

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

Rev. Hoeun will be in the office
Wednesday and Thursday
from 9:30am to 11:30am

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE
Rev. Hoeun Lee
Phone 519-745-8487, Ext 208



Sunday, October 25, 2026

Deuteronomy 34:1–12; Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17 (VU pp. 805–806).
1 Thessalonians 2:1–8; Matthew 22:34–46

Palmerston: James Street Pastoral Charge



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.

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, Website donation www.firstunitedchurch.ca or cheque. Please made 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.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving envelopes are available in the Narthex. This year we will contribute to Vera's Place & Shalom Counseling. Please make cheques payable to First United Church.

FUTURE OF FIRST UNITED

Since September 13th, congregants have had a few opportunities to meet to discuss the three pathways that have been identified for our future as First United Church. On October 25th, the congregation will be asked to make a decision on which pathway we will follow.

The Envisioning Team is providing one more opportunity to talk about the three pathways before the vote. On October 18th, after the worship service, we will meet in Hilliard Hall for a Town Hall session. This will be an opportunity in a plenary session to talk about the three pathways. So pick up your coffee, tea or juice and a snack then grab a seat and be ready to share your comments. We expect the session might continue up to an hour and a half.

Your Envisioning Team:
Marilyn Gerriets, Andy Yuan & Joan Westcott

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational meeting has been called for Sunday October 25, 2026, following our Sunday Worship. This meeting has a single purpose: deciding on a pathway forward for First United Church.

The pathway options under consideration were explained on September 13th following worship and in a number of sessions held since then, that members of the congregation were invited to attend.

At the meeting on October 25th you will be asked to select one of the following

- Pathway A – Planned Closure
- Pathway B – Collaboration and/or beginning discussions on amalgamation
- Pathway C – Rightsizing and renewal

It will be voted on by secret ballot. If no pathway receives a majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held strictly between the two pathways that received the highest number of votes on the first ballot.

Proxy or advanced ballots are not an option in the United Church model of decision making, but we are looking at options for those not able to attend the meeting.

There will be one more session to ask questions about these pathways on Sunday after church.
Greg Case, Congregational Chair

STATUS OF KINDRED WORKS PROCESS

Given that the church is facing critical decisions regarding its future, the Property Development Committee, in consultation with Kindred Works, has agreed to forego presenting the congregation with a Kindred Works proposal until such time as the church has determined its pathway forward. Conversations continue between the Property Development Committee and the Kindred Works team to keep each other up to date with the ongoing process.

First United does not have a financial obligation to Kindred Works as long as the church property is not sold. If the property is sold, the funds will be recouped from the proceeds of the sale.

In a meeting with Kindred Works that included an update on the financial situation of the congregation, they referred us to the Property Resource Group that operates out of the General Council Office. A deep analysis of First United's rental revenue and space requirements has been undertaken in consultation with our Rental Advisory Committee. We are using this information to build stronger relationships with renters, identify ways to increase rental revenue, and provide a clearer financial picture in our church budget reporting.

Property Development Committee:
Mary Joan Brooker, Vern Hall, Matthew Savage, Lee Willingham

TUESDAY NOON HOUR CONCERTS

Need a Lift? Join us on **Tuesday October 20th** for our FREE Noon Hour Concert here at First, featuring **Ian Whitman, double bass and Beth Ann de Sousa, piano.**

Please order your lunch by THURSDAY NOON at 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). 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

WEEKLY NOON HOUR PRAYER

All are welcome to come and join Rev. Hoeun on Thursdays at noon for (Un)Ordinary Prayer gatherings. Each week will be in a slightly different location.

