

THE SUNDAY NEWS

November 22, 2015

Our guest today is Rabbi Cory Weiss. He has served with Temple Har Zion in Thornhill since 2006. He lives in Thornhill with his wife Karen, a professional Jewish Educator (Karen insists she can teach even Rev. Greg to speak Hebrew) and their sons Michael and Jacob. Beforehand, Rabbi Weiss was Rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek in Chester, Connecticut, and Associate Rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in West Hartford, Connecticut. Rabbi Weiss received his ordination at the New York campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1993. He earned his M.A. in Hebrew Literature at HUC-JIR's Jerusalem and Los Angeles campuses. He received his Bachelor of Music degree with distinction in 1986 from the University of Michigan, where he studied French Horn, composition, and Judaic Studies. Rabbi Weiss is a member of the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto, the Toronto Board of Rabbis, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Greater Toronto Interfaith Curling Club.



Elora UCW Bake and Craft Sale – please check for more baked goodies for sale today, after worship! Grandma's Attic items are still available, too. **Silent Auction doesn't close until 1 pm today.** Check it out!



846-2542).

Do you like to decorate for Christmas? Come join the team at Elora United Church, **Sunday, Dec. 6 from 2 – 4 pm.** We will decorate the sanctuary. Lots of jobs for lots of people of all different ages. Hot apple cider and snacks will be provided. Please sign up on sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre or talk with Barb (519-



Scripture Song and Faith - a study group for anyone interested in fellowship to share ideas and thoughts of their faith through reflection on scriptures and through hymns and songs. I will facilitate the group and I am certainly no expert. I am interested in sharing time together with others in Bible study and discussion of and songs. The second gathering is on **Monday, November 23rd** from 10:15 - 11:45 at Elora United Church in the Bissell Room. If you have questions and want to talk with me please call me at 519-846-2643. It's an open group - all are welcome! You missed the first session? No worries, it is not a pre-requisite for the next gathering! Come and join us! *Louise Elder*



scripture

Celebrating 'Christ' in 'Christ'mas, Nov. 29 at Elora United during worship. This is a **special parent discussion time** where we can bring our own questions and ideas and learn from each other. This will be led by Barb, downstairs, during Children's Worship time. Children will watch a movie in the Bissell Room. Nursery age children will join us downstairs. This discussion time is for ALL parents, dads and moms, those with young children, those with youth. Please come and join us.



Advent Count Down Candles are available for \$3. Barb will have them downstairs during fellowship time for the next few weeks. A wonderful daily practice to prepare for the coming of Jesus, the Light of the world.



CW Food Bank Christmas Hampers. Elora-Bethany Pastoral Charge has been asked to contribute 60 containers of **pancake syrup**. All donations will be brought to the Food Bank after Sunday, December 6th. At press time, we had 37 bottles of syrup collected.

Sunday, Dec. 13 from 12-2 or 4-6 pm, three or four volunteers needed to help with **Food Drive outside Zehrs** in support of the Centre Wellington Food Bank. If you can help, contact Jackie at oh_4_fun@hotmail.com



The Food Bank is in *desperate need* of **clean winter coats, snow pants** and **winter boots** in all sizes. We **do not** need any hats, mitts or scarves. If you are able to help, please bring any items you may have to the Food Bank, any Tuesday or Thursday (9:30 – 4:00 pm) or Wednesday am or Wednesday



6-8 pm. Thanks for lending a helping hand, *Jackie*

→ Items brought to Elora United Church will be picked up and delivered to the Food Bank.

This is the time of year when Elora United sends some loving thoughts to the university students connected with our congregation. We will be sending **Cheer Boxes** to about 10 students at the beginning of December and you can help by donating light weight items that will fill a small shoebox (i.e., microwave popcorn, Cup-a-Soup, hot chocolate packages, tea, throat lozenges, gum, etc.) . We could also use some small shoeboxes! There will be a donation box set up at the back of the church to collect items until next Sunday, November 29. Thanks for your help in letting our youth know we are thinking about them during an often stressful time of assignments and exams. Melanie Anderson (melrvanderson@hotmail.com)



Supper for Syrians, Thursday, November 26 at 6 pm (doors open at 5:30) at Centre Wellington District High School in Fergus. Adults \$20, students \$7, children under 5 are free. Get tickets at the door.

All proceeds from this Syrian themed meal will be matched by the Canadian Government and sent to Red Cross in support of the emergency relief they are providing to the refugees. This is a Centre Wellington community collaboration featuring CWDHS students, Chef Jess and the Food School, Resa Lent of the Desert Rose Cafe, Nishin Nathwani – recent UNHCR worker, and Project Welcome.

This supper is sponsored by **Project Welcome**, 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. Please see the website <http://projectwelcome.strikingly.com/> to see how you can get involved in “reaching wider to share blessings with our neighbourhoods and beyond.”



Lessons & Carols evening with Elora United, Melville United and Belwood choirs. Sunday Dec 13th at 7 pm at Melville United Church.

Looking Ahead

Mon 1 pm Quilters
Thurs 7 pm Elora Adult Choir
8:15 pm Praise Team
Sat Elora Santa Claus Parade – Gr. 6-9 Youth collecting food for the Food Bank then overnighiter at Melville UC
next Sun during worship Faith At Home discussion for parents (during Children’s Worship time)

Sun Dec 6 6:30 – 7:30 pm Grade 3 – 5 Youth at Elora United Church

In the Community

Saturday November 28th: **Seasonal Spirit Stirrings!** Autumn Awakenings is the fall theme for Alma United Church’s morning retreat – welcoming men and women. Small groups include: *Canning/Preserving* , *Photography* and *Sweater Mittens*. Held from 9 a.m. – noon at the Alma Community Hall. Cost is \$20 or pay as you are able. Register by contacting Chris Grose 519-846-0282 or email chris@huskyfarm.ca.

Centre Wellington Singers Christmas Concert *A Perfect Christmas Night* is Saturday, November 28th at 3 pm at Elora United Church. Adults \$15 Children 12 & under \$5. This concert is close to sold out but a few tickets may still be available.

Moveable Feast Christmas Concert with Glen Soderholm Sat, Dec 5th, 7:30 pm at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, 161 Norfolk St. Guelph. Tickets: \$20.

A fundraiser in support of Syrian Refugee Families



Morogoro Midwives

An ambitious three-way partnership has made a significant change in the lives of women living in remote areas of Tanzania. Supported by The United Church of Canada, and in particular by United Church Women, the Morogoro Women's Training Centre and the Tanzanian Ministry of Health are training maternal health care workers in an effort to improve infant and maternal health. The women are trained in pre- and postnatal care as well as birthing techniques and recognizing negative indicators for a safe birth. With the knowledge gained from courses, these midwives do their best for mother and child, often in difficult circumstances.

Early in the development of its courses, the Morogoro Centre realized it could reach more women by delivering programs closer to the communities they hoped to serve. The centre has been able to extend the reach of the program, training 45–50 women at a time in regions across Tanzania. The women also receive a practical birthing kit at the end of their training.

As the reach of the program expands, course material has been adapted to include women who can neither read nor write but who bring life skills they are glad to share with fellow health care workers. Five courses in 2014 trained more than 300 midwives. The impact of this program will be felt long after in the women and infants alive today because of the training received.

The 50th anniversary of the UCW made this special project possible. Our ongoing gifts for Mission and Service enable core support for the Morogoro Women's Training Centre. Families in Tanzania thank us for this support. Please join in and 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