



Offering God Our Time and Talents

Fellowship
&
Service
March 2008

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Introduction

A balanced and fulfilling life in the church should include regular worship, learning about your faith, fellowship with others, service in the church and service in the community. When you keep all of these in balance you will find a satisfying life within the church.

This booklet is one way for you to try to find that balance particularly in the areas of service in the church and fellowship. Listed here are the many ways that you can be involved in the church through fellowship and service groups and on working groups of the church council.

We hope that you will listen to your heart as you read these over and ask God to make clear to you where you are being invited to be involved in service or fellowship groups. Sometimes it is clear how we can be involved and why. Other times we simply feel drawn to something new to us and we only discover over time the real reasons God has called us there. Listen to your heart as you read and hear God's invitations.

The Vision and Mission of Faith United

We believe in a loving and forgiving God,
Show to us through the bible,
Jesus the Christ and the community of believers.

Therefore we will:

Strive to provide a spiritual home that is welcoming, nurturing and safe;
Seek to become disciples of Christ growing in faith through worship, study and prayer;
Risk sharing our resources with local and global neighbours in response to God's call and
Be committed to the responsible use and care of all that god has entrusted to us.

Let our actions reflect our faith.

Getting to Know Others through Fellowship and Service

U.C.W

Women of the congregation gather for companionship, learning, and to make plans for service to the congregation and community. There are monthly afternoon and evening meetings. The ladies participate in activities such as bible study, help with card parties, catering, sponsoring a mitten tree, helping with Joyful Noise Sunday School crafts, attending the Ecumenical Dinner and World Day of Prayer and a Christmas bazaar. Cards of encouragement and celebration are sent out to church families. All women are welcome.

Contact Enid DeCoe at 905-436-2729

Quilters and Crafters

Every Tuesday morning women who like to quilt or make crafts gather in the sunroom to work on projects, and socialize.

Contact Hazel Runions at 905-728-7135.

Men's Breakfast

The last Sunday of each month the men of the congregation gather over breakfast for companionship and to connect and reflect about their faith and the church. Good food, conversation, and fellowship make up the morning menu.

Contact George Tanton at 905-725-7692.

Monday Euchre

Alternate Mondays, friends gather to play euchre in the church house living room. A small fee covers lunch and prices. Adults of all ages are welcome.

Contact the church at 905-433-8953.

Adult Choir

On Wednesday evenings from 7:45 to 9:00 adults gather to practice singing together in preparation for sharing anthems and leading the congregation in praise through music. Contact Brian Stevens at 905-433-8953.

Children's Choir (dormant)

On Wed. evenings from 6:30 to 7:15 children ages 8 and up gather to practice singing together in preparation for special Sunday services of worship. Contact Brian Stevens at 905-433-8953.

Men's Thursday Coffee Gathering.

Each Thursday morning men gather at the church for coffee, conversation and a brief reflection together. This gathering is an easy going time of fun and fellowship punctuated with opportunities for helping out around the church. Come and join us.

Contact Don McMurtry at 905-728-5569.

Pies to Go Team

Meeting once or twice a month for a morning in the kitchen the group turn out several hundred meat pies to be sold to support the congregation. Meat pies for sale are the outcome of this groups work but lots of fun and fellowship are part of the day.

Contact Kathleen Littlewood at 905-432-6994.

Helping to Serve the Church and Community

Mission and Service

The Mission and Service Committee focuses and educates the congregation regarding projects and social issues supported by the United Church of Canada's national Mission and Service Fund. This fund supports projects of local, national and global scope. The Committee at Faith United sets the financial support goal and lets the congregation know what the United Church is doing at home and abroad. Responsibility is taken on a few Sundays for special speakers and information. Minutes for Mission are shared with the congregation. Information regarding social justice issues such as residential schools, child poverty and refugee work is shared.

Contact Dorthy Shrigley at 905-571-7081

Church Work in Durham

The Church Work in Durham Committee works hard to increase awareness of and encourage contributions of goods, food, labour and money to organizations or agencies addressing special needs within the local community. C.W.I.D. operates with its own budget for which you will find a line on offering envelopes. This busy committee collects donations for more than a dozen social agencies in the area. (For a complete listing and monetary amounts see the last annual report which is available from the church office.) In addition one month of the church's worship and work life is set aside to give C.W.I.D. and its work special emphasis.

Contact . Karen Bihun at 905-436-1048

Meals on Wheels

For one week a month over the course of four or so months volunteer drivers deliver meals to folks trying to remain at home as long as possible.

Contact Carolyn Boyd at 905-576-5816.

St. Vincent's Kitchen

The first Wednesday of each month Faith United takes responsibility for working at St. Vincent's Kitchen, a low cost restaurant providing meals to the needy and hungry of Durham Region.

Contact Karen Bihun at 905-436-1048.

Congregation Life and Work

Communications

The Communications Committee helps us share information with each other and the surrounding community. They publish the church newsletter, The Link and keep the illuminated outdoor sign up to date, co-ordinate advertising, maintain the web page. A Technology Team helps keep equipment running and prepares programming.

Contact Larry Bignell at 905-728-7749 for LINK or John Sylvestervich at 905-723-6797

Faith Journey Resource

This committee oversees all Christian development programs and resources for the congregation. It sets up programs and recruits leaders, plans intergenerational events and guides everyone in the art of having fun while learning and acting faithfully. FJR includes Inter-church Youth, the Learning Calendar, Library, Scouts Group Liaison and Tots on Tuesday as sub groups.

Tots on Tuesday

A fun, learning and play time for moms and pre-school tots meets in the nursery meets each Tue. Morning at Faith.

Contact Enid DeCoe 905-436-2729 for more information on all FJR activities.

Finance

This committee manages most of the financial resources of the congregation. It prepares budgets, oversees and administers funds, counts and records offerings, and prepares statements.

Contact David Unwin at 905-436-2197

Bright Ideas (Fund Raising)

These folks come up with the 'Bright Ideas' to make money to pay off the congregation's mortgage debt and help with other operating costs. They have held auctions, dinners, yard sales, fashion shows, concerts and have offered a variety of items for sale. They are always looking for new ideas and helpers.

Contact Linda Walsh, 905-436-2359. council liaison

Presbytery Representative

These two people represent the congregation at the monthly meeting of Presbytery and the annual meeting of Bay of Quinte Conference. They vote on the congregations behalf and are involved in committee work that Oshawa Presbytery has as part of its work as the local United Church network.

Contact Alex Sankey or Donna Bignell 905-728-7749

Property

The Property Committee is responsible for the care and management of the church buildings and land. It monitors custodial services, attends to security matters and performs routine maintenance and other needed repairs and improvements.

Contact Jim Wright. At 905-436-6825

Congregational Care

Wellness Ministry:

The purpose of this committee is to develop and maintain the over-all wellness of the congregation through co-ordinating the activities of 5 sub-committees.

Keep in Touch, Membership, Pastoral Care, Welcoming
and Wellness Education

Contact Jackie Tanton. 905-725-7692

Pastoral Care

Working in conjunction with the minister, the Pastoral Care Committee offers visits and friendly phone calls to people of the Faith United Congregation. The special care and contacts made may be with regards to crucial incidents, long term care, encouraging newcomers, and making general connections. At Christmas gifts are delivered to shut-ins.

Contact Jackie Tanton. 905-725-7692

Membership

This committee has responsibility for updating membership records and the roll of members and adherents. Mailing lists are kept current and participation is encouraged.

Contact Gail Sylvestervich at 905-723-6797.

Welcoming

The welcoming Committee makes people available each week to welcome new families. Making new people feel comfortable in the building, sharing information, and making follow up home visits is part of their responsibility.

Contact Gail Minacs. At 905-728-7142

Wellness Education:

This committee encourages and educates for healthy lifestyles in body, mind and spirit in the community. Some goals are to organize at least two (2) programs a year.

to contribute periodic health tips in the Link (monthly church newsletter).

to consider providing a healing service for those who are in need i.e. illness, emotional trauma, grief, etc. on an annual basis for the community.

to consider providing meditation with healing touch.

To recognize a need for programs to benefit the community e.g. healing and meditation.

Contact Marilyn Mankiewicz at 905-404-2868

Keep In Touch Team (KITT) (DORMANT)

KITTT members are our way of keeping in contact with every member of the congregation. KITTT members phone congregational members to check in with them and hear how life is going and to share news of the congregation. These are simple friendly phone calls three or four times a year.

Contact Enid DeCoe at 905-436-2729

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee works with the minister to plan, carry out, and evaluate worship services. Its responsibility is to find participants, assist in special services, obtain resources, and approve In Memoriam gifts.

Contact David Unwin 905-436-2197 or Carol Bus at 905-430-2395

Chancel Guild

Under the oversight of the Worship Committee, this small group takes responsibility for decorating the sanctuary in preparation for weekly worship, seasons, and celebrations.

Contact Janice Cutting at 905-576-1477. or Diane Howarth at 905-623-8990

How to make contacts and get involved:

Please feel free to contact any of the people at their numbers listed above or call the church office at 905-433-8953 or E-Mail faithunited@nexicom.net. The church office hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Staff:

Minister	Rev. Larry Doyle
Music Facilitator	Brian Stevens
Administrative Assistant	Carol Laing
Caretaker	Bruce Milliken

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