



Salisbury United Church

*"Connecting hearts, minds, and lives
in community with God"*

"Send forth your Spirit
and renew the face of
the earth."

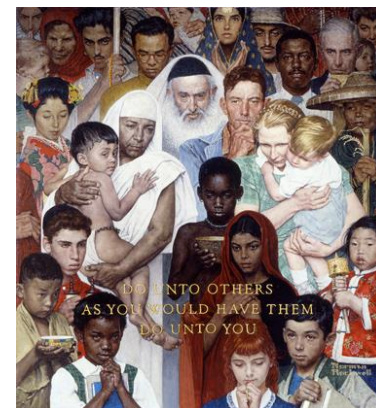
-Psalm 104

November 2023 E-News

SOMETHING TO PONDER BY REV BRITT

Two years before I was born, Norman Rockwell created a cover for the Saturday Evening Post which read, "Do unto others." Here it is, as timely now as when it was created in 1961.

The so-called Golden Rule runs through all major religions and many philosophical schools of thought from around the world. Somehow, the great sacredness within every faith perspective wants us to overcome all the rigid lines we have drawn to divide ourselves as human beings. We belong to each other and to God, which should be as plain as the nose on our face but apparently is not.



As we continue to survey the Book of Revelation in worship this month, we inevitably bump up against a way of reading it that places limitations on "Do unto others." The story of God," so this reading goes, "ends with a calamity such as we are seeing now in Israel and Palestine, after which a select few will triumph -144,000 to be exact." From this point of view, "Do unto others" only counts when others are like you or part of your elect favoured group. This is a reduction of the teaching of Jesus to a point of limitation, however, that he never himself prescribed.

Jesus was all about expansiveness. "Shall we forgive seven times," he was asked. "You shall forgive seventy times seven," he replied (Matt 18:21-35). For Jesus, shrinking the scope of God's love and grace was never part of his mission. Rather, he was about opening up people's hearts, minds and lives to a belonging in which God loves the whole world and not just their little corner of it. Seventy-times seven, in Biblical terms, is a huge, almost infinite number. It tells us that when Jesus said, "Do unto others", he really meant it.

I love the way that Norman Rockwell captured the meaning "Do unto others" in pictures of people from world cultures, religions and places. So much variety! So much opportunity to treat others as we would ourselves want to be treated! The message bears repeating over and over again in the face of shrunken spiritualities that turn Jesus' way for the world into an elite club or elect inner circle. We don't get to pick and choose who God will or will not welcome into the circle of God's love. We just get to know that we are loved by God and that of that love there is no end.

UPCOMING DATES:

- November 1st – Board Meeting, 7pm
- November 15th – MCT Meeting, 1pm
- November 19th – Question & Answer, Book of Revelation
- November 25th – Tea & Bake Sale, 10am-1pm
- November 26th – Congregational Budget Meeting with refreshments and snacks beforehand
- December 17th – Christmas Dessert Potluck
- December 21st – Memorial Tree Service
- December 24th – Family Carol Sing, **10am**; Candlelight & Communion, **7pm**



READING THE BOOK OF REVELATION WITH NORMAL PEOPLE



We are heading into our third Sunday of our journey into the Book of Revelation. Please continue to join us for worship for the remaining four services in this series as we seek to understand the timeless messages within the Book of Revelation. This series goes until Sunday, November 26th. Not only will we discover why literalism kills the meaning of the dream-vision described by the author, but we will also begin to be able to read it as a work of imagination, consolation, and hope for persecuted faith

communities. If you missed the introduction to this worship series, please notify the office and we will e-mail you a copy of the booklet. If you miss any of the services within the series, rest assured that we have posted each of these services under a special section on our website titled: "Book of Revelation Series".

There will be a Question & Answer session November 19th after worship.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS - Clocks go back 1 hour this Sunday, Nov. 5th at 2 am



Its fall back Saturday night. Everyone gets an extra hour of sleep. Daylight saving time will officially come to an end across Canada on November 5, 2023, at 2 a.m. Therefore, be sure to set your clocks back an hour. Daylight savings also serves as a helpful reminder to check and replace smoke detectors and batteries.

TEA & BAKE SALE: Saturday, November 25th from 10am-1pm



Our annual Bake Sale & Light Lunch will take place on Saturday, November 25th from 10am-1pm in the Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 (children 6 and under are FREE). This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy a light lunch, enter your name for a door prize draw, and best of all, purchase some homemade goodies for the holidays! Don't bother keeping this event a secret – tell everyone you know...friends, family, neighbours...everyone is welcome! Please also keep an eye out for a sign-up sheet, requesting donations of baking, and/or help with this event.

MEAT PIE FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

NEW



Thank you to all who ordered, donated to, and organized our Meat Pie Fundraiser! We successfully raised \$717.80! We hope you enjoy your tasty pies, especially as the changing season brings a desire for hot and delicious comfort food! Thank you!

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA 2024 CALENDARS

NEW

We have placed a small bulk order for the 2024 UC Canadian Church Calendars. If you are interested in purchasing one for \$7.50, please contact the office and we will notify you when they are ready for pick-up.

The theme of this year's calendar is the United Church's Call and Vision: Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice and features photos of United Churches from across the country and notes special days and church seasons.



EXCITING NEWS! NEW SOUND MIXER INSTALLATION

NEW

After a few minor hiccups, the new sound board/mixer is expected to be installed by Sunday, November 5th. We are extremely excited to streamline the sound technologies for each service and thank all special donations toward the goal of replacing our sound board!



BUSY PEW CARETAKER

Our busy pew at the back of the sanctuary has been a welcome spot for families with small children who participate in Sunday worship. It needs someone who will keep it tidy and who will refresh the books and activities regularly. If that sounds like you ... please talk to Rev. Britt in-person or by phone, text or email.



MEDITATION CIRCLE

Join Rev. Britt each Wednesday for Mediation Circle online. You can access the online link [here](https://www.salisburyunited.ca/) or from our website: <https://www.salisburyunited.ca/>



FOOD BANK DONATIONS - ONGOING

We continue to accept food bank donations for the Strathcona County Food Bank. Please bring non-perishable items and drop them off in the yellow box under the coat rack in the Salisbury United Church Narthex (lobby).

For a list of most-needed items and special request items, please visit the Strathcona County Food Bank's website [HERE](#).

LAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, DOOR GREETERS & COFFEE SET-UP HELPERS NEEDED

Each week we are looking for help from volunteers as lay worship assistants, door greeters, and help with setting-up before worship, for coffee.

Please check the sign-up sheet in the church lobby (narthex) each week, or call the church office to sign up!



SUCCESSFUL BOTTLE DRIVE & DONATION TO STRATHCONA FOOD BANK



Our bottle drive held on September 29th and 30th and received many bottles and a few cash donations in support of our fundraiser. In fact, we raised \$774.35 with half of that donated to the Strathcona Food Bank!

Many thanks for your generous support to this very worthy local cause and to the church.

TRUEARTH FUNDRAISER - Sale from Nov 1-Dec 10



Our ongoing fundraiser with TruEarth, a Canadian company which sells environmentally friendly cleaning products for your laundry, kitchen, and bathroom, is having a sale that runs from Nov 1st to Dec 10th and features some awesome bundles for amazing prices, so you won't want to miss a chance to support our fundraiser! As always, Salisbury UC earns 20% on every sale made through our fundraising link:

<https://tru-earth.sjv.io/SalisburyUnitedChurch>



BUY 1, GET 1, GIVE 1

When you buy one item, you will get the second for FREE and we will donate the third item to charity.

NOV 1-DEC 10, 2023



Also, new this year, TruEarth is offering a weekly Buy One, Get One, Give One - When you buy one item, you get the second item for Free that you can either use yourself or give to someone you know. And TruEarth will donate a third item to charity!

To place an order online, go to our unique fundraising link: <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/SalisburyUnitedChurch>. Or, place an order over the phone at **1-888-536-4211** – just be sure to mention your order is associated with the Salisbury United Church fundraiser program.

FREE SHIPPING

Free shipping is available for orders over \$50 **OR** any orders that are placed as a subscription.

MONTHLY ORDERS

For those of you who are not comfortable making purchases online we have a new option for you! Salisbury United Church will make an online order on the 30th of each month. Just send your order and money to Salisbury United Church by the 25th of each month and we will place an order on your behalf.

FINANCE CORNER - Update as of September 2023



	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income:	\$158,940.86	\$151,228.50
Expense:	\$185,194.34	\$168,705.11
	(\$26,253.48)	(\$17,476.61)

With just three months to go in our fiscal year, we're currently facing a \$26,000 deficit, which is \$8,800 more than budgeted. There's still hope of finishing the year in the black, however. Typically, givings increase and expenses level off as we near the Christmas season. Year end fundraisers also help out.

In 2022, 38.6% of the year's revenue was received in the last quarter, even though that three-month period accounted for only 25% of the year. If that trend continues this year, we just might break even or perhaps wind up with a small surplus.

So, folks, it's up to us to ensure we finish 2023 in good financial shape. We can do it!

Thank you for your continuing support of Salisbury United Church.

If you need any help with giving envelopes – new supply, pick-up, etc. – or other giving options (monthly giving through PAR, e-transfer or donating online through Canada Helps on the Salisbury Website), please contact: Brittany at the Church Office. Phone: 780-467-7310 E-Mail: salisburyuc@telus.net

LOCAL UNITED CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS



SHERWOOD PARK UNITED CHURCH: Seniors Group, November 14th @ 1:00pm

Back by popular demand, Gordon Court, Provincial Biologist, will join us giving a presentation on techniques used for tracking the peregrine falcon. Gord is always knowledgeable and very entertaining, so please join us November 14th at 1:00. Coffee and goodies to follow.

For Additional Events and Connections with Sherwood Park United Church, please access their most recent Newsletter [HERE](#).

GRACE UNITED CHURCH: Messy Church, November 3rd, 5:00-7:00pm



Grace United Church, located at 6215 104 Ave., is hosting an intergenerational exