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**Happy Birthday**

**Richard Auckland**

**This Sunday, April 3rd**

**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. Matthew will be preaching at First and Rev. Daryl will be preaching at Central.**

**Sherry Johnstone will be the Worship Leader at First. As always, the Band will be live at First!!**

**If you’d prefer, here are the ways to join us ONLINE for Worship: Streaming Link for April 3rd:**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtnHciJCJ8A**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtnHciJCJ8A)

**LIVE on our Facebook page!** [**www.facebook.com/firstunitedchurch**](file:///C:\Users\first\Documents\My%20files\bulletins\2022\www.facebook.com\firstunitedchurch)

**This Sunday, join us on Google Meets for the service and a ‘coffee & a chat’ afterwards.**

**Link to join:** [**https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax**](https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax)

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**This coming Monday April 4 at 10:30 am. We conclude our**

**series on Affirming Church communities and the discussions**

**about welcoming and inclusive communities.**

**Last week we were so fortunate to have Rev. Emma Pipes join us.**

**She was a member and candidate for ministry from First.**

**It was a special time and we had a couple of people from First**

**come and greet her and take part in the conversation.**

**The group conversation was uplifting and interesting and life**

**giving! We learned more about a Creative God who is not**

**committed to one way of being, and of course affirms the**

**LGBTQ2+ community by bringing them into places to nurture**

**their spirituality and sense of family. Thanks Emma!**

**This week we pick up where Emma left off.**

**We gather to tell stories about our own experiences of exclusion**

**and belonging. We tell stories because we come to identify the**

**deep need for Public, Intentional and Explicit communities**

**who practice radical inclusion. As we encounter need, we embark**

**on the journey of changed churches and discover what keeps**

**people from feeling safe in a congregation.**

**As always, bring your coffee, curiosity, and your story of**

**encountering a need for belonging in your life and the deep need**

**for people to find communities of faith that practice radical inclusivity.**

**Here is an interesting video to help add to our conversation about**

**stories of inclusion.**

**Members of the LGBTQ2S+ community discuss the intersection and layers of being a racialized person in their respective communities** [**https://globalnews.ca/news/7665423/commentary-black-trans-women-support/**](https://globalnews.ca/news/7665423/commentary-black-trans-women-support/)

**If you've not joined us before, or it has been a while you may want to risk showing up this week!**

**Link to join:** [**https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax**](https://meet.google.com/pjg-zbez-nax)

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**Youth Forum 2022**

Are you a young person aged 16-19 and looking for a summer opportunity to engage in the life and work of the United Church AND have summer employment?!

 Email **thea@thegoproject.ca** to find out more!

**YAT Forum: Community Retreat for Ages 19 & up**

**Date: Friday, April 29 - Sunday, May 1**

**Long walks to the dining hall … Gracefully launching yourself down the rolling hills …  
  
Desperately trying to shake that catchy worship tune … Running into the arms of people you haven’t seen in years … or ever … or yesterday!  
  
… Sounds awe-inspiring, fairytale-esque, a utopian dream!**

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**But hold up!!! This is not a drill! YAT Forum (Young Adults Together) is coming to a Pearce Williams Christian Center near you (actually it's located in Iona Station)!! Never been to adult overnight camp? Desperate for arts and crafts? Need space to connect with the divine, nature or yourself!?  
  
For those who are 19+, come be Re-United in worship, fellowship and the quietness of creation from Friday, April 29 - Sunday, May 1. Covid-19 guidelines will be followed during the weekend. Register now at** [**https://arwrcucc.ca/yat-forum-2022/**](https://arwrcucc.ca/yat-forum-2022/)

**Cost $150 -$200-$300**

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**First United Church’s Behavioural Covenant**

**As God’s people of First United, who love and work together,   
we promise to:**

**TRUST**

* Assume one another’s positive intentions
* Work collaboratively and honour the decisions we have made together
* Be accountable for what we have promised and made a commitment to do
* Share information so everyone has it
* Take responsibility for our actions

**RESPECT one another and our differences**

* Exercise grace, compassion, and forgiveness especially when there are misunderstandings
* Make room for one another’s ideas and opinions
* Respect and care for each other regardless of differences of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and where we are in life

**LISTEN carefully and openly**

* Listen to others with empathy, curiosity, and patience with the intent to understand and value what has been said
* Listen attentively and with an open and non-judgemental mind

**SPEAK clearly and honestly**

* Speak to others directly, respectfully, and clearly
* Take responsibility for what we say
* Honour confidentiality in our conversations with others
* Communicate decisions openly (transparently) and directly to others
* Promise to discuss, debate, disagree, and forgive openly in meetings
* Name bullying behaviour and gossip when we witness it