



PARKMINSTER
UNITED
CHURCH

Opportunities for Involvement

In addition to Sunday worship services, Parkminster has many other events and activities happening on an ongoing basis.

All are invited to become more involved in life at Parkminster!

If any of the following groups or events interests you, please contact the office administrator (admin@parkuc.ca) to get connected with one of our group leaders.

Parkminster United Church
275 Erb Street East
Waterloo, ON N2J 1N6

519-885-0935
admin@parkuc.ca
www.parkuc.ca

Christian Education

Programming and events for children, youth, and young families to nurture faith and community, emphasizing healthy relationships and the development of compassion.

Sunday School (JK to Gr. 4): Weekly programming from Sept to June during Sunday worship that allows for faith exploration through stories, activities, drama, crafts, prayer, and discussion. **Junior Youth** (Gr. 4-7) runs concurrently every other week.

Youth Group (Gr 7-12): Regular evening gatherings where youth from four local United churches can connect, discuss, and discover their world through faith and fellowship.

Christmas Pageant: An opportunity for children and youth to explore and share the Christmas story through drama during an Advent service.

Family Parties: Opportunities throughout the year for children and their families to gather, build community, have fun, and enjoy a meal together.

Music

Voices United Choir

A Sunday morning choir of 20+ members, with a traditional and contemporary repertoire.

Cast in Bronze Handbell Choir

A choir of 12 members that perform regularly at Sunday services. We're always looking for spares to fill in for the regulars. Ability to read music is a must.

Men's Chorus

Men from within and outside Parkminster who love to sing, who perform at the Christmas service and at the Music Sunday in June.

The Band

A group of vocal and instrumental musicians (members and others) who perform at Sunday services regularly through the year.

Social Groups & Events

Bocce Ball

A sport similar to lawn bowling played in teams of two or four in the Parkminster gym. Instructions and equipment available.

Euchre Club

Open to all, couples or singles, held monthly (Oct and Nov, Jan-Apr) in member homes. No experience necessary.

Lunch Bunch

A social event open to everyone held at a local restaurant periodically throughout the year.

Men's Breakfast

A monthly breakfast get-together at a nearby restaurant, open to all men of Parkminster.

Mix 'n Mingles & Sing-Alongs

Join in periodic, informal mix 'n mingle and sing along events at the church.

2SLGBTQIA+ and Allies Potluck

A time for shared food and engaging conversations, hosted several times a year. Open to all members and allies of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, from both Parkminster and the wider community.

UGO-IGO

Open to all women of Parkminster, with a variety of events such as hiking, book sharing, and day trips, focusing on fellowship and fun.

Walking Group

Participate whenever you wish in year-round fellowship exploring Waterloo Region's various trails. The walking group meets every Wednesday morning.

Writers Group

Do you have a story to tell? This is a space to share your work with other writers, invite feedback, and workshop our writing together.

Study and Contemplation

Community Labyrinth

A wonderful labyrinth at the rear of the church, available anytime for a moment of quiet contemplation. It's a safe space for tranquility and peace, a place to restore a sense of balance to body, mind, and spirit.

Bible Study Listening Circle

Every Sunday night—a chance to gather in-person to connect in a meaningful way while exploring, questioning, and hearing one another's perspectives on contemporary relevance (or lack thereof) of Bible passages.

Study and Spirituality Groups

Opportunities throughout the year to explore faith and spirituality in group settings, in person and over Zoom, including Lenten study groups, speakers, a faith and spirituality podcast discussion group, re-writing the Psalms, and more.

Work of the Church

Sunday Service Volunteers

All in the congregation are assigned to one of nine "house groups," each of which arranges volunteers from their group to assist during one month of Sunday services to welcome, usher, lay read, light the Christ Candle, and host coffee hour.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A group that meets monthly to knit and distribute prayer shawls, touching the lives of the lonely, ill, and grieving.

Monday Morning Playgroup

Parkminster volunteers host a Monday morning playgroup in the gym for 20+ children and their caregivers from the community, with plenty of snacks, beverages, and toys.

Trustees, Council, and Committees

Board of Trustees

The Trustees manage Parkminster's Memorial Endowment Fund, the Memorial Garden at the front of the church, and the church's insurance program.

Church Council

Comprised of representatives from all parts of our church community, the Council provides direction and oversight, sets policies, and is accountable for all church activities.

Communications Committee

Responsible for sharing Parkminster's vision and mission through digital platforms and newsletters.

Finance Committee

Manages Parkminster's accounting, banking, financial planning and reporting, payroll, and certain compliance matters.

Inclusive Ministries Committee

Upholds our values as an affirming congregation, hosting events and publicizing information about opportunities to support inclusive initiatives in our local community.

Living Into Right Relations

A working group within the Inclusive Ministries committee that focuses on our education about and repairing relationships with First Nations peoples.

Ministry & Personnel Committee

Provides a consultative and supportive body for church staff, fostering communication and good working relationships amongst church staff, and between staff and the congregation. They also make recommendations on compensation and administer human resource policies.

Nominating Committee

Works from October to January to identify leadership openings for the year ahead and recruit nominees for Church Council and committees, matching people's gifts and interests with the needs of the church.

Outreach Committee

Provides leadership and initiatives to guide the congregation in understanding and responding to the needs of our communities, turning compassion into action. They encourage financial and other support for outreach initiatives and are responsible for disbursing Parkminster's outreach funds.

Pastoral Care & Membership Committee

This joint committee complements the work of the ministers in caring, supporting, and staying in touch with members and adherents in times of need. They also maintain the church's membership records, manage the house groups, and organize a variety of social events throughout the year that bring folks together.

Property Committee

Responsible for the security, care, and maintenance of the church property, equipment, and systems. They also manage our relationships with tenants.

Stewardship Committee

Nurtures and encourages members, adherents, and potential members to identify and share their gifts of time, talent, and treasure on an ongoing basis.

Worship & Music Committee

Works with the ministers and music director in all matters pertaining to worship services, including preparations for communion.

A/V Resource Team

The A/V team operates audio-visual equipment for Sunday worship and special events.