

THE SUNDAY NEWS

November 24, 2019



**The Elora United Church Women's
Annual Bake and Craft Show
Saturday, December 7
9:00am to 1:00pm**



Come and search through the treasures in Grandma's Attic. Handmade crafts make thoughtful gifts for your loved ones. Special treasures will be in the Silent Auction. Take a break with a muffin and coffee or have a full soup and sandwich lunch. Finish up by taking home baked goodies.

The UCW is collecting items for the Grandma's Attic sale. You may leave yours in containers in the Welcome Centre or drop them off at the church on Friday December 6th between 4:00 and 6:30 pm.

Please no Grandma's attic items on Saturday morning during the sale.

We also need **donations of baking** and appreciate crafts, as well. Please bring baking in on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

We are looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help with setup on Friday and **VOLUNTEERS** to help on Saturday and Sunday. Please contact Phyllis Waind (519-846-9936) if you can lend a hand.



Have you seen the Envelope Wall?

It's at the back of the Sanctuary.

You can make an extra gift to Elora UC to support our building's upkeep. This simple and fun project will raise over \$11,000!

We've already received \$3,500!

There are envelopes for amounts from \$1-\$150. Please take one or more. Then return it with that amount inside. Filled envelopes can be returned by the offering plate. If you miss the offering, please use the box next to the display.

You can write a note on the back of the envelope to share why this number is important to you! We'll be sharing some of these stories.

Have a look. Pick a number that is special to you. And celebrate your faith and our Elora United Church home!



Centre Wellington Food Bank Christmas Collection



This Christmas, the Centre Wellington Food Bank has asked that we collect financial donations to allow the Food Bank to purchase food vouchers from Freshco. This will allow families the dignity of selecting those food items which best suit their family's needs. Freshco will also donate an additional 10% of all donations to the Food Bank. **Our Elora-Bethany Pastoral Charge target is \$500.00.** Donations can be either cash or cheque made out to "Centre Wellington Food Bank". **Deadline for Donations is Dec 15th.** A collection box can be found at Bethany UC and at the back of the Sanctuary at Elora UC.



Would you like to join a special Christmas choir group on December 22 at Elora United? Members of the adult choir are starting to rehearse a special presentation called Heaven and Nature Sing, Gloria! There are just five rehearsals to attend and the chance to join a fun group. **See Betty or Ink for details.**

Mystery Friends Sign Up (see sign up box downstairs) **Nov. 24 - Jan. 5**

For all ages in our church family. People of different ages are paired with one another to exchange letters, drawings, "penny-gifts" etc. Sign up by Jan. 5. Starting Jan. 12 there will be a "Mail Centre" board set up. Over the next month this is where you will leave things for your mystery friend and where they can leave things for you. Feb. 23 will be the big reveal!

Special Gifts Fund Grants

The Elora UC Mission Board will be considering grants from our Special Gifts Fund at its meeting on **December 10th**. It invites proposals under the following areas: **Education (\$423 available), Community Outreach (\$823), and Projects of the United Church of Canada (\$823)**. Copies of the fund policy and application forms are available at the back of the sanctuary, as well as from the church office.

Resilient Faith: Sexual & Gender Diversity in the Church

Sundays after worship (12:30 – 2:00pm) in the Elora UC Bissell Room

Barb and Greg Smith-Young will be leading a 5-part learning and conversation time. We'll be using a resource called Resilient Faith. It features the voices of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Christians. Each segment unpacks important aspects of the faith conversation. Here's the schedule and topics:

Nov 24	Navigating Disagreement
Dec 1	Recognizing Privilege
Dec 8	Hopes for the Church

Come to whichever ones you can. All are welcome!

Project Welcome

Supporting Refugees in Our Community

Please consider supporting Project Welcome's work with our refugee family. You can give a cheque made out to "Elora United Church" with 'Project Welcome' in the memo line. You can also give by credit card at ProjectWelcomeCW.ca. Thank you!

Weekly Wednesday Gatherings

Every Wednesday 11:00 – 2:00pm in the Elora UC Bissell Room

This is a great time to connect with other people over lunch, conversation and shared activities. Please feel free to drop-in anytime and stay for as long a time as you like.

Celebrating Abundance A study for Advent

Mondays at 7:00pm, November 25 – December 16. at Knox Presbyterian Church

Come and share in this engaging and meaningful conversation about what it really means to get ready for Christmas. To "prepare for Christmas" in our society is to be sucked into a swirl of indulgence, from decor to gifts to calorie-rich foods. Layer upon layer of tinsel, lights, and wrapping paper create the illusion of abundance, disguising the feeling of emptiness in our souls. The arrival of the Messiah, by contrast, is true abundance disguised by the impression of scarcity. Training our eyes to see through the rough stable, the adolescent mother, and the anxious escape to Egypt, we can see in that poverty and powerlessness the wonder of God's abundant life and grace coming down to dwell among us. **More Info?: 519.846.0680 or minister@wightman.ca**

Looking Ahead

Sun	12:30–2:00pm	Resilient Faith - BR
Tue	7:00pm	Resources Board Meeting – BR
Wed	11:00–2:00pm	Weekly Wednesday Gathering – BR
Thu	7:00pm	Good & Beautiful Good Group – The Hulley's
Thu	7:00pm	EUC Adult Choir – BR
Thu	8:15pm	Praise Team - BR
Sat Nov 30	3:00pm	CW Singers' Christmas Concert – EUC
Sat Nov 30	6:15pm	Elora Santa Claus Parade (Elora UC youth will be in the parade collecting food donations for the CW Food Bank)
Sun Dec 1	12:30–2:00pm	Resilient Faith – BR
Tue Dec 3	7:00pm	Elora-Bethany Joint Board Meeting
Sat Dec 7	9:00–1:00pm	Elora UCW Annual Bake & Craft Show
Sun Dec 8	6:30-8:00pm	Grade 3 - 6 and 7 - 9 Youth Group (Elora UC)

In the Community

Christmas Marketplace & Lunch, Sat Nov 30th 11am – 2pm at St. James Anglican Church, 171 Queen St. E. Fergus. Home Baking, Gift Baskets, Toonie Table, Draws, Christmas Decorations. Lunch \$10 Adults, \$5 Children, includes Chicken a' la King, Salad and Squares.



Centre Wellington Singers

Christmas Concert, Saturday November 30th 3:00pm at Elora United Church.

Tickets available from choir members, at the door, and by reservation 519.994.1015. Adults \$15, children 12 and under \$5.



Allison Lupton Concert, Sunday, December 1st at 8:00pm at Knox Elora Presbyterian

Tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door.

Tickets are available at: Knox Elora church, Wreckless Eric's and Sante. Concert proceeds support the Knox-Elora Steeple Restoration Fund.