

FRIDAY FILE

840 Bruce Street Box 486 Port Elgin,

Ontario N0H 2C0 (519) 832-9540

peunitedchurch@bmts.com



August 21, 2026

~ New Office Hours ~

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Rev. Dan Leaver

Administrator: Michelle Ertl

Please note if no one in office leave message at
above phone number or email

Diaconal Dan's Deliberation



Friends.

There is a Tanzanian chant in our More Voices hymn book called "Listen, God Is Calling." Its simple refrain of "listen God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort and joy" reminds us that God continues to call, invite, comfort, and send us into the world.

This Sunday, the children are taking the lead for the message in worship. We will hear about a rather mysterious event happening in town and explore how we are each gifted and called by God. When we hear the words "God is calling," we might imagine something dramatic: Moses and the burning bush, Samuel hearing his name in the night, or Jesus calling the disciples away from their fishing nets. Yet most of the time, God's call is much quieter than that.

Sometimes it comes through someone who notices a gift in us before we recognize it ourselves. Sometimes it comes through a need in our community that keeps tugging at our attention. And sometimes God's call is so ordinary that we might not recognize it as a call at all. It can be an opportunity to help, a person who needs us, or a quiet sense that there is something we can do.

God's call does not always ask us to change our whole lives. Sometimes it simply reminds us that who we are, the gifts we have, and the ways we care for one another can all be part of God's work in the world.

That is part of the mystery and beauty of God's call: it can meet us in ways both great and small, sometimes when we least expect it.

And who knows? Perhaps there is still a little mystery left for us to discover on Sunday.

Listen, God is calling.

Rev Dan

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Financial Gifts can be made through cash or cheques on the offering plates during worship.

Envelopes are available and tax receipts issued.

Please include how you would like to portion your donation between local giving and contributions to the Mission and Service Fund.

Donations Cheques can be mailed to:

Box 486, Port Elgin, ON NOH 2C0

Donations can also be made through:

Automatic bank withdrawals (through PAR)

E-Transfer: peucfinance@bmts.com

Online on PEUC Website – By Credit Card – Canada Helps

Worship Schedule	August 23 10:00am	August 30 10:00am	September 6 10:00am
	13 th After Pentecost	14 th After Pentecost	15 th After Pentecost
<i>Worship Leader</i>	Rev Dan Leaver	Eileen Wolfe	Rev Dan Leaver
<i>Music</i>	Leanne Tees	Leanne Tees	Leanne Tees
<i>Lay Reader</i>	Helen Cumming	Louise Jack	Tanya Wolfe
<i>AV Booth Team</i>	John Van Berlo	George Brown	John Van Berlo
<i>Fellowship</i>	Hospitality	TBD	Best of Friends
<i>Counters</i>	Pat Chesterman & Brian Schnittker	Susan Miller & Lori Chesterman	Adele & Keith Greig

ARE YOU ENJOYING OUR SUNDAY SERVICES ONLINE?

Would you consider donating to our Church?

**You Can Donate:
On Line on our Web Site**

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/port-elgin-pastoral-charge/>

by E-Transfer

peucfinance@bmts.com

**Or, You Can Sign up to do Automatic Monthly
Withdrawals through the church "PAR" program.**

Email peucfinance@bmts.com to get set up

" Together We Can Make a Difference"

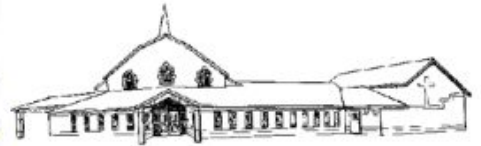


Can't make it in? Follow us on Youtube



Click on Image to view last Sunday's Worship

Inside PEUC



Keeping our church family in the loop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Week of August 23 - 29

Sunday August 23	Worship Service – 10am Fellowship – TBD
Monday August 24	
Tuesday August 25	Comfort Quilters – 9:30-3:30 Men's Study Group - 2-4pm
Wednesday August 26	
Thursday August 27	
Friday August 28	
Saturday August 29	

Another Vacation Bible Camp Successfully Completed

Another year, another camp and Port Elgin United Church had 73 happy children and about 35 tired adults and teen helpers successfully completing the Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) with the traditional Ministerial cream pie in the face conclusion.

Because it ain't over until the pie hits the face and the pizza is eaten!

What is Vacation Bible Camp

One way to reach out to people in the Community is to have a fun VBC.

A one-week by donation camp in a church draws them in. Both parents and children enjoy bible stories, bible scripture about love and caring, positive examples, singing, dancing and playing in a church atmosphere. Most of the children and parents do not attend our church. Showing them that church can be fun sends out a positive message and invites people in.



What is a day like?

Each morning the children come to the Registration desk and then make their way to the Sanctuary to listen to the music and watch yesterday's activities on the screen. Rev Dan and Joan come in and lead the children in songs and dance and introduce the theme of the day. Joan directs the children to their leaders, and the four groups go to their activities.

There are six activities:

Bible stories and Adventures

Sticky Scriptures

Opening and closing with music & dancing (everyone together)

Snack Time (everyone together)

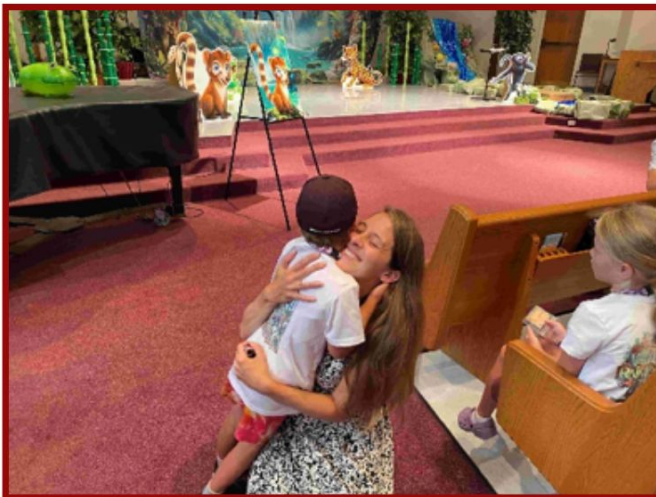
Craft Time

Outdoor game time.

