

CHURCH CHAT

THORNDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWS

Mission Statement: "We are a Church that is a place for spiritual renewal and growth and a place in which we learn about and engage in Christ's work of peace, love and justice. The Church as the body of Christ is a fellowship of hope, a family where all are welcomed, valued, needed and nurtured."

Image: peakpx



MINISTER'S MESSAGE:

Dear Church Family,

As we step into this fall season together, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to each of you. The changing season reminds us that God is always at work—guiding, shaping, renewing, and calling us forward in faith. We do not walk this journey alone. We walk it together, as brothers and sisters in Christ, held by the same hope and united by the same Lord.

Over the summer, our theme was *Eyes on Him*—an invitation to keep our focus on Jesus in the middle of every joy, challenge, question, and opportunity. As we move into the fall and beyond, may that spiritual awareness continue to shape us. May we look for His presence in our homes, our work, our worship, our conversations, and our service. When our eyes remain fixed on Jesus, our hearts are strengthened, our hope is renewed, and our unity grows deeper.

Hebrews 10:25 reminds us not to give up meeting together, but to encourage one another all the more. What a beautiful picture of the church: a people gathered not

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Church Chat Issue:
September October 2026

Sunday Worship for people of all ages
11:00 am at Thorndale

Office: 519-609-6132
office@tzuc.ca
www.tzuc.ca



only for worship, but for encouragement, support, prayer, and love. In a world that can often feel divided or disconnected, our gathering matters. When we come together, we remember who we are and whose we are.

And truly, we are family. We are not simply a group of people who attend the same church; we are a family of faith learning to follow Jesus together. We rejoice with one another, carry burdens with one another, make room for one another, and grow alongside one another. Each person has a place, each gift matters, and each life is part of the story God is writing among us.

As the fall begins, I invite you to enter this season with expectant hearts. Let us meet together faithfully, encourage one another generously, and keep our eyes on Him continually. With hope, unity, and love, may we continue walking this journey of faith—together.

With gratitude and joy,
Pastor Pam

THORNDALE CHURCH SERVICES

Church services are held at 11am on Sundays. Lighthouse Sunday School is available during services.

Did you know that we have a Coffee Hour before worship the second Sunday of every month? All are welcome to join us for this social time!

Tuesday September 8th—UCW Meeting. Refreshments 9:30am, meeting 10am. Rollcall: What is your favourite soup (please bring the recipe). Please bring a cash/cheque donation for Karen's Place. Don't forget our coins! Lug a Mug!

Wednesday September 9th. Council meeting at 7:30pm.

Sunday September 13th. Donations for Dorchester Food Bank. Always in need of garbage tags and gift cards for dollar store, grocery store and gas.

We will also have a coffee time preceding the service hosted by Pat Jones.

Saturday and Sunday September 26th & 27th. Thorndale United Church will be at the Fall Fair. Join us!

Sunday November 8th. Save the Date! We are having a fundraiser to help cover some of the costs of the church renovations. The entertainment is "Frankie and the Fairlanes". They play 50's & 60's music. The first show will be at 3pm and a second show at 7pm. at the Church. Get your tickets now! They will also be available at the Thorndale Fair church table.

PUMPKIN
spice
JESUS
Christ

**Fall Into
Faith—You'll
Never Hit the
Ground.**

FALL is in
The *air*



Join Us at the Thorndale Fall Fair!

"We Make, You Bake" pie orders

Apple and Blueberry pies - \$15.00

Pickup dates at the church - Oct 5 & Nov. 16

"Thorndale Annual Beef Supper"

Tickets are available for the annual Beef Supper

Thorndale Community Centre

Tuesday, October 20th

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Adults - \$25.00

Children 6 -14: \$10.00

Children under 5 - Free.

Dine-in & Take-out available.

"Frankie and the Fairlanes, Channel Surfin"

Tickets are available for this fundraising show.

Thorndale United Church

Sunday, November 8th 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 pm

\$25.00/person.

Join us for this celebration of the music and memories from the golden age of television! From Elvis to Elton, from Jerry Lee to Jim Croce, Frankie and the Fairlanes have tuned in an amazing show with special guests, lots of laughs and some great TV theme songs guaranteed to have you singing along.

Proceeds of this event will go to the church Fellowship Hall renovations.

Chairlift available.

Look forward to seeing you there.

