

September 20, 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 – Neil Aitken (MF), Donna Padfield (W)

Elevator – Rhoda Seibert (MF)

Greeters – Wilma & Gerald Crockford (MF)
Donna Padfield (W)

Fellowship – Flora & Mike Burke, Heather & Shawn McLeod (MF)

Volunteers up next – September 27

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)

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.

Congratulations to Cathie and John Ridgeway on their 68th wedding anniversary! We celebrate this special milestone with you and wish you both many blessings as you celebrate.

Games Afternoon

Rural Rec Room, game afternoon will be held this Wednesday, September 23rd from 1-3 pm.

Organized by the Rural Wellington Peer Support services, connected with the Mount Forest Family Health Team. A Peer Worker will be present to resource games and cards and as well as access to the gymnasium (feel free to bring a ball or racquet and a friend!). Everyone is welcome. Connection is the goal!

Church Directory Update

We are preparing to publish an updated church directory in **October**. There will be **no pictures**—this will be a contact information-only directory.

A copy of the current address list is available in the **Fellowship Hall at Mount Forest** and the **Narthex at Woodland** for you to review over the next few weeks. Please take a moment to check that your **name, address, phone number, and email address** are correct. **Please mark any changes directly on the list.**

If you **do not wish to have your information published**, please let the church office know or make a note beside your name. Thank you for helping us keep our church directory accurate and up to date!

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!

Arts & Crafts Connection

Friday afternoon handwork and chit-chat will resume soon! Stay tuned for date! Same time, 1:00 pm on Friday afternoons in the Fellowship Hall.

Once we are back in rhythm, Rev. Lori will be offering a series guided art sessions exploring our relationship with God through art ~ NO skill required, other than an open heart an ability to make a mark on paper with the tool of your choice (options will be provided!).

Mark your Calendars

Bible Study: Coffee at 10 am and Bible Study at 11 am will resume start on October 1st **for the 5 Thursdays in October**. Our autumn focus will be "United Church 101" ~ who are we? what do we believe? what does Scripture say? Newcomers and old timers... everyone is welcome!

Broadview Magazine – Renewals

Final Call! Our group subscription to Broadview Magazine is up for renewal. If you wish to renew or would like to subscribe, **please contact the church office by September 21st**. Cost: \$40 (HST included). Payment may be made at the office, in the offering plate (marked "Broadview"), or by e-transfer to united@wightman.ca (please note "Broadview").

Current subscribers: If we do not hear from you, we will assume you do not wish to renew.

Drayton United Church Turkey Dinner

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7, 2026 at the PMD Arena in Drayton. Drayton United Church is having their annual Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings, including homemade pie for dessert. Eat in or take out, from 5:00 - 7:00. No advance tickets. Cash or cheque at the door. Adults \$25.00, Children 6-10 \$10.00, 5 & under FREE.

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.

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, urns. We will be blessing all the animals represented by 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!

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.

It's Soup of the Month sign-up time again!

Subscribers get a delicious soup each month. Quantities are limited; subscribers get first chance to purchase more. September's soup is Blistered Tomato & Red Pepper. Each month, an email is sent when the soup is ready for pickup at Meat the Butcher. A 10-month subscription costs \$110. To sign up you can email mtforest@therawcarrot.com, call or text Lynne at 519-323-6904 or go to The Raw Carrot website.

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.

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.

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)

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

Leadership Team

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