



Greetings from First United Church

"Reach for the Stars!" Fundraising Campaign



We've raised over \$6,600 toward our goal of \$10,000!!! WELL DONE!!

Our goal is to reach \$10,000
by December 31st.

We've already reached the \$2,500 & ✓
\$5,000 goals so the first TWO stars on
the chimney is lit!!

Only \$640 left to raise to reach the
\$7,500 goal and THREE stars will be lit!

When we reach our goal of \$10,000...
all 4 stars will be lit!

To contribute to this fundraiser, just
designate your donation in some way to
"REACH FOR THE STARS".

Your donation can be made by Cheque,
Cash, E-Transfer, PAR or PayPal.

Let's all pitch in and make this
a Christmas to remember
by lighting all four stars!!



Families are invited to attend our family worship service Sunday Mornings at 10:15 in the Assembly Hall at First. We will be following all Co-vid guidelines and parents & kids must wear a mask. We are planning to have a lesson/scripture, video/activity, and a craft each week.

Please RSVP by emailing Karen Auckland at 27Swifty@gmail.com or to answer any questions you may have.

See our website for more details!
<http://www.1stunitedchurch.ca/upcoming-events.html>

Happy birthday to:

Joseph Muma, Carol Gagen,
Bob Fellows, Maureen Turner &
Bill Beamish!

Happy anniversary to:

Richard & Karen Auckland





Greetings from First United Church



You are invited to Worship with us
Sunday Mornings at 10:30am!

Our sanctuary is open with 28 spots available. Please RSVP if you are planning on attending in person (email office@1stunitedchurch.ca or call 519-631-7570 x21 & leave a message) (Social Distancing protocols are in place and masks are to be worn inside the building)

Throughout Advent the First Band will be playing LIVE at First!! LOTS of special Christmas Music!

We also continue to offer the Worship Service Virtually (also at 10:30am) for our own First family, as well as friends from Central, St. Andrew's & New Vision United Churches.

If you're not comfortable joining us in person we'd love it if you joined us online- even if you've never done so before!

This is a great opportunity to connect with your faith community and our friends from other United Churches in St. Thomas! (link to join is included in the weekly email).



As we move through the Advent season and closer to Christmas we think of the Christmas Story.

In this week's video offering for Coffee and Conversation we take a look at Joseph the father of Jesus.

This 8 minute video offers some really interesting insights into this father. Joseph is portrayed as a father who really fits the birth of Jesus into his life and that birth draws out some strong characteristics of the man!

Enjoy the reflection of the video and of coffee time. See you Monday at 10:30!

Here's the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ISarwNfBNg>

Lighting of the Lights

Be sure to check out our Christmas Light display! Just drive in to the parking lot, set your car radio to 87.9FM & watch as the lights dance to the music!

Evenings from 5-8pm.



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Youth Group at First United!

Wednesdays from 7 -8pm



Youth from all churches are welcome!

(There is an ONLINE option – for more info, contact Chris Ross)

We hope everyone is well.
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.



Coming Soon...

Confirmation

with Rev. Paul (Central)
assisted by Rev. Daryl (First).

Contact the Church Office or
Rev. Daryl if you are interested
in participating.





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A Note from Rev. Daryl & Christmas Eve Information

Seasons Greetings from myself, and Pegi and Paul from Central.

It looks like Christmas will be unlike any other in memory. I hope people are finding support from neighbours, family, friends and church family during this time...and giving it in return of course!

First Church is doing a great job keeping the tradition of Christmas Eve Communion Service alive by going online this year.



You will find the Service premier at 1pm on Christmas Eve on Central United's YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_8miBHwtp2qy19zQzXCvA

as well as posted on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/firstunitedchurch

It will remain posted on YouTube all through the holidays.

We have planned a viewing of the pre-recorded Christmas Service on Christmas Eve in the afternoon at 1pm in First Church sanctuary.

Sign up to reserve your seats by calling Karen and Richard Auckland at (519) 860-0381. Enjoy and great thanks to Karen and Richard for hosting!

Communion elements will be available at the in-person service, otherwise join in with a piece of bread and a cup of juice.

Stay tuned to our website & Facebook page for more details about upcoming readings of Stuart McLean's stories on Saturdays or Sundays in the church parking lot. Depending upon regulations we are hoping to offer some drive-in opportunities for our church family.

Lastly, **We are asking people to please submit electronic photos of their family or themselves holding candles (best in a darkened room!) for our closing hymn Silent Night. We are hoping for at least 75 photos!**



Please submit them to Tom Lautebach at tom@lautebach.ca by Sunday, December 19.

Blessings of the season!
Rev. Daryl