



Greetings from First United Church



Sat. Nov. 28 10-1



Curbside Secret Santa Gift/
Non-Perishable Food Item Drop Off
at First for Christmas Care
on Saturday, November 28
10:00am - 1:00pm.

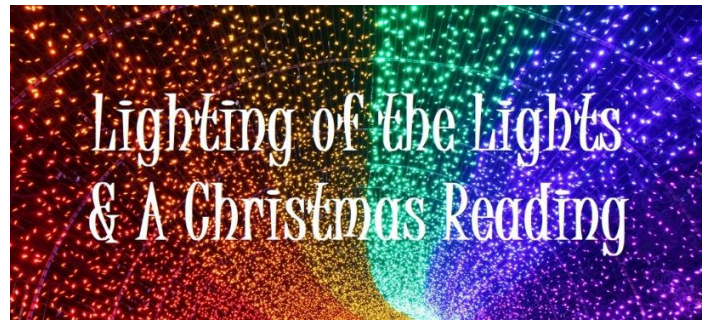
Unwrapped Gifts/Non-perishable food items or Monetary Donations would be GREATLY appreciated!

Our gifts will be included in the Christmas Care Packages given to those in need this holiday season.

ALSO, again this year we are collecting SOCKS for Grace Café. There is a huge need for Men's, Women's and children's socks!

Please bag these separate from your Secret Santa Gifts.

The SOCKS can also be dropped off on Saturday, November 28!



We hope you will join us for this Co-Vid friendly event in our Church Parking lot THIS Saturday at 7pm!

You are invited to drive-in and see the Lighting of our AWESOME, NEW Christmas Light Display & Hear Special Guest Reader Allan Hughson read a humorous story from Stuart McLean's Vinyl Cafe Collection! (The Reading will be broadcast over the newly installed outdoor speakers to the South Parking Lot OR you will be able to tune in over your car radio - 87.9FM) *If you do wish to get out of your vehicle, please wear a mask and follow physical distancing protocols.

When the reading is finished we'll "Light the Lights"!

If you are able, please bring a donation for Christmas Care (toys or non-perishable food items - you can bring your Secret Santa bags!)

This event is in loving memory of long time First Church Member, Michael Gormley. WE MISS YOU MICHAEL!!

This Lighting of the Lights is the kick-off to our Advent/Christmas Fundraising Campaign (see next announcement for details!)



Greetings from First United Church

"Reach for the Stars!" Fundraising Campaign



It's that most wonderful time of the year once again! It's Christmas Time. A time to be thankful for that all God has given us. A time to share our love with each other. A time to show our thanks to First United for being a magnificent place of worship.

This year we invite you to participate in a Special Fundraising Campaign to help sustain our beautiful church throughout the 2021 year.

If you look up to the church chimney (south side of the church), you will see 4 stars. Our hope is to bring light to each of these stars before New Year's Day! How will we do that? We can do it if we all pitch in and give a little in the Spirit of Christmas.

Our goal is to reach \$10,000 by December 31st. When we reach \$2,500 the first star on the chimney will be lit; when we reach \$5,000 two will be lit; \$7,500 = 3 stars lit; and 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, P.A.R or PayPal. For anyone opening a new P.A.R or PayPal account, committed to making monthly donations, we will multiply the first month's donation by 12 and add that sum towards reaching our goal.

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 this week to:
Clark Renaud & Karlynn Bosveld





Greetings from First United Church



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).



We continue to explore the practice of forgiveness. In this TED Talk video with Sarah Montana we learn a bit more about the process of coming to embrace the work and release of forgiveness. When people say we should forgive there usually is no guidance along that road and we are left to "fake it until we make it". Yet forgiveness is such an important journey so many of us want to take. Montana offers some guideposts that have grown out of her own journey toward forgiveness.

Join us for coffee and conversation on Monday at 10:30. Bring a friend!

Here's the video!

<https://youtu.be/mEK2pIiZ2IO>

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)



Greetings from First United Church



Presented by Central & First United Churches

Sunday, December 6 at 7pm



This concert will be pre-recorded and the screening will be held in the sanctuaries of Central & First. It will also be streamed LIVE on YouTube.

You **MUST** reserve seating in advance, due to numbers allowed by Southwest Public Health,

Proceeds to Pearce Williams Christian Centre.

Freewill donations can be made on First United Church's website (www.1stunitedchurch.ca) under the Concert Announcement on the "Upcoming Events" page!



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.

If you would like to sign up to help with worship leadership please send an email to your church office.

We are in great need of volunteers to read scripture or offer as worship host.



We're looking for donations of outdoor LED lights or outdoor extension cords to add to our outdoor Christmas light display.



Contact Lori in the office @ First if you can help! Thank you!



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Here are some
Community Events
that might
interest you!



Pearce Williams Christian Centre
will be hosting an online art auction!

The Pearce Williams Watercolour
Collection will be auctioned off from
November 16-27 2020.

The paintings are available for preview
NOW on Pearce Williams website -
www.campisbetter.com

This art collection includes
12 original paintings of Pearce Williams
by First's own Kim Hughson!

ALL PROCEEDS from this auction
will go to Pearce Williams!

Central United Church
is hosting a Virtual Bazaar!

New Items are added weekly!



Online Payment & Curbside Pickup!

Visit centraluc.ca for details!