

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

Rev. Hoeun will be in the office  
Monday, September 21 & Wednesday, September 23  
from 9:30am to 11:30am

**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 27, 2026**

**Exodus 17:1–17; Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16**  
**Philippians 2:1–13; Matthew 21:23–32**

**Grenfel 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.**

**DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING FUTURE OF FIRST UNITED**

**Did you miss the congregational session following the worship service on September 13<sup>th</sup>?**

If so, you are invited to a session on ***Tuesday, September 22 at 1:30pm in the Chapel.*** We will explore possible future pathways for First United Church. We will hear your comments and questions and identify issues that need to be considered.

Then there are at least two further times to dialogue about possible pathways for First United Church:

***Thursday, October 1 at 6:30pm***

***Friday, October 9 at 1:30pm***

We urge everyone to attend one of these sessions to become as informed as possible about the possible pathways, to help us ensure we have identified all matters that need to be considered and to share thoughts about possibilities within each pathway. If none of the dates will work for you, please leave a message with Carla in our church office and we will contact you to arrange a further session.

On Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> the congregation will be asked to make a decision on which pathway we will follow. We seek your assistance in being prepared for that vote.

Your Envisioning Team:

Marilyn Gerriets, Andy Yuan & Joan Westcott

**WELCOME TO OUR 48TH / 49TH SEASON OF FREE NOON HOUR 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)

**Tuesday September 22**

Mary-Catherine Pazzano Jazz Trio

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

**WE ARE HAVING A POTLUCK PICNIC!**

Where: Westminster United Church, 543 Beechwood Dr

When: September 27<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30am service

Emmanuel, First and Westminster congregations will have a joint worship service at Westminster celebrating Truth and Reconciliation Sunday, followed by a potluck picnic. The Parkminster congregation will join in following their own service. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share, a lawn chair, wear their orange shirt for Truth and Reconciliation Sunday and their church name tag. If your dish contains common allergens, please mark it on the container (ie contains: nuts, shellfish, dairy, etc) Coffee, tea, juice, paper plates and cutlery will be provided.

Weather permitting tables will be available outside for people to sit at to enjoy their lunch. Shade tents will be available. In case of poor weather, the tables will be set up inside. Anyone with mobility issues will be able to use tables inside if desired.

Activities are being planned for children of all ages following lunch. If you have an activity to share, please bring it along.

Please label it with your name so that it makes it back home.

Any questions please contact the Collaboration Team – [Waterloo.UC.Collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:Waterloo.UC.Collaboration@gmail.com)

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH KEYS**

We would like to update our listing of Congregants who have keys to the building. Please contact the office either by phone or email to let us know which doors you have keys to. If you have keys you no longer require, please return them to the office. When returning, please include your name and which doors the keys unlock. Thank you, The Rental Advisory Group

**THE CHOIR SEASON HAS BEGUN!**

**All choirs welcome new participants. See Kathleen King Martin for more information.**

**Gallery Choir** rehearses Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Chapel. This SATB choir sings weekly at Sunday services and other events.

**Family Choir** for children, their parents and caregivers, and other friends begins Thursday, Sept. 17, 4:15 to 5:30 pm with snacks, singing and music games.

**Handbell Choir** will begin in October.

**COMING SOON - UCW GARAGE SALE**

The UCW Garage Sale will take place October 30 & 31<sup>st</sup>. We welcome your contributions on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**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/>

|          |                                       |                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|          | <b><i>Sunday, September 20</i></b>    |                       |
| 10:30 am | Worship Service at First              | Sanctuary             |
| 11:30 am | Refreshments                          | Hilliard Hall         |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Monday, September 21</i></b>    |                       |
| 5:00 pm  | KWYO - Sinfonia                       | Sanctuary             |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Tuesday, September 22</i></b>   |                       |
| 7:30 am  | Noon Hour Concert Prep                | Hilliard Hal/Kitchen  |
| 12:00 pm | Noon Hour Concert                     | Sanctuary             |
| 1:30 pm  | Envisioning Team                      | Chapel                |
| 5:00 pm  | KWYO – Youth Strings                  | Sanctuary             |
| 7:00 pm  | SHOW Board Meeting                    | Parlour               |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Wednesday, September 23</i></b> |                       |
| 11:00 am | Fall Clergy Gathering                 | Chapel/Kitchen        |
| 6:30 pm  | Embers Leader Meeting                 | Hilliard Hall         |
| 6:30 pm  | Sparks                                | Chapel                |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Thursday, September 24</i></b>  |                       |
| 9:00 am  | Unwrap Theatre                        | Chapel                |
| 11:00 am | Baileys Local Foods                   | Hilliard Hall/Kitchen |
| 4:00 pm  | Family Choir                          | Parlour               |
| 7:00 pm  | Gallery Choir                         | Sanctuary             |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Friday, September 25</i></b>    |                       |
| 9:00 am  | Unwrap Theatre                        | Chapel                |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Saturday, September 26</i></b>  |                       |
| 9:00 am  | Unwrap Theatre                        | Chapel                |
| 1:00 pm  | Dungeons & Dragons                    | Parlour               |
|          |                                       |                       |
|          | <b><i>Sunday, September 27</i></b>    |                       |
| 10:30 am | Worship Service at Westminster        | Westminster           |
| 11:30 am | Picnic                                | Westminster           |

**WEEKLY UPDATE**

of happenings, events and concerns of our  
**First United Church Family**



**September 20, 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         |

16 William Street West  
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1J3  
Office: 519-745-8487 x201  
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**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): Alice Bieman (she/her)  
Reader(s): Douglas Facey (he/him)  
Lay Leader: Heather Redden-Greer (she/her)  
Serving Refreshments this month: Outreach