FRANKIE and the FAIRLANES
ROCK N' ROLL

CHANNEL SURFIN'
MUSIC AND MEMORIES FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
3PM MATINEE
THORNDALE UNITED CHURCH
405 KING ST. THORNDALE
TICKETS: \$25, ADULTS \$10 KIDS

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
7PM EVENING SHOW
THORNDALE UNITED CHURCH
405 KING ST. THORNDALE
Info: Call John at (519) 416-0067

Join us for this celebration of the music and memories from the golden age of television! From Elvis to Elton, from Jerry Lee to Jim Croce, Frankie and the Fairlanes have tuned in an amazing show with special guests, lots of laughs and some great TV theme songs guaranteed to have you singing along. It's no surprise that Frankie and the Fairlanes have been Ontario's premier Rock-N-Roll review for nearly 20 years!

frankieandthefairlanes.com

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

We are making a call for volunteers to sit at the Fair Table selling beef supper tickets, Vallee tickets, and taking "We make, you bake" pie orders.

Please contact Yvonne Elliott to schedule a time on Saturday or Sunday (Sept. 26th or 27th).

Another Successful EVENT!



Always a good crowd when there is baking on the table & guys grilling bacon on a bun. The aroma travelled through the village of Thorndale attracting folks to come & enjoy a bite to eat.



They say that it takes a village... well that is true & we have a wonderful group of folks that all work well together & like spending time doing what we love.

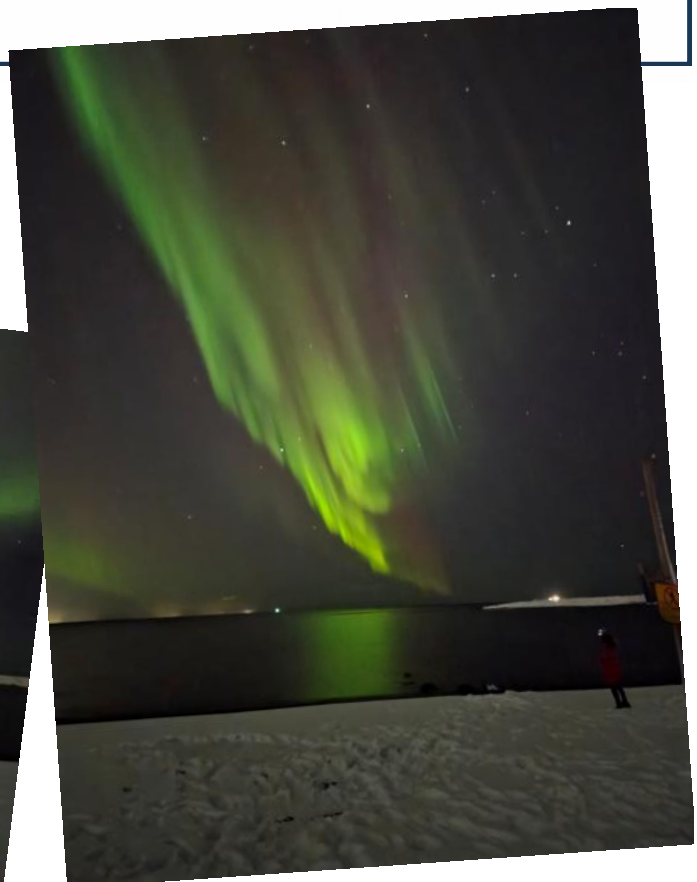




A Bucket List Item

High on my bucket list was to see the Northern Lights – I mean really see them in the dark northern sky. So last year Mike and I fulfilled that dream on our trip to Iceland. It was a spectacular trip full of God's blessings including a record-breaking snowfall our first day. But the real joy came in the sky as we watched the colours dance across the night in a breathtaking display. We were truly blessed to see this beautiful display two of the four nights we were in Reykjavik.

Pam Wilcox



A Back-to-School Blessing

From the United Church of Canada

Loving God,
parent and companion to us all,
hold the precious children and young people
in your loving care as they begin a new school year.

Nurture in them a sense of wonder.
Keep their curiosity alive,
their imaginations wide,
and their hearts open to the joy of discovering
something new.

May the spark of creativity, possibility, and adventure
continue to burn brightly within them. Give them
courage to ask questions, freedom to dream, and
confidence to become who they are meant to be.

Surround them with people who see their worth
and meet them with kindness, patience, and respect.

Protect them from harm,
from cruelty and fear,
and from words and ideas that diminish the dignity of others.

And may they be a source of kindness, courage,
and welcome to those around them.

Bless them as they learn and grow,
as they make friends, face challenges,
discover their gifts, and find their own light.

