

# First United Church

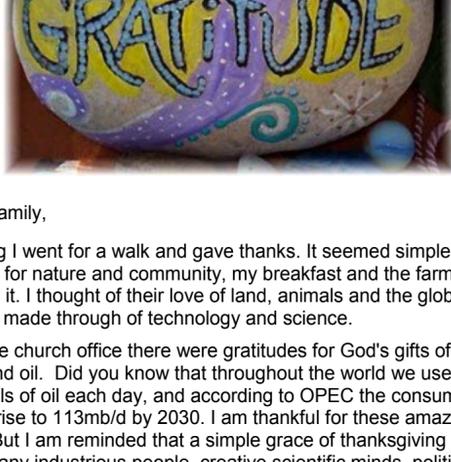
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## First United eNews

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.

June 6, 2013



Dear First Family,

This morning I went for a walk and gave thanks. It seemed simple and good. I gave thanks for nature and community, my breakfast and the farmers who were behind it. I thought of their love of land, animals and the global connections made through of technology and science.

Driving to the church office there were gratitudes for God's gifts of power in wind, sun and oil. Did you know that throughout the world we use about 90 million barrels of oil each day, and according to OPEC the consumption will continue to rise to 113mb/d by 2030. I am thankful for these amazing resources. But I am reminded that a simple grace of thanksgiving connects me to lives of many industrious people, creative scientific minds, politics of oil and questions about my own participation in a cycle of consumption.

As critically-thinking Christians we long for our prayers to open channels for reflection and action. This is the heart of Stewardship - intentional living shaped by the Christ who is part of everything; politics, care of earth, sharing of grain, gratitude for morning walks.

I encourage you to take time in prayer this week. Slow it down. Start with something for which you are grateful and allow your heart and mind to make connections to other things that make your gratitude possible. Like thanks for bread - the grain, the farmers, the baker, the nutritionist etc..

See what the Holy Spirit reveals to you.

in common walk and prayer,

[Rev. Danielle](#)

\*OPEC stats from: [http://www.opec.org/opec\\_web/en/press\\_room/179.htm](http://www.opec.org/opec_web/en/press_room/179.htm)

## Sunday Worship

Join us this Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Worship Leadership:

**Rev. Dr. Danielle A. James**

Special Guest:

**David Armour,**

Director of Philanthropy with the United Church of Canada. David will inspire you with stories of mission and generosity from across our United Church!



Above: David Armour. Click [here](#) to read his bio.

Celebrate the Lord's Feast in **Holy Communion. Soup Sunday!** Following worship, join us for food and fellowship downstairs.

## Faith Formation Desk

The regular Sunday morning children's program and youth program are finished for this season however, all are welcome in worship. Throughout the summer there will continue to be stories for the children and an activity or two for them in Lounge.

This Sunday there will be a **Godly Play workshop** for our Story Circle following worship and lunch together. We look forward to learning more about Godly Play at First United as we begin planning for the next program year.

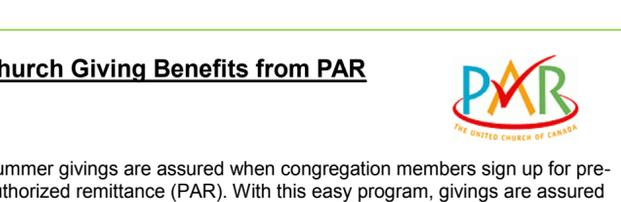


Faithfully yours,

[Nancy Chegus](#)

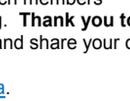
Faith Formation Coordinator

## The 'Art' of Worship



During **Celebration Sunday** worship on May 26, Francee Kaehn, with the direction of the children, created the above paintings. The canvas themes are "Colors and Shapes of the Trinity". Look for these paintings displayed in one of the Sunday School rooms downstairs.

## Church Giving Benefits from PAR

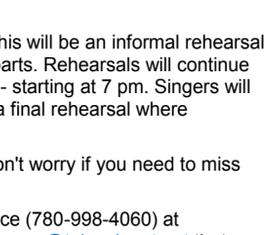


Summer givings are assured when congregation members sign up for pre-authorized remittance (PAR). With this easy program, givings are assured the rest of the year, too. PAR provides a quick and simple way for people to give to the congregation and to Mission and Service through automatic bank deductions. Across Canada nearly 46,000 United Church members supported local and M&S initiatives through PAR giving. **Thank you to all who financially support our congregation.** Sign up and share your offering with First United this summer and beyond. Contact Treasurer: Joan Prochnau at [finfspc@shaw.ca](mailto:finfspc@shaw.ca).

## Music Notes

### Come Join the Celebration Choir!

Director - Brent Orchard  
Accompanist - Marlee Gates



Last year about this time, we gathered our voices together in an Anniversary Choir. This year, we will join together in a Celebration Choir!

**June 23** will be a day of celebration at First United! There are many things being planned for worship, one of which is the Celebration Choir. We are looking for Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses to sing in celebration and to praise God with their voices!

Rehearsals will start June 16 after worship - this will be an informal rehearsal where singers can spend time learning their parts. Rehearsals will continue on Tuesday, June 18 and Thursday, June 20 - starting at 7 pm. Singers will gather at church Sunday morning at 9:15 for a final rehearsal where everything will come together!

Please try to come to all the rehearsals but don't worry if you need to miss one. You will still be welcome!

It would be great if you could let either the office (780-998-4060) at [fspc@shaw.ca](mailto:fspc@shaw.ca), or myself (780-997-0551) at [reamc@telusplanet.net](mailto:reamc@telusplanet.net) that you would like to join in the Celebration Choir!

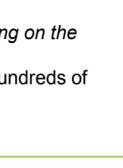
With thanks

Camille Ream  
Music Coordinator

## Upcoming Events

### 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.

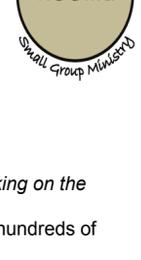


### Worship Hospitality Team Springtime Meeting

All leaders and members are encouraged to attend the meeting **this 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 a time for fellowship and gratitudes. Please RSVP to your team leaders. Team leaders please RSVP to Marg Chaba at [margchaba@shaw.ca](mailto:margchaba@shaw.ca).

### Mini-Nooma: Small Group Ministry

The last of four "mini-Nooma" sessions will occur this **Wednesday, June 12, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** Even if you haven't had the opportunity to attend the previous sessions, please come out for faith, study and fellowship. See what God has in store for you. For more info, contact [Rev. Danielle](#).



### Stewardship Saturday

**June 15** from 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. This Saturday's project: *Working on the new church sign!*

This is a great way to develop church community and to save hundreds of budget dollars. Everyone is welcome to share in the fun!

Please regularly check-out our website at [fsunited.org](http://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](mailto:fspc@shaw.ca) or call 780-998-4060.

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