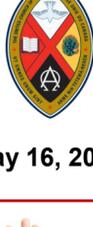


First United Church

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First United eNews

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.

May 16, 2013



Dear First Family,

Raise your hands and feel the Spirit blow!
Lift your eyes and see the Spirit ablaze!
Pentecost is here!

This Sunday the church celebrates Pentecost Sunday. It is a living remembrance of the Holy Spirit's sweeping testimony in the lives of early Christians. With mystery and wonder God's Good News was experienced by all who gathered that day. God spoke to them so each could understand, and then they spoke to one another testifying about God's love through Christ.

We'll celebrate the sacrament of baptism for **Miller Sloan Haldorson**. This is the church's way of witnessing to the grace of Christ in our lives.

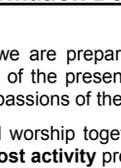
On Pentecost the Holy Spirit came as "with tongues of fire". For that reason **RED** is the season's colour. Let's try to wear something **RED** this Sunday to help with the celebration!

I look forward to being with you all soon,
May the Spirit keep moving us, as it moves within us!

[Rev. Danielle](#)

Sunday Worship

Join us this Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for Part 3 of the Worship Series "The Next Chapter: Stories of Testimony!"
Sermon Title:
This Church Has a Testimony!



Evening Worship in Light and Song

This Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

A candlelit service with music in the style of Taizé. Join with others in this gentle way that renews your spirit through prayer and song.



Faith Formation Desk

This week we are preparing for the celebration of **Pentecost** with images of the presence of the **Holy Spirit** stirring up and igniting the passions of the people – the birthday of the church.

Families will worship together this week. There will be a **story** and **Pentecost activity** prepared for the children in the Lounge.

It's good to see a number of people signed up for the **Mini Nooma** series. I'm really looking forward to this reflective, **video/discussion** time for **adults** beginning next Wednesday early evening. Check out the information provided in this **eNews** if you are interested.

Looking ahead – **May 26** is our **Celebration Sunday** marking the end of our program year for children and youth.

Faithfully yours,

[Nancy Chegus](#)

Faith Formation Coordinator



Your Mission and Service Dollars!

When you designate an offering to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church, it goes to support local, national and global ministries.

The M&S gifts from across the country are pooled together in a unified fund, then shared across ministries. This year the Alberta and Northwest Conference will distribute \$280,000 of your unified M&S gifts in areas of congregational support, community outreach and campus ministry. [Click here](#) to see the specific ministries that will receive gifts.



Sabbatical Reflection Team (SRT)

The Sabbatical Reflection Team has the role of **providing opportunities for individual and group reflection** during Rev. Danielle's Sabbatical (August 15 - November 15). They will help the congregation reflect on the pillars of prayer, study and renewal during this time. Stay tuned for opportunities to learn more.

As a beginning, please read this description of the SRT. It includes the members and their mandate. [Click here](#).

Collecting for "A Safe Place"

U.C.W. is inviting the congregation to participate in the collection of toiletries for A Safe Place Women's Shelter in Strathcona County. Items can be dropped off in the basket in the Narthex until **June 16**.



Upcoming Events

Mini-Nooma: Small Group Ministry

Begins next week!
Everyone is welcome to come for one or all of the Wednesday night sessions. This "mini-Nooma" will run for 4 consecutive **Wednesdays May 22, 29, June 5 and 12**, from **6:30-8:00** p.m. You'll have an opportunity for small group conversation, faith study and fellowship. See what God has in store for you. For more info, contact [Rev. Danielle](#).



Potluck and Game Night

The **CARE Ministry** invites all **singles** in the congregation for a potluck supper & games night on **Sunday May 26 at 5:30** in the church basement. Donna Goertzen & Carol Peterson will be your hosts. Please bring a dish to share and board games to play after supper. We will need help with set-up and clean-up. Come solo or bring your friends! Sign up at the ministry in action table this Sunday. Hope to see you there.

Worship Hospitality Team Springtime Meeting

All leaders and members are encouraged to attend the meeting on **Tuesday June 11, 6:00 p.m.** We'll review the successes and learning so far in 2013, and look ahead to plans for the summer and fall. We are so thankful for ALL of you. This is also be a time for fellowship and gratitude. Please RSVP to your team leaders. Team leaders please RSVP to Marg Chaba (margchaba@shaw.ca)

Seniors Worship and Communion

Tuesday, June 11 at 1:30 p.m. All seniors and their caregivers are invited! There will be fellowship in the Narthex following the service. This community event is sponsored by the *U.C.W.*



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.

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