

Prairie Spirit United Church

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Please call before planning a visit to the church.



Weekly Update – Friday 22 December 2023

**Worship on Sunday, Dec 24th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
The Fourth Sunday of Advent is Love.
and ... Its Christmas Eve –
the waiting and watching are over!
Jesus Christ is born!**

This Lessons and Carols service is by written by Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell.
Pat Rothney is the Worship Leader with many readers assisting us to tell the story anew!
Our Advent candle readers/lighters are Sharon Thom and Family.

We welcome guest musician Charmaine Bacon on the organ and
Rebecca McIntosh as guest soloist.

The choir will present the anthem "Joy in Judea".

Sermon Theme 4th Advent: At the Heart of Things.

What's Happening after Christmas

There will be no service on
Sunday December 31st, 2023.

We will gather again in 2024 –
Sunday January 7th,
to celebrate Epiphany
with Rev. Dr. James Christie

Community of Faith Meeting

Sunday, January 7, 2024

12:00 Noon

This Community of Faith Meeting is called
for the following purpose:

to approve the Search Team Members.

This will be a very brief meeting;
please plan to attend.

An Advent Message from Moderator Carmen Lansdowne



The Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator of The United Church of Canada, shares her [Advent message for 2023](#). Advent is a time of expectant waiting for the Christmas miracle—a story of hope, bravery, and the willingness to have faith in God. It is also a story of generosity and of humans caring for each other.

[Video still credit: The United Church of Canada]



THANK YOU THANK YOU

On behalf of the UCW, thank you to everyone who contributed to the "Touch and Take Table" which was set up on two Food Bank days in December.

It was a great success and the clients were awstruck with the selection to choose from.



Thanks to the ladies who helped with sorting, set up, and manning the tables.

Also a BIG thank you to the cookie bakers. We had lots and any left overs were taken to Oak Table.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Social Justice and Outreach Team would like to express our gratitude to the Prairie Spirit Congregation for the wonderful support of our Christmas projects.

We will be delivering Hampers to 3 families on Thurs. The families consist of a Mom and 3 yr old female, a mom and 6 yr old male and a mom and 2 teenage males. With the food donated and the monetary gifts we were able to purchase gifts for moms and all the children, (after discussions with the moms) as well as fresh food items like milk, eggs, oranges etc. Your generosity has meant a brighter Christmas for these 3 families.

And have you seen the mitten tree lately? We have had to remove some of the items as the tree was overloaded thank you for all the donated mitts, hats and scarves. All the Hamper families received some items too. The remaining items will be distributed where they are needed.

And for the Stars and Doves project ... again thank you. This gave us all an opportunity to remember those we have lost and celebrate those we cherish now. All monies received will go to 1 Just City. The team is honoured to work within such a generous community. Thank you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



On December 13, we were treated to another wonderful Coffee House. Pianist Connor Darraugh played fabulous jazz and Christmas music and our own Sharon Thom led us in a Christmas sing-a-long. The desserts were amazing and everyone seemed to have a great time.

As you may know, the West End site of 1 Just City (formerly known as St Matthew-Maryland Community Ministry) had to close several months ago. They had grown out of that space. They will now be part of a new development in the old Balmoral Hotel. The Vendor will be replaced with a Walk-in Clinic and 1 Just City will have the lower level with a commercial kitchen and lots of room. They take possession on January 2, 2024, but will be a few weeks before they are ready to welcome guests.

The Coffee House raised \$1000 in one evening! This money will be used to help with things they need for the kitchen and drop-in spaces.

Josh Ward expressed his gratitude and will be welcoming us to an Open House in the spring.
THANK YOU!

Stories of Our Mission

Nourishing Spirits Through Tradition

While we recognize this season as a time of joy, for many underprivileged families it is a difficult reminder of their struggle. For Mission and Service partner London Community Chaplaincy (LCC), bringing [joy and community-building fun](#) to the social housing complexes they serve goes hand-in-hand with creating and sustaining traditions.

[Image credit: Nourishing Spirits Through Tradition]



		
Sun 24 Dec	4 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Sun 31 Dec		No PSUC Service
2024		
Sun 7 Jan	10:30am	PSUC Worship
	12noon	Community of Faith Meeting
<p>Regular Office Hours are Tue-Fri 10am-2pm Please call before planning a visit to the church.</p> <p>The Office will be closed on 25/26 December 2023. The Office will be closed on 1 January 2024.</p>		

We are coming to the end of another year. Thank you to all the people who have faithfully been supporting PSUC. It is greatly appreciated.

If you would like your donations to be included on your 2023 income tax receipt, please ensure all donations for 2023 are received no later than December 31, 2023. Donations can be drop off at the church office or in the secure church mailbox outside. Donations can also be made to PSUC by e-transfer or through CanadaHelps.