

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

VU-Voices United Hymn Book | **MV**-More Voices Hymn Book
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*** Indicates to please stand, if able**

Like any organization, we need to sit down together once a year and take stock of what we have done and what God needs us to do in the future.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

“As we work to create light for others, we naturally light our own way.” ~ Mary Anne Radmacher

INTROIT: Tune HWC 101

**His name is Wonderful, His name is Wonderful,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord;
He is the mighty King, Master of everything,
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

**He’s the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,
Almighty God is He;
Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,
His name is Wonderful Jesus, my Lord.**

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(responsively)*

The Lord be with you

And also with you

We greet each other as brothers and sisters in the faith.

We come to celebrate God’s presence,

and God’s love expressed through Jesus Christ.

We come remembering Christ’s life and ministry,

and the life we are called to live.

We come as a pilgrim people

searching for ways to live out our faith in these confusing times

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We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.

Let us rejoice in God’s gift to us!

In the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

who calls us to be the church

and to celebrate God’s presence,

Let us worship. Let us pray.

GATHERING PRAYER:

Gracious and loving Father. We come before You not only as individuals but united in the Body of Christ as a community of faith. We come together; to declare Your worth, to honour You, to draw closer to You and to learn more about You and to do the business of the Church. Set Your Holy Spirit free among us we pray. In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE:** VU 412 “This Is the Day”

STATEMENT OF FAITH: VU pg. 918 “A New Creed”

(In unison please stand)

READER: George Dewar

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 1:12-14, 21-26 and 6:1-7

Acts 1:12-14, 21-26:

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have

chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Acts 6:1-7:

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait at tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.’ What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Sing Out with Splendor” ~ J. Martin

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

***OFFERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

Gracious God,

**You have taught us that it is better to give than to receive.
You have blessed us with abundance
and we can never out-give you.
Receive these offerings that come from our hearts
as well as our hands.
May Your blessing magnify their benefits.
We pray in the Name of Jesus who gives us all things. Amen.**

May our prayers rise like incense to God’s Throne.

PASTORAL PRAYER

(Lord hear our prayer, and in your love, answer)

THE LORD’S PRAYER: *(sung – VU 959)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

MESSAGE: “Mixing Business with Worship”

***CLOSING HYMN VU 602:** “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

****Please remain in the sanctuary for the Annual Meeting followed
by lunch in the Upper Hall****

AFTER WORSHIP, everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship on the lower level.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS and RESPONSIVE READINGS are available on the pew as you enter the sanctuary.

PRAYER LIST
As we face life’s challenges, we are encouraged by those who surround us with their prayers. If you would like your name to appear on the prayer list, please tell the minister or a member of the Pastoral Care Committee.
This week we pray for:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANNUAL MEETING: February 2nd following the Sunday Service.

REMINDER: Everyone is asked to please wear your name tags at church on Sundays, to make it easier for newcomers to remember your name.

ONTARIO ELECTION FEB. 27th, 2025:

In May of last year, we were approached by Elections Ontario to become a polling station for future Provincial and Federal Elections. The request was reviewed in detail and Council approved. Voters will enter by the front door and proceed directly to the upper hall. The lower level is off limits. The setting up will occur during the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 26th and we expect they will be out of the building late on the 27th. Tenants who use the building during these times have been advised accordingly.

The Election team has indicated they do require additional staff and would welcome church members who wish to apply. They require Registration Officers, Greeters and Deputy Returning Officers. Pay is

\$19.37 per hour and the experience is priceless. If you are interested, please contact Robert Ciarlo at Elections Ontario. His phone number is 289-237-0324. His email is robertciarlo@gmail.com. Let him know you are prepared to work at the polling station in Fonthill United Church. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Jim Bradley

THE FRIENDSHIP GROUP: is planning its annual partaking of the Port Colborne Operatic Society’s musical performance. This year they are doing Cole Porter’s “Anything Goes” and group rate tickets are available for \$27 each for the Sunday matinee show at 2:00 p.m. on March 2,2025. As has been our custom, we gather afterwards for dinner at the Swiss Chalet in Welland, but this is optional. The Friendship Group welcomes anyone who wishes to join us for the outing and 20 excellent seats have been reserved. These will be sold on a first come, first served basis. For tickets please contact: Bob Laing.

