

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 27, 2013



Dear First Family,

Many of us are making plans for the Canada Day long weekend. We'll wear red and white, wave flags and give thanks for being part of this wonderful country. We're not shy about being Canadians!

I wonder if we could also be "not shy" about being people of faith? Those who ponder, marvel, and give our attention to God.

To wear the attributes of discipleship, open-mindedness, generosity and love. Maybe we could wave hands to a neighbour as we pick them up for a church activity or as they buy a hamburger at our Canada Day stand! Maybe we could let people know that part of our long-weekend plans include going to Sunday worship!

Everyday is a day we get to celebrate our faith by the choices we make!

Encourage one another on the daily walk!

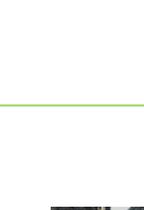
Blessings,
[Rev. Danielle](#)

Sunday Worship, June 30

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

Worship Leadership:
Merlin Rosser (LLWL)

Click [here](#) to read Merlin's bio.



Above:
Merlin Rosser (LLWL)

Summer Sundays: Children's Program Update!

Summer is a wonderful time to worship together as a family. Our regular Godly Play time will resume September 8, but in the meantime we offer an opportunity for children to work with the story in their own way.



During worship there will be a story shared for all ages followed by some activities for the children's imaginations close by in the Lounge. Some of our storytellers and youth will help out when they are able, but parents are welcome to accompany their children. You will be able to see and hear the service from the Lounge.

All are welcome. See you on Sunday.

A Message from Your Board

With a potluck breakfast of cinnamon buns and fresh fruit, members of the First United Church Board met on a Saturday morning (June 8) to discuss *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, an engaging book written by Diana Butler Bass. In it, the author explores how the "neighborhood church is transforming the faith," highlighting ten signposts of renewal in congregations across America. In sharing our thoughts about the book, we intentionally turned our attention to First United Church, wondering how our story as a church echoes those shared by Diana Butler Bass.



Matthew Heesing

It was a meaningful meeting about who we are as a God-family, and what we can aspire to be. We celebrated strengths of hospitality; we challenged ourselves in areas that need intentional action. Through discussion, discernment and sharing, we emerged excited for where our church might be headed, and how everyone can be involved.

Stay tuned for opportunities in the fall to engage, learn and be stretched by the Spirit's call....

Matthew Heesing
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Board Member/Presbytery Representative

Summer Gift-Giving



Do you have a wedding to attend this summer? How about a birthday party? Would you like to give a thank-you gift to your neighbour for hosting last week's BBQ?

Well how about sharing a **Gift with Vision** from the United Church of Canada! www.giftswithvision.ca

The United Church of Canada developed the giving catalogue **Gifts with Vision** in response to member requests to be able to give gifts to relatives, friends, and loved ones that are in **direct support of the church's Mission and Service Fund partners across Canada and around the world**. Give a gift that can change a life!

If you are seeking inspiring new gift ideas or perhaps would rather not give family and friends the same old clothes/toys/chocolates, *Gifts with Vision* presents a new way to celebrate special occasions. Everyone will find something in *Gifts with Vision* worth sharing with the special people in their lives. Gifts are available in a range of dollar amounts, as well as for many areas of need (hunger, shelter, education, health, safety, mobility, and more).

Check out the website to send a gift today!

An Invitation from Christ Lutheran Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As many of you know, Christ Lutheran Church lost our beloved Pastor Vansteenburgh in February after a lengthy battle with cancer. After much prayer and deliberation, the congregation voted to call a candidate from our Edmonton seminary, specifically the field worker who has been here over the past several years while completing his studies. We give thanks that our request was granted, and are happy to announce that Vince Moore will be ordained and installed at Christ Lutheran Church on **Sunday, July 7th at 2 p.m.** Please feel free to join us for service and welcome our new Pastor to the ministry, and to Fort Saskatchewan.

Blessings be with you,

Tara Sadoroszney
Director of Parish Services
Christ Lutheran Church
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

Upcoming Events

Summer FUNdraiser

Starting July 1st, we will begin our summer FUNdraiser called Travel Across Alberta where our congregation will take an imaginary journey across Alberta! Summer often means that church members are away on holidays. Usually financial support is down (unless you give by PAR). Of course the expenses remain the same! This summer we will have a bit of fun with the holiday theme and fundraise at the same time. Details this Sunday!



Run for Body and Soul

September 14, 2013

The *Run for Body and Soul* is a community 5km run/walk that begins and ends at First United. This fundraiser will support **First United Church** and the **Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital Foundation**.

Details this Sunday!



"Do you know that in a race all runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize"
-1 Corinthians 9:24

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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