Oct 22	Praying by Walking Parkminster United Church	Labyrinth Area
Oct 29	Praying by Sharing Meals First United Church	Chapel

UCW GARAGE AND PLANT SALE

Friday October 30th – 12:00pm – 5:30pm
Saturday, October 31st – 9:00am – 11:00pm
Please bring your donations of house plants, clothing, linens, shoes, boots, skates, purses, CD's, DVD's, jewelry, art, small appliances, dishes, household items, tools, books, games and toys to Hilliard Hall on Thursday, October 29th from 8:30am – 7:00pm

NEIGHBORING UNITED CHURCHES

CELTIC FOR A CAUSE CONCERT FUNDRAISER

Where: Parkminster United Church

When: Sunday, October 18th

Please join us for a celebration of East Coast and Irish music, in support of two Waterloo Region charitable organizations: Marillac Place and Reception House. All proceeds from the event will be donated to these organizations. The evening will also include a silent auction.

The auction opens at 6:30pm, the concert will run from 7:00pm – 8:30pm and the silent auction will wrap up by 8:50pm. Admission to the event is by generous donation.

If you would like to donate to the silent auction, please contact Paul Knowles at pknowles@golden.net.

MEND BOOK STUDY

Parkminster United Church invites people from all four United Churches of Waterloo to join us in a series of 4 book club discussions on the book – “MEND” by Jodi Sparguar. This book uses the story of Zacchaeus to help us think in new ways about our place in our history and relationship with Indigenous peoples.

The discussions will be held at Parkminster on four Monday evenings at 7pm in November (2nd, 9th, 23rd & 30th)

The book has been called: An Invitation from Jesus to Return to Land-based Repair.

A Metis grandmother said – “Great analogies help us to understand present day realities.”

Another reader said – “The unfolding of Zacchaeus’ transformation from self-protecting hoarder to generous restorer is such a profound way to...think about the invitation of land back.

Register by emailing admin@parkuc.ca with:
Your Name / Phone Number / Email Address

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREE ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

The Alzheimer Society Waterloo Wellington is pleased to once again be hosting a free, in-person Financial Confidence workshop in partnership with IG Wealth Management.

The seminar will provide

- Tips & tools for wealth planning for aging individuals
- Advice for caregivers and people living with dementia
- Will planning
- Benefits of charitable giving
- Tax considerations and resources available for Canadians.

There are currently 2 dates and locations to choose from - October 27 in Kitchener and October 29 in Cambridge. Please visit the Alzheimer Society Waterloo Wellington for additional information at <https://alzheimer.ca/ww/en>

	<i>Sunday, October 18</i>	
10:30 am	Worship Service at First	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Refreshments & Envisioning Session	Hilliard Hall
	<i>Monday, October 19</i>	
5:00 pm	KWYO – Sinfonia	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Board Meeting	Parlour
	<i>Tuesday, October 20</i>	
7:30 am	Noon Hour Concert Prep	Hilliard Hall Kitchen
12:00 pm	Noon Hour Concert	Sanctuary
2:30 pm	City of Waterloo	Hilliard Hall
5:00 pm	KWYO – Youth Strings	Sanctuary
6:30 pm	Girl Guides of Canada	Youth Room
	<i>Wednesday, October 21</i>	
6:30 pm	Embers	Hilliard Hall
6:30 pm	Sparks	Chapel
	<i>Thursday, October 22</i>	
9:30 am	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
11:30 am	(Un)Ordinary Prayer Meetings	Parkminster
4:00 pm	Family Choir	Chapel
7:00 pm	Gallery Choir	Chapel
	<i>Friday, October 23</i>	
	<i>Saturday, October 24</i>	
9:00 am	Knitting Group	Parlour
1:00 pm	Dungeons & Dragons	Parlour
	<i>Sunday, October 25</i>	
10:30 am	Worship Service and Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Refreshments	Hilliard Hall

WEEKLY UPDATE

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



October 18, 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

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email: firstunitedchurch@rogers.com
website: firstunitedchurch.ca

Chair of the Board
email: firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com

Guest Minister:
Greeter(s): Jean MacLean
Reader(s): Joanne MacPhail (she/her)
Lay Leader: Cathie Stewart Savage (she/her)
Serving Refreshments this month: Stewardship/Finance