May they shine in the ways that are uniquely theirs—
and may every child be surrounded by the love, care, and hope they need to flourish.

Amen.





Fall Fair Worship Service

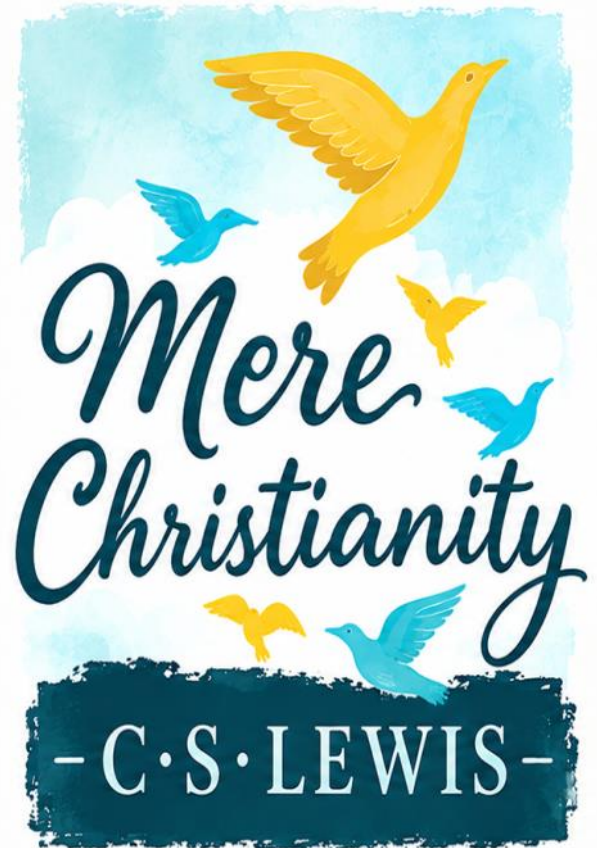
Sept 27 at 10 am in the Community Center. Welcoming all our community friends.

Thorndale and Browns United Churches will not be open. Everyone is welcome to come to the fair and worship!

Summer Book Club

This summer 11 of us read Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis.

Despite its challenges, the book was enjoyed and we all learned something. We met together on Aug 14 at Browns School to share conversation about the book and to enjoy a charcuterie spread of yummy snacks. It was an enjoyable evening. Maybe next year you will join us for a summer reading project.



The first Jaques cousin reunion was held at the home of John and Yvonne Elliott on Sunday, August 9. Three generations, 37 of us, gathered from as far away as Calgary. Much conversation and laughter ensued as we enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch. Family photos circulated, and an optional farm tour brought the afternoon of reminiscing to a close.

We are looking forward to another, hopefully in the not-too-distant future.

Photos were taken courtesy of Ben and Kate Dixon.

Submitted by Yvonne Elliott





IGNITE and EMPOWER

Lighthouse Children and Youth Ministries

We're excited to begin another season of Lighthouse Children and Youth Ministries on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, following a wonderful year with our two groups.

- Wednesdays from 5:30–7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Thorndale United Church.
- Dinner is served from 5:30–6:00 p.m., followed by age-based activities.
- Ignite for kids grade 1 to 5
- Empower for kids grade 6 and into high school.
- Registration is \$100 for the year.
- For details or to register, contact Pam Wilcox at 519-609-6132 or pamwilcox@hotmail.ca.

These are some creative church signs...



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Bible Study starting Tuesday October 6th. We warmly invite you to join us for a weekly Bible Study as we explore the letters to the Corinthians, written by the Apostle Paul. Together, we will discover the wisdom, encouragement, correction, and hope found in these powerful letters and consider how they speak to our lives and faith today.

When: Every Tuesday evening, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

First Session: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Study Focus: The letters to the Corinthians by the Apostle Paul

Whether you are new to Bible Study or have been studying Scripture for years, you are welcome. Come ready for thoughtful discussion, fellowship, and encouragement as we grow together in God's Word.

We hope you will join us!

Contact Pastor Pam for more details and to obtain the study guide.



SOUTH SUDAN Update

Submitted by Stu McCutcheon

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the container. This next container is going to Kenya. It is going to "The Shelter of Hope" orphanage and school. It is located near Lake Victoria, which is the start of the Nile River.

We have changed locations for this container due to the struggles getting the last container into South Sudan and also the instability of the country. This is all new for us this time: new location, new country, new rules, new people we are working with, and a variety of unknowns.

We are sending the usual items: clothing, footwear, bedding, fabric, towels, to list a few. Also, there have been requests for help to stock and supply the kitchen for the orphanage with large pots and pans, plus various cooking and serving items.

The school is in need of children's desks. We are sending lumber to build some desks, along with woodworking tools. Musical instruments and sound equipment were also asked to be considered. School supplies like pens and lined paper were requested, along with toiletries and gardening tools.

We are hoping to load the container in late September or early October.

Wish us luck on this new journey



THE PUMP

Submitted by Elaine Clays

In our back flower bed sits this old pump, which has been in our shed for the last three years. But it finally got repaired, painted, and erected in its new home. One thing off our bucket list! This pump was my brother Gerald's and my 4-H project for the 1967 Centennial Year. We had it at the end of our laneway in a steel wheel full of flowers, with a "4-H Family Lives Here" sign on it.

Sometime later, it got taken down and put upstairs in the old barn. Three years ago, when the old barn was taken down, I was asked if I wanted the old pump. Of course I did! I was quite proud of it, and when I mentioned it to my brother Ronald, he gave me the history of it.

When we moved to Concession 4, Lot 9 in 1960, it was a working pump west of the barn for the water trough for the cattle. It had its own well, and there were two other wells.

Knowing the past history of this pump made it even more interesting.

A Great Day at **BROWNS** — UNITED CHURCH —

Corn Roast & Potluck

On Sunday August 16 we headed to Browns United Church to enjoy a corn roast & pulled pork along with everyone's favourite pot luck. And as usual there was an enormous selection of delicious dishes & desserts to choose from.

The event was all by donation and the collection went to the Canadian Food Grains Bank.

We arrived mid afternoon & many hands made light work of shucking dozens of cobs of corn to get ready to dunk in the big black kettle.

There was musical entertainment to enjoy while everyone set up for the dinner.

At one point just before the dinner began we had a torrential down pour, so we were all quite grateful to be sheltered. The guys had to start sweeping the rain out of the shelter as it was streaming in pretty quickly but it settled after a while & the fun continued.

Thanks goes to all that helped to organize & set things up. We also are appreciative of those that provided the pulled pork & corn, as well as all the wonderful potluck dishes. These events don't just happen, it takes loving hands and hearts to help it all come together. We are already looking forward to next year!!

Submitted by: Charlene Kuepfer



Thorndale United Church

BEEF SUPPER

**POTATO, GRAVY, VEGETABLES, SALAD
PIE & ICE CREAM**

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

**Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Thorndale Community Centre
4:30 – 7:00 PM**

**Adults: \$25.00
Child 6-14: \$10.00
Child 5 & Under: Free**

For Tickets Call: 519-461-0463

LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS: OCT 11th, 2026



PIE DAYS ARE BACK! WE MAKE - YOU BAKE!

