

First United Church

10409-100 Avenue, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1Z3
780-998-4060 Fax: 780-998-4061
Email: fspc@shaw.ca Website: www.fsunited.org



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.

September 12, 2013



Sunday Worship, September 15

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

Worship Leadership:
Rev. Blaine Gregg
Sermon Title:
Not Ready to Give Up

Soup Sunday

Taizé: Evening Worship in Light and Song

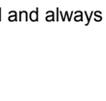


Above: Rev. Blaine Gregg

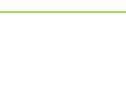
All families and children are welcome!

About The Rev. Blaine Gregg: Blaine grew up in Edmonton and has a Bachelor of Commerce (UofA) and a Master of Divinity (VST) degrees. He was ordained by the United Church of Canada in 1990. He has served churches in Swan Hills and Red Deer before coming to Leduc in 2000. He has been married to Patti since 1994 and they have four children. He tries to stay up on current events. He is a musician and music lover. He likes a good movie, a fun football game and a well-swept outturn to the button. He enjoys discovering theological aspects of daily life and discussing, with others, how there is sacredness in the ordinary.

Soup Sunday— Following worship, please join us downstairs for a Soup Lunch and share in fellowship.



Taizé: Evening Worship in Light and Song - Sunday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to the first Taizé worship of the season. Join with others in this gentle way that renews your spirit through prayer and song.



Music Notes

As we worship this week, we will be singing to some – an old favourite, to others – a new song. Voices United 574 **“Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love”** many of us remember from our childhood days in Sunday School. The text was written in 1900 so that makes it more than a century old! It is always amazing to me how an old text like this can be so pertinent to our daily lives. Sometimes we get caught up with wanting to sing new music but really, these words have stood the test of time. We still want to sing of God’s wonderful love – we know that it is both tender and true. We know that it “streams to me and to you” – God’s love is not held back for anyone. It is unconditional and always present...

Click [here](#) to read more.

Camille Ream, Music Coordinator

Financial Stewardship Update

Bottle Fundraiser – To date, the bottle fundraiser has raised **\$616.70**. Chips really do make chunks. Thank you!

Income Statement - as at August 31, 2013

| | Month | Year to Date |
|----------|-------------|----------------|
| Revenue | \$16,809.87 | \$159,781.33 |
| Expenses | \$16,970.54 | \$202,079.89 |
| Loss | (\$-160.67) | (\$-42,298.56) |

Help Needed

Many ministries of our church are in need of help in their ongoing efforts to reach out as Disciples. Please look at the various areas, find one that suits you. You are the one that will make things happen!

Urgently Needed - Bake Sale Coordinators: We will be unable to hold our annual Fall Festival Church Wide Bake Sale Fundraiser unless 1 or 2 coordinators step forward. This involves being at the church to accept and price baked goods on Friday, September 27 from 10 – 2 p.m. and being at the church by 9 a.m. Saturday morning to receive last minute drop-offs and organize the tables (you do not have to move tables). You will not be responsible for selling the baking, just organizing for others to sell. Call Jackie at 780-998-3851 or leave your name at the office before September 22.

Godly Play Children’s Church: A sheet is on the round table in the Narthex for volunteer storytellers and doorkeepers. Also a lead coordinator will be required October 1st to keep this ministry alive. Talk to Francee 780-998-7614.

Music / AV Invitation to all – Are you interested in helping with Worship? The Music Ministry and AV Ministry are actively looking for volunteers to help with worship services. There are a variety of ways to help: **Singers, Ringers, Strummers, Instrumentalists, Powerpointers, and Sound and Recording Personnel.** A detailed description is on the church website at www.fsunited.org. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please contact Camille Ream at 780-997-0551 or through the church office.

Emergency Response—Syria Relief

The United Church of Canada prays for the people of Syria and governments around the world as the international community considers how to respond to the unconscionable use of chemical weapons in the escalating civil war in that country. The United Church of Canada launched a national emergency appeal to help those most at risk in this conflict, including the millions of Syrians who have fled their homes to escape the violence.

Click [here](#) to read The Statement from the United Church of Canada.

There are two ways that you can make a donation to the **Emergency Response – Syria Relief:**

- Click [here](#) and make a donation through the United Church of Canada website.
- Or you may make your cheque payable to First United Church, marked “Syria Relief”, put in the specially marked envelopes and we will send the total amount received to the United church of Canada on your behalf.



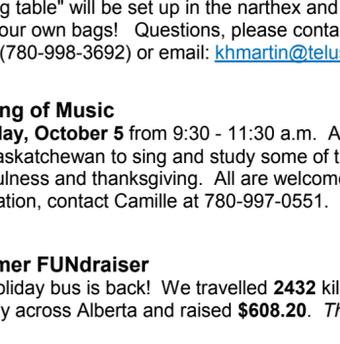
A family displaced by the situation in Syria. Photo courtesy of ACT Alliance.

Rev. Danielle: Front Cover of the Observer!

Imagine your church in 2025. That was the question asked in the 2013 Observer Reader Survey. Readers were asked to think ahead a dozen years and imagine your congregation in 2025, the year The United Church of Canada turns 100. Last spring, at the 2013 Worship Matters conference in Saskatoon, The Observer asked participants the same question. Their dreams for the church were written down on speech-bubble chalkboards. Results show that we’re cautiously hopeful and open to change. To read the full article and the results of the Reader Survey questions, [click here](#).



If you would like to learn more about the United Church Observer Magazine, click [here](#). If you would like to subscribe, please contact the [church office](#) and ask to be added to our group membership.

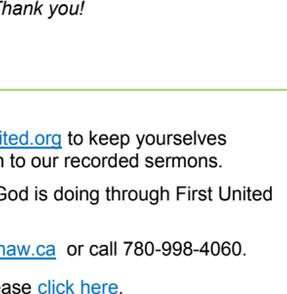


Rev. Dr. Danielle Ayana James. Photo by David Turnbull

Upcoming and Ongoing

Run for Body & Soul
This Saturday, September 14th, 2013
Please come out to cheer us on!

Pledge drop-off: 9:00 a.m.
Speeches: 9:30 a.m.
Race begins: 10:00 a.m.
BBQ for \$5: 11:00 a.m.



Click [here](#) for a detailed map.
For the whole story, click [here](#).

Harvest Moon Coffeehouse
Saturday, September 28
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Concert starts at **7:00 p.m.**



Please come to our second annual **Harvest Moon Coffeehouse** featuring live music from the **Gates Family, Micki-Lee Smith and Peter Nolan and Friends.** There will be FREE fair-trade coffee donated by **Second Cup**, plus gourmet cheesecake from **Wow Factor Desserts** for \$5 (gluten free option available). This is a fundraiser for the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank** and **First United Church.** Cover charge: \$10 or \$25 per family.

Grow a Row

This Sunday, September 15, will be the last Sunday to bring in your garden’s (vegetable, flower or herb) bounty to share with your God family! Bring what you can; take what you need and be thankful for the bounty God gives us daily. A “sharing table” will be set up in the narthex and remember to bring your own bags! Questions, please contact Karen Martin (780-998-3692) or email: khmartin@telus.net.



Morning of Music

Saturday, October 5 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. An opportunity for everyone in Fort Saskatchewan to sing and study some of the Christian music about thankfulness and thanksgiving. All are welcome! Bring a friend! For more information, contact Camille at 780-997-0551.

Summer FUNdraiser

Our holiday bus is back! We travelled **2432** kilometers on our imaginary journey across Alberta and raised **\$608.20.** *Thank you!*

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](#).

Click [here](#) to download PDF versions of past issues of eNews.

