Saturday at 10am!

The Joint Environmental Group of First & Central United Churches invites you to join them for a

FALL NATURE WALK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th @ 10AM

AT SOLITUDE NATURE RESERVE

ALL WELCOME

The Environmental Club invites you to join them for a fall walk through the peaceful Solitude Nature Reserve. Located just northeast of Port Stanley and south of Sparta, this wonderful property is located at 45388 Dexter Line. Hopefully early fall colours will be on display. Meet in the parking lot at Solitude Nature Reserve at 10:00 am.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

WEAR AN ORANGE SHIRT TO CHURCH!

ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 28th wear an orange shirt to Church to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their homes.

On Orange Shirt Day (actually September 30th but we honour the day at church the Sunday prior) we also observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. For non-Indigenous Christians in particular, this is a time to reflect on their role in colonialism and the ongoing responsibility to make reparations.

Why Orange? Phyllis Jack Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis wore an orange shirt that her grandmother had given her. It was immediately taken away, and that marked the beginning of Phyllis's long separation from her family and community, a separation caused by actions of the church and federal government.

Orange Shirt Day is a time for us all to remember those events and their ongoing impact.

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO ACKNOWLEDGE, EDUCATE, AND HEAL.

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

Join us for
Worship

AT FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, September 28th

9:30 am

Rev. Paul will lead worship.

Sherry Johnstone will be the Worship Leader.

Denise Perkins, Dwight Whitman will serve Communion.

The Worship Band & Guy Miskelly will lead music!

Scripture: St. Matthew Chapter 18

Sermon: Rev. Paul "Cherishing Children"

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

A GRAND IDEA!

The grand piano in our sanctuary has enabled First United Church to host community musical events such as the Rotary Music Festival and the Christmas Lessons & Carols Event.
The piano is owned by King's Academy. Since it does not fit into the new space they have moved to, they are willing to sell it to First for $2,750, a price determined as fair by our piano tuner.

However, this expenditure is not in the budget and so the Official Board is asking you to consider making an extra donation to help pay for the piano
(please mark your donation "PIANO").

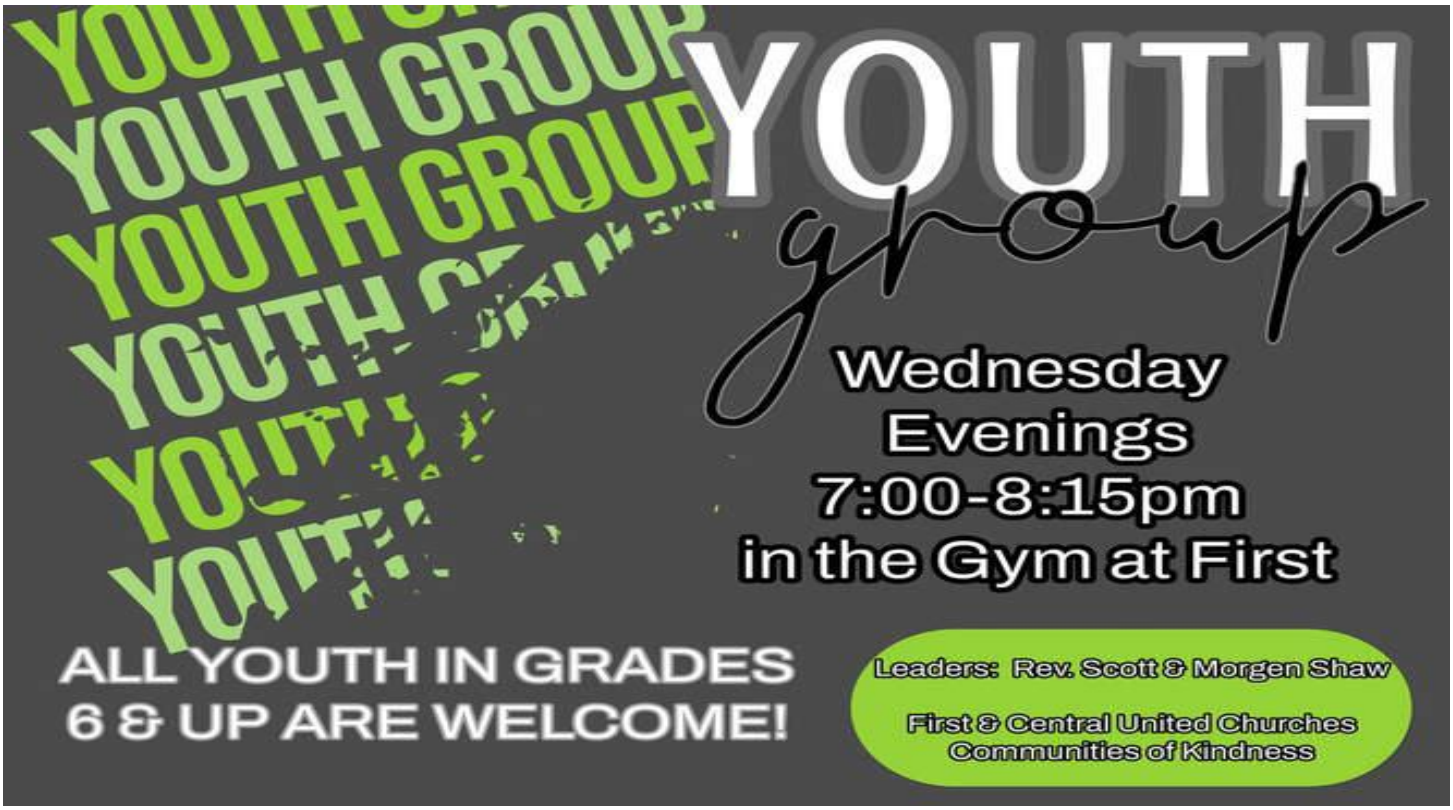
Your grand gesture will enable First to better fulfill its mission of supporting the Community and bring us years of wonderful music. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jody :)

