

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

May 14, 2017



Elora United Church **come celebrate** our church family with snacks and refreshments **after worship TODAY**, Christian Family Sunday. Children's Worship will be hosting this fellowship time.

Did you miss the worship service, April 2, when the Toronto Team led worship and shared some of their stories? **Come worship God with the Toronto Team at Melville United Church** in Fergus on **Sunday, May 21 at 11 am**. This team of youth and adults has some great stories of where they met Jesus on the streets of Toronto and where Jesus is leading them now as God's servants.



Elora UC is in need of a **volunteer to coordinate lawn maintenance** and for **grass cutters**. No experience necessary. Equipment provided. You buy the gas and the church will reimburse you. Schedule will be set up - you would be required to cut the grass about 4-5 times during the season. Please contact the office if you can lend a hand.



Elora UC is also looking for a **volunteer to coordinate regular maintenance and repairs**. If you are able to help please let the office know.

We will shortly be ordering some more **nametags** for folks at Elora United. If you need a nametag – never got one, it's lost or worn out – please let the office know.

My name is ...



**Kid's Camp Craft Needs:** Can you help us out? We need empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls, large paper clips (trombone style - not binder clips), pieces of cardboard, red and blue watercolour paints, baking soda, cornstarch and coloured duct tape. Please look for the Crafts Donation Bin in the EUC Welcome Centre. Bethany - please pass on your contributions by giving them to Greg.

**Hero Central Kids Camp** at Elora United Church. **Tuesday, July 4 – Friday, July 7** (9 am – 12 noon). For children who have completed JK – Grade 5, \$20/child. Youth Grade 6 through high school can be youth leaders. We will also need lots of adult leaders! Come be part of this super fun week, as we discover our strength in God! Pick up Participant and Youth registration forms at the display in EUC or print the form from [elorauc.org](http://elorauc.org). For more info, connect with Barb ([barb\\_sy@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb_sy@sympatico.ca), 519-846-2542)



*Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*  
*Saturday, June 10 – 6:00 p.m.*



*Be a Host*  *Be a Guest*

*Sign-up sheets are in the Church Welcome Centre*

*Questions – Call Bonnie Young – 519-846-6633*

## **Elora UC Annual Congregation Meeting Follow Up**

Thank you to those who were able to join the Elora UC Congregational April 30<sup>th</sup>. If you were unable to attend, this is an update on our conversations and next steps to deal with our looming deficit. As you likely know we are forecasting a near \$13,000 deficit this year and need to have a plan in place to deal with this by December.

At the meeting, the Board shared the process we will follow to explore how we can thrive as a congregation and live within our financial means. Starting immediately, the Board is striking four Task Groups that will take 4 - 6 weeks to explore a specific issue that the Board believes will be part of our sustainable future. Grounded in our current Mission, the Task Groups will look at:

**Property:** This group will look at what our EUC building needs, how viable our current structure is, how we can make better use of it and what potential redevelopment opportunities might look like.

**Staffing:** This team will explore our current staffing needs and through a Joint Needs Assessment (JNAC) will work with our sisters and brothers at Bethany to think about future staffing needs for the church.

**Income:** This team will look at possible new revenue sources.

**Partnerships:** This group will look at partnership possibilities with other congregations including specific projects, areas of ministry, sharing staff, sharing buildings, amalgamation and ecumenical sharing of ministry.

By the end of June each Task Group will report back to the Board on its findings. Over the summer the Board will reflect on these findings and through discussion, reflection and prayer will confirm what step(s) we will need to take. These suggestions will be brought to the congregation in early September for approval so specific actions can start as early in the fall as possible.

While this is an aggressive timeline, we believe this is an opportunity for Elora United to deal with our financial challenges AND find the best we can follow God's calling for our church. We aren't sure what the future holds but we are confident this process will help us get there with clarity, grace and hope.

The property, staffing and income task groups invited congregation members to join the conversations. Committees will have up to 5 members each with someone from the Mission or Resources Boards acting as chair of each committee. Committee chairs will be in touch to arrange a time for first meetings.

As our Task Groups start their work to reflect on the future of our property, staff, income and partnerships, they want to hear from everyone at EUC. Your ideas and suggestions will help us clarify our priorities and identify what we should bring back to the congregation in September. Thank you for taking time to share your thoughts at [EloraUC.org](http://EloraUC.org). This survey will stay open until June 15/17

Look for more updates as the Task Groups begin their work. In the meantime, thank you for keeping Elora Untied in your prayers as we follow God's calling for our next adventure.

- **The Mission and Resource Boards**



If anyone would like to support **Wellington Water Watchers' "Water for Life, Not Profit", postcards** can be found on the table outside the sanctuary which can be signed and mailed to Premier Kathleen Wynne. There is also the upcoming event **"Waterstock", June 11<sup>th</sup>** from 12-5pm at Erin Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$10 and can be ordered online at [www.ourwaterstock.ca](http://www.ourwaterstock.ca) If you would like to attend but need a ride or would like to get tickets and don't want to order online, please let Beverly know and she will make arrangements.

## Looking Ahead

Sun	12:15pm	Children hosting fellowship hour
Mon	1:00pm	Quilters
Tue	7:30pm	Bethany Board Meeting
Wed	2:00-4:00pm	The Reconciliation Journey: A Learning Circle
Thu	1:30pm	Elora UCW with guest speaker Margaret Baynes from Wyndham House on helping youth
Sun May 21	11:00am	Toronto Team at Melville United Church
Sun May 28	6:00-7:00pm	Gr. 3 – 6 Youth Group at Melville United, Ice Cream Sundaes and Games
Fri Jun 2	6:00pm	Community Dinner at Knox Presbyterian Church
Fri Jun 2	7:00pm	Women's Spiritual Potluck at Amy Weaver's with campfire
Sat Jun 3		Toronto Team at House of Friendship in Kitchener
Sun Jun 4		Bethany UC hosting joint worship, picnic and games
Sun Jun 4		Grade 7 – High School Youth (time and location TBA)
Sat Jun 10	6:00pm	Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Sat Nov 11	2:00-3:30pm	Remember and honour our veterans and fallen in drama and song

## In the Community

**May 20<sup>th</sup> , Plant and Bake Sale**, plus a few antiques, **Melville United Church**, Tower/St. Andrew, Fergus. Garden perennials. Tarts, pies, muffins, fudge, cookies, cakes, rhubarb. Flow Blue, Royal Nippon, crocks, wash stand, Dick and Jane reader, Beatty tub stand and more. Proceeds to Melville stained glass window restoration and water filters for Guatemala (SHARE Agriculture Foundation). Marg 519-843-3274

**Arthur United Church Women Yard/Rummage & Bake Sale** Friday, **May 26<sup>th</sup>**, 2017 from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm and Saturday, **May 27<sup>th</sup>**, 2017 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. Good used clothing, household items, some furniture and lots of children's treasures. We also have a bake table with delicious homemade baking, pies, tarts, cookies, loaves, biscuits and much more.