



## St. Paul's Weekly Update – January 23, 2025

### Minister's Message, Sunday, January 26, 2025

Friends,

Thank you all for your warm welcome last week. I look forward to getting to know you through the small gatherings that will happen over the next few weeks.

This week, in worship, we will continue our journey through the Gospel of Luke. In the story we will share this week, we are invited to ponder the meaning of discipleship. Discipleship is about many things. I think the most important thing is to remain curious. This means constantly asking questions about the world, about yourself, and about God. It is about being open to the idea that you don't know everything. It is about being excited by the possibilities and the idea that there is more to learn.

May you all be filled with wonder this day and always.

Blessings, Rev Kirsty



Sunday January 26, 2025

<https://youtube.com/live/uN163pSF0ig?feature=share>

### Office Hours

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, with Judy in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Louise is in the office on Wednesday mornings. The balance of the time, Louise works from home so you can reach her by phone any time between 8:30 and 4:00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Connections Group meets every Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the Atrium. Anyone wishing coffee and informal conversation is welcome to drop in!

### Official Board Meeting –

All Board members please mark **next Tuesday, January 28th 7:00 p.m.** on your calendar for in-person/zoom meeting and submit reports to Louise Therrien asap.

### Update from your M&P Committee

We are so pleased to have Rev Kirsty Hunter join us at St. Paul's. It has been one week since she started.

For those wondering when we will see her in the Church building each week, currently, she is completing many meetings with staff, committee chairs and 14 small informal groups. In addition, she will attend the Official Board meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> and the Annual General Meeting with the congregation on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. With winter weather, if the buses are cancelled for Simcoe North and Simcoe Central, Kirsty will work from home. Rev Kirsty provides her schedule to M&P and to the administrative office.

As a routine, this will be Kirsty's weekly schedule:

Sunday: At St Paul's Service (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)  
Monday: Working from home (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
Tuesday: At St Paul's (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
Wednesday: At St. Paul's (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
Thursday: At St. Paul's (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
Friday: Day off  
Saturday: Day off (except for scheduled activities such as a Funeral)

There are many activities that may impact where she is if you need to contact her.

**Please note: for Pastoral Care: please contact Rev Kirsty Hunter at 705 717-1918. She wants to know if you are in hospital and seeking a visit from her.**  
Email: [revkirsty@gmail.com](mailto:revkirsty@gmail.com)

## **Men's Breakfast**

The First Men's Breakfast for 2025 will be on Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversations. All men are welcome.



## **Congregational Life**

Our deepest condolences to Fran Hill and her family on the death of her husband Doug on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Both Fran and Doug are long time and very active members of St. Paul's. Funeral details will be shared once available. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our **greeter/ushering teams** are looking for help with this important job. Currently we have three teams and we'd love to have four. The commitment is for one month at a time. Greet folks at the door with a friendly smile and collect the offering. Please consider this as a way to support St. Paul's. Interested or have more questions? Speak to Sheila Thompson.

Would any of our members or friends appreciate a **friendly visit or phone call** or be interested in making those friendly visits or phone calls? Contact Sheila at 705-526-2186 for further info.

**Coffee Hour:** Our next coffee hour will be on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

## **Faith Formation**

The next Adult Social is on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Meet in the Great Hall to hang out, listen to music and make some simple decorations for the St. Paul's February 8<sup>th</sup>

fundraising dinner. Open Gym is cancelled for February due to set up for the fundraising dinner.

## **Fundraising**

**United Church Calendars:** We still have some United Church of Canada Centennial calendars available for sale at \$20 each. See Sharon Foster or Sue Dorion at church or contact them by mail [sharonfoster000@gmail.com](mailto:sharonfoster000@gmail.com) or [sues0703@gmail.com](mailto:sues0703@gmail.com)

**Fundraising dinner on February 8, 2025:** Come out in celebration of Love and Friendship on Saturday February 8th. A chef inspired five-course meal will be served alongside live entertainers in the Great Hall or the meal can be delivered to your door! Adult tickets are \$45 Children \$15. Purchase your tickets through the church office or after service. Any questions please call Juli Robitaille 705-279-3334.

**The Talent Auction is coming back!** Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 26th for this fundraising event. The committee is asking for donations of knitting, crocheting, baking, preserves, sewing, dinners, gardening and we could go on and on. These items will be auctioned off and all money raised will go to support the work of the church. For more information, please contact Gail Wilcox at 705-526-6368.



## **Outreach**



The Outreach Committee is looking for volunteers to help greet and register participants for the Coldest Night of the Year Fundraiser for the Guesthouse on Saturday February 22, 2025. If you are available to help, please contact [stpaulsunitedchurchoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsunitedchurchoutreach@gmail.com)

Please also consider joining our fundraising walk or donate to the St. Paul's Team at <https://cnoy.w-ith.me/StpaulsunitedMidland>

## **UCW notes and news**

The next UCW is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

**Helping those in need:** Thank you to everyone who has already contributed much needed items for the Guesthouse Shelter. The boxes will remain in the Utility Room off the Atrium so we can continue to collect for our neighbours.

## **Spend a day with the Moderator of the United Church**

**Flourishing - Bold Ideas, Daring Connections - Saturday, February 15, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

This is an in-person only event held at: Jubilee United Church, [40 Underhill Dr.](#) (DVP/Lawrence), North York.

Spend a day with the Moderator, engaging in reflection and energizing activities towards dream-oriented actions for our churches and communities. This free workshop is open to all UCC members, attendees, and youth and young adults. Childcare available if requested. Continental breakfast, coffee breaks, and lunch are provided.



All around the world – from universities to the United Nations, from corporations to community organizations – people are talking about flourishing. Rooted in belonging, flourishing means living with purpose and joy, and bringing bold collaborative solutions to our world’s challenges.

The Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, wants to bring that conversation to The United Church of Canada. She invites us to connect to one another in hope, with a deep conviction by a belief that, despite all the challenges of church life in this day and age, we can move from despair to transformation – from languishing to flourishing.

You can register at:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qLUYz3gmEUCTEhXw9xV1dCLyOcGvkGxLpHjCmBMIKqJUMUoyMDczNFA2SUJEVTZQMTFaVkQ0NINGNCQIQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl>

## **St. Paul’s website**

Want to know what’s going on at St. Paul’s? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/>. There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

## **This Week’s Minute for Mission**



### **London Community Chaplaincy provides a welcoming and safe social setting for adults to connect and grow as parents.**

Becoming a parent or guardian is a life-changing, complex experience that doesn’t have a one-size-fits-all answer. As kids, we looked to adults for guidance as we navigated the world with fresh eyes. Now, as adults, we recognize that we’re still figuring things out as we go, and there’s always an opportunity to grow our skills and minds.

In London, Ontario, Mission and Service partners with the London Community Chaplaincy as they respond to parents and guardians who want to build a network of support, share the parenting journey, and develop new skills as they navigate raising children in a low-income setting.

Each week, London Community Chaplaincy provides a welcoming and safe social setting for adults to connect and grow as parents. Not only do they learn how to guide a child through critical stages of development, but also how to navigate being a parent or guardian while also managing financial stress, food insecurity, housing complications, and more. Gathering with other adults in a similar situation allows participants to share their struggles and triumphs, further building a sense of community. Your gifts to [Mission and Service](#) support partnerships like the London Community Chaplaincy as they help empower parents along the parenting journey. Thank you.

## **Blessings everyone**

**Minister:** Rev. Kirsty Hunter, **705-717-1918** [revkirsty@gmail.com](mailto:revkirsty@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator** – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church), [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com) **705-526-1640 (home office)**

**Administrative Assistant** – Judy McConnell (**Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00**) [officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com](mailto:officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com) 705-526-6077