This gives some leaders a break during the morning. Groups start with their own activity and join leaders in their classroom or outside.

At the end of activities everyone gathers in the Sanctuary and Sings and Dances and learns about the important points for the day. John gets to crank up the music loud. He enjoys, feeling the music vibrating in his bones.

Rev Dan updates how we are doing on the food drive and helps to set goals.



Bible Stories and Adventures

Children gather in the Chapel with Laura to learn about a major point in the bible. They hear the story and then they participate in the activity to support the point. For example, everyone puts their fingerprint on the cross and then all their wrong doings disappear.



Sticky Scriptures

Marcia and June play videos and discuss the video with the children. The bible point for the day is taught to the children, using a real-life situation. We hope that the children will remember the point, to love others and do good.



Story Time

Joan has the younger children listen to stories and learn lessons from the bible. This is at a much younger level than the Bible Stories and Adventures.

Snack time

Everyone gathers in the gym, sits with their group and munches on fruit, veggies, crackers, treats and water. Their batteries get recharged and after, the groups of children go off to their next activity.



Craft Time

Victoria and many adult volunteers help the children to make crafts they can take home with them. The children are proud of their accomplishments and show the crafts to visitors to the room.

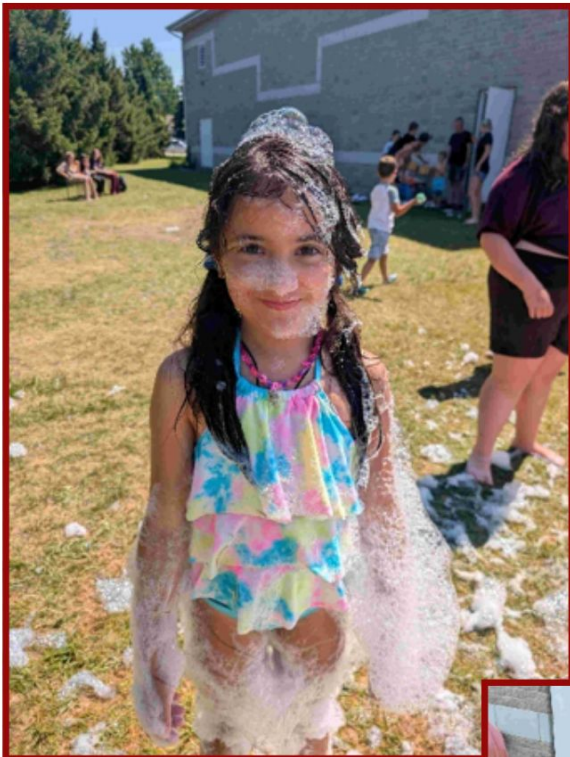
Everything from dioramas, jungle hats, tie snakes to wind up butterflies are made and proudly brought home.



Outdoor Games

Harry and Louise are out on the lawn. They organized races, passing through hoops while holding hands, carrying balls, crawling through tunnels, wading through foam and leaping over barriers and kept everyone very busy and incredibly happy.

What if it rains? No problem. Everyone simply went into the gym and set up an obstacle course and children went around the course, dry and safe.



End of Day Session

After their activities the children and leaders gathered in the Sanctuary, learned how much we donated to the Food Basket and sang and danced to some very loud songs.

Most of the children went home to their family, but about 41-45 children stayed for the afternoon. They ate lunch – things like mac and cheese, chicken nuggets, fried rice, hash browns, hotdogs, hamburgers, bagels and pizza as well as fruit, veggies, and chips along with dessert. These children had some quiet and some not so quiet activities. About 4PM parents came to pick them up and bring them home for the day.



Our Teen Leaders

The adults cannot do it all. About 15 teens took part and showed their leadership skills, helping the adults to look after the children. The teens guided the children to their next activity, helped to show the activity and at times helped to repair cuts, scrapes and accidents. Sometimes they escorted the children to the bathroom and waited outside for them to come out.

All necessary and important work.

A big thank you to all the teen leaders.

Life Carries On - The Church Continues Helping those in Need

You may think that the week is all fun and games. Children laughing and carrying on. However, the community needs are still there. During the week there were two occasions when people in need, came in and received aid from the Benevolent Fund.

We try to be available for people to meet their needs.

It Ain't Over until the Pie is in the Face

This year Rev Dan gave a goal for the food drive. We achieved that goal on Thursday. Rev Dan then set a stretch goal of 450 pounds of food donated. If we achieved that goal, then a lucky teen would get to throw a cream pie into Rev. Dan's face.

The goal is achieved and Riley wins the right to throw the pie. She did an excellent job. Rev Dan wore the pie with honour.



SAVE THE DATE



Coming to
Port Elgin United Church
Sunday October 18th @ 3pm

NOW EVERY
OTHER MONTH



HUG A BEARS SCHEDULE

Bear Stuffing occurs on the 3rd Tuesday
of every other month.

Our next Bear Stuffing is on
Tuesday September 15th
from 9-11am
In Classroom 6

Here are the rest of the dates of Bear
Stuffing for 2025/2026:

2026 Dates:

September 15
November 17

See you
Tuesday September 15th!