THE MEXICAN TRAIN GAME – A DOMINOES GAME: Monday, February 3 at 2 pm in the Friendship Room. We are going to learn (if you don’t already know how to play) an afternoon of fun and friendship. The dominoes game is fun and we have available a printed copy of how it is played. Just ask for it and you can have a copy. Come and join the fun, there will be prizes and refreshments. It will continue every other week. So the next game will be February 17th.

EUCHRE: Tuesday, February 11th at 2pm for pros and beginners, come and play and be social. Bring a friend, there will be prizes and refreshments. If you don’t know how to play we will teach you. It will continue every other week. Next one February 25th.

“THE GREEN BOOK” MOVIE: In acknowledgement of Black History Month, we are showing this movie on February 19th at 1:30pm in the Friendship Room. It is based on the book that listed the places a black person was allowed to stay. We will have a short social time and discussion after the movie. Popcorn and drinks will be available so come and enjoy.

“SMALL GREAT THINGS” BY JODI PICOULT: In acknowledgement of Black History Month, there will be a discussion of this book on February 27th at 2pm in the Friendship Room. The book is available at the library; we hope you will enjoy the read and participate in the discussion. Coffee/tea and snacks will be provided.

THE OUTSIDE SIGN: Dick Hamilton has kindly committed to changing the message on the outside sign at the front of our church property on a weekly basis. We are looking for someone who would be willing to fill in for him when he is away or is otherwise unable to make the changes. If you can help out please contact Dick directly. He will be able to show you what is involved.

SMITHVILLE UNITED CHURCH: Is presenting a “Valentine’s Concert” by the Niagara Kaleidoscope Ensemble on February 9th at 7pm. Freewill donations appreciated. Located at 116 West Street, Smithville, ON.

****If you have experienced any difficulty accessing the church website lately, please know the problems have been corrected.****

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

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|-------------------|----------------|
| Feb. 9 – 9:30 am | Sunday Service |
| Feb. 16 – 9:30 am | Sunday Service |
| Feb. 23 – 9:30 am | Sunday Service |

**TO MAKE A DONATION TO FONTHILL UNITED CHURCH,
YOU ARE WELCOME TO:**

- 1) Mail a cheque to the church at: Fonthill United Church, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0.
- 2) Drop your cheque donation, anytime, through the mail slot in the exterior office door at the church.
- 3) Bring cash donations into the office when the church office is open.
- 4) Send an e-transfer to: fonthilu@vaxxine.com.
- 5) Sign up for the pre-authorized remittance program (PAR). Contact the church office to register.

Donations on Sundays may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the sanctuary. We thank you for your support!

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED

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|-----------------|----------|---------------------|
| Monday Feb 3 | 8:00 am | Montessori School |
| | 2:00 pm | Dominoes |
| | 4:00 pm | Music Lessons |
| | 6:30 pm | Pickle Ball |
| Tuesday Feb 4 | 8:00 am | Montessori School |
| | 9:00 am | Badminton |
| | 2:00 pm | Music Lessons |
| Wednesday Feb 5 | 8:00 am | Montessori School |
| | 1:30 pm | Pickle Ball |
| | 2:30 pm | Music Lessons |
| | 3:30 pm | Music Lessons |
| | 6:00 pm | A Cappella Practice |
| | 6:00 pm | Cubs |
| Thursday Feb 6 | 8:00 am | Montessori School |
| | 9:00 am | Badminton |
| | 2:00 pm | Music Lessons |
| | 3:00 pm | Choir Practice |
| Friday Feb 7 | 8:00 am | Montessori School |
| | 12:30 pm | Music Lessons |
| | 6:30 pm | Pickle Ball |
| Saturday Feb 8 | 11:00 am | Music Lessons |
| Sunday Feb 9 | 9:30 am | Sunday Service |
| | 1:00 pm | One-Time Rental |

Please note that these rentals while happening in the church, are not to be attended by the congregation (as they are not put on by the church) unless there is an express invite.

Fonthill United Church

February 2, 2025

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MISSION STATEMENT

Words inspire us. Music uplifts us.
United in God's love,
we strive to be an inclusive community,
learning together and supporting others with compassion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office 905 892-6433
Office Email fonthilu@vaxxine.com
Church address 42 Church Hill, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0
Website www.fonthillunited.com
Facebook www.facebook.com/Fonthilu