



**An UPDATE from the CHAIR of COUNCIL**  
**The PAST, the PRESENT and the FUTURE**  
**July 31, 2024**

1. Sunday July 21 was our “Out in the SUN worshipping the SON” service. It was a great success with an increased attendance from our 1st such event in 2023. In 2023 about 65 attended – this year 84 participated in the Food Truck lunch. The weather was perfect and it was accolades all around indicating it was a “grand affair”. Many thanks to Ken and Dianne for their generosity as they sponsored the day in celebration of 55 years of marriage. The day in review was captured in photos by both Beth and Mary. I’m sure we will see the collage hanging in the archives area of the church soon. Check it out. Special thanks to Beth and Mary for the photos. 
2. The Cruise on the Grand River is shaping up well. We had the “magic number” register; therefore, we have the boat to ourselves. Meals have been ordered. Fees have been collected. It sounds like an exciting day – let’s hope for amazing weather - Saturday August 3.
3. Council did not meet in July. A financial statement was circulated to council members with comments added by the Treasurer. Council will not meet in August. If necessary, there is always the provision for a meeting at the “call of the Chair”.
4. Rev. Karlene will be on holidays August 1-29. Worship leaders for each Sunday will be as follows:  
August 4—Fran Bell  
August 11- Karen Hodges  
August 18 - Karen Hodges  
August 25 – Karen Hodges
5. Shelley will be on holidays August 1-Sept 1. An accompanist will be present to cover those Sundays.
6. **Rev. Pat will be available for emergency Pastoral Care from August 6 -29. Contact the church office if you need to reach her. We thank her for her coverage. Emergencies August 1-5– phone Mary Anne at 519-421-3241.**





7. Debbie Beres will be covering the office beginning August 15 - September 13 while Helen is on holidays. Debbie will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays only 10 am -1:00 pm. for August. The office will resume regular office hours in September – Monday-Friday 8AM -1PM.
8. Karen has completed her holidays. Desmond has scheduled holidays in August and coverage will be provided as necessary.
9. I will be out of country from August 22- September 1. I will be available for emails/text but may not reply promptly. In case of emergency, I have named Jed Drew as Past Chair and Brian Clark -Trustee Chair to act together to cover any decisions/actions as necessary.
10. **September will be a busy month. There are several special events planned. Sunday September 8, we will be welcoming everyone who is returning after summer holidays – and celebrating the long service of one of our church family - Part 1. There will be a lunch following worship as part of our celebration. September 15 – we will be having hot dogs following worship and on September 22, there will be a celebration of another long service person part 2 with cake to follow the service. September 29 will be Orange shirt Sunday as we Honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. JOIN US as we CELEBRATE these very SPECIAL OCCASIONS/EVENTS during September.**
11. This year is the celebration of the United Church's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary May 2024-May 2025. As we move through this year there will be several special events. Karlene has announced that we will collecting funds for the regular Back Pack programme (your donation in an envelope marked Back Pack may be placed on the offering plate) -- we will also be collecting for the Back Packs weekend programme as **part of 100<sup>th</sup>** celebration –Sunday **September 15<sup>th</sup>** **please bring small jars of Peanut Butter –can we reach the magic number of 100?** Sure St. Paul's can achieve most any goal put to us. Our collection of Peanut Butter will go to the people assembling the week- end Back Packs for distribution as needed. There will be other collections ---as we work to assist others. Stay tuned for more details as we celebrate 100 years.





12. If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary any Sunday September -December 31, please contact me and we will discuss the date and details you wish. Email me at [m.silverthorn@sympatico.ca](mailto:m.silverthorn@sympatico.ca) or call 519-421-3241(home) or 519-788-3705(cell). Thank you for your interest in helping to ensure we have fresh flowers in the sanctuary every Sunday, if possible.
13. As we work through the year remember that our monthly expenses are ongoing. **Your continued financial support is very necessary** to meet routine expenses such as payroll, monthly costs, maintenance, programmes and other items that sometimes come as surprises but necessary. We appreciate your conscientious effort to continue your regular financial commitment. It may be summer and vacation time; the expenses at the church are ongoing each and every month. The expenses do not go on holidays. Thank you for your ongoing support.
14. If you have comments and/or questions please contact me by email or phone as we work together to ensure members of our family are well informed and up- to -date.

In conclusion no matter where the summer months take you –as you vacation, or travel or just relax at home--- stay healthy and remain safe. We look forward to being together in September as the fall season begins and our church activities “ramp up”. Remember that September 8, we welcome all of you back as we join together in worship, celebrate the service of others and share food and laughter as we eat lunch together. See you then.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mary Anne Silverthorn

Council Chairperson

519-421-3241 home

519-788-3705 -cell /text

Both machines take messages.

[m.silverthorn@sympatico.ca](mailto:m.silverthorn@sympatico.ca)