

The Messenger



**FOREST HILL
UNITED CHURCH
KITCHENER
December 2023**

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43:19)

Greetings Friends!

The above scripture passage is often quoted when we are on the verge of a new ministry or new relationship. For me the key question is, "Can you not perceive it?" New things are frightening because they take us out of our comfort zone AND if they are not frightening then that is a clue that you expect everybody else to change but not yourself.

Too many people seek comfort in the church as a place that doesn't change. We imagine the "rock that doesn't move" are our traditions of how we have done things in the past. But the rock is not tradition, the rock is the love of God that we know through the person of Jesus.

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For me a faith that comforts is not a faith that doesn't change; rather it is a faith that faces changes with confidence knowing that within the Body of Christ, all will be well.

Big changes are afoot here at Forest Hill. Every week new partners are coming to us seeking space and welcome. Now largely those new partnership don't have any impact on what we do as a congregation but as I announced this past Sunday two new partnership are changing that.

The Ukrainian Montessori School has nudged us to move our music room and office space but it has helped us create a new meeting room. The new nesting opportunity with Trinity will have us look at our staffing, worship, pastoral care and youth ministries. How will this shake out? I frankly don't know. But I am thrilled at the opportunity to explore this new concept of nesting with Forest Hill and Trinity United Churches.

Relationships of any kind should change us as our God given gifts are given more room to grow and our weaknesses find new avenues of support. God is doing a new thing here at Forest Hill United and I can't wait to see what God has in mind.

Have a Merry Christmas my friends and let's look forward to an exciting New Year!

Peace Rev. Gary



FündScrip

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**Where shopping
is fundraising!**



Did You Know or Forget?

**There is Coffee & Conversation
every Wednesday from 10-11 am.
On ZOOM!**

**Check your email for the link.
Never used Zoom? Click the link and
download. Yes, you can!!**





FHUC Link Resource Centre

Coffee & Conversation-Wednesday @ 11:00am

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84323131175?
pwd=Z3MzcDNTOHQ0SmVQejFWTHY4MHI2dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84323131175?pwd=Z3MzcDNTOHQ0SmVQejFWTHY4MHI2dz09)



worldofproverbs.com

**A bird does not change its feathers
because the weather is bad.**

Nigerian Proverb



CHRISTMAS EVE

COMMUNION SERVICE

**Sunday December 24th
@ 10:00am****Sunday December 24th
@ 4:00pm***Christmas Eve*
CANDELIGHT SERVICE**Sunday December 17th
@ 4:00pm
Blue Christmas Service**

"Turkey & Trimmings" Thursday Dec 21 at noon
Join us for lunch (free will offering), friendship & music.
To reserve your seat(s):
email or call the office 519-744-3481





Blessings Box

Thank you to everyone for keeping our Blessings Box fortified. If you have items to contribute to the Blessings Box, please drop them at the church on a Wednesday morning. We have some very generous people who donate their time to ensuring that the box is kept full.



Would you consider submitting something for our Guest Editorial? Is there something you would like to share - a new learning, easy recipe, a book you enjoyed, an opinion?

*Please submit your editorials to
office@foresthillunited.org.*

*Let's make this newsletter really
reflect Forest Hill!*

Scott's Joke Corner

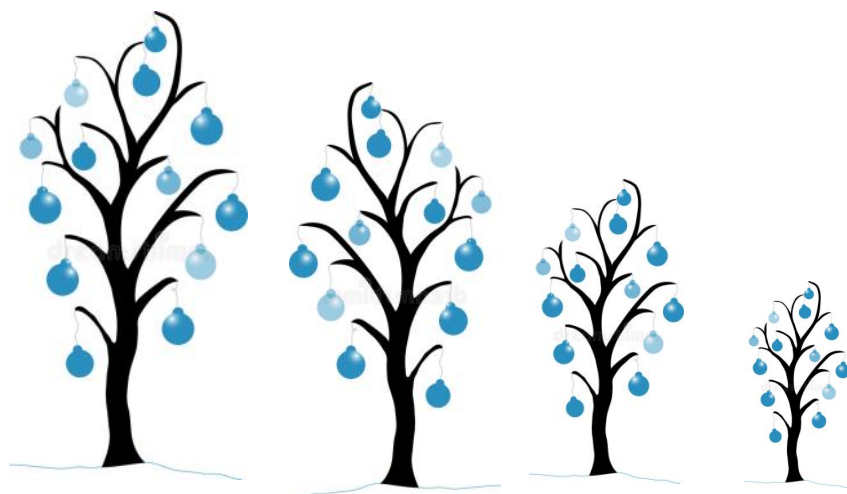
- **What did Adam say the day before Christmas?**
It's Christmas, Eve!
- **What happened to the man who stole the advent calendar?**
He got 25 days.
- **What is a parent's favorite Christmas carol?**
Silent Night.
- **What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas?**
Thanks, I'll never part with it!

pièce de résistance

How did Scrooge win the football game?
The ghost of Christmas passed.

