

September 27, 2026

We welcome all of you who gather to worship with us this morning, including all who are visiting with us today. We pray God's blessing upon you. All are welcome to join us for refreshments and fellowship after the service.

Thank you to our family of volunteers who do these jobs every week.

Lay Reader – Jack Watkin (MF), Donna Padfield (W)

Elevator – Mike Burke (MF)

Greeters – Al & Donna Leach (MF), Donna Padfield (W)

Fellowship – Laurie & Neil Aitken

Lene & Frank MacLean (MF)

Volunteers up next – October 4

Lay Reader – Donna Leach (MF), George Harris (W)

Elevator – Dan MacArthur (MF)

Greeters – Fran & Marlin Herriott (MF)

Stan & Linda Harris (W)

Fellowship – Marion Officer, Alma MacRae,

Sandra McMeekin (MF)

We are asking everyone that is on the helper list to check ahead and note your scheduled Sunday. If you are unable to fulfill that date, please switch with someone and notify the Church Office.

Snow Removal

We are having difficulty finding an economical option for snow removal. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or recommendations, please speak with Dan MacArthur.

Church Directory – Final Call

Our updated contact information-only church directory will be published in October. Please check the current list in the Mount Forest Fellowship Hall and make any corrections to your name, address, phone number, or email. Thank you for helping us keep our directory up to date!

Bible Study and Coffee & Chat

Bible Study begins on Thursday October 1. Coffee & chat at 10 am, Study at 11 am for one hour. We are digging into United Church 101! There is a chapter available to read ahead of time (in the Narthex). It is ok to come without the reading, it is encouraged if you are able. All are welcome, and drop in from week to week if you cannot make every Thursday in October! **Please note:** on October 15 & 22, Rev. Lori is on a course in the mornings, and Bible Study will commence at 1:00 (coffee & Study combined in one hour).

Buy Soup. Give Soup. Help our Community

Your donation buys delicious, nutritious soup from The Raw Carrot. The soup is then donated to our local food bank and Rural Wellington Community Team, helping get nutritious food to people and families who need it most.

See our poster on the bulletin board for more details.

Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday, October 4 at 2 pm we will be marking the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi with a Blessing of the Animals in the Mount Forest United Church Sanctuary. All are welcome! We will *not* be having any live animals in order to ensure the health and safety of all the people and the creatures! Attendees are encouraged to bring photos of their animals, stuffed animals, special memory items like collars, bowls, these items, as well as holding a time of Memorial for friends we have lost.

Volunteers are needed to helping provide the blessings!

There will be a freewill offering of pet food or supplies (new or clean used) Please speak to Rev. Lori (mfunitedrev@outlook.com) or Kelley Eves (theeves@wightman.ca) if you would like to help!

Art in the Afternoon:

The Friday afternoon art gathering will begin again on October 2nd from 1-3 in the Fellowship Hall. This is a drop in for anyone to join~ bring your handwork or come as you are and be handed some work! If you have extra art supplies to share, we will gather some for sharing. Stay tuned for the start of a fall art adventure coming soon to this time slot for those who would like to explore faith & art (no experience needed... if you can make a mark with a crayon or pen or paint, you are welcome!).

Rural Rec Room

All are welcome to join on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 for an afternoon of games, cards and if you would like bring friend and even a ball or a racquet for a game in the gym. This fun afternoon is organized by the Rural Wellington Peer Support Services, connected with Mount Forest Family Health Team. A Peer worker is present and has lots of games available.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Enjoy Thanksgiving with the Community! The Community Dinner will be held on Sunday, October 11 at 5:30 pm at Mount Forest United. Proceeds to support The Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise. Donations accepted, as you are able. Volunteers for the prep on Saturday morning from 9 to 12 and help on the day of the dinner. Also, if anyone would like to donate a 10-pound bag of russet potatoes or a pound of butter for the Sunday Dinner, that would be appreciated.

Meditative Walking

There will be another opportunity to come and walk the trail at Murphy Park (10-minute walk, level ground) on October 15 & 22, meeting at 10:30 am at the Murphy Park Pavilion. Allot about 45 minutes for the gathering.

On October 18, Mount Forest United celebrates its 182nd

anniversary. Rev. Gord Dunbar will be our worship leader. Following the service, everyone is welcome to join us in the fellowship hall for a potluck lunch. There will be no service at Woodland United and welcome everyone to join us in celebrating this milestone.

