

Thursday Newsletter

Almonte United Church

Week of September 7-13



Fall Programming Survey

September is here, and we want to know what you'd like to be involved in this fall! Whether it's Bible study, a walking group, or something else, your input will help shape what we start. Take a few minutes to fill out our survey:

<https://forms.gle/LafVPxnJpzts7KmZ6>

Prefer paper? A printed copy is available outside the church office. Submit soon so we can make decisions by the end of the month, to begin early October

The United Churches New Hymn Book ~ *Then Let Us Sing*~

The Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality invites you to "Then Let Us Sing"

Hosted by Paul Sales at

Orleans United Church 1111 Orleans BLVD

THIS SATURDAY

Come and sing as we explore the songs of the United Church's new hymnal. September 12th, 2026, 3-4:30 pm

Cost: By Donation

Interested in car pooling ~ talk to Heather

OPEN HOUSE ~ THANK YOU'S

Thank you to everyone who helped look after the table at the Open House last night. It was a lovely evening, in spite of the rain. We had the chance to meet many people from the community, and I think we represented the church well. A special thanks to Chris, Ernie, Ron and Leslie and to Bob for setting up the presentation. Thanks as well to Leslie and Marg for the cookies. If we judge our success by the amount of cookies we gave away we had a very successful evening.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK

Welcome back to Sunday School! We begin this Sunday, September 13.

Heather's Thursday Thoughts

Tomorrow marks 25 years since 9/11 which is one of those days that I know exactly where I was. My son Ethan had been struggling all of August with fevers and stomach pain, and after several trips to emergency, a surgeon finally diagnosed appendicitis. He had surgery on September 10. The next morning, his stomach still unsettled, we were walking the halls of Elliot Lake General Hospital, Ethan holding on to his IV pole, when we saw the towers hit, then fall, on every television screen we passed. It was surreal.

And then we watched the world react. That day taught me about human nature, both its worst and its best. We saw fear curdle into hatred, as Muslim and Middle Eastern communities were targeted and harassed. It was the beginning, I think, of Islamophobia's rise here. But we also saw communities like Gander, Newfoundland open their doors and hearts to strangers, and be welcoming and caring.

It's that same choice we're given every day; to close ourselves off in fear, or to open ourselves in love. Faith has always called us toward the second. It is always better to choose kindness and love.

See you Sunday ~ Heather ~