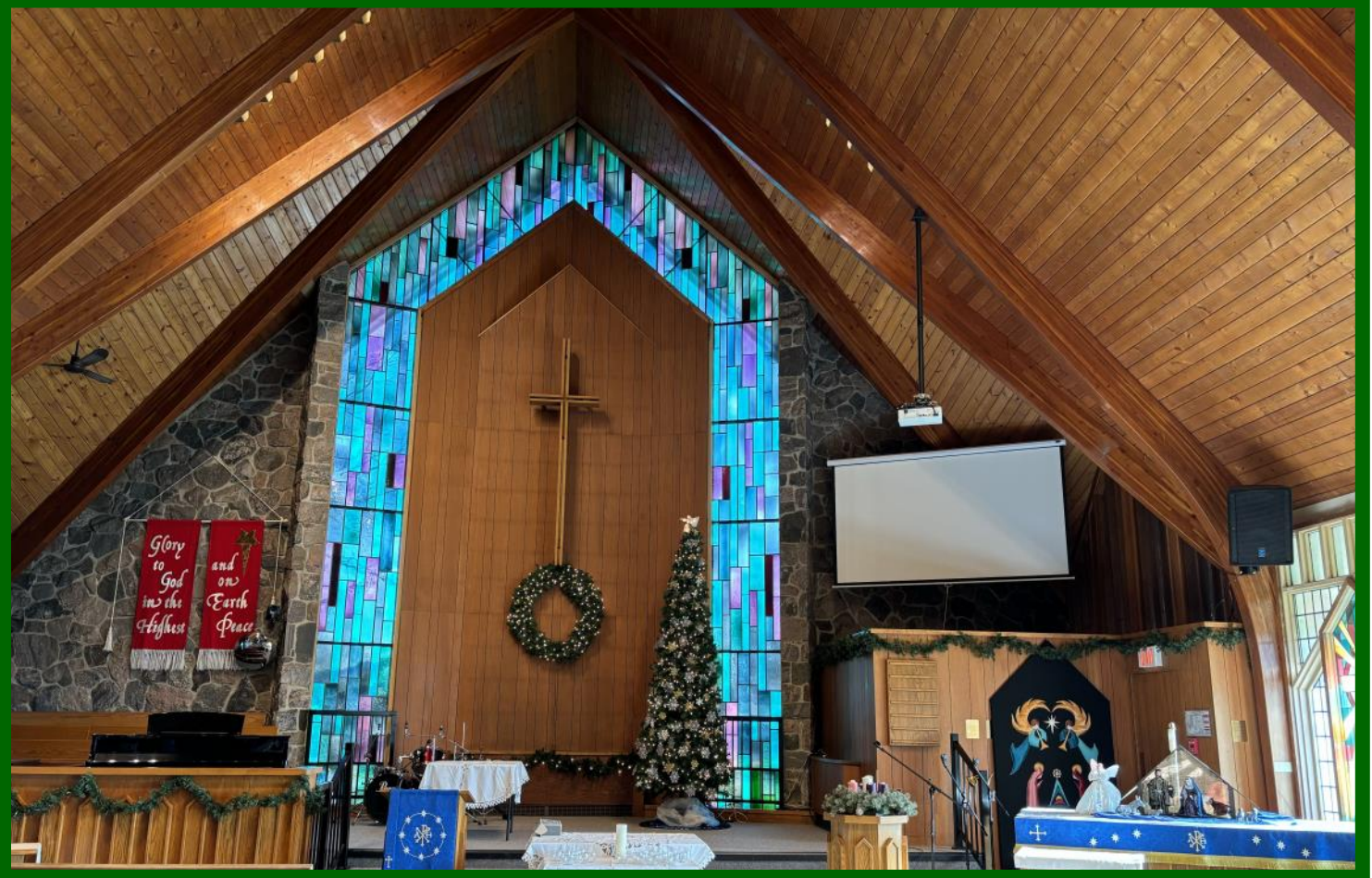


-thank you Scott Davis for sharing your humour!



THANKS TO BARB HESCH, KEN USHER , DENNIS STECKLY AND ANY OTHERS THAT HELPED DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. IT LOOKS AMAZING!







WINTER WONDERLAND BAZAAR RESULTS!!!

10



WINTER WONDERLAND BAZAAR 2023

Saturday Results

Vendors.....\$750.00
Café.....\$701.00
Craft Table.....\$809.00
Cookie Table.....\$1,395.00
Preserves.....\$1,206.50
Bake Table.....\$1,056.00
Total \$5,917.50
Expenses - \$ 433.04
\$5484.46

Sunday Results

\$750.00
\$801.00
\$976.00
\$1410.00
\$1,252.50
\$1,506.00
\$6,245.50
- \$ 433.04
\$5812.46

**FANTASTIC EVERYONE!!!!
THANK YOU!!!!!!**



*A big thank you to everyone that
helped out, before, during and after
the Bazaar.*

All was appreciated.

Great results.







 Waterloo County Shrine Club 2023 Christmas Products 	
Gift Box (3-450g, 1 Lt, 2 Dk) \$23 	Twin Pack (2-450g, 1 Lt, 1 Dk) \$18 
Dark Round Cake (900g in Tin) \$22 	Dark Bar Cake (600g Sliced) \$12 
Light Bar Cake (600g Sliced) \$12 	Shortbread with Chocolate Chunks (400g Tin) \$13 
Shortbread Fingers (375g Box) \$10 	Nut Party Tray (875g Wood tray) \$20 
Almonds (90g Covered in Milk Chocolate) \$4 or 3 for \$10 	Contact: Hardy Utech, Cell#: 519-721-4886, Email: hardyutech@gmail.com . Cash Accepted.
 <div> Cheques payable to: Waterloo County Shrine Club. Etransfer to: treasurerwaterlooshrineclub@gmail.com </div>	

The Shriners are once again doing their Christmas fundraising. If you are interested in ordering anything please contact Glen Weatherdon :

glenweatherdon@yahoo.com or 519-748-9417.



Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous—led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters”

