**LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH – September 6**

**We hope everyone is well this week.**

**If there are any needs you have for groceries or a conversation, please contact the office to let us know**.

We have people who are eager to help.

First’s Church Office:  office@1stunitedchurch.ca

Central’s Church Office: admin@centraluc.ca

**To all those who have been sending in your offering.**

**We appreciate your ongoing support!**

**Rev. Daryl is on vacation.** He returns Tuesday. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Lori in the Church office and she will put you in touch with Rev. Paul or Rev. John from Central. Thank you to Rev. Paul & Rev. John for covering while Rev. Daryl is on holidays.

**Lori will be away** Wednesday, September 9 to Sunday, September 13.

**Happy birthday to**: Arnold Catt, Harold Lake, Alvin Epp,

**Happy Anniversary to**: Rick & Penny West, Jacqui & Wayne Travis, Mark & Debbie Traichevich.

**Congratulations** to Rosemary Underhill on the arrival of another granddaughter! Rosemary’s son Jeff’s daughter, Sidney Victoria Mackenzie Underhill was born on August 7, 2020. Best wishes to the family.

**Coffee & Conversation** will take a brief pause on Monday which is Labour Day.  Rev. Daryl is on deck for the following Monday, September 14 and the video is one hosted by Astronaut Chris Hadfield. It would be great to show the kids too!  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zo62S0ulqhA>  We hope you'll join us! (Link is in the weekly email)

**NEXT SUNDAY! First United Return to Church Info!**

The Executive of the First Official Board has decided that beginning on September 13 they will further open up the church to parishioners while continuing to offer online connection and worship with Central and St. Andrews (pending their discussions) over the next few months.  It has been an amazing experience to offer these joint services with the people from our area churches.  First’s building has been open for a few weeks with success for individuals who could not connect online in attendance.  Please see the “Return to Church” email that was sent out last week for full details of the return to church plan to ensure safety while providing a worship experience.

While we used to shake hands, we will greet others with a nod, a wave or in another socially distant manner.

Key highlights:

- if you are ill, stay at home - you can still join online!

- entry from the back, accessibility door only

- **RSVP in advance** if you are attending in person (519-631-7570), attendance will be recorded

- mask wearing is mandatory, hand sanitizer is provided

- pews where bubble groups can sit are marked with green painters tape; yellow marks pews where you cannot sit

- no singing is permitted

- Sunday School will not operate, but we are looking at alternatives

First looks forward to safely returning to the Church building!

Please continue to watch for the weekly emails for more info.

Antler River Watershed Council has sent us information about an **Online Tour of the former Residential School in Brantford**.  There are 2 tour dates – 7 pm on Tuesday, September 29 and 2pm on Wednesday, September 30 - space in each tour is limited to 40 participants. Thanks in part to your generosity, there is no charge for registration though viewers are encouraged to make a donation to the Save the Evidence Campaign – an initiative to restore the residential school so it can be open for in person tours in the future. There was a flyer sent out with the weekly email with more information.

There was also a flyer sent with the weekly email for **"Pathways to Awareness & Understanding...Action Toward Right Relations"** an online Conference & Webinar series presented by St. Paul's Circle of Indigenous Friends and Advocates.  Conference: September 25 & 26.  Webinars: September 30, October 7, 14, 21, & 28. Tickets are $35 and more information can be found on the flyer!