APPLE OR BLUEBERRY DOUBLE CRUSTED
PIES \$15 EACH

PICK UP DATES
OCTOBER 5TH AND NOVEMBER 16TH
AT THORNDALE UNITED CHURCH

VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME FOR
PREPARATION

PLACE AND PAY FOR YOUR ORDERS
AT THE CHURCH BOOTH AT THE
THORNDALE FAIR
OR CALL JOYCE AT 519-461-1196
BY SEPTEMBER 26TH



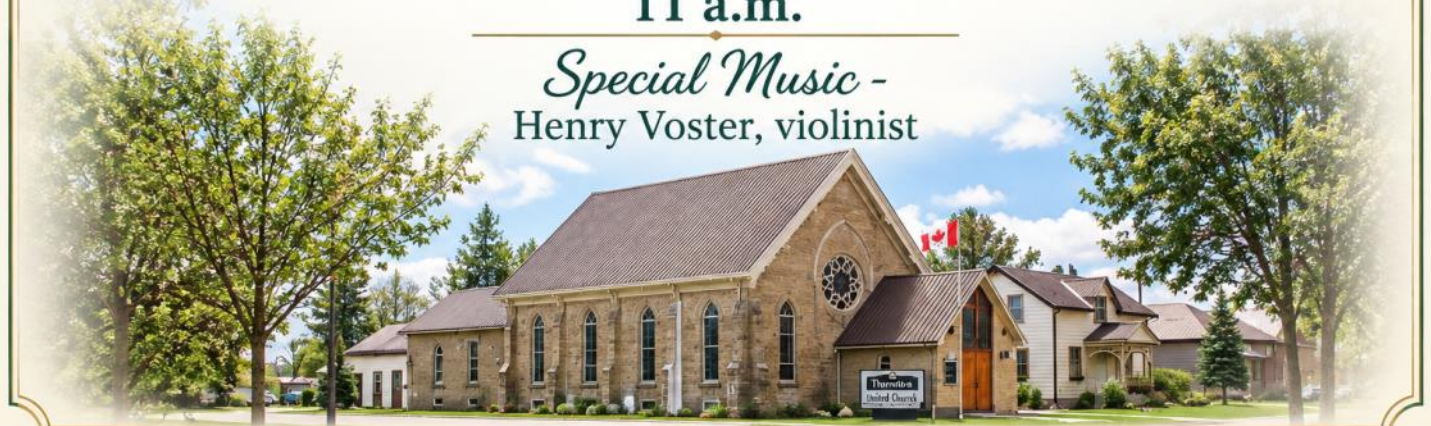
Submitted by Pam Wilcox

THORNDALE UNITED CHURCH

147TH
ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
11 a.m.

Special Music -
Henry Voster, violinist



This has always been one of my favourite cakes, so I hope you all enjoy it!

I originally made this cake with apples, but when we had our B&B, I started making it with peaches—and that turned out to be my favourite version. We had a peach tree on our property, and before the squirrels got to all of them, we managed to pick about a bushel of peaches to enjoy!

I usually add about a cup of peaches, which makes the cake wonderfully moist. And, of course, you can make this cake with just about any fruit you like. *Don't be afraid to play with your food!* Submitted by Charlene Kuepfer

COFFEE CAKE

Ingredients

- 3/4 c. sugar
- 1/2 c. butter OR margarine
- 1 lge. egg
- 1/2 c. milk
- 1-1/2 c. flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 to 3 apples, cut up
(You can also swap for peaches)

Streusel Mixture

- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. apple pie spice
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 2 tbsp. butter (optional)



Directions

- Mix sugar, butter or margarine and egg together. Stir in the milk.
- In another small bowl, stir together flour, baking powder and salt. Mix with the wet ingredients and stir in apple pieces. Spread batter in a greased and floured 9-inch square pan.
- Mix streusel ingredients together and sprinkle over cake mixture.
- Bake in a 350°F oven for 25 to 30 minutes.

A Day at KINGSTON PENITENTIARY

Submitted by Roy Lawrence & Millie Pourchez



It started with a telephone call from Millie's son & grandson in Kingston. It was an invitation to come to Kingston for a visit and vacation. Her grandson was on his last week of school. He also invited grandpa Roy.

A date was set, so we left London by bus on June 22nd. After a six-hour drive, we finally arrived in Kingston. Millie's son would be our chauffeur for the week. He was good enough to take a week's vacation from the military.

Millie's grandson was excited to see us and show us our living quarters in the basement of his home. Very nicely set out as living quarters. His grandpa in Kingston had to be placed in long-term care.

As a surprise to us, Millie's son had purchased 2 tickets for us to tour Kingston Pen, it was a 1 1/2-hour tour. Our tour guide was a retired police officer from Toronto, how appropriate. He was very knowledgeable with the information pertaining to the Penitentiary itself. During the tour, we were advised of the layout for different prisoners and how many spent long terms there. I cannot recall all the stats regarding the prison but it was very informative.

The prison was built in 1835 and was closed in 2013. In the prison, mattresses were made along with furniture, such as desks, chairs, etc. for use by the military. Eventually boots were also made for the Military. The mattresses were made about 3 inches thick and laid on a slab of concrete about 3 feet high. If prisoners refused to do this work, they were confined to their cells. Many items were made through different methods in order to escape. Many attempts were unsuccessful. The riot in 1971 was horrific. Prison guards were taken hostage and some were killed in the riot. Thankfully we did not see evidence of the riot, as many years had passed. The tour was very interesting, to say the least. It will remain a memory for us.

The tour guide directed us to the Gift Shop in the foyer. I purchased a book on the history of Kingston Pen, Millie purchased a fridge magnet.

Kingston Pen is a very clean and inviting place to visit. This ended a very full day for Millie and me. Millie's son is an active member of the Military and has been for many years.

This was one of our outings in Ontario this summer.



This fall I look forward to gathering in our sanctuary again and worshipping our glorious Loving Father together! I look forward to growing in my faith with you! I look forward to the service opportunities that God has in store for us. I look forward to being a part of the Lighthouse Ministries bringing Jesus to the next generations. I look forward to continuing as your Pastor. 😊