

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

**EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE**  
**Rev. Hoeun Lee**  
**Phone 519-745-8487, Ext 208**

### **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 September 13, 2026**

**Exodus 14:19–31; Exodus 15:1b–11, 20–21**  
**Psalms 114; Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35**

**McIntosh-Mildmay 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](mailto:firstunitedchurch@rogers.com),  
Website donation [www.firstunitedchurch.ca](http://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.

### **UPDATE FROM THE BOARD FINANCIAL SITUATION**

Following our realization of how serious our financial situation  
is, the Board had a meeting, Monday, August 24 by zoom to  
discuss possible short term solutions – 2 actions were decided  
on.

1. Two Capital applications were submitted to the  
WOW Region, one to recover costs for the roof repairs  
(\$10,174) and one to recover costs for the boiler  
repairs (\$17,993).
2. An application was made to apply for a bridging loan  
for (\$40,000) which has a 3 year payback plan with 4%  
interest. The first 6 months with 0% interest.

There are no promises that any of the applications are going to  
be successful but we are hopeful.

The congregation will need to have some serious discussions  
in September and October as this issue will affect all of us and  
what our future together might be.

**We ask you to prayerfully consider this and attend as  
many of the fall meetings as possible with open and  
caring minds and hearts.**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR** **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH**

The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, former Moderator of  
the United Church of Canada will lead our worship service.  
Following the service, after a light lunch, Rev. Lansdowne will  
be with us for a congregational conversation when we will  
explore options for our future as a church. We hope all who  
are able will attend this important session.

### **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

### **SEPTEMBER UCW MEETING**

UCW members will meet on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at  
1:30pm. (rather than the first Thursday of the month)  
All ladies are welcome!  
Thanks, Edith

### **WELCOME TO OUR 48TH / 49TH SEASON OF FREE NOON** **HOOR CONCERTS!**

A very exciting season of 21 concerts is ready, featuring many  
favourite ensembles as well as some 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(\$6); butter tart, date or lemon square(\$2); coffee or tea  
(\$2). Pickles are FREE! (Cash only please) DONATIONS are  
also very welcome and necessary to allow us to continue.  
Hard copies of the schedule are available in the Narthex and  
or at [firstunitedchurch.ca](http://firstunitedchurch.ca)

Here are the first 2 concerts:

#### **Tuesday September 15**

Andrew Sords – violin, Cheryl Duvall - piano

#### **Tuesday September 22**

Mary-Catherine Pazzano Jazz Trio

Mary-Catherine – vocals, Nancy Walker – piano, Pat Collins –  
double bass

### **UPCOMING JOINT SERVICES**

| <b>EVENT</b>   | <b>DATE</b>          | <b>TIME</b> |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| At Westminster | Sunday, September 27 | 10:30 am    |

### **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](mailto:cedarhillchurch@bellnet.ca) to reserve your ticket.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

GAZA FUNDRAISER – ‘OPEN MIC’ NIGHT

When – Friday, September 19, 2026 at 7:00pm  
Where – Rockway Mennonite Church  
47 Onward Ave., Kitchener  
Come and display your talents! There will be some scheduled performances, but plenty of time for anyone to get up and sing, play a musical instrument, do a comedy monologue – whatever your talent is, come and display it.  
Singalongs! Even if you don’t want to perform, join the group in singing along to a few popular songs. Or, create your own singalong!  
This fundraiser is – Donate What You Can  
For additional information, contact Bob Fantina at 226-339-1981 or bfantina@gmail.com

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/>

MTSpace Presents: The Lullaby Project

When: Monday, September 14, 2026 7:00pm  
Where: First United Church Chapel  
As part of this month’s TELL! we’re excited to share a screening of the Lullaby Project, directed by local filmmaker Sara Geidlinger. This film follows three Waterloo Region songwriters who volunteered at Grand Valley Institution for Women, collaborating with incarcerated mothers to write original lullabies for the children they are separated from.  
After the screening folks will have the opportunity to present their talents, passions and stories.

|          |                           |                                  |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|          | Sunday, September 6       |                                  |
| 10:30 am | Worship Service at First  | Sanctuary                        |
| 11:30 am | Refreshments              | Hilliard Hall                    |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Monday, September 7       |                                  |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Tuesday, September 8      |                                  |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Wednesday, September 9    |                                  |
| 3:00 pm  | Outreach Committee        | Parlour                          |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Thursday, September 10    |                                  |
| 11:00am  | Baileys Foods             | Hilliard Hall/Kitchen            |
| 1:30 pm  | UCW                       | Parlour                          |
| 7:00 pm  | Gallery Choir             | Chapel                           |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Friday, September 11      |                                  |
| 9:30 am  | English at First          | Parlour                          |
| 1:30 pm  | Memorial Service          | Sanctuary/Hilliard Hall/ Kitchen |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Saturday, September 12    |                                  |
| 1:00 pm  | Dungeons & Dragons        | Parlour                          |
|          |                           |                                  |
|          | Sunday, September 13      |                                  |
| 10:30 am | Worship Service at First  | Sanctuary                        |
| 11:30 am | Conversations that Matter | Hilliard Hall                    |

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



September 6, 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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email: [firstunitedchurch@rogers.com](mailto:firstunitedchurch@rogers.com)  
website: [firstunitedchurch.ca](http://firstunitedchurch.ca)

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

|                                           |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Guest Minister:                           |                        |
| Greeter(s):                               | Pauline Williams       |
| Reader(s):                                | Nancy Lennox (she/her) |
| Lay Leader:                               | Sharon Gowland         |
| Serving Refreshments this month: Outreach |                        |