

THE SUNDAY NEWS

November 29, 2015



Today – Celebrating ‘Christ’ in ‘Christ’mas – Parent discussion time at Elora United during Children’s Worship. All parents of children and youth invited. We will go out with the children.

Children will watch a movie in the Bissell Room. Parents and nursery children will meet downstairs. Youth will meet in the office. Come share your ideas and hear from others and pick up some resources to help your family celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Advent Theme: When We Centre on Christ . . .

What difference does it make when we find Jesus at the centre of our lives? This Advent, we’ll be exploring how the Baby in a manger changes how we see everything.

November 29 Advent 1 . . . We see **God** differently.
Philippians 2.1-11

December 6 Advent 2 . . . We see the **World** differently.
Colossians 1.11-23

December 13 Advent 3 . . . We see **Humanity** differently.
Hebrews 4.12-16; Romans 5.12-21

December 20 Advent 4 . . . We see **Love** differently.
Romans 5.1-11, 1st Letter of John 4.1-21

Missed a service?

Audio copies of most services are available. Just ask at the office.

Printed scripts of Greg’s reflections are online: <http://elorauc.org/worship/sermons/>



Do you like to decorate for Christmas? Come join the team at Elora United Church, next **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 (519-846-2542).



Scripture, Song and Faith is a Bible Study group which has met twice and will be meeting for the next four Monday mornings throughout Advent. We have great fellowship time and discussion time as we browse through scriptures, sing songs associated with our theme and share faith ideas. We start about 10:15. You will be home in time for lunch! Please consider joining us next Monday and throughout Advent. Any questions, please call Louise Elder 519-846-2643.

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. As of last Friday, between Bethany and Elora, we had **62 bottles of syrup – we have reached our goal!** Thank you to everyone! If you brought syrup today, the Food Bank will welcome it but you could just bring it back home and enjoy it yourself. All donations will be brought to the Food Bank after Sunday, December 6th.

The Food Bank sends thanks for all the **winter coats, snow pants** and **winter boots.** They are now well supplied!



Thanks to all who donated to the Elora **Cheer Boxes** for our students away at school. Items will now be packaged up and put in the mail.

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



Observer Magazine Renew your subscription or begin a subscription to the United Church of Canada's award-winning magazine. Regularly \$30/year. Those in Elora United's group subscription pay **only \$25**. (This is a price increase for the first time in many years). Look for Observer envelopes on the table in the upper lobby or simply mark "OBSERVER" on any envelope from the pews; then place your envelope on the collection plate. For more info, call Judy in the office. *Bethany's Observer subscriptions are renewed in June.*

THE UNITED CHURCH
OBSERVER



2016 Church Calendars: if you would like a 2016 calendar, please let the office know. Calendars are \$7 (with tax and shipping) and will come in at the beginning of January.

Christmas Eve Worship

Celebration Services

5:00 Elora UC

7:00 Bethany UC

Communion Service

11:00 hosted by Elora United Church



January Worship: The Story of Esther

An orphan in exile becomes the most powerful woman in the empire. A condemned man becomes prime minister. A hateful fool does himself in. A humiliated and endangered minority comes to be saved and respected. It's all in the Book of Esther! Here's an invitation to read through this tale of intrigue and rescue. We'll be focussing on this story in January, and celebrating the zany Jewish festival of Purim on February 1.

Looking Ahead

Mon	10:15	Scripture, Song & Faith – Bissell Room
	1 pm	Quilters
Tues	7:30 pm	Elora-Bethany Joint Board meeting at Elora UC
Wed	7 pm	Bonhoeffer Book Group – Bissell Room
Thurs	7 pm	Elora Adult Choir
	8:15 pm	Praise Team
	7:30	Elora UC Trustees at John Beggs'
Sat		Elora Santa Claus Parade – Gr. 6-9 Youth collecting food for the Food Bank then overnighter at Melville UC
next Sun	2-4 pm	Christmas decorating, cider & snacks
	6:30-7:30 pm	Grade 3-5 Youth at Elora United

In the Community

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

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