



*You are invited to stand in body and/or in spirit.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Gathering Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE:

Time of Quieting and Lighting of Candles.

One: We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ.

All: **May the light of love surround us.**

Introit: More Voices 28 God of the Bible verse 1 and Chorus.

**God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.**

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, You do not change.**

Call to worship (As water is poured)

One: Water

All: to cleanse our bodies.

One: Water

All: to refresh our souls

One: Water

All: to remind us of new life!

One: Come. Come to Jesus the Christ,
the water of life, the Spring that will never run dry,
the One who quenches our thirst
and offers us more than we can ever imagine!
Come to the water.

Melville United Church
St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON
Telephone: 519-843-1781

Team Ministry

Interim Minister:	Valerie Pitt
Youth Ministry Leader:	Susanne Schmidt-McQuillan
Director of Music:	Matthias Schmidt
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	David Gohn
Pastoral Care:	Millie Cumming Elizabeth Stinson
Prayer Tree Captain:	Alison Rainford
Secretary's Office hours:	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T., T. & F.
E-Mail:	secretary@melvilleunited.com
Web Site:	www.melvilleunited.com

January 13, 2013
Baptism of Jesus

Jan. 13, 2013

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**All: We come to re-member.
We come to re-live.
We come to worship our living God. Alleluia!**
(Richard Bott in Gathering)

*OPENING HYMN: VU 710 Shall We Gather at the River

Centering Prayer (VU 86) (unison)

**Just as Jesus went down under the water to be baptized,
so may we immerse ourselves in worship and praise.
Just as the Spirit descended on Christ as a dove,
May we know the blessing of the spirit's presence
settling gently on us now and making our intentions holy. Amen.**
(adapted from a prayer by Kate Crawford)

One: May peace be with you

All: And also with you.

One: Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.

WE APPROACH GOD

*HYMN: MV 173 Put Peace into Each Others Hands
*(children and young people please come forward during the
singing of the last verse)*

Theme Conversation

Blessing

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 43: 1 - 7 When you pass through the waters I will be with you
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 The Baptism of Jesus

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reader: Lillian Gohn

Jan. 13, 2013

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Choir Anthem: Down to the River to Pray - S. Curry

REFLECTION: "WADE IN THE WATER"

Valerie Pitt

Moment of Meditation

*HYMN: MV 161 I Have Called You By Your Name

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Response: VU 55 In the Bleak Midwinter - vs 4

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise one, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him, give him my heart.**

Prayer of Dedication

**God of all gifts, we pray that in some small way,
we reflect the overflowing generosity
we have received in our lives
through the gifts we present today and through PAR.
May we proclaim the good news today and every day
through our gifts and through our actions. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Jesus

*CLOSING HYMN: VU 87 I Am the Light of the World

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

SENDING AND BLESSING

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet
walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with a wounded heart
open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

(Traditional Celtic prayer)

Choral Response: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Chorus: **Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. Repeat Chorus**

POSTLUDE:

OUR WORSHIP ENDS - OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Partners in Prayer: Alma United

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Glen Morris

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Cathy and Robert Foster

Linda and Norm Porritt

Counters: Gary O'Leary (C), Jane O'Leary

Norma Martin

ANNOUNCEMENTS January 13, 2013

Thanks to everyone that attended the hot dog lunch. A great donation of \$ 341.56 was given to The Door - Youth Centre. Hoping you can attend our next hotdog lunch Feb 3, 2013.

Your Reports for the Annual Congregational Meeting are due! Please remember to get your annual committee get your reports into the office by Jan. 31. If yours is ready please bring it in!

Congratulations to Charles and Grace Fraser on their 60th wedding anniversary. There will be an open house for them on Saturday, Jan. 19 to celebrate! The open house is being held in the Fellowship Hall from 1 - 4:00 p.m.

Items to collect for the Food Bank this month are Baby Food, Diapers and Wipes to go along with it being a New Year!

From the transition Team - Results of of visioning day are in. We will be launching your visioning ideas on February 3rd in our worship service. Please plan to be there and add your voice.

Thank you so much to everyone who made the Putz Service so meaningful. Last Sunday was the last week of the nativity scene. If you would like to take your pieces home you are welcome to do so. They can be found in the Chapel. Otherwise they will be kept at the church and used as needed. Please let Susanne or Val know of your intentions.

Soup and Spirituality meets each Tuesday at noon for soup and study.

We will be working with the upcoming Scripture readings for each Sunday. All are welcome to one or any of these sessions.

Next week readings: Isaiah 62: 1 - 5; Psalm 36: 5 - 10; 1 Corinthians 12: 1- 11; John 2: 1 - 11 The Wedding at Cana

Angel Memory Trees: This was our 10th year and it was a very successful one! Our trees displayed 167 angels and \$1492.00 went into Melville's coffers. A heartfelt "Thank You" to all who made this happen! Blessings to you!!

Family-sized meat pies for sale - 7 available - they will feed 6. Cost \$9 - \$10 depending on size. Contact Bev Anticknap 519-843-2491.

LENTEN STUDY**DIVING DEEPLY: DAILY RELECTIONS FOR LENT**

edited by Betty Lynn Schwab

Diving Deeply is a Lenten reflections resource for 2013. The daily devotions, for both individual and small group study, are written by spiritual directors and chaplains and are drawn from their work on university campuses, at airports, correctional facilities, and hospitals, and from their visitations with people in their own homes. Each devotion dives down with the person whose story is central to the reflection to seek the depth of their loss, fear, or despair. Each time, the writer helps the person to find a source of spiritual help and hope deep within their own being, a source that helps them rise to the surface and celebrate the joy that Easter promises.

Books will be available shortly.

Melville Book Group is presently reading “The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society” by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

Copies are in the library if you would like to join us. We will be meeting to discuss the book in early February.

Observer subscription renewal time - If you subscribe to the United Church magazine, the Observer, the \$20 subscription fee for the 2013 year is now due. Please make cheques payable to Melville United Church, note the amount is for the Observer subscription and put in the offering plate or into the church office by January 31. If you wish to subscribe to this excellent magazine, please give your \$20 and name and address to Gerri in the office or phone Lorri at 519-843-2018.

Taizé Service at 7:30pm on Thursday, January 17th at 7:30pm. An evening of song, prayer and healing at St James Anglican Church, 171 Queen St E, Fergus.

Re-Imagining Church

Have you noticed church is changing. A lot of the expectations and ways we are used to seem to apply less and less. We don't have the same place in society we enjoyed in the past. Things we always counted on are slipping away. Something is wrong. But what?

God has not left us. God is calling and challenging us to be the church in our time and place. But how?

Re-Imagining Church is a 5-week exploration of these things. We'll re-orient our thinking, sow new ideas, and imagine possibilities. Monday evenings, January 14-February 11. At Elora United Church. From 7:00 to 9:00.

Please contact Greg Smith-Young for more info (revgreg@bellnet.ca; 519.846.0122). If you are interested but this time doesn't work for you, let Greg know.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Jan. 14 to Sun. Jan. 20, 2013

Mon. 14	10:30	Spirituality Circle	Parlour
Tues. 15	9:00	Quilting	Heritage Hall
	11:45	Soup and Spirituality	Parlour
Thurs. 17	7:00	Choir	Parlour
Fri. 18	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
	11:00	Meditation	Library
Sun. 20	9:30	Choir	Choir Room
	10.30	Sunday Service	Sanctuary