Turning Compassion into Action

MyOwnPlace Guelph is hosting a community gathering on **Wednesday, October 21, from 6:00–9:00 p.m.** at Royal City Mission in Guelph.

Come learn how churches and community groups can move beyond emergency help toward **early intervention, affordable housing, and lasting solutions** for people struggling with homelessness. The event is free, but registration is requested. **If you're interested, please contact Rev. Lori.** A poster with more information is on the bulletin board.

September Leadership Team Update:

~ a shed is being custom made to replace the old garage, and will be placed once the demolition of the manse is complete
~ forms are available to fill out with your DREAMS for use of the space left after the manse is gone
~ the Leadership Team will be developing an updated Duty of Care policy (this safeguards our vulnerable people and our volunteers)
~ Committees will be invited to update their terms/tasks as currently found in our Constitution.
~ Watch your announcements & mark your calendar for lots of upcoming activities and events!

Leadership Team

Patty Sinnamon, Laurie Aitken, Al Leach, Kelley Eves, Bill Kreps, Mary Allen, Norm Eygenraam, Lene MacLean, Janice Benson, Ruth Mundy, George Harris

What does the Mission & Service Fund do?

We share our resources with three goals in mind:

- to help transform lives
- to inspire meaning and purpose
- to build a better world

How do you transform lives through Mission and Service?

To put it simply, we help.

Locally, we help people by supporting homeless shelters, food banks, community kitchens, and refugee programs. We help young people on campuses and through camping outreach. We help people who are sick or at the end of life by supporting addiction, mental health, and counselling services and hospice care.

Globally, we support people to access clean water, food, and medical care. We support skills training and economic development. We help with peace-making and sustainable agriculture efforts. We provide disaster relief and advocate for the rights of those who all too often don't get a say, like children and migrant workers.

Stay tuned for our Monthly Mission & Service Stories!

You can donate to M & S by choosing that option on PAR or envelope.

The office will be closed September 28–October 9. Phone messages will be checked during this time; emails will be answered when the office reopens.

Pastoral Care Prayer Requests

If you would like the Pastoral Care Team to pray for you, someone you know, or to share news of hospitalizations, illness, or special occasions, please contact:

- Betty Seminowicz – 519-923-5416
betvansemi@hotmail.com
- Daphne Rappard – 519-323-2505
drappard@wightman.ca

All requests are shared **only with the Pastoral Care Team** and are kept confidential.

Simplify Your Sunday Giving with PAR

Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) makes giving easy—no cheques to write or envelopes to remember. Your monthly donation is automatically withdrawn, and you can adjust it anytime. To sign up or make changes, contact the church office: 519-323-1910.

Stay Connected!

Visit our website to view the bulletin, announcements, church calendar, and upcoming events.

Our weekly services are posted on our website, YouTube links are found under the Worship tab. Click on the service you wish to watch and it will take you directly to the YouTube video. If you are an Eastlink customer, you can still watch the service on their Community channel or you can also listen to our service on 88.9 The River at 9:30 am Sunday mornings. Explore more at www.mountforestunitedchurch.com

Share Your Announcements and Upcoming Events!

Do you have news or a coming event to share with our congregation? Get the word out through our church bulletin, weekly Messenger, and church website.

How to submit your details?

Email: Send text or posters to united@wightman.ca.

Please send posters/images as a JPEG file.

In Person: Drop off materials at the church office.

Phone: Contact the office directly at 519-323-1910.

Submission Deadline: Please submit all items by **Wednesday** to ensure they are included in that week's notices.

MFUC Treasurer's Report:

Year-to-Date Operating Income & Expenses @ 31Aug26
Income \$143,224.00 / Expenses \$187,535.00
General Operating Funds Balance \$ 11,231.00
UCC M & S Fund Receipts \$ 9170.00
UCC M & S Fund Budget \$ 9333.00
(M&S balances include UCW contributions)
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Woodland UC Treasurer's Report:

Year-to-Date Operating Income & Expenses @ 31Aug26
Income \$18,744.00 / Expenses \$18,747.00
General Fund Balance \$38,379.00
UCC M & S Fund Receipts \$1190.00
UCC M&S Fund Budget \$1333.00