



Weekly Update from First – January 26/23



Everyone is invited to join us at **FIRST UNITED** on Sunday Morning at 10:30am!

Rev. Paul will lead the Worship Service.
Learning Time: "Seeing the Big Picture"
Sermon: "Hovering: Reflecting on the Big Picture"

Worship Leader: Richard Auckland

Scripture Reading(s): Selection from St. Mark

If you'd prefer, join us ONLINE for Worship,
here is the Streaming Link for January 29th:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQrKbHMVeZ0>

or join us on our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/firstunitedchurch



****After Worship on January 29th...***

Rev. Paul invites **EVERYONE** to join him in the Assembly Hall for some **PIZZA** and an informal, but **IMPORTANT** chat about the **values & wisdom** you live your lives by especially in the areas of **diversity**.

Most United church people have healthy families who manage diversity with humour and a sense of fairness, making sure everyone is taken care of. We are not gathering to make decisions. We are gathering to share stories of the values that guide us through life.

Our Board/Council will draw wisdom from this time of reflection and listening so it can set priorities and let the community know what kind of church we offer.

Nothing is more important and enjoyable than in-reach, getting to know one another better! It will even help us grow.

Karen Auckland has graciously offered to provide childcare during this "chat" time. Thank you, Karen!

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



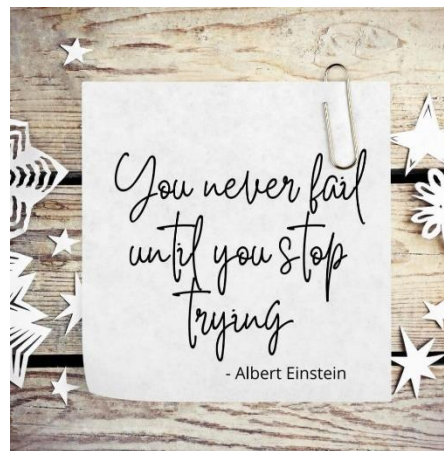
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First/Central Youth Group
 (Grade 6-12)
 meets **Wednesdays** at
First United Church
7-8:15pm

All Youth are welcome!

YOUTH GROUP

Happy birthday to:
Geoffery Cuckland

Kindness

Respect

Fairness

*Thank you
 for supporting
 the ministry of
 First United
 Church.*



Senior Choir
Thursdays at 7:30pm
 New voices always
 welcome!

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Joint Central & First Study Group Making Sense of the Bible (4 part series)

7 to 8:30 Wednesday nights (Feb 1st & 15th at First and
March 1st & 15th at Central)

Bring your questions and insights!

The bible has long been a primary source of Christian inspiration and direction. But how can we trust the bible to be meaningful today:

- when its miracle stories don't fit with science,
- when the bible contains racist and objectional material
- when it contains contradictions
- when it presents Jesus in two differing ways?

1. Miracle stories verses Science - Feb 1st at First

Nature of stories: Difference between facts and truth, history and story

Example of facts leading to untruths: 1 billion spent on political pacs same as amount spent on gum...meant to minimize pacs by comparing it to trivial gum but two different things

Special effects as powerful symbols and attention grabbing

Creation and Evolution

2. Inspirational scripture verses Objectional material - Feb 15th at First

How do we determine what is true and what is false?

Separating cultural norms from Loving norms

Repairing the damage of those beaten up by parts of the bible

3. Contradictions as Differing Points of View - March 1st at Central

Bible debates that continue today

Original Sin verses Original Blessing

Rules verses Justice

4. Two differing presentations of Jesus - March 15th at Central

Mat. Mark, Luke verses John

Jesus as only way verses Love as only way

Jesus moving beyond Tribal racism verses tribalism

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Central United Church is offering a Lenten Study: Faith on the Move, Daily Reflections on Hope and Change

Includes a study guide and daily reflections by diverse contributors that invite us to reflect on and embody God's welcome and love for people who are on the move for a variety of reasons.

For individual study, a small group of friends, the upcoming Wednesday afternoon Bible Study (at Central) or a Zoom evening group.

Contact Kathryn Fletcher at 519-633-1902 or fletcherfamily@rogers.com by February 5th for a group purchase to decrease shipping costs (soft cover book about \$16.00) or more information.

Ebooks are available for \$7.95 at www.ucrdstore.ca

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!

First United Church

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

Rev. Paul Browning, Minister

Phone: 519-631-7570 ext 22 (office)

519-681-3521 (home)

Email: paul@sharedministry.ca

Drop-in Hours: Tuesdays from noon-5pm

Austin Campbell, Community Engagement Co-ordinator

Phone: 519-631-7570 ext 23 (office)

519-617-3975 (cell)

Email: austin@sharedministry.ca

Lori Hoffman, Secretary/Treasurer

Phone: 519-631-7570 ext 21 (church office)

Email: office@1stunitedchurch.ca

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