

THE SUNDAY NEWS

February 21, 2016



Bethany's Annual Congregational Meeting is today at 12:30 pm. Pot luck lunch will be just beforehand – at noon.

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

Youth Exploring Faith (YEF) are visiting other churches to experience other worship services in our community. Today, they are at Central Pentecostal Church.

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



Pictorial Directory Photos will be taken this week - 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.*

Are you a snowbird? There will be one photo session in April, as well. Directories will likely be distributed in June.

At the end of November (2016) and just before the Christmas rush, the cast of **'Tis the Season** will offer you and the community a heart-warming musical presentation of how one family and one community make this season real in the hearts of God's people. Like the old saying, "It takes a village to raise a child", likewise it all be for all of us to give this drama life, through activity and word of mouth. Welcome to *'Tis the Season.*

Donna J Mann

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, on Saturday mornings. No session Feb 27; resumes Mar 5th. 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.

Try the 40 Day Lent Challenge Barb prepared a list of Lent practice options for the youth and has made copies available for others as well. See the table in the Fellowship Hall at Elora United for this resource. Also, on this table are resources to help your family learn about Lent and Easter. Please help yourself.

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.

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 **LENT**. 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 our website <http://www.ProjectWelcomeCW.ca>
- Email us at ProjectWelcomeCW@gmail.com



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).



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