

PARTNERS ON THE HILL



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Good Wintery Day to all our Partners on the Hill,

It seems like change is what we do well here on the Hill. So, let me tell you about the next big thing.

In the fall St. Louis School for Adults, which runs the ESL classes, will be increasing their use of FHUC. They will go from using Dennis Square and MacIntyre Hall only in the morning to using those room plus two more off Dennis Square for both morning and afternoon.

To accommodate the increased usage we are going to be doing some renovations. Two small rooms which are affectionately called the Orange Rm and the Green Room will have the wall that separates them removed and the new one large room will be painted a single colour. This work will be done over March break starting March 8th and completed March 17th. This is a tight schedule so we will be making sure that there is nothing left in those rooms when the 7th comes along so the workers can go hard for that week.

If you use or store resources in those rooms please let us know in the office. Presently, those resources will be moved and stored in the room across the hall.

As well what has been the choir or Music room will be emptied and repainted while most of the cabinets, music and other resources will be moved upstairs into the room referred to as the Nursery. This is a longer process and we are not sure when it will be complete but the heavy lifting will start some time in April.

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created and written by Rev. Gary Clark

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This will create the fourth ESL class downstairs. The old Nursery will become the Music and Adult Meeting room. Another dream is to number all rooms - including storage rooms - so that all the Partners on the Hill will share the same understanding for the names of all rooms on the Hill.

ESL will also be using the old lower office and sharing space in the main office. Once again, that will require some thoughtful adjustment as we share space and increase synergy here on the Hill.

As you can see, we are committed to evolving the functions and physical space here to meet present needs. No organization can survive living in the past. We must all consider 'what are our needs' in the present and future. As those needs and dreams are named, we, as Partners are called to respond with hope and in relationship to make this facility the best place for all.

We'll keep you apprised of the ongoing changes here on the Hill.

Until next time remember Spring is closer than you think, Rev. Gary

Want to book something special? Check out our Google calendar current to the day.

Copy this link into your browser or Ctrl Click

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=officeatforesthillunited%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FToronto>



32nd Kitchener Scout Group presents:



PANCAKE SUPPER
Tues., Mar. 5
5:30 – 7:00 pm

Pancakes, sausages, coffee, tea or juice (Gluten free, too)
Suggested \$5 Kids; \$7 Adults
CASH ONLY

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



Welcome to Rev. Cho who has become the new leader of the Dream Church.

For those who are not familiar with this church: It is a vibrant Korean church that meets at Forest Hill everyday.

WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE CHORUS

HERE AT FOREST HILL

SAT. FEB. 23RD @ 7 PM

TICKETS \$20.00

Contact foresthilluc@bellnet.ca

519-744-3481



Has there been a spill? Did your Little One get hold of a crayon and become an “artist” on something other than paper?

There are cleaning supplies in the upstairs kitchen. Please leave our rooms as you find them.

There is a mop and pail in the small closet off Soper Hall. The closet is labelled “Electrical Room”. Everything you need is there.

We have a Lost and Found.

No, this isn't a spiritual reference - although please know you are welcome to join our service on Sundays at 10 am.



We are actually referring to the items found or lost by your groups. Please look upstairs on the top coat rack by the minister's office. Also, you are welcome to contact the office to locate an item. foresthilluc@bellnet.ca

Before you leave...



Community Builder: Leave it as you found it! This reduces costs for FHUC and frustration from the group that follows you.

This month's Feature Partner:



We are so grateful for our partnership with Forest Hill United Church!

St. Louis consistently serves between 12,000-13,000 students in all of our programs per year. This includes credit courses (in-class or correspondence); school-to-work programs like PSW, Chef Training and Hairstyling; Literacy and Basic Skills; International Languages classes with approx. 1600 students / week from JK – Gr. 8; supportive programs for our Waterloo Catholic District School Board colleagues in the day schools in programs such as Skills Builder (Gr. 7 -10) and Homework Clubs; and, of course, English as a Second Language & LINC classes.

Did you know that Waterloo Region is the 4th most popular destination-point in the province? We are a major immigration hub, with over 25% of the population in the region having immigrated here from over 150 countries. Many are skilled immigrants who help the economic health in the area. Waterloo Region is committed to the successful integration of immigrants as seen with the influx of Syrians a few years ago.

English language learners come with incredible life experience – life skills that are recognized! When they come to a new country, everything is different, from the climate to getting to know their way around, to finding a place to live, grocery stores, doctors, getting their children into schools. There are many cultural differences to learn about too, such as the culture in the neighbourhood, meeting others, inviting someone to your house (what is considered 'arriving on time?'). Life can be stressful. There are adult responsibilities such as parenting and providing for themselves and their families. There's a need to work, but also a need to improve English. ESL classes provide an environment for students to get to know others, create friendships and network.

At Forest Hill United Church we have space to provide classes and we have seen a nice community develop. Our students get to know people from different countries and cultures, enjoying their time in class with a common goal—to improve their English.

In our ESL program, we currently have 63 classes at 5 different sites and over 1,750 learners. Two of these classes are at this church, with 57 students attending. Learners are 18 and older. They speak 13 different languages with Arabic being the most common.

Again, thank you for welcoming our staff and students. We commend you for living your faith.

Thank you for all you do!