Space & Unwrap Theatre Presents: Mixed(er)

When: Thursday October 1 thru Saturday, October 3
Where: Centre in the Square, 101 Queen St N, Kitchener

mixed(er) is a comedic coming-of-adulthood story about Sam, a biracial woman who returns to her parents’ home in Kitchener-Waterloo after completing her undergrad. What she thought was going to be a low-key homecoming quickly spirals into chaos when she learns they are throwing her a surprise birthday party, including her White friends and only Black friend. Family wounds surface, cultural tensions flare, and a jerk chicken casserole is the final straw of her fractured identity’s back. Between bedroom fights, hair tangles, a secret unconscious boyfriend, and a Mennonite bakery heist, Sam confronts what it means to belong – to her Black Caribbean heritage, her White mother, her friends, her city, and herself. For additional information, please visit - <https://centreinthesquare.com/event/mixeder-by-unwrap-theatre/>

	Sunday, August 16	
10:30 am	Joint Worship Service At Westminster	Sanctuary
	Monday, August 17	
7:30 am	STEM CAMP	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	Tuesday, August 18	
7:30 am	STEM CAMP	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	Wednesday, August 19	
7:30 am	STEM CAMP	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	Thursday, August 20	
7:30 am	STEM CAMP	Classroom/Kitchen
11:00am	Baileys Foods	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	Friday, August 21	
7:30 am	STEM CAMP	Hilliard Hall/Kitchen
	Saturday, August 22	
1:00 pm	Dungeons & Dragons	Parlour
	Sunday, August 23	
10:00 am	Joint Worship Service at Emmanuel United	Sanctuary

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



August 16, 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

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Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1J3
Office: 519-745-8487 x201
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

email: firstunitedchurch@rogers.com
website: firstunitedchurch.ca

Chair of the Board
email: firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com

Guest Minister:

Greeter(s):

Reader(s):

Lay Leader:

Serving Refreshments this month: