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August 30, 2026
14th Sunday After Pentecost

Text in **bold** indicates speaking in unison.
This symbol ** indicates we will stand if able
Hearing amplification devices available at the sound booth
This service is being livestreamed on YouTube

WE GATHER

Shalom: Let us extend “shalom”— An ancient word of faith meaning peace, wholeness, wellness, & blessing.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: Jesus told the crowds of people, “You are the light of the world.” He told them not to hide their light, but to let it shine. Their shining light would be a reflection of the light and grace of God. Jesus’ words are for us today. God’s grace shines on us and when we let our light shine, God’s grace can be experienced through us. So let us shine.

**All: Help us God to kindle the light that is us,
help us encourage others
when we notice the light within them.
May we reflect your grace and love**

into the world through our words and actions.

One: We light our Christ Candle remembering Jesus' words, "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

****Hymn: "Open Our Hearts" MV 21 (sung 3 times)**

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship: *(From Celebrate God's Presence. A Book of Services for the United Church of Canada. © 2000)*

One: People of God, look around and see the faces of those we know and love-

All: A community of kindred hearts.

One: People of God, look around and see the faces of those we hardly know-
strangers, visitors, forgotten friends-

All: the ones who need an outstretched hand.

One: People of God, look around and see all the images of God assembled here.

All: In me, in you, in each of us, God's spirit shines for all to see.

One: People of God, come. Let us worship together.

Opening Prayer *(Written by Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C., Goulais River, Ont., Gathering, Pentecost 1 2026, page 40 Used with permission.)*

All: God of steadfast love,

you set before us the call of faith and service.

**You give us reason to live in ways
that both nurture us and challenge us.**

**You assure us with your compassion
and surprise us with your resolve.**

As your people, we seek to live with your purpose and to share your sensitivity.

**Be with us in our journey of faith,
a journey we share with people around the world. Amen.**

****Hymn: "When I Needed a Neighbour" VU 600**

Time for Young and Young at Heart

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

Prayer response: Rev Ned will say, "Loving God, we pray for your blessings," and everyone says together, **"Bless the work of our hearts and the work of our hands."**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16: 21-28 (NRSVUE)

Read by Carolyn Boyd

Music Ministry: Solo Piano, Kristine Dandavino "Concerto in F minor (Second Movement) by J.S. Bach"

Sermon: "Cross-Bearing"

WE RESPOND

****Hymn: "Take my Life and Let it Be" VU 506 vs 1, 2, 5**

Life and Work of the Congregation

Offertory Prayer (unison)

**Loving God, we give these gifts with thankful hearts.
Use them to share your love, your mercy,
and your hope with the world.**

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Jesus (The Lord's Prayer)

We offer our prayers to the one God, Mother of us all, as we join in the prayer of Jesus:

WE GO OUT TO BE THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**** Benediction & Commissioning**

**** Closing Hymn: Wherever You May Go: MV 216, chorus**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Vacations

Kristine will be away from August 16th to Sept 12th.

East Central Ontario Prayer Cycle

Coboconk-Norland Pastoral Charge, Norland Ontario

Upcoming Faith Events

September 20: M&S Mini Bake Sale

September 26: Jazz Dinner Show

October 18: M&S Soup & Sandwich Lunch

October 23 & 24: Wartime Radio Show

November 1: Pumpkin Parade

November 7: Faith UCW Christmas Bazaar

December 6: Christmas Concert

Program Calendar – Fall 2026

The Program Calendar team has been meeting and planning a variety of activities, for learning and for fun, for the fall season. Watch for more details next week!

Next Week's Scripture Reading

The reader for September 6th is Enid DeCoe, who is reading Matthew 16: 13-20.

Faith United is a scent-free environment.

Our accessible washroom is on the main floor.

Please share your bulletins, then recycle them.

This Week at Faith United

Monday August 31	
Tuesday September 1	Gardeners:9am Quilting & Knitters (SR): 9:30am
Wednesday September 2	
Thursday September 3	Men's Gathering (LR): 9:30am Craft Group: 10am M&S meeting (LR): 1-2pm
Friday September 4	
Saturday September 5	Private Rental (LR): 1pm – 5pm
Sunday September 6	Hybrid Worship (S): 10:30 am Private Rental (S): 7pm

As an act of respect and reconciliation we at Faith United acknowledge that our church is on the unceded land of the (Ah-nish-nah-bay) Anishinaabe, the (HO-den-o-SHO-nee) Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. We are treaty people living in the region of the Williams Treaty.

----- (Tear Here) -----

We're Glad You're Here! ~ Guest Information

Name(s):

Email:

Address: _____ Ph:

Postal Code: _____ How Did You Find Us?

My Household Includes: Child ☐ Youth ☐ Adult ☐ Senior ☐

I'm Interested In: ☐ Learning more about Faith
 ☐ Envelopes/PAR information
 ☐ Becoming a member
 ☐ Baptism

Comments:

Y N I wish to receive email updates from Faith United. Please circle one.