

THE SUNDAY NEWS

January 8, 2017

Muslim Love Your Neighbour

Jesus tells us to act with love toward our neighbours. To love them well, we need to learn about them. This includes the more than 1 billion Muslims in the world, and the increasing number of Muslims within our local communities. Who are they? What do they believe? How do they live their faith? What do we have in common? What are our differences? How can we live together, acting with love? We'll be exploring these questions from a Christian perspective, yet all are welcome.

What to bring?
Your questions. Your open mind. Your open heart.

**We'll be hosting 2 separate learning groups.
Each will meet monthly.**

You are welcome to come to whichever works best for you.

Wednesdays

7:00-9:00

Continuing on the
1st Wednesday of each month.
Starting January 4

Fridays

2:00-4:00

Continuing on the
2nd Friday of each month.
Starting January 13



Women's Spiritual Potluck is this Friday, Jan. 13 at 7 pm at the home of Carole Kennedy, **42 Gilkison St. Elora**. All women are invited. Come join us as we share and encourage each other in our faith journeys with God. This is not a food potluck, but an opportunity to bring something spiritual to share (eg. a Bible verse, a song, a poem, an experience). Don't have something to share? Come anyway and enjoy the company and discussion. For more information or if you need a ride, contact Carole (519-831-5491) or Barb (519-846-2542)



The Elora UCW will be meeting **Thursday January 19th at 1:30pm** at Elora United Church.

Elora 2016 Tax Receipts: All tax receipts will be available for pick up at the church on Sunday, February 19 and Sunday February 26. After February 26th, any tax receipts left will be mailed.



Thank you for your wonderful support for Melanie Weinstein and Arden Irish who are part of the TCOW Team (Two Countries One World), a Waterloo Presbytery learning and service experience that will take them to Columbia, March 10 – 19. It will cost each of them \$2450. **Thanks to your generous donations, their January payment of \$1000 each is covered.** Their next payment of \$1000 each is due in February. If you would like to support them with a donation, you can do so at any time by writing a cheque to Elora United Church (memo: TCOW 2017). Please continue to pray for Arden and Melanie as they prepare with their team.

Thank you for your generous support for the Toronto Team. This team of 5 youth and 5 adults will be in Toronto, March 10 – 13, to learn about issues faced by those living in poverty, hearing their stories, and learning what it means to serve and be served. In December, the team raised over \$1000 with the alternative Christmas gift fundraising. This will greatly reduce the personal cost of this valuable experience for each participant. Thank You! If you would like to support the team with a donation, you can do so at any time by writing a cheque to Elora United Church (memo: Toronto Team, 2017). Please continue to pray for the team. **Follow the team's thoughts and learnings at www.TechForGod.ca.**

Music Leadership at Elora UC



Betty Weinstein has left her role as Elora UC's music director. We are saddened by this, and supportive of Betty as she balances her various commitments to family and work. In January we will be having a "farewell" time for Betty . . . and we are very glad that she and her family will continue to be part of our congregation's life.

The Mission Board will lead us in thinking about the sort of music leadership that will best serve us. We need to take into account the availability of people with the range of gifts that Betty has; we wonder if there are many like Betty out there! We also need to be mindful of our financial limits. Rather than rush into things, we want to take the time to find out more and talk together. Look for opportunities to be part of these conversations in the new year.

For the next few months, we plan to use different accompanists to support our singing in worship. We already have some people lined up, including Betty, Brad Halls, and Inkyoung Lee. Do you know of others who might be able to accompany our singing? Please speak with Greg asap. We'll also be working with our Adult Choir and Praise Team to see how they may continue to help with our worship.

Looking Ahead

Sun	6:30 – 8pm	Grade 7 – High School Youth Epiphany Party (EUC)
Mon	1:00pm	Quilters
Tue	7:00 pm	Elora Mission & Resources Boards
Fri Jan 13	2:00-4:00pm	Love Your Muslim Neighbour
Fri Jan 13	7:00pm	Women's Spiritual Potluck at Carole Kennedy's home
Sun Jan 15	6:30-7:30pm	Grade 3-6 Youth Epiphany Party (EUC)
Thu Jan 19	1:30pm	Elora UCW

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

Office: 75 Geddes St., Elora, ON N0B 1S0 — 519.846.0122
www.elorabethanyuc.org elorabethanyuc@bellnet.ca

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 Beverly Bond is in the office Thurs 9-3 & Fri 9:30-3:30 from Sept to June