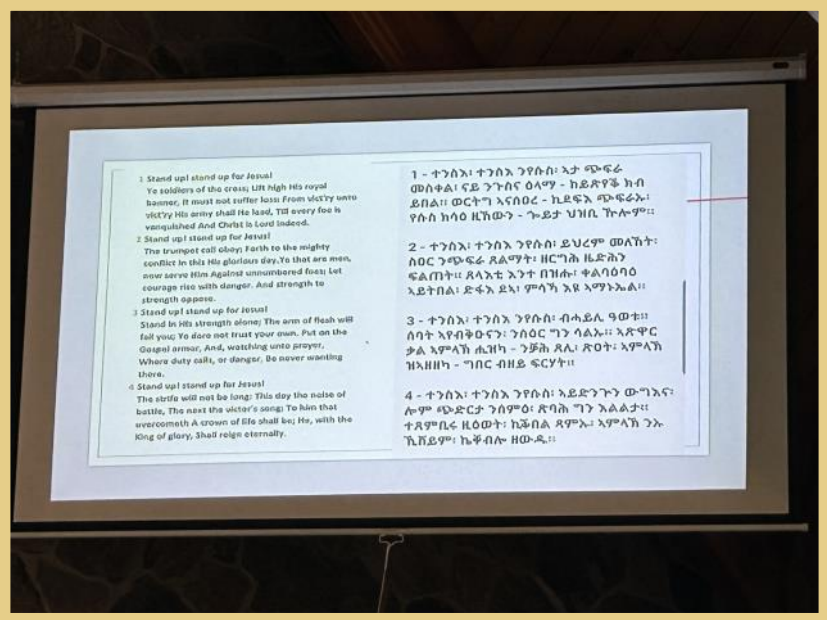


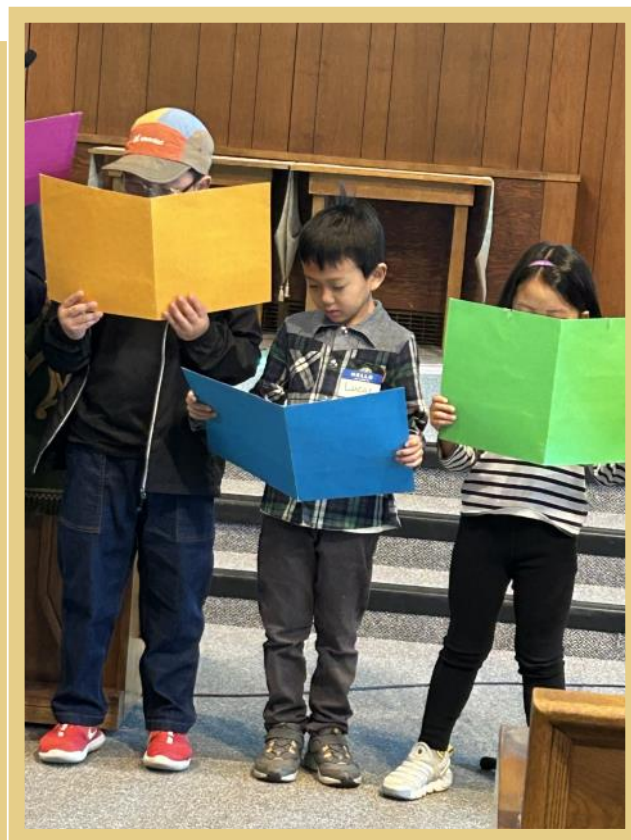


Looking Back: At the Fall

16

Combined Churches Service
September 24th, 2023





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Neighbours Cooking with Friends Program

This is a program that brings together eight women from a diverse community to prepare, cook, and share a meal together at the Chandler Mowat Community Centre. It is a biweekly program that runs on Wednesdays from 10:00 – 12:30 pm. It is organized and coordinated by the House of Friendship.

The program provides the participants time to socialize, to connect to resources in our community, share their cooking skills and enjoy food and fellowship that allow folks to experience other cultures through food.

This program is supported by Forest Hill United Church Outreach dollars. It is an opportunity to develop a supportive community.

—Sue Hummel







PARTNERS FEATURE



We are Now Open!

Skills Corner Adult Day Center

A new program - for adults with special needs, located here in Kitchener-Waterloo. Join our group where you can socialize, dance, sing, play games, and cooking skills. A program that is planned with and for participants.

Our Team

Simone Barnes
FHM, Registered EA, and CPM, 10 yrs. of experience working with special needs adults and kids under the spectrum.

Georgina Badi
With 20+ yrs of experience in the field, professional and personally, Registered EA.

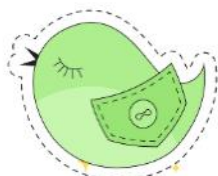
Visit us:
121 Westmount Rd. E, Kitchener
(Forest Hill United Church)
skillscorner.adc@gmail.com

REGISTER or CALL
(519) 589-4022

This program runs daily in our Soper Hall, please feel free to reach out to Georgiana or Carmen for more information.

Or if you know someone that may be interested in this amazing program.

Universe in the pocket



Montessori school

NEW PRESCHOOL CLASS HERE

for children
from **2.5 to 6** years old

NEW OPEN



BOOK A TOUR NOW!

**20%
OFF**

548-384-7778 <https://www.upms-ca.com>

📍 121 Westmount Rd. E Kitchener

UCW Meetings

UCW is once again meeting every second Tuesday of the month starting at 1:30pm in the Fireside room



Ladies welcome to a Christmas Potluck

Tuesday December 12 @ 12:30pm

In the Fireside Room

It is REVEALING time for those with a Secret Sister.

Ladies who do not have a Secret Sister and wish to exchange a gift, bring a wrapped gift maximum \$10.00 value.

Come and enjoy the delicious food, fellowship, a Wonderful Christmas Story & Christmas Carols.

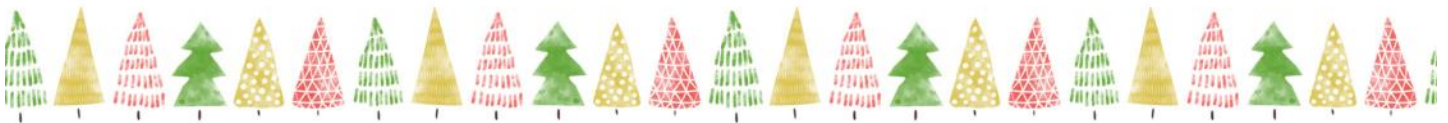


To: Joe Reinhart Glass Service Inc

For: The donation of their services to repair the broken window in the upstairs choir room.

Joe is a local window repair service that is recommended by Kitchener Window and Door Suppliers.

—Property Committee



**ATTENTION ALL
QUILTERS
&
'WANNA BE'
QUILTERS!!!**

**QUILTING CLUB STARTS
THIS TUESDAY
MORNING @ 10:00AM**

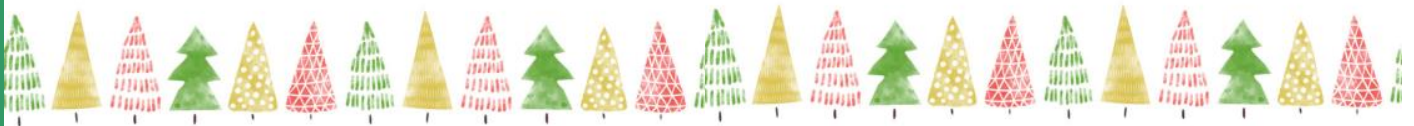




Baptism Schedule:

Forest Hill would like to include your family and friends for baptism on their chosen date. Simply contact the office to set this up.

519-744-3481 office@foresthillunited.org



Upcoming Baptisms:

There are no upcoming Baptisms.

**Christmas is
Coming!!!!
Family time!
Home time!**



“Winter is not a season, it’s a celebration.” — Anamika Mishra

Attention: Nature Lovers, Poets, Story Tellers!

Send me your art. Whether you love a good story, picture or poem, please share with us. I would also like to encourage anyone to send in what you interpret to be ‘nature’s gift’ to the FHUC office to be included in ‘The Messenger’ - Kelly.

COMIC CORNER



Christmas is a necessity.

There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves.

-- ERIC SEVAREID





Forest Hill United Church Choir

Rehearsals will take place on Thursdays 7pm - 8pm and Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the church Sanctuary.

The choir sings Sunday mornings at the 10am service supporting the hymns and providing anthems.

*COVID-19 protocols: Group singing is a high risk activity for contracting and spreading COVID-19. As such, masking is required at rehearsals and on Sunday. Distancing provided where requested.

Email M.J. at mjelina@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

No experience required.

There will be no choir practice on December 28th.



Suddenly One....

This is a group for folks who have lost a loved one in their life and would like to share time with others in that journey. They meet the last Friday of every month at FHUC in the Fireside Room.



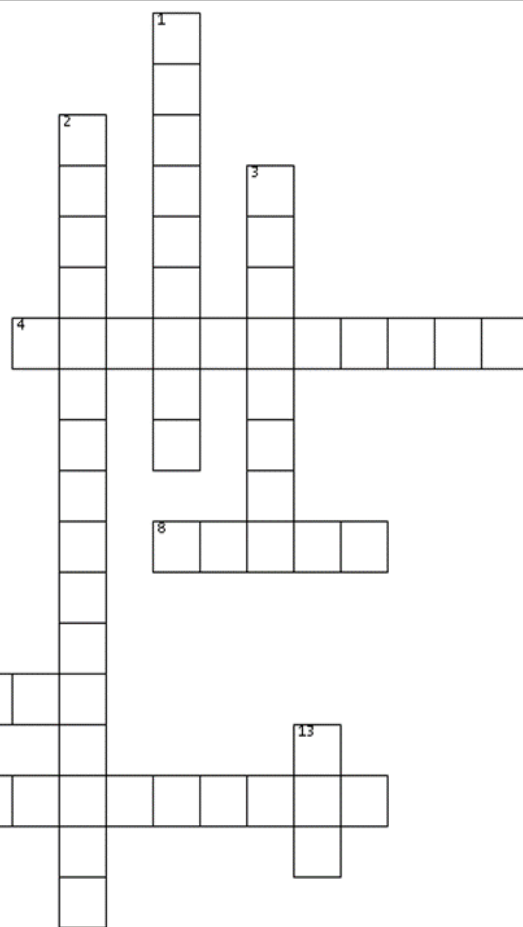
We offer condolences and prayers of comfort to the following:

- Shantz family for the loss of Margaret Shantz on September 13, 2023
- Mifflin family for the loss of Irmgard Mifflin on October 12, 2023
- Nicholson family for the loss of Colin Nicholson on October 12, 2023

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families as they go through these difficult times.



Life at Forest Hill



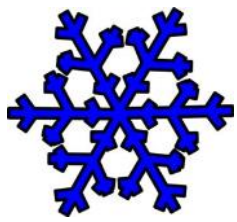
ACROSS

- 4. For the widowed**
- 6. Social hour location**
- 8. Men gather to break bread**
- 12. Community centre we support**
- 14. Just for ladies**
- 15. New kitchen robot**
- 16. Naturally sacred**
- 18. Sunday morning greeter**
- 19. Cheerful weekday greeter**

**DOWN**

- 1. Coffee and conversation**
- 2. Dinner with friends**
- 3. Downstairs fireplace**
- 5. Vocal leaders**
- 7. Sunday morning partner**
- 9. Bah Humbug**
- 10. Feeding our neighbours**
- 11. Popular summer fundraiser**
- 13. Recline on**
- 17. Less sacred entrance**

Thank you to Sue Hummel for taking the time to create this fun crossword puzzle. Enjoy!! The correct answers will be posted on the bulletin board next week.



*Blessed is the Season
which engages the whole
world in a conspiracy of love.
-Hamilton Wright Mabie*



*"Don't underestimate the
value of doing nothing, of
just going along, listening
to all the things you can't
hear, and not bothering."*

- Winnie the Pooh

Skip to my Lou





FOREST HILL UNITED CHURCH
121 Westmount Rd East
Kitchener, ON
N2M 4Y6
PH: 519-744-3481
email: office@foresthillunited.org