



Weekly Update from First – November 24/22

Thank you to everyone who helped with our 2022 Santa Claus Parade Float! We can't wait for next year! Thanks to Mike Hardman & Action Trailers for use of the truck & trailer!



This Sunday is
Advent 1...and that means
the Christmas Tree is here!!!

Thank you

to Don & Jacqueline Renaud for donating our Sanctuary Christmas Tree this year; and a HUGE THANK YOU Beamish Landscape Services for once again, cutting down, delivering and helping set up the tree! We are SOOOOO grateful!



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



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**JOIN US FOR OUR JOINT
(FIRST & CENTRAL UNITED CHURCHES)**

Advent 1 Celebration

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH
10:30AM**

AT FIRST UNITED CHURCH (7 CURTIS ST.)

**As you come into the
Sanctuary you will be offered
an Ornament to hang on the
beautiful Sanctuary
Christmas Tree.**

**There will be lots of
Special Music!**

ALL WELCOME!!



If you'd prefer, join us ONLINE for Worship,
here is the Streaming Link for November 27th:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htdXWycI7xk>

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

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Don't Forget...

SECRET SANTA... & SOCKS!

**OUTREACH PROJECT FOR
CHRISTMAS CARE & GRACE CAFE!**

NOW til DECEMBER 4th

**Your unwrapped Gifts (for
children up to age 12) OR
Monetary Donations would be
GREATLY appreciated!**

**ALSO, again this year we are collecting
SOCKS for Grace Café.**

**There is a huge need for Men's,
Women's and children's socks!
Please bag these separately from
your Secret Santa Gifts.**

**We ask that all Secret Santa gifts,
non-perishable food items and socks be
returned BY Sunday, December 4th
so they can be disbursed to Christmas Care &
Grace Cafe on Monday, December 5!!
THANK YOU FOR CARING & SHARING!!**

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We're still looking for individuals / families for each Sunday of Advent to light the Advent Candles & tell us a little about Christmas traditions they love.

**If you are interested please email Rev. Paul
(paul@sharedministry.ca)**



A Note from Rev. Paul – Advent Candle Lighters Needed

Hello Friends,

I hope you are all doing well. With Advent fast approaching, I just wondered if any of you would be interested in helping light the Advent candles this year. This year I am asking everyone to talk briefly about a Christmas tradition that they do in their family in preparation for the holiday.

It might be talking about how and when you bake your Christmas cookies or talking about going caroling with friends or maybe the way that you and your family choose a tree or what ornaments you put up and when.

It might be a tradition of your childhood or something that you appreciate in the wider society like how the mall or church is decorated. Whatever it is it would be good to mention that this preparation makes you feel hope, peace, joy or love as you prepare for Christmas.

I am hoping that on the week you choose, you will speak a bit about this Christmas tradition and why it is special to you. If you have a photo of the tradition that would be great - we will put it on the screen. At the end of describing your tradition you will then light the Advent Candle for that particular week.

Let me know by email, paul@sharedministry.ca or by phone (519-681-3521) if you would be willing to do that for any of the following weeks:

November 27- Hope

December 4 - Peace

December 11 - Joy

December 18 – Love



This kind of sharing will make the services more interesting and meaningful for everyone, I assure you. If a Christmas tradition means a lot to you, please let me know!

Rev. Paul

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Tuesdays
in the Lower
Parlour
at Central UC

2 groups
10am - noon
7-9pm

"Take Time To Talk Together"
Led by Susanna Suchak




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

All Youth are welcome!



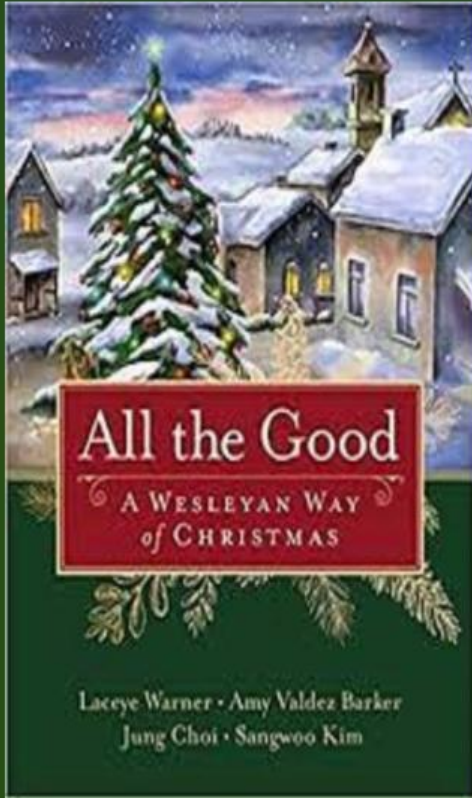
Senior Choir
Thursdays at 7:30pm
New voices always
welcome!



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Central United invites all to come on an Advent journey to deepen your commitment both to God and to your neighbour. Study books are in paperback, large print, and ebook editions.

Starts Wednesday November 30th at 1:00 pm for 4 weeks (at Central United).

Evening sessions available: Contact Kathryn Fletcher at 519-633-1902 or fletcherfamily@rogers.com for more information.

Everyone Welcome!

Even small gifts can make a big difference.



- \$10** Provides supplies for workshops to help youth serve their communities. GWV22-48
- \$15** Helps stock an emergency pantry in Newfoundland. GWV22-35
- \$10** Buys a grocery gift card for a family in northern Manitoba. GWV22-03
- \$25** Provides a hygiene pack for a refugee from Ukraine. GWV22-39
- \$25** Helps Indigenous people in Vancouver receive support that honours their culture. GWV22-07
- \$15** Provides nursery school supplies for a Girls School in Zambia. GWV22-26

Meaningful gifts. No wrapping required. E-cards available.

Order online!

giftswith**vision**.ca

A Giving Catalogue from the People of The United Church of Canada



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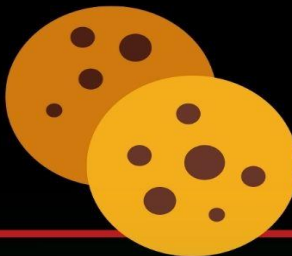
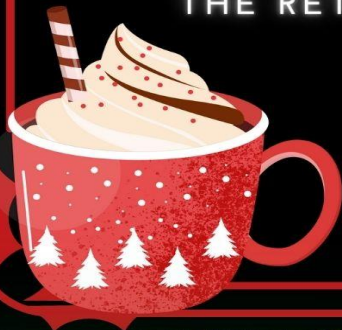
COME JOIN US!

AT FIRST UNITED CHURCH

FOR

COCOA, COOKIES, & CAROLS

FEATURING OUR CHURCH LIGHT SHOW
AND
THE RETURN OF MR. CHRISTMAS!



DECEMBER 3RD

@ 6:30 PM

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Living with Loss during the Holidays

A community memorial service
by Knox Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, December 6, 2022
7:00 - 8:00pm
at Knox Presbyterian Church,
55 Hincks Street, St Thomas

Fellowship and refreshments to
follow in the lower hall.

For more information please contact
Rev. Mavis Currie 519-631-2414 or
m.currie@knoxstthomas.ca



Central United Church
Presents

*Carols by
Candlelight*

Sunday, December 11, 7:00 pm

All proceeds from this community concert go
“Keep a Roof over their Heads Campaign”



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You are invited to join us for our
CHRISTMAS EVE
Worship Service

Saturday,
December 24th

Service
starts at
7:30pm



First United Church

7 Curtis Street, St Thomas

Check out our other upcoming events on our website:
www.1stunitedchurch.ca

*Join us for a Joint
Christmas Day
Worship Service*

Sunday, December 25th: 10:30am
at Central United Church
(135 Wellington St.)



*First & Central United Churches
Communities of Kindness*

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Happy Birthday Wishes

Jacqui Travis
Clark Renaud
Kaitlyn Bosveld



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!

Advent

=

Hope

Peace

Joy

Love

hope

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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