* Kindness * Respect * Fairness *

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025



* Kindness * Respect * Fairness *

Happy birthday to:
Vicki Loucks & Elly Jackson
Happy Anniversary to:
Joe Hill & Carolyn LaPare

Celebrations

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

FIRST & CENTRAL UNITED CHURCHES PRESENT...

MOVIE NIGHT

with Rev. Scott

ALL WELCOME

We hope you'll join us - and bring a friend!

HELD IN THE SANCTUARY AT FIRST UNITED CHURCH

7 Curtis St., St Thomas

Doors open at 6:30pm

Monday, October 6th

Movie followed by discussion 7:00-9:30pm

October's Movie is:

Arsenic and Old Lace (1944)

November 3 – V for Vendetta (2005)
December 1 – Juno (2007)

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION FOR THE ELGIN-ST. THOMAS FOOD BANK

CURRENT NEEDS:

* Cereal ; Oatmeal Packages; Pancake Mix; Syrup
* Pasta Sauce; Pasta; Canned Pasta (Zoodles); Brown Beans
* Canned Tuna, Ham, Chicken; Stuffing; Cranberry Sauce; Gravy
* Peanut Butter; Jam; Cheese Whiz ; Nutella
* Juice Boxes; Pudding/ Fruit/Applesauce Cups; Granola Bars/Snacks
* Canned Fruit; Full-Size Juice; Boost Drinks
* Cream of Mushroom, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable; Tomato; Chunky Soups
* Canned Kernel Corn, Peas, Green Beans; Mixed Veggies
* Rice; Kraft Dinner; Mr. Noodles; Sidekicks
* Ketchup, Mayo, Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Salad Dressing
* Saltine Soda Crackers; Cookies
* Sugar; Whitener; Instant; Ground Coffee
* Baby Diapers Sizes 5, 6 & Pull-Ups; Tampons

Be sure to check all Best Before / Expiry Dates

Fresh Fruits & Vegetables are always appreciated as well!
The Food Bank welcome all monetary & food donations.
(Cheques payable to the Elgin-St. Thomas Food Bank)

On Thanksgiving Sunday, October 12th bring your Food donations to Church with you and we'll deliver them to the Food Bank!!

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

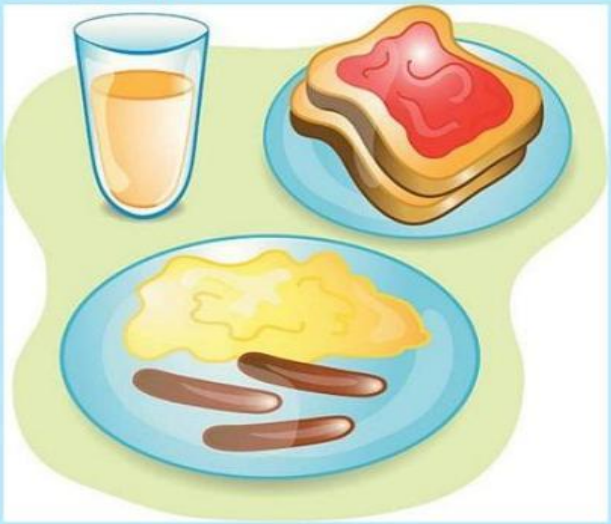
Breakfast at Central

Sunday, October 19th 8:30 am

Join us on Anniversary Sunday to hear Dave Mathers give a short presentation about Central's history.
Suggested Cost $10.00
Proceeds support The Breakfast Bunch

Those from First who are attending the breakfast, please let Lori in the Office know so she can tell Central (so they know how much food to buy 😊)

All are Welcome!



TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

EarlyON Child and Family Centre

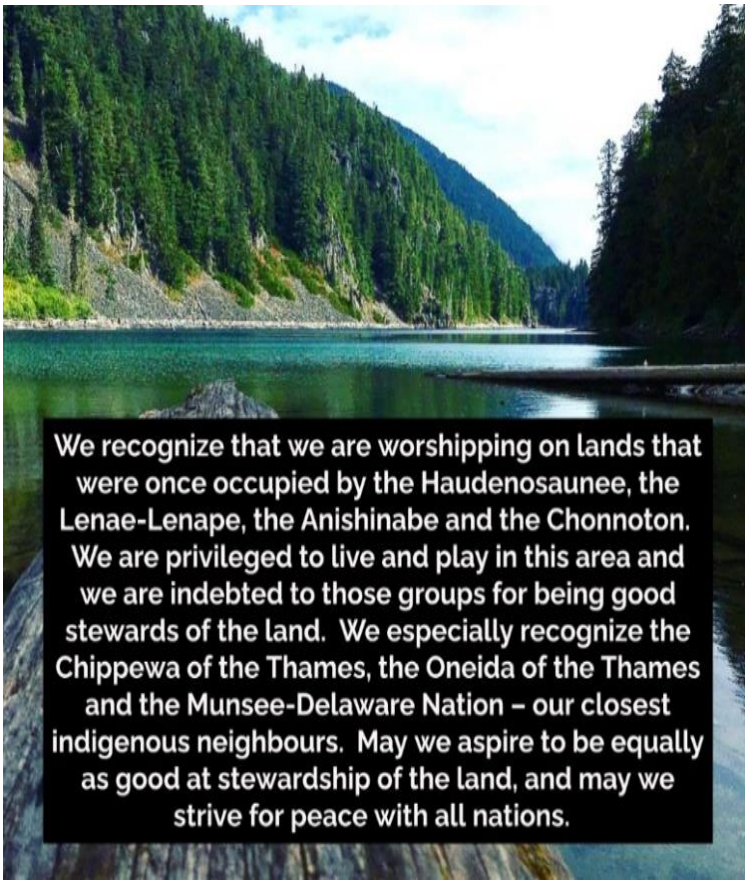
DID YOU KNOW THAT EARLYON HOSTS LOTS OF DIFFERENT GROUPS HERE AT FIRST DURING THE WEEK??

THEY ARE LOCATED IN THE OLD MUSIC ROOM :)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

PROGRAM INFO CAN BE FOUND ON THEIR WEBSITE: HTTPS://WWW.YMCASWO.CA/EO-FC-ST-THOMAS

* Kindness * Respect * Fairness *



TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

Debit & Credit now accepted at the church!

You can make a donation through or Square machine any time the Church Office is open.

Contact Lori for more details!
office@1stunitedchurch.ca
519-631-7570 ext. 21

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

2 Corinthians 9:7

* Kindness * Respect * Fairness *

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

SAVE YOUR POP TABS

First Church Friends!

Please save your pop tabs to help 16 year old, Dallas Reisenweber, to get a wheelchair.

There is a container in the Fellowship (Coffee) Room to collect your donations.

If you have an Upcoming Date / Event / Meeting you'd like included in the slides for our

weekly ANNOUNCEMENTS

please have it to Lori at First (office@1stunitedchurch.ca) by Wednesday at noon. Thank you!

* Kindness * Respect * Fairness *

First United Church

7 Curtis Street, St. Thomas, ON N5P 1H3

Rev. Scott Beckett
Phone: 519-631-7570 ext. 22 (office)
226-582-9422 (emergencies)
Email: scott@sharedministry.ca

Rev. Paul Browning
Phone: 519-631-7570 ext. 23 (office)
519-681-3521 (emergencies)
Email: paul@sharedministry.ca

Lori Hoffman (church office)
Phone: 519-631-7570 ext. 21 (office)
Email: office@1stunitedchurch.ca

