



First United eNews

October 5,
2012

The place where you'll find up-to-date information about what's happening, what's new and what to expect in the church community.

eNote from Rev. Danielle

Dear First Family,

Today I'd like to connect with you through a prayer. This is a prayer of thanksgiving, for unity, for encouragement to live with an attentiveness to God.

What if each us would pause and praise God today in prayer?

Would there be increased connection among us?

Would we keep on noticing God in action, even after the spoken prayer?

Let's try!

Join together as church, let us pray,

Spirit of Life,

We sense your presence in the beauty of this season.

Falling leaves of red and gold remind us of the cycle of life,

and the life of Jesus, the Christ.

You speak to our heart

and help us notice an abundance of goodness all around.

We lift our thanks to you as members of your church.

You hear our prayers, and in love bind them to the prayers

of our sisters and brothers.

You charge us with a passion for relationship

and encourage us along the sometimes bumpy way.

Praise be to you, O God.

All of creation declares your glory

and we rejoice as part of the family!

Spirit of Life,

fall afresh with a love beautiful with true,

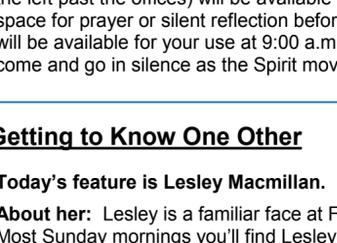
on us and on your church.

with the blessed assurance of Christ we pray,

Amen.

Your Minister,
Rev. Danielle
See you Sunday!

This Sunday, October 7: Thanksgiving Sunday



Nineteenth after Pentecost
Holy Communion

New Sermon Series:

***"The Old,
Old Stories"***

Sermon Title:

**"Creation: And God
Saw That it Was Good"**

Quiet Space

This Sunday we will meet again in the welcome room for the intentional practice of silent reflection **prior** to worship. The welcome room (last room on the left past the offices) will be available for anyone seeking a dedicated, quiet space for prayer or silent reflection before participating in worship. This room will be available for your use at 9:00 a.m. for 45 minutes. All are welcome to come and go in silence as the Spirit moves.

Getting to Know One Other

Today's feature is **Lesley Macmillan**.

About her: Lesley is a familiar face at First United. Most Sunday mornings you'll find Lesley making coffee for our fellowship time. Outside of church, she manages **Twice But Nice**, a community thrift store, and has been on the Twice But Nice Board for 26 years.

Her story: Lesley was born and raised in England where she married her husband, Roger. She had never heard of Canada until Roger came home one day and asked her if she wanted to move to Canada. Her reply was "Canada - where's Canada?" Roger flew out to Toronto while Lesley managed the household of two small children and a German Shepherd. A long time passed before she got word that it was all right to fly out. Lesley then made the big move with her children. They were all reunited in Fort Saskatchewan in 1968 where they had two more children.

Why First United? Lesley attended church in England and wanted to continue her faith journey in Fort Saskatchewan and so she started attending First United. Her prime motivator then was to get relief from the busyness of four children. "It was better than locking myself in the bathroom just to have peace and quiet!" Even now that her children are grown, church continues to be for Lesley a place of refuge and quiet, peace and friendship.



Lesley Macmillan

What's Happening

Godly Play

Saturday, October 20. Attention: Children Program Leaders, Parents, Ministry Personnel! An Introduction to Godly Play Workshop.

Godly Play is a story based program that invites the learner to experience biblical stories with the use of manipulative's and wonder questions. Children and adults alike are drawn into the story as they discover connections with their own life experiences. This will be a valuable learning experience.

Check out this video about Godly Play: http://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/newsite/images/gp_mv3.wmv

For more information, please contact [Nancy Chegus](mailto:Nancy.Chegus).

Pipeline Learning Circle #2

Please join us on **October 21**, immediately after worship to discuss the broad issues of the Gateway Pipeline Project.

Oversight Visit Invitation—Sunday October 28

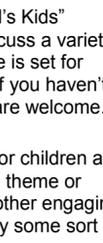
Please join us for the monthly Soup Lunch as we meet with members of our local Presbytery. Click [here](#) for more information.

U.C.W. Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 9:15 a.m. in the upstairs **Welcome Room**. All are welcome!

Book Club

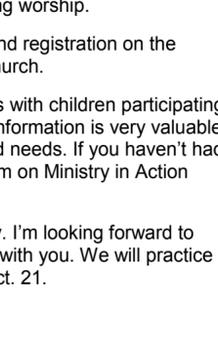
Tuesday, October 9, at noon. All are welcome!
Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks



From the Faith Formation Desk

Greetings from your Faith Formation Coordinator in this week of cool temperatures that finds us scurrying for our sweaters! Thank you for the warm welcome I have received so far. It has been wonderful to see some familiar faces as I begin to get to know you all as a beloved and gifted faith family.

Some of you will have received an email (or two) from me over the past 2 weeks. There are a hope of initiatives I am developing that I hope you and your children will feel welcome to participate in.



- 1. Lean and Learn:** This is an opportunity for "Growing God's Kids" volunteers to learn about the upcoming stories and to discuss a variety of ways the children can explore the themes. The first one is set for **Saturday, Oct. 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Even if you haven't volunteered before but would like to find out more – you are welcome. I will have the coffee on.
- 2. The Story Project:** This will be an after school program for children and their friends in grades 1-3. This will be a time to explore a theme or biblical story through music, movement, and a variety of other engaging activities. Each theme will run for 2 or 3 weeks followed by some sort of participation in the opening of Sunday morning worship.

Check out more information about these initiatives and registration on the Ministry in Action table in the front entrance of the church.

There is also a registration form for all young families with children participating in "Growing God's Kids" on Sunday mornings. This information is very valuable to me as I get to know the children and their gifts and needs. If you haven't had an opportunity to fill this out yet, you can find this form on Ministry in Action table as well.

Don't forget the **Godly Play** workshop next Saturday. I'm looking forward to learning more about this story based program along with you. We will practice what we learn during Sunday morning worship on Oct. 21.

Faithfully yours,
[Nancy Chegus](mailto:Nancy.Chegus)

Please regularly check-out our website at fsunited.org to keep yourselves updated about our coming events, and to listen to our recorded sermons.

We invite you to spread the news about what God is doing through First United by forwarding this email to someone.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at fspc@shaw.ca or call 780-998-4060.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

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Celebrating 130 Years Together 1882-2012