



Weekly Update from First – June 2/22



*Many thanks
and best
wishes,
Reverend
Daryl.*

From Rev. Daryl: Thank you everyone for the wonderful send off last Sunday. The Ukulele, the potted flowers, the gifts and cards really marked the farewell in such a celebratory way. I appreciated the service with music, reflections, the deconsecrating piece with Louise, members of both Central and First, and all the guests. Indeed, I will always remember how the children presided over the communion table with such joy and reverence! It really was a day of blessing!

Our work together of discerning and making a structure for ministry going forward was such an enlightening journey for all of us. I do hope that as you pray together for your Search Committee each of you has a strong sense that your new staff cohort is indeed called to be in partnership with you and that there is a sense of fruitfulness and joy in your life together going forward. Thanks again for the journey! Blessings on the road ahead!



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Sunday Worship Service

This Sunday, June 5th

You are welcome to attend in-person at First at 10:30am!

Please enter through the Accessibility door in the parking lot.

If you plan on attending in person, please consider the following precautions:

- * wear a mask if you wish to do so
- * use the hand sanitizers available at the accessibility entrance and the hallway leading into the sanctuary
- * pews will remain marked with green tape and yellow tape - please use pews marked with green tape as a simple way to continue social distancing and help prevent the spread of COVID-19
- * ensure that you are feeling well and have not been in contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 in the last 5 days
- * visitors will be encouraged to sign in at the entrance, to help us follow up in the event of a confirmed or suspected COVID case traced back to Sunday service

THIS WEEK: Rev. John Brown will give the Message live at Central (streamed to First).
Sherry Johnstone is the Worship Leader this Sunday.
The BAND will be live at First.

If you'd prefer, here are the ways to join us ONLINE for Worship:
Streaming Link for June 5th: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Si7IW7CXuc8>

LIVE on our Facebook page! www.facebook.com/firstunitedchurch

About Church School!!

Come join the fun each Sunday (at First) as we learn about Jesus & his journey with his disciples through stories, prayer, games & crafts!

Families will worship together in the sanctuary & children will leave for church school following the children's time.

We hope you can join us!

Happy Birthday Wishes to:

Mary Chute

Karen Rick

Olivia Pay

Adam Siniowski.

Happy Anniversary Wishes to:

Bob & Treana Fellows

Rob & Carlene MacMenamin



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Calling All Graduates!!

Whether you are graduating from Grade 8, Grade 12, college or university, we would like to share your accomplishments during our church service on Sunday, June 19th.

Please email Karen Auckland at 27Swift@gmail.com if you would like to participate.

Please send two pictures, one when they were 3-5 years old and the other, a more recent picture. I am not sure if grad photos were taken this year. Along with the photos, please include:

1. Your child's full name
2. Two photos
3. What school they are graduating from and where they are headed next
4. What will they be doing post secondary (university, college, trade, working, deferring, apprenticeship, gap year, etc.). Listing a specific program is appreciated.
5. If graduating from college, university or a trade, please include future plans if known.

Please email Karen this information no later than Friday, June 10th.

Our churches look forward to celebrating with you!





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This Sunday Afternoon!

Gospel Music Concert

Sunday June 5th 3:00 pm
at
Central United Church
135 Wellington Street, St. Thomas



Sing and listen to some of your favourite gospel songs accompanied by orchestra, piano and organ

Song stylings by Jerome Thomas
piano and organ selections
by Gerald Vreman and
Wayne Carroll and more

A suggested donation of \$20.00 will be collected proceeds shared with

Aid for Ukraine



Concert organized by
Dr. Wayne Carroll

Current Government Covid Protocols will be followed



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Coffee and Curious Spirituality

Monday Mornings at 10:30am



Welcome to the re-start of Coffee and Curious Spirituality!
And, if this is your first meeting with us, a special welcome to you!
You will find our discussions to be open and completely non-judgmental. All of us have found our discussions interesting and fruitful. So, whatever you would like to share, is welcome. And if it is your preference to just “watch and listen”, that’s fine too.

We use the “Google Meet” platform.

Link to join: <https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax>

It’s like Zoom. If you don’t have access to “Google Meet” then, please email revtomgodfrey@execulink.com, and we will do our best to get you the help you need to connect.

We took a short break for a week or so, and *our first June meeting will be on Monday, June 6, 10:30am* for an hour or so.

As most of you already know, Coffee and Curious Spirituality has met for a couple of years under the leadership of Rev. Daryl Webber, interim minister at First United. Daryl has now moved on to his next interim position, so our group is in transition right now, as we figure out how to do it without Daryl. Daryl did a wonderful job facilitating our discussions, and we are very grateful for his leadership. Under Daryl’s leadership, a short video goes out to everyone the week before each meeting, and we plan to continue to do this.

We encourage you to watch the video. It helps start us all off on the theme of the meeting. As well, there is a possibility that we will be able to show the video at the beginning of each meeting—in a very low tech way. (We think we can put the video on one of our second devices, and then position it in front of our first device, and literally have the rest of you “watch” it in our group. We will try, anyway, and see if it works.)

Along with the video, we are going to send out a couple of “discussion starter” questions as well. You do not have to answer the questions—their purpose is just to help all of us reflect on the theme.

June 6th’s meeting’s theme is “Being welcomed”

The video link is: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1HJ6ewQDOC4>

Here is the link to connect to the meeting: <https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax>

And here are a few “discussion starter” questions:

*Who do you remember as someone who particularly welcomed you on your first day of a (new) school, first day on a new job, or first time at church, or first time at some other gathering?

*What did they do to make you feel so welcomed?

*Do you recall any of your apprehensions as you walked into a new-to-you situation?

*How have you tried to welcome people who are new to your work place, neighbourhood, church, or other organization?

Some of you, who have come out to Coffee and Curious Spirituality for a long time, might be wondering who will be taking over Daryl’s leadership. For the month of June, Debbie (Alward), Susanna (Suchak) and Tom (Rev. Godfrey) will be sharing the facilitation of the group. Lori, the administrator at First United, will be continuing to help us with communicating (and we are all very grateful for her past and ongoing help) and to access “Google Meet.” Lori will be setting up the tech access each week, and then one of us will be facilitating.

We are all looking forward to reconnecting with each other, and with anyone who might want to try out our group. And, as well, you are all welcome to invite newcomers. See you next Monday, June 6, at 10:30 am!

Take good care,
Debbie, Susanna and Tom



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The Book Club

The new book for the June 6th Book Club being held in the Fellowship Hall at Central at 1pm is Invisible Thread by Laura Schroff & Alex Tresniowski.

The True Story of an 11-year-old panhandler, a busy sales executive and an unlikely meeting with destiny.



The Bike Group!

At A New Time!!!!

We meet at Central on Mondays in the parking lot at 6:30pm (Weather permitting)
We will be headed down the trail toward Elm St., onto Lake Margaret then circle Pinafore Park and back again. *All ages are welcome!*

Congregants & Friends of Central and First United

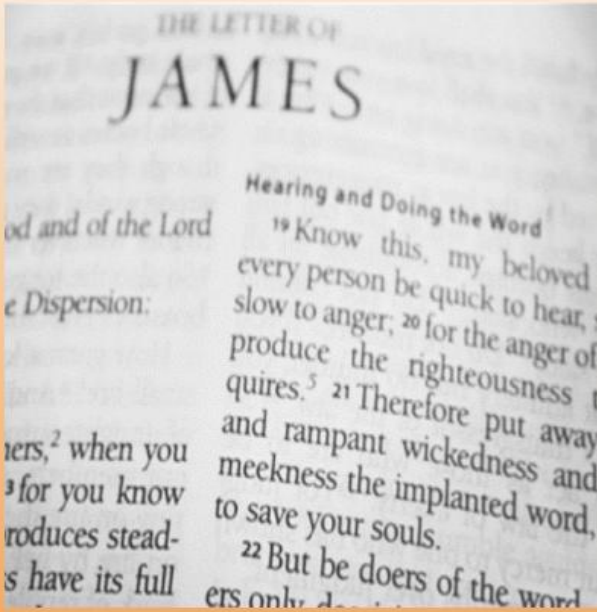
Come for a gentle walk around Pinafore Park (meet at the back parking lot near the bandshell/Lake Margaret). Enjoy the out-of-doors and conversation.

Monday to Friday at 6pm, weather permitting.





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New Weekly Bible Study Series

The Letter of James

Everyone is welcome in person at Pinafore Park (near the main Pavilion)

Wednesday at 1:00 pm or evening sessions by Zoom

Contact Kathryn Fletcher at 519-633-1902 or fletcherfamily@rogers.com for more details.

Our Friends at Central United are hosting a

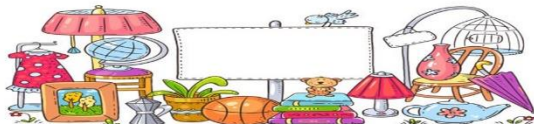
THIS AND THAT SALE



RAIN OR SHINE
INDOOR SALE

JUNE 18th
9 AM to NOON
CENTRAL UNITED
CHURCH
135 WELLINGTON ST
ST THOMAS

YARD SALE ITEMS, CRAFTING
SUPPLIES, BOOKS, PUZZLES AND
TOYS



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



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



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Track to the Future Mural Festival

Save the Date! July 16, 2022

Throughout the month of July, Internationally renowned regional artists will be in St. Thomas adding to the already incredible inventory of art around the community. The new installations will include sites along the Whistlestop Trail (Central United Church), Downtown St. Thomas, and long-awaited addition to the St. Thomas Elevated Park.



Watch mural artists Denial, Andrew Lewis, Steph Boutari, Derkz, and Emilie Darlington, and more. Throughout the month residents and visitors are invited to enjoy the process of creation and explore the community boasting an already impressive 40 murals with festivities being scheduled as part of a FREE festival across the City on July 16, 2022.

<https://www.railwaycitytourism.com/mural-festival.html>

(This is an interactive link so scroll and click on pictures)

Central will be hosting a 'Kidz Karnival' as part of the Mural launch on July 16th.



JULY 16TH 10 AM to 4PM

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH

135 WELLINGTON ST



**HELP US LAUNCH A "NEW" MURAL ON OUR WEST WALL
MEET THE ARTIST DAVID DERKATZ "DERKZ" FROM WINDSOR, ON**

WHAT TO BRING!

- Hat or Sun Shade, Lawn Chair
- Water Bottle—Free Refills at Simply Pure Water
- Loonies or Toonies for Carnival Food /No Debit/ Credit Machine available
- The Icebox Bicycle will be circulating and selling their usual delicious frozen treats



WHAT'S HAPPENING!

- 10 AM - 4 PM "Free" Games** to play and prizes to be won! Ring a "Critter", Toilet Paper Toss, Bean Bag Throw, Fish Pond, and more!
- 1 PM - 3 PM "Free" Face Painting** by Dotsy's Create your own Kidz Mural— Show off your artistic abilities! **All Games & Activities are "Free"**
- Music is happening too!**
- 11 AM to Noon** – The Ukes of Hazaard
- 1 PM to 2 PM** - Sing along with Martin & Vicki
- 2 PM – 3 PM Music** with Splash & Boots @ the Railway City Tourism Office



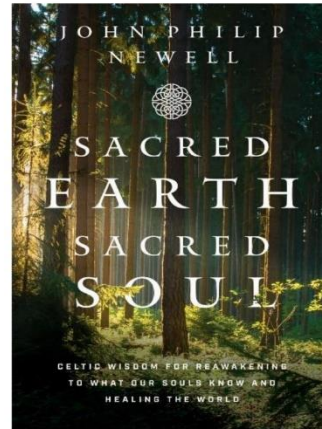
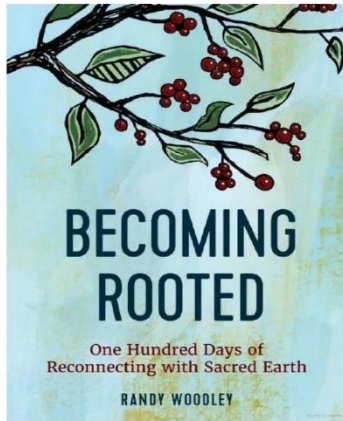
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Summer Online Book Study with Susanna Suchak

If you feel like you are travelling through some history of ancestors who have followed the way of Jesus long before they heard of his life story and want to share with others of like-minded sojourners, please join me (susanna) over the summer in an

online ‘book study’

The books we will be referencing are:



You could form your own group and gather together to participate in the discussions with others who are also curious. Some among you participated in the “Braving” group last Autumn; hopefully, they will share their experience of what these online groups entail and how they were changed by the shared experience of discovery.

Monday morning each week, I will post a short video of activities, a reading from each book, and some questions that arose in me that you might like to consider for our discussion.

The first video will demo how to make your own journal from one large sheet of Bristol Board or lightweight Watercolor Paper. If you are working within a group Staples does carry a package of very high-grade Bristol for a great price. I have used it for many groups and highly recommend it. I will show how you can make pockets so you can write on lined paper and put it in a handy place. Of course, you can also purchase a little journal or notebook from your local stores.

We will meet for discussion each Wednesday from 1:15 to 3 pm. Participation in the discussion group online is not mandatory, especially if you are meeting with others in real-time, in the flesh! Maybe on the deck with a cool drink and your journal. Whoot! But the Online group would like to hear about your discoveries, so please keep me in the loop.

There will be activities (mere suggestions) as well as discussions, so put on your best pilgrim gear and take a chance...

Curious, but still wondering exactly what this might look like, email susanna suchak – susanna.suchak@gmail.com to ask your questions.