



*Talbotville United Church*  
*182<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Service*



*Sunday, October 4, 2026*  
*10:00 AM*

*Come join us to celebrate  
this milestone.*

*Rev. Laurie will deliver the message*  
*World Wide Communion*  
*Special Music*

*Potluck lunch to follow*

## **A Season of New Beginnings**

There is something about September that feels like a new beginning.

Even though it isn't the beginning of the calendar year, September brings a sense of starting again. The slower days of summer give way to new routines. Children and grandchildren head back to school. Gardens offer their final harvests. The evenings grow cooler, and we begin to notice the days getting shorter.

Here at church, September brings a sense of beginning again as well.

We gather after the summer months, reconnect with one another, and look ahead to the season before us. There are worship services to plan, ministries to continue, events to prepare for, and opportunities to serve our community. But perhaps most importantly, we have the opportunity to remind ourselves who we are and why we gather.

We are a community of faith.

We come together because we believe God is present—in our worship, our prayers, our conversations, our laughter, and even in the difficult moments of life. We come because we need one another. And we come because the good news of Jesus calls us beyond ourselves into lives of compassion, generosity, justice, and love.

I hope we will resist thinking of church simply as a list of things that need to be done. Instead, may we see this new season as an invitation to notice where God is already at work among us, to make room for new possibilities, to welcome those who are searching for a place to belong, and to share our gifts with a world that needs what we have to offer.

Scripture reminds us again and again that God brings new life from things that seem small or ordinary. A seed becomes a plant. A little yeast transforms a loaf of bread. A few loaves and fish become enough for a multitude.

We don't always know what God will do with the small things we offer: a smile, a prayer, a phone call, a welcoming word, an hour of our time, a gift, a willingness to listen, or the courage to try something new.

None of these things may seem remarkable on their own. And yet, in God's hands, ordinary things can become extraordinary.

As we enter this new season together, may we continue to be a congregation that notices where there is need and responds with compassion. May we be willing to ask, "What might God be inviting us to do now?"

And most of all, may we remember that we do not enter this new season alone.

God goes with us.

The same God who has been present through every season of our lives is present with us now—in the changing seasons, in the joys and challenges of our congregation, and in whatever the future holds.

So, as the leaves begin to change and the rhythm of our lives changes with them, may we step into autumn with open hearts, curious spirits, and hope for what lies ahead.

I look forward to sharing this season with you.

May our life together as a community of faith continue to be a place where people encounter God's love, find belonging, and discover that there is always room for hope.

**May you notice what is growing.  
May you have patience for what is unfinished.  
May you find beauty in ordinary moments.  
And may you know that you are loved  
every step of the way.**

With gratitude and every blessing,  
*Rev. Laurie*

## **Celebrating 182 Years of Ministry**

As we mark the 182<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Talbotville United Church and look toward the close of 2026, we give thanks for God's steadfast presence and for the faithful support of this congregation. Talbotville United Church depends on the generous gifts of its members, and we are deeply grateful for your ongoing commitment. Your offerings sustain worship in the sanctuary and online, the ministry of our faith community, the music shared on special occasions and the daily operations of the church.

Together, we continue to reach beyond our walls---supporting the Elgin St Thomas Food Bank, Harvest Hands, Fresh Start, Canadian Mental Health, The Inn, and Grace Café. For the past year, our outreach expanded as several of us volunteer at Harvest Hands on a regular basis. If you would like to take part, please contact the church office to confirm the dates and your attendance. Through all of these ministries, we are encouraged by the generosity that keeps God's mission alive in our midst.

At the same time, we must be mindful of our financial realities. Early indications suggest that we may face a year-end operating deficit of approximately \$30,000. While fundraising efforts and rental income help to reduce the shortfall, inflation and rising expenses remain a challenge. Our Fundraising Team is working diligently, but they cannot do it alone.

We invite you to prayerfully consider making a special anniversary offering in thanksgiving for 182 years of ministry. A special Thanks Giving envelope is enclosed for this purpose. Please note that all offerings dated and received before December 31, 2026, will be included on your 2026 tax receipt.

With heartfelt gratitude, we thank you for your continued generosity and faithfulness.

### **Ways to Give:**

**E=transfer:** An easy online option through your bank account. Send your etransfer to [office@talbotvilleunited.com](mailto:office@talbotvilleunited.com)

**Special Anniversary Thanks Giving Envelope:** A special envelope is included in this newsletter package. You may place it on the offering plate at any worship service or mail it directly to the church.

Donations in any form are always welcome, and your ongoing support is deeply appreciated. Your generosity helps us continue the ministry of Talbotville United Church and celebrate 182 years of faith and service together.

Board of Talbotville United Church

**Love God, Love People!**

### **OUTREACH:**

**During the year 2026, we have made outreach donations to:**

Harvest Hands, with hands on service, Elgin St Thomas Food Bank and The Nameless.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** continues to gift knitted or crocheted shawls in comfort or celebration

### **CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE**

**Do you have a special someone or two that you would like to remember at this time of year? Donate \$20—we will add their name, attach to a special Christmas ornament and hang on the tree.**

### **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION:**

**Every Sunday after church, come join us as we enjoy fellowship with coffee/tea and treats.**

**1st & 5th Sun. donations support Elgin St Thomas Food Bank  
3rd Sun. donations support Outreach programs— CMHA, Harvest Hands, Grace Café, The Inn, The Nameless and Fresh Start**

**2nd and 4th Sun. donations support our Church ministry**

### **STRAWBERRY/RHUBARB PIES**

**Thank you to those who have purchased pies. However, we have 3 pies left for sale \$15.00.**

### **STRAWBERRY FREEZER JAM**

**Thank you to those who have purchased the jam.  
We still do have jam for sale—price is \$7.00 each or 3/\$20.00.**

**CORN ROAST: Thank you Everyone: those who donated, worked to prepare, sold tickets and helped during the event. This again was a huge success! THANK YOU!!!!**

**CHRISTMAS BAKING ORDERS: Yes, order forms will be available online and at the church soon.**



**Talbotville United Church 10734 Sunset Road, St Thomas N5P3T2  
Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00AM**

**Rev. Laurie O'Leary**

**Office: 519-633-7325 Email: [office@talbotvilleunited.com](mailto:office@talbotvilleunited.com)**

**facebook**

# TALBOTVILLE UNITED CHURCH

## Rev. Laurie O'Leary

### Month at a Glance

# October 2026

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

1      2      3  
Private hall rental

4      5      6      7      8      9      10  
**182<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary**  
 Worship Service 10am  
 Worldwide Communion  
 and Church choir  
 Prayer Shawls 9:30am  
 Stewards Mtg 1:00pm  
 \*\*\*Ukelele Group  
 9:30am  
 Mtn Dulcimer  
 11:00am

11      12      13      14      15      16      17  
 Worship Service 10am  
**"Thanksgiving"**  
 Coffee – supporting  
 our church  
 Board Meeting  
 1:00pm  
 \*\*\*Ukelele Group  
 9:30am  
 Mtn Dulcimer  
 11:00am

18      19      20      21      22      23      24  
 Worship Service 10am  
 Coffee and  
 conversation –  
 supporting Outreach  
 \*\*\*Ukelele Group  
 9:30am  
 Mtn Dulcimer  
 11:00am

25      26      27      28      29      30      31  
 Worship 10:00am  
 Coffee/Conversation  
 Supporting our  
 church  
 Christmas baking  
 – pick-up Dec 5<sup>th</sup>  
 or by  
 appointment  
 Are you  
 interested in  
 helping with the  
 baking?  
 Let us know – we  
 would love to  
 have you.  
 November 8<sup>th</sup> –  
 no worship  
 service here.  
 Join the service  
 at the Shedd  
 Keystone  
 Complex

DATES TO  
REMEMBER: