

### OUR VALUES

*Faith/Love of God* = BELIEVING

*Community/Inclusion* = BELONGING

*Compassion/Compromise* = INVITING

“Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us and helps make the world a better place.”

We welcome and include everyone into our community of faith.

## Morning Worship Service @ 9am

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83887699257> Meeting ID: 838 8769 9257

**Leader:** Rev. Nancy Knowles

**Theme:** EXPERIENCE THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS  
Advent 3: The Miracle of the Method

### Scripture Reading

**1st New Testament Reading:**

Luke 2:15-20

**2nd New Testament Reading:**

Romans 11:33-36





## SONG

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AYlQvAwnok>  
ONE SMALL CHILD by First Call

**MEDITATION:** *When the angels left them, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place." - Luke 2:15*

In human terms, this thing that took place in Bethlehem isn't much. A young couple had a baby. It happens every second on this spinning earth. Despite the angels' sky-exploding bombast, it's a little thing.

And I wonder if the hastening shepherds might not have been a tad disappointed when they got there and found something so modest, like when you go see a show your friends have been gushing about, and you try to like it because, well, it's amazing, right? But it's sort of meh, and you're embarrassed that maybe you missed something, so you just tell them, *yeah, yeah, it was great.*

I sometimes wish that Luke hadn't decided to tell us the Christmas story like a gushy reviewer, because when we read about heavenly pyrotechnics marking key moments of grace, we could start expecting them in our own lives with God. Then, when not much happens, we might wonder what we missed. Probably nothing. It's just that when God works for our wellbeing, mostly it's by little things, small moves, a rustle of a single wing, not a flapping sky-full of them.

To set the world free for love, you have to start somewhere, somehow. It doesn't need to be in shock and awe. A tiny gesture will do, something modest and small, and lo and behold, that wee thing is everything - alpha and omega in a nutshell, the whole thing in a little thing. Like the Little Thing we adore on Christmas morn, God's slight initiative...a babe newborn and beautiful.



*A Big THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Angel Tree. You have made this holiday brighter for three families!*

### ***Passing the Torch***

Get In Touch: [hsucmusic@gmail.com](mailto:hsucmusic@gmail.com) will go to Janice Sinker as of January 1, 2025  
New contact for Elva is: [elva@hay.net](mailto:elva@hay.net)



**COUNCIL**  
NOTES

*Deb Gill, Council Chair*

## Festival of Trees was a Success!

...and more than \$1800 was raised to support our operational costs.

Thanks to the Cookie Crew (Barb, Karen, Trish, Sharon, Lois, Brenda and Deb H); your festive cookies were a hit and we sold out!

Thanks to the Wreath Wranglers led by Penny and Jane (Mary, Jacqui K, Jackie S and Mary Marg P) your wreaths and swags were stunning and went over very well!

Thanks to the Tree Team led by Lois and Christine with media help from Pat M, we brought in 12 lovely trees. All a variety of sizes including both living and artificial and all were sold.

Thanks to host Myra and money manager Norm who ensured things ran smoothly and Janice S who provided background festive tunes.

In the end our sanctuary looked beautiful and we contributed to the Christmas spirit in Grand Bend. Festival of trees Team members including Lois Gill, Christine Wilde, Penny DeYoung, Jane Girodat, Pat Morden, Myra and Norm Harris, deserve congratulations on a successful event and once again putting HSUC out in our community.

*Sincerely, Deb Gill*





*Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude... Thank you to all the volunteers, businesses, organizations and individuals who have held food drives or donated time, funds or food personally to keep our Grand Bend Community Food Pantry stocked at this time of year! We wish you could see the faces of so many families who are overwhelmed with knowing someone cares! To you and your families, all our best wishes this holiday season!*



*On Behalf of the Huron Woods Board of Directors annual Christmas Open House, we requested that people bring a donation for the Food Pantry. We were overwhelmed with the community support. Thank you to our residents who donated. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas. Ginger and Bill Weber*





The next Caring Casseroles cooking session will be December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. Everyone welcome!



**2024 IS ALMOST OVER!**

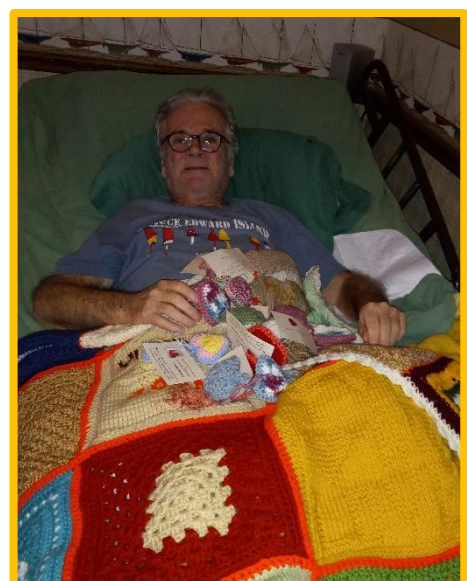
The Finance Team wishes to take this opportunity to **THANK YOU** for your generous financial support this year. We also want to remind you that the end of this month, **Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, is the deadline for the 2024 taxation year.**

To make a donation choose one of the following methods:

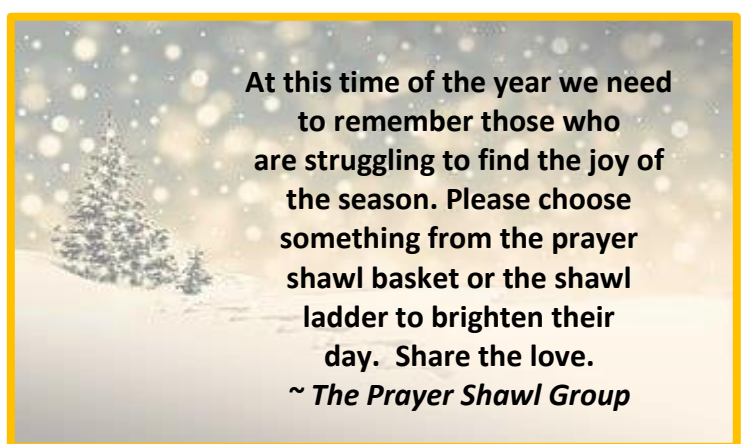
- Drop Off: Use the HSUC mailbox to the left of the Queen St. entrance
- On our website: [huronshoresunitedchurch.com](http://huronshoresunitedchurch.com) and select DONATE button
- By e-transfer to: [huronshoresunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:huronshoresunitedchurch@gmail.com)
- Sign up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)
- 'Leave A Legacy' Bequest to Huron Shores United Church in your Will
- Due to the postal strike, mailing is discouraged at this time.

For more information contact Rhonda Manore, Finance Admin. 519-238-2432 or email: [manore@ezlink.ca](mailto:manore@ezlink.ca). Please include your name and email address in all correspondence to receive your 2024 tax receipt.

***Your generosity in giving to Huron Shores United Church is very much appreciated. Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, hopeful 2025!***



*Thank you to Trish from the Prayer Shawl Group, who delivered their first prayer blanket yesterday to John Scott, along with some hearts for his family. He and Virginia very much appreciated these items. John asked us to share his thanks to all who created squares for the blanket and also to Miriam who created the name and word squares, as well as crocheted the blanket together. John sends his thanks to all who have reached out with their love and support.*



**At this time of the year we need to remember those who are struggling to find the joy of the season. Please choose something from the prayer shawl basket or the shawl ladder to brighten their day. Share the love.  
~ The Prayer Shawl Group**



# CALENDAR

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH OUR EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE

[CALENDAR LINK HERE](#)

|  |   |  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 9  | 10  | 11   | 12  | 13   | 14   | 15   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>11:30am Partners In Learning AGI</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Polewalking Group</li> <li>10am Coffee Club</li> <li>10:30am Finance Meeting</li> <li>2 more</li> </ul>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>10am Community Bible Study (ne</li> <li>10am M &amp; P Team</li> <li>3pm Choir Practice</li> </ul>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am M &amp; P Team</li> <li>9:30am Leadership Team Meeting</li> <li>6pm Sunset Cinema</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>10am Private Coffee Club</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 pm Emmanuel, God With Us Cho</li> <li>6pm An Evening With Spirit</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am WORSHIP</li> </ul>  |
| 16   | 17  | 18   | 19  | 20   | 21   | 22   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>2:30pm Grant Brainstorming</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Grand Bend Public School D</li> <li>9am Polewalking Group</li> <li>10am Coffee Club</li> <li>1pm Food Pantry Volunteers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Grand Bend Public School C</li> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>10am Community Bible Study (ne</li> <li>3pm Choir Practice</li> </ul> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>10am Private Coffee Club</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am WORSHIP</li> <li>12:30pm Cookie Decorating and C</li> </ul> |
| 23   | 24  | 25   | 26  | 27   | 28   | 29   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Eve</li> <li>9am Polewalking Group</li> <li>10am Coffee Club</li> <li>2 more</li> </ul>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHRISTMAS</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am R&amp;R Book Club</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8am Ageless Vitality Fitness</li> <li>10am Private Coffee Club</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1pm Bregman Family Christmas</li> </ul>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am WORSHIP</li> </ul>  |

## 12 Christmas PRAYERS

**Joy**  
May the joy of Christ be felt through us. **Luke 1:44**

**LOVE**  
Help us see ways to turn love into action this Christmas. **Matthew 25:40**

**FAITH**  
Increase our faith so we fully trust in Your promises. **Matthew 1:24**

**PEACE**  
May the peace of Christ cover the busyness of this season. **Isaiah 9:6**

**LIGHT**  
May the light of Christ shine from within us. **Isaiah 9:2**

**GRATITUDE**  
Thank you for all of our blessings, not just the gifts under the tree. **Luke 1:49**

**PROMISE**  
Thank you for the promise of eternal life through Jesus. **John 3:16**

**OBEDIENCE**  
Help us to be obedient to You even when we don't fully understand. **Luke 1:38**

**SIMPLICITY**  
You came as a baby in a manger, help us find value in the simple things. **Luke 2:7**

**HOPEFULNESS**  
Fill us with hope for the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ. **Daniel 2:44**

**GENEROSITY**  
Show us what gifts we have to offer and help us give them generously. **Matthew 2:11**

**TOGETHERNESS**  
Thank you that the gift of Jesus makes us one family together in Christ. **John 1:12**

AMEN!



**Closed For The Holidays**

Please note that the HSUC office will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will not be checking email regularly, but the phone will be checked. Thank you and have a very happy holiday!

~ The HSUC and GBP Staff



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please let us know if you would like your name included in “Prayers of the People” for Sunday worship. If you have a prayer request that you wish to share with the congregation on Sundays, or just privately with Rev. Nancy Knowles, please send it to: [hsucprayers@gmail.com](mailto:hsucprayers@gmail.com)



**Lynne Desjardine**  
519-238-5220

**Peter Challen**  
519-238-5508

**Joanne Barry**  
226-456-8134

If you are ever in need of prayer, would like to chat to someone, or would like a visit, please reach out to any one of your **Congregational Visitors**.

## GET IN TOUCH

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon -Thurs 9am-12pm  
519-238-2402 \* 25 Main Street, PO Box 61, Grand Bend, ON NOM 1T0  
Website: [www.huronshoresunitedchurch.com](http://www.huronshoresunitedchurch.com)

**Office Administrator:** Christine Wilde [huronshoresunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:huronshoresunitedchurch@gmail.com)

**Minister:** Rev Nancy Knowles [hsucrevnancy@gmail.com](mailto:hsucrevnancy@gmail.com)

**Nancy's In office hours:** Tuesday & Thursday- call anytime 519-788-5819

**Council Chair:** Deb Gill [john.deb.gill@gmail.com](mailto:john.deb.gill@gmail.com) 519-701-6676

**Finance Administrator:** Rhonda Manore [manore@ezlink.ca](mailto:manore@ezlink.ca) 519-238-2432

**Music Director:** Janice Sinker [hsucmusic@gmail.com](mailto:hsucmusic@gmail.com) 519-238-5436

**Community Wellness Coordinator:** Christine Wilde 519-933-9453 [hsuccommunitywellness@gmail.com](mailto:hsuccommunitywellness@gmail.com)

**Shorelines:** Christine Wilde [hsucdesign@gmail.com](mailto:hsucdesign@gmail.com) **Website:** Janna Oud [jannaoud@gmail.com](mailto:jannaoud@gmail.com)



## IMAGE OF THE WEEK

Warm Up Grand Bend keeps on giving..."Our sincerest gratitude goes out to Mark Tucker and the compassionate men and women from the Grand Bend area who have returned to The Ark, once again, with lots of winter donations!" ❤️



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AT HSUC/GBP

**A Choral Celebration  
for Christmas**

Huron Shores United Church Choir &  
Thamesview United Church Choir  
present

**Emmanuel, God With Us!**

An hour of wonderful Christmas music to lift your  
spirits and celebrate together!

**Saturday, December 14th, at 2:00pm**  
at Huron Shores United Church, 25 Main Street, Grand Bend

Enjoy some Christmas goodies afterward      Donations welcome

**Christmas  
Cookie Kits**

*For just \$20, you can purchase a Kit and  
help support the Community Food Pantry.*

hsuccommunitywellness@gmail.com  
Christine 519-238-2402

**ORDER BY  
DECEMBER 18TH**

**PICK UP  
DECEMBER 22ND**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

*Join us for* **Cookie  
Decorating &  
Christmas Tales**

**Free Entry**  
Donations to the community  
food pantry welcomed!

**December 22, 2024  
1 - 2:30pm**

Huron Shores United Church  
25 Main Street, Grand Bend

**Every donation helps spread  
holiday cheer to those in need!**

Food  
Pantry  
Donations  
Welcome

Starts  
January  
10th

**HURON SHORES  
UNITED CHURCH**

**LEARN TO  
CROCHET!**

WITH SHARON SOLDAN  
& BRENDA HAIST

**JANUARY CLASSES**

- Fridays from 10:00 am to 11
- 25 Main Street, Grand Bend

Crochet basics for  
beginners - bring a #5 or  
#6 crochet hook if  
possible

**Register Now! 519-238-2402**





# COMMUNITY EVENTS AROUND TOWN

**A Choral Celebration  
for Christmas**

Thamesview United Church Choir &  
Huron Shores United Church Choir  
present

**Emmanuel, God With Us!**

An hour of wonderful Christmas music to lift your  
spirits and celebrate together!

**Sunday, December 15th, at 2:00pm**  
at Thamesview United Church, 3178 Perth Road 163  
Fullarton

Enjoy some Christmas goodies afterward      Donations welcome



## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

# FREE

For families in need in our community.

**FREE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE**  
2pm Pick Up Time: Exeter - Huron Park - Crediton - Dashwood - Grand Bend

Shuttle Service Generously Provided by  
Murphy Bus Lines

**Sun. Dec 22 | 3-6PM**

**Dinner 4pm-6pm w/ Live Music**

Visit with Santa 3pm-4:30pm

Please RSVP with Amy at Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron |  
519.235-1780 Ext. 1 | amy.wilhelm@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca



Thanks to the generosity of:







