

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

VU-Voices United Hymn Book | MV-More Voices Hymn Book
Music printed & streamed with permission
under CCLI #1293009 & #20808245
* *Indicates to please stand, if able*

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: HWC 19

**We worship and adore You,
Bowing down before You,
Songs of praises singing,
Hallelujahs ringing.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Jesus said, love one another.

We come to worship God who is love.

Come to us Holy God.

Find a place to live here in our praises.

Encircle us with your love.

Surround us with Your grace.

Guide us through Your Word.

Bless us with Your sustaining presence.

Let us worship.

Let us pray.

OPENING PRAYER: *(in unison)*

Gracious and loving God we come into Your presence with joy and anticipation. We come seeking intimacy and inspiration, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow as we declare Your worth together. Come Holy Spirit as we gather in the Name of our lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

-2-

***HYMN OF PRAISE VU 218: "We Praise You, O God"**

TIME OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSION:

God of Shalom, forgive us when we allow our worries and anxieties to separate us from Your peace. Forgive us when prayer is a last resort rather than our first response to troubles. Forgive us when we turn from You rather than to You in our need.

CHORAL RESPONSE: HWC 427 *(vs. 1)*

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.**

God eagerly responds to our sincere repentance with His gracious forgiveness.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM 98: VU pg. 818 (Refrain 2) *Reader: Keith Rae*

GOSPEL LESSON: John 15: 9-17 *Reader: Rev. Dr. Garry van Bruchem*

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

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

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Let Us Together Praise the Lord" – *D. Starr*

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.**

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.**

***HYMN VU 664: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

SERMON – *Rev. Dr. Garry van Bruchem*

***CLOSING HYMN VU 333: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

+++++

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

AFTER WORSHIP, everyone is invited to stay
for refreshments and fellowship
in the Board Room & Friendship Room on the lower level.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME our friends from Fenwick United Church and Rev. Dr. Garry van Bruchem to our joint worship service today.

COUNCIL is reminded to stay in the sanctuary after the service today for a short council meeting.

FAREWELL! He's been part of our church family. He was our Minister from 2004-2006. Now, after 20 years plus, we must say farewell. A huge Thank You is extended to Rev. Dr. Paul Owen for joining us and even leading us through many happy days as well as some sad days. You have been a good friend, leader when we needed you, and now we will truly miss you. We wish you all the best in the future!

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED

Monday May 6	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	4:00 pm	Music Lessons
	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	7:00 pm	Venturers & Rovers
Tuesday May 7	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	10:30 am	Outreach Committee Meeting
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	4:00 pm	Music Lessons (Friendship Rm.)
	5:00 pm	Upper Hall rental
	6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
Wednesday May 8	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Board Room rental
	1:30 pm	UCW Meeting
	6:00 pm	Cubs & Beavers
Thursday May 9	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Lookout Ridge Worship Service
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
	4:45 pm	Sportball
Friday May 10	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	12:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
Saturday May 11	10:30 am	Music Lessons
	1:00 pm	Funeral for Mark Mansfield
Sunday May 12	9:30 am	Worship Service – <i>Mother’s Day</i>

THE FENWICK UCW will meet at the Fenwick church on Monday May 6 at 10:00 am.

THE FONTHILL UCW will be meeting on Wednesday May 8 at 1:30 in the Friendship Room. All women of the congregation are welcome. There will be a fun auction. Each participant is asked to bring 1 or 2 items to be auctioned off. And of course, some small bills to buy something. We hope to see you there.

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!

Community News

CAVE SPRINGS CAMP SPONSORSHIP: Cave Springs Camp near Beamsville is a United Church summer camp for children that our churches continue to support. We would like to invite some of the newly arrived Ukrainian children to attend Cave Springs Camp and we are inviting sponsors to help pay the cost of registration. There are eight children (and counting) who would be eligible to attend. If you would like to sponsor one of the children for all or part of the cost of registration, please make a cheque out to **FENWICK UNITED CHURCH** – with "Cave Springs sponsor" in the memo line or marked on an envelope – and place it in the offering plate, or for Fonthill congregants, you can also bring it in to the Fonthill church office. Registration costs are:
 ages 5-10: a five day, day camp \$315.
 ages 7-12: a four day overnight camp \$436.
 ages 13-15: a five day overnight camp \$590.
 You will receive an income tax receipt for your contribution. Church camp can be a formative experience and a wonderful way for Ukrainian children to make new friends and be welcomed to Canada.

CHORALIS CAMERATA presents “Sentimental Journey,” offering showtunes and “oldies” through the generations, on Sunday May 5 at 2:30 pm at St. Ann’s Parish Hall, 5731 Desson Ave., Niagara Falls. Tickets are \$25, including snacks and drink ticket. To purchase call 905 931-9225 or email: choraliscamerata@gmail.com.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE will be held by the Pelham Garden Club at Fonthill United Church on Saturday May 18 from 8 am to noon. Come for an amazing selection of plants for sale, plus baking and lawn sale. Cash only.

A CAPPELLA NIAGARA presents, “Joy to the World,” a concert at Fonthill United Church on Saturday June 15 at 2:00 pm featuring the A Cappella chorus, duos and quartets, and vocalist Melissa-Marie Shriner. Tickets: adults \$15, free for children 12 and under. To order tickets call 905 341-3415.

CAVE SPRINGS CAMP 2024 WISHLIST:

It’s Spring, when the minds of parents, children and youth turn to Cave Springs and the busy time coming up. But did you know that Cave Springs is now operational all year? Not only does this non-profit offer the traditional summer camps it’s been operating for over 70 years, but the facility receives school, community and other groups throughout the year. It’s a year-round camp, retreat and conference centre. It’s a spiritual place.

As a non-profit, Cave Springs relies on donations to continue to provide excellent programming. Following is their 2024 Wish List. Monetary donations also are always welcome.

<p>Program Equipment: Costumes/fun clothes Extension Cords and Power Bars Tarps Duct Tape Small percussion instruments Ukuleles Volley Balls Beach Balls Hula Hoops</p>	<p>Craft & Office Supplies: Scissors Glue Paint Brushes Masking Tape / Scotch Tape Sticky Notes Bracelet Making Materials Beads Air Dry Clay Button Maker White Tie Dye items (shirts, bandanas, socks)</p>
<p>Maintenance Supplies: Brooms Dust Pans Large Garbage Cans Fans Mops Mop Buckets</p>	<p>Wilderness Supplies: Tents (4 person or larger) High Quality Flashlights Small Flashlights Matches Lighters</p>
<p>First Aid Supplies: Menstrual Hygiene Products Sunscreen Bug Spray Fun Kids Band-aids Ice Packs</p>	<p>Contact Us: 905 563-8487 If you have tables, chairs or couches to donate, please contact us first so that we can see if they match our needs.</p>

GERANIUM SALE supporting 3rd Fonthill Scouting:

The 3rd Fonthill Scouting Group is selling *locally grown* GERANIUMS to brighten up your garden. With the ability to thrive in any space, these geraniums will be a welcome addition to your Spring planting.

ORDERS DUE by May 12.

Pick-up will be Friday, May 17 in the parking lot of the Lions Hall on Highway 20, Fonthill.

Delivery is available for a fee (if you live in the Region of Pelham), and will take place the weekend of May 17-19.

Proceeds assist 3rd Fonthill Scouting in providing programming opportunities for our youth. From age 5 and up, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers all provide Pelham with their service, and in turn are learning to make positive contributions to society.

To order plants, call Alison Moore at 905 570-3971 (Hamilton) or toll-free at 1-866-464-9757.

To access the geranium sale online, go to:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/f4a6e0d6-8cf8-41f0-b1e4-ff1ca7880e25>

The various Scouting groups meet weekly at Fonthill United Church.

HOME CLEANING SERVICE AVAILABLE: A recently arrived Ukrainian couple, Maria and Yurii Chebotarov, are offering affordable cleaning services for your home. They have their own equipment and will travel within the Niagara area. References available. Please contact them for more information at 289 213-5442 or email to: machebotarova@gmail.com.

FLEA MARKET will be held at Trillium United Church, St. Catharines on Saturday May 25 from 7:30 am - 12 pm. Donations will be gratefully accepted on May 21 (morning), May 22 & 23 from 9 am – 7 pm. The following will not be accepted for donation: magazines, large furniture or appliances, helmets, baby cribs/car seats, electronic equipment.

PIANO RECITAL will be held at Trillium United Church, St. Catharines on Monday May 6 at 1:00 pm with Ryan Baxter, former music director of Trillium UC, featuring classical music works, in support of the United Church Foundation. Recital is free; donations will be gratefully accepted.

NIAGARA FRESH FUNDRAISER FOR FENWICK UNITED CHURCH: Have you heard of Niagara Fresh in Fenwick? You may have known them as Glasbergen's or simply as "the cucumber stand on Foss Road". The location/store has grown over the years as has what is carried. With a focus on local, you'll find fresh produce, flowers, coffee, dry foods, clothing, frozen foods including prepared meals from Antipasto's, and offerings from Red's Meats in Thorold and local dairy from Hewitt's. New to the store are the gerbera daisy and other fresh bouquets previously available at Vanvliet greenhouses. You can shop in the store or online at: niagarafresh.ca. The most popular item is The Mystery Box. Check it out. Free delivery is available or you can order online and pick up in-store – or you can simply shop in the store.

Use the code **FENWICKUNITED** at checkout online or in the store and, until May 31, 10% of your order will be donated to Fenwick United Church. After May 31, 5% of your order is donated to the church.

For anyone curious about Niagara Fresh Market's "Mystery Box," here's a picture of what was in the Small box we picked up. It contained (clockwise from top left): large mushrooms, 2 bell peppers, an English cucumber, 2 large sweet potatoes, a package of mini cucumbers, 4 heirloom tomatoes, 1 head boston lettuce, a 5 lb bag of honeycrisp apples, a 1.5 lb bag of mini potatoes!