1stunitedchurch.ca

firstunitedchurch

@firstunited1834

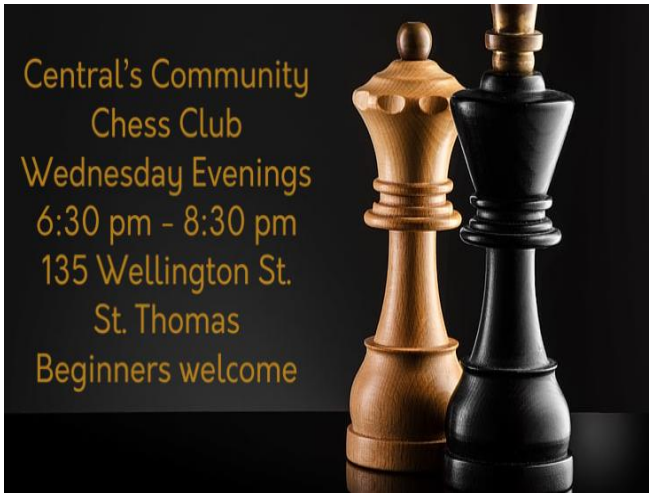
@FirstUnitedStT

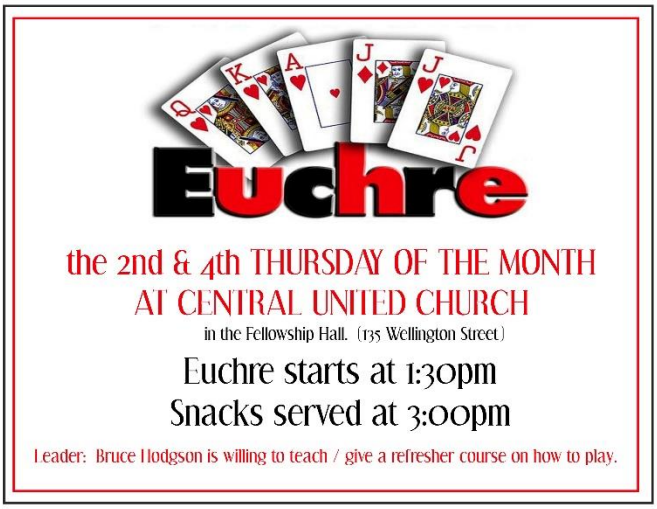
First United Church, St. Thomas

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

* * * * CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH EVENTS* * * * *





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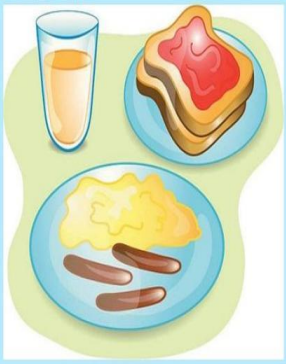


TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.

Weekly Update from First – September 25, 2025

* * * * COMMUNITY EVENTS* * * * * *

St. Thomas

Community Meals

September 2025

Community Outreach Dinner Committee – 20 Flora Street
(St. Thomas Anglican Church)
Dine in meal: Friday September 19th 5:00-6:00pm
(Doors open at 4:30pm. Very limited take away meals available)

Destination Church - 668 Talbot Street
(back entrance off of Moore St. parking lot)
Stone Soup Meal (dine in meal): Thursday September 11th & 25th at 5:30pm

Grace Café – 323 Talbot Street
Dine in or take-away meal: Mondays - Saturdays 7:00am-11:00am

Community Outreach Dinner at Horton Market– 10 Manitoba Street
(Meals provided by Harvest Hands, Community Outreach Dinner Committee, Giving Back and Holy Angels. Only 1 meal per person please)
Take away meal: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays 5:30pm
(available while meals last)
Snack bag: Sundays 5:30pm (available while meals last)

Salvation Army – 380 Elm Street
Bowlful & Bites Bistro (dine in only): Wednesday September 17th, 12:00pm-1:00pm

Salvation Army Mobilize – corner of Moore Street and Talbot Street
Truck providing meal
Street ministries and meal delivery: Mondays, 5:15pm

St. Thomas Islamic Centre – 55 Southwick Street
Take-away meal: Sunday September 21st 4:30-5:30pm

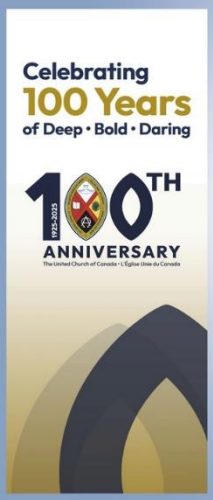
FOOD PROVIDERS NETWORK ELGIN ST. THOMAS

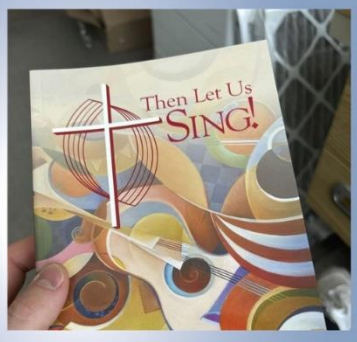
Note: Meals are free, unless there is a price listed.
Meal times may end early if meals run out (first come, first served).

This is Your Invitation...

Moving Forward in Song!

Come and Sing! A free event celebrating 100 Years of Great Hymns, and an introduction to "Then Let Us Sing", the new United Church of Canada hymn supplement





Sunday, October 5, 2:30–3:30 pm

Sponsored by Calvary, Riverside, Wesley-Knox, White Oaks United Churches | Hosted by Wesley-Knox

Wesley-Knox United Church,
91 Askin Street, London, ON N6E 1E7
519.673.4803 | www.wesleyknox.com

TRUST.... show RESPECT ... LISTEN ... then SPEAK.