



Prairie Spirit United Church

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Dear Friends,

As we draw closer to the Christmas season and the end of 2025, the Stewardship Team has been reflecting on what it means to be a people who believe that God has come into the world—not to abandon it, but to heal it, restore it, and make it more whole. At Christmas, we proclaim that God chose to dwell among us and, in doing so, invites us to join in the holy work of love, justice, and hope.

The church is one of the primary ways we live out that calling together. Through Prairie Spirit, we share God's love in tangible ways in our neighbourhood and beyond. We are grateful for the generosity you have already shown this year. Your faithful giving allows us to draw new attention to our presence through the entryway mural, invest in full-time ministry that teaches, listens, and helps cast a faithful vision for the future, and care for your church facilities so they remain welcoming, functional, and well-used.

Your generosity has also helped make our building a place where community partners want to gather. Renters and groups who use our space not only strengthen our financial future, but they also connect us more deeply to the life of the neighbourhood. New partnerships—such as with Hood and Dagger, a local community theatre group—are emerging because we have invested in our property and ministry together. These relationships open doors to shared projects and future fundraising efforts that extend our impact even further.

As we approach the end of the calendar year, we want to be clear that this letter is also a year-end financial appeal. We invite you to prayerfully consider making an additional financial gift to Prairie Spirit as part of your Christmas giving. Your gift does more than keep the lights on—it supports ministry, nurtures relationships, and helps Prairie Spirit continue to be a light that shines in our community. Special Christmas offering envelopes are available in the pews and on the back table. Yearend donations must be received in the office before December 31 to be eligible for 2025 charitable tax benefits.

As we look toward year end, our financial outlook indicates that while we remain on track with our projected deficit of \$98,646, revenues to November 30 are approximately \$20,000 below what was anticipated. Even so, we are grateful for the ways this community supports our shared mission. One of our Stewardship Team members reminded us about the tax benefits of charitable donations. In Manitoba, the charitable donations tax credit is a non-refundable tax credit calculated using combined federal and provincial rates. For amounts over \$200, the combined credit is 46.4%. So, for each additional \$100 year-end donation, the actual cost will be only \$53.60 (at tax time). \$1000 costs only \$536 – nearly half-off! We offer this information openly, trusting that generosity flows best when it is rooted in gratitude, clarity, and shared purpose.

Thank you for the many ways you already give—through your time, your care for one another, your prayers, and your financial support. Together, we are participating in God's work of making the world better, one faithful step at a time.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Stewardship Team

