

THE SUNDAY NEWS

February 14, 2016

Making a Scene in Scripture

Get into Bible stories in a new way. Imagine how a story can be “staged” during worship. Discover the drama. Uncover the characters. Find the humour. See new meanings. Share the joy. No acting or Bible experience necessary, at all! We'll be meeting this Lent season, every Saturday morning beginning with February 13. We'll go from 10 am to noon. Join us in Elora UC's sanctuary. (Talk with Greg S-Y to find out more.)

*Song
of
Faith*

Exploring Our Faith Together is a new conversation group, meeting **every 2nd Wednesday from 10am--noon in Elora United Church's Bissell Room**. Bring your beliefs and doubts, questions and wonders and let's talk about them together. No experience needed, except the experiences you bring. We'll be using the United Church's *A Song of Faith* as a springboard for our conversations. **Next date: February 24**. No need to register, just come as you can.

Wesley for Armchair Theologians

John Wesley ... started the Methodist church, but remained a loyal Anglican his entire life ... composed treasured hymns, though his brother Charles wrote better ones ... encouraged a spirituality of heart-warmed faith, small-group piety and social justice ... is a spiritual ancestor of both the United Church and the Pentecostalism.

Want to find out about this amazing church-builder, theological thinking and spiritual leader? **We'll be gathering the 1st Wednesday of every month, starting March 2**. We'll meet in Elora United Church's Bissell Room, 7-9 pm. Please register by speaking with Rev. Greg or emailing him at revgreg@bellnet.ca.

You'll need a copy of William Abraham's **Wesley for Armchair Theologians**, published by Westminster John Knox Press. You can get one through Roxanne's Reflections in Fergus. It's also available on Kindle.

Check out <http://www.40acts.org.uk> as a Lent resource. 40 days of giving back, doing good and living generously. Each day you will receive an email with something to think about and a generosity challenge. Lent is a time of drawing closer to God. Often, when we serve others, we also grow in our relationship with God. The website also has family and group resources. Copies of the “40 Acts Family Wallchart” are available downstairs at Elora.

Looking for some resources to help your family learn about Lent and Easter? Last year we had a parent discussion time on this theme. There are a number of resources on a table downstairs at Elora. Please help yourself.

Scripture, Song and Faith is a Bible Study group that meets every two weeks. We invite you to join us in the Bissell Room at Elora United Church at 10:15 am. Our theme is **MIRACLES**. There is no prerequisite training/knowledge required and don't worry if you haven't come to other gatherings. We have great fellowship and discussion time as we browse through scriptures, sing songs associated with our theme and share faith ideas. You will be home in time for lunch! Please consider joining us. Any questions, please call Louise Elder at (519) 846-2643. **Next gatherings: Feb. 22nd, Mar 7th.**



Become Part of Project Welcome



We are a community-wide effort to support a refugee family from Syria so they have a smooth immigration experience into Canada. We want them to arrive in our country with the physical, emotional, social, and financial supports in place which they will need to successfully integrate and thrive in their new community.

Want to find out more?

- Speak with Bonnie Norris or Rev. Greg
- Check out our Facebook page, "ProjectWelcomeCW"
- Go to the Elora congregation's website, EloraUC.org, click on the Project Welcome link.
- Email us at ProjectWelcomeCW@gmail.com

Project Welcome



In anticipation of the arrival of refugee families in our community in the coming weeks we are appealing to the generosity of our congregations to help create a stock of cleaning and personal care items from which to supply the new arrivals. If you wish to contribute, please check the list at the end of the Sunday News and place items in the container labelled **Project Welcome** (downstairs).



Pictorial Directory Our last Pictorial Directory was in 2010 and we would like to create a new directory for the benefit of all. **Photos will be taken February 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 (Tues-Sat).** Don't be left out. We would like to have a picture



of everyone from our two congregations! You will be given a free copy of this very useful directory. You will also have the opportunity to buy a copy of the photos created *but you do not need to purchase anything.*

If you know you are interested in buying a new family portrait and would like to have a photo taken which includes something like a pet or your lacrosse racquet then please bring them along. The photographer can include other types of portraits in your sitting. For more info, contact Judy in the church office.

While the photos will be taken at Bethany on Tues/Wed and Elora on Thurs/Fri/Sat, *you may have your sitting at either church* and your family's photo will be in the appropriate part of the directory. So choose the day that suits you best. Are you a snowbird? There will be one photo session in April, as well. Directories will likely be distributed in June.

Mark your calendars for **Kids Camp 2016** at Elora United Church, Tuesday, July 5 – Friday, July 8 (mornings). All children who have completed JK – Grade 5 are invited to join in this super fun week. Grade 6 and up can be leaders.

Bethany's Annual Congregational Meeting is next week at 12:30 pm. Pot luck lunch will be just beforehand – at noon. Please pick up your report today and have a look at it this week.



Elora's Finances and Property Congregational Meeting will be Sunday February 28th. We'll start with a build-your-own sandwich lunch. *Child care will be provided.* Pick up your report next Sunday.

Elora 2015 Tax Receipts: All tax receipts will be available for pick up at the church next Sunday, February 21 and Sunday February 28. After February 28th, any tax receipts left will be mailed.



Looking Ahead

Today	after worship	ECF practise Elora Finance and Property Reports due
Mon	10:15 am	Scripture, Song and Faith
	1 pm	Quilters
Tues	7 pm	Elora Mission and Resources Boards
Wed	10 am	Exploring Our Faith Together
Thurs	1:30 pm	Elora UCW: <i>Love in song and scriptures with Louise Elder</i>
		no Adult Choir or Praise Team rehearsals this week
next Sun	noon	Bethany Potluck Lunch
	12:45	Bethany Annual Congregational meeting
	6:30 – 7:30 pm	Gr. 3-5 Youth Night at Elora United Church
Feb 23-26	1:30-8:30 pm	Photo Directory photo sessions
Sat Feb 27	9:30 am- 4 pm	Photo Directory photo sessions
Sun Feb 28	after worship	Elora Finance & Property Congregational Meeting
Sat Mar 19		Elora UCW's Shamrock Supper

In the Community

Elora Coop Preschool Annual Spaghetti Supper! Please head to SCOTIA BANK in FERGUS to purchase tickets for the Spaghetti Supper on **Saturday February 20th**. Deliciously prepared by Chef Jess and The Food School and served at Centre Wellington District High School. Tickets: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children

continued overleaf →

Friends of Elora Water Protecting the Water Resources of our Community

7-9 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, ELORA LEGION

Along with many in our community, we are worried about the long-term health and stewardship of our water resources. Nestlé's take-water permit application would allow this multi-national to take vast quantities of water from our community's aquifer. Please consider attending this important community meeting. You can find out more at saveourwater.ca

Project Welcome: Cleaning & Personal Care Items

- o Hand / Face soap - bar or liquid
- o Shampoo / Conditioner
- o Moisturizing cream
- o Toothpaste and Floss
- o Toothbrushes
- o Q-Tips
- o Facial Tissue
- o Toilet Tissue
- o Bathroom Cleaning Supplies
- o Garbage pail and toilet brush
- o Dish detergent
- o Paper towels
- o Dish washing brush / pot scrubber
- o Windex
- o Garbage bags and pail
- o Blue Box
- o Laundry detergent
- o Vacuum Cleaner
- o Broom / Mop / Dust Pan
- o Cleaning Cloths

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