

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

October 25, 2015

## Worship for a few weeks

- Oct 25** Elora UC's 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Guest: Rev. Debbie McMillan  
Nov 1 Guest: Rev. Dr. Paul Miller  
Nov 8 Bethany UC Anniversary  
Nov 15 Memorial Service  
Nov 22 Guest: Rabbi Cory Weiss  
Nov 29 Starting the Season of Advent

If you miss a Sunday, Greg's reflections are on the Elora UC website:  
<http://elorauc.org/worship/sermons>



**This Sunday is Elora UC's 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** Our guest preacher in both congregations will be the Reverend Debbie McMillan. Debbie does what she does because she loves Jesus Christ. She is co-ordinating minister with Unity United Church, near Midland. She is a regular and award winning contributor to Mandate, magazine published by the United Church of Canada. In 2012, she was published in *Intercultural Visions: Called to be the Church*. Her first book was *Confronted By Jesus: Daily Reflections for Lent* (2014). Debbie also serves with Cruxifusion, a confessing movement that inspires, supports and connects Christ-Centred clergy and congregations within the United Church. Originally from Hamilton, Debbie has served with Unity since 2009. When she's not doing church work, she enjoys spending time with her friends and family. In addition to writing, Rev. Debbie also enjoys sci-fi/fantasy, animals, music and cooking.

Elora UC's new **Mission Board** and **Resources Board** both met for the first time on October 13. Both teams are blessed with gifted, enthusiastic, wise and faithful members. Among the decisions they made, Carole Kennedy (Mission) and Curt Hammond (Resources) were chosen as chairs. The boards will usually meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. If you have questions about their work, or have matters you'd like the boards to consider, please speak with either chair, Judy McMullan, or Greg Smith-Young.



**Bethany Ham Supper** is Saturday November 14 with continuous seatings from 5 pm to 7 pm. Adults \$14, Children (5-12) \$7 and children under 5 free. Call Pat Davies (519-846-0247) for tickets.

**Our Water, Our Future:** An informative evening about local, national and global water issues. Special Guest: **Maude Barlow of the Council of Canadians.** Wednesday, October 28 at 7:00 pm. Centre Wellington Sportsplex, Fergus. Other speakers will include Mike Nagy from Wellington Water Watchers, Diane Ballantyne of the Centre Wellington Council of Canadians, and someone from Save Our Water, a local group of citizens concerned about the proposed Middlebrook Road water-taking permit.



Today you will find the gift-giving catalogue, **Gifts with Vision**, available. Here's what the United Church has to say about the catalogue:



Alternative gift giving has become increasingly popular as people grow tired of receiving more and more "stuff" on special occasions like birthdays, Christmas, and anniversaries.

"People appreciate the thoughtfulness of a gift, but many would prefer to give rather than receive," says Cheryl Curtis, a staff person with the church's Philanthropy Unit. Curtis says she's heard of some families who stuff a *Gifts with Vision* catalogue in everyone's stocking on Christmas morning and each family member then gets to spend time deciding which gift they want to choose.

The booklet has ideas suitable for Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries, graduation and more.

The Elora Board will be considering mid-year grants from our **Special Gifts Fund** at its meeting on November 10th. It invites proposals under the following areas: **Education** (up to \$1026 available), **Community Outreach** (up to \$613 available), and **Projects of the United Church of Canada** (up to \$626 available). Copies of the fund policy and application forms are available at the back of the sanctuary, as well as from the church office. We can only consider proposals that use the application form.

## Special Gifts



**Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? Sat Nov 14** Sign up in Elora's Welcome Centre as a guest or a host. **Hosts** will have a place ready for 6-10 guests (depending on your table size) and they will cook the meat course. **Guests** will each bring part of the meal. Bonnie will phone the guests shortly before the dinner to let them know where the dinner will be held. A chance to get to know people a little better and enjoy each other's company. (Questions? Please call co-ordinator Bonnie Young at 519-846-6633).



The Elora United Church Women's annual **Bake and Craft Sale** will be Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm. Come and search through the treasures in **Grandma's Attic**. Handmade **crafts** make thoughtful gifts for your loved ones. Special treasures will be in the **Silent Auction**. Take a break with a **muffin** and coffee or have a full **soup and sandwich** lunch. Finish up by taking home baked **goodies**.



☞ The UCW is collecting items for the **Grandma's Attic** sale. Items for the Grandma's Attic Sale may be left in containers in the Welcome Centre or dropped off at the church on Friday Fri Nov 20<sup>th</sup> between 4:00 and 6:30 pm. Please no Grandma's attic items on Saturday morning during the sale.

☞ We also need **donations of baking** and we appreciate **crafts**, as well. Please bring baking in on Saturday morning.

☞ We are also looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help with **setup on Friday** and **VOLUNTEERS** to **help on Saturday** and **Sunday**. Please contact Phyllis Waind (519-846-9936) if you can lend a hand.



Imagine, ordinary people taking turns reading the Bible, in public and out loud! **Proclamation** is a project of the Canadian Bible Society and churches in our community. It's happening October 28-November 6, and hosted by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fergus. We at Elora-Bethany have been asked to cover the readings on **November 5**, from 2:00-7:00pm. So we need a bunch of readers to help. We can read in 15 minute blocks. Interested? Please let Greg know asap. Thanks.

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, Nov. 26 at 6 pm**. There will be a **fundraising dinner for emergency Syrian Refugee** Relief at Centre Wellington District High School in Fergus. Our meal will prepared by Chris Jess, a culinary teacher at the school, and his students! Proceeds raised will be sent to the Red Cross in support the good work they are doing in the refugee camps now. Watch for more details about the dinner later this month.

*Project Welcome*

This event has been organized by a group of people in our community and church who want to do something in support of the refugee crisis now and for the long term. They are calling themselves *Project Welcome* and this is their first public event. Project Welcome is in conversation with other churches and groups in Centre Wellington community about refugee sponsorship. There will be more news about this in the next week or two with specific information about how we all can get involved in "reaching wider to share our blessings in our neighbourhoods and beyond." Stay tuned!

## Looking Ahead

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|-------------------|----------------|--|
| <b>Mon</b>        | 1 pm           | Quilters   |
|                   | 7:30 pm        | Bethany Board  |
| <b>Thurs</b>      | 7 pm           | Elora Adult Choir  |
|                   | 8:15 pm        | Praise Team  |
| <b>next Sun</b>   | 6:30-8 pm      | Gr 6-9 Youth meet (location to be determined)  |
|                   |                |  |
| <b>Fri Nov 6</b>  | 6 pm           | Community Dinner at Knox Presbyterian Church   |
| <b>Sat Nov 14</b> |                | Bethany Ham Supper   |
| <b>Sun Nov 15</b> | 6:30-7:30 pm   | Gr 3-5 Youth at Melville United  |
| <b>Sat Nov 21</b> | 9 am-1 pm      | Elora UCW Craft and Bake Sale  |
| <b>Sat Nov 28</b> |                | Elora Santa Claus Parade – Youth (Gr 6-9) collecting food with Food Bank then overnighter at Melville UC |
| <b>Sun Nov 29</b> | during worship | Faith At Home discussion for parents (during Children's Worship time)                                    |

## In the Community

Local guitarist **Tony McManus** in concert. *Friday, October 30 at Elora UC at 8:00pm*. This is Tony's ninth annual Elora Guitar Summit concert, with guest Beppe Gambetta. Tony is a world-class Celtic guitarist, and Beppe is an Italian guitarist whose style has been called a "virtual United Nations of influences: Italian, Ukrainian, Appalachian, Sardinian, Celtic." We are blessed to host such amazing talent! For tickets, call 519.362.5439.

St. John's (Belwood) **Turkey Supper** is Wednesday, Nov 4. Sittings at 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30. Tickets are available at Ron Wilkins Jewellers and Belwood Country Market. To order take-outs please call Betty Hofer 519-787-1096.

Knox-Elora Presbyterian Church **Snowflake Craft Sale** Sat Nov 14, 9 am – 1 pm. Handmade crafts, homemade baking, Silent Auction, lunch available. Still room for more vendors. 519-846-8061 or 519-846-0680

Knox-Elora Presbyterian Church **Turkey Dinner** by Steve Truchan Sat Nov 21 5-7 pm. Adults \$15, 8 & under \$7. Takeout available. 519-846-0680



## Operation Sharing

Just over 30 years ago in Woodstock, Ontario, a storefront Meeting Place was established where people affected by an economic downturn could gather for help and support. The need for services has grown, but so has the response to the need.

The original Meeting Place set up by five United Churches, with the help of our gifts for Mission and Service, is now Operation Sharing, a ministry to disadvantaged people in Oxford County that is supported by 45 churches from 9 denominations. In Woodstock facilities for services are provided by United, Baptist, and Anglican churches, and in Ingersoll the facility is a former downtown library.

Under the direction of Chaplain and Director Steve Giuliano, the services offered have grown from two to a dozen. They include a noon meal for 60 people, the Inn Out of the Cold, a Dealing with Addictions course open to all, a Christmas Place, a Food for Friends program, and the Creative Concept Training Centre.

Food for Friends came from a desire to find an alternative to food banks to get food to those in need. The result was to close the food bank and issue food cards that can be used at local grocery stores. The Creative Concept Training Centre offers a six-day course on finding solutions to poverty. It is now a credit course for theological students at the University of Western Ontario's Huron College in London, Ontario.

Mission and Service gifts help give tangible expression to the phrase "To love and serve others." Our gifts make this ministry of food, service, and love possible. Thank you, and please join in continuing to give generously.

*Mighty and tender God, through our gifts for Mission and Service  
we respond to your call to mend the world.*

### **ELORA BETHANY PASTORAL CHARGE The United Church of Canada**

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**MINISTERS:** All the Congregation

**Ordained Minister:** Greg Smith-Young

**Minister for Children and Youth:** Barb Smith-Young

**Music Coordinator:** Betty Weinstein

**Office Hours:** Rev. Greg Smith-Young is usually in the office Tues-Fri mornings.  
Contact Barb Smith-Young via the office or at 519-846-2542  
Administrator Judy McMullan is in the office Thurs & Fri 10 to 4:30 from Sept to June