

# THE SUNDAY NEWS

December 1, 2019



**The Elora United Church Women's  
Annual Bake and Craft Show  
NEXT SATURDAY, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
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.



## Worship for Advent & Christmas



- Sun, Dec 1** 1<sup>st</sup> of Advent
- Sun, Dec 8** 2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent
- Sun, Dec 15** 3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent, including Children's Worship Skit
- Sun, Dec 22** 4<sup>th</sup> of Advent, cantata Heaven & Nature Sing, Gloria!
- Tue, Dec 24** 5:00pm Christmas Eve Celebration at Elora UC  
7:00pm Christmas Eve Celebration at Bethany UC  
9:30pm Christmas Eve Communion at Elora UC
- Sun, Dec 29** Carols Service
- Sun, Jan 5** Epiphany Sunday

## 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 15<sup>th</sup>.** 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.**

### Reusable Cloth Gift Bags are still available!

- They are at the entrance to the Sanctuary.
- By Donation – suggested amount shown on each bag.
- All funds raised for The United Church of Canada's Mission & Service Fund.



### 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 10<sup>th</sup>**. 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:

Dec 1	Recognizing Privilege
Dec 8	Hopes for the Church

Come to whichever ones you can. All are welcome!



## 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 \$4,200!**

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!

## 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](mailto:minister@wightman.ca)**

## Looking Ahead

Sun	12:30–2:00pm	Resilient Faith - BR
Tue	7:30pm	Elora-Bethany Joint Board Meeting - BR
Wed	11:00–2:00pm	Weekly Wednesday Gathering – BR
Thu	7:00pm	EUC Adult Choir – BR
Thu	8:15pm	Praise Team – BR
Fri	6:00 – 8:00pm	Community Dinner – Knox Presbyterian
Sat	9:00–1:00pm	Elora UCW Annual Bake & Craft Show
Sun Dec 8	12:30–2:00pm	Resilient Faith – BR
Sun Dec 8	6:30-8:00pm	Grade 3 - 6 and 7 - 9 Youth Group (Elora UC)
Mon Dec 9	7:30pm	Bethany UCW – at Arlene Hall's
Tue Dec 10	7:00pm	Mission & Resources Board - BR
Thu Dec 12	7:00pm	Good & Beautiful Good Group – The Hulley's

## In the Community



**Allison Lupton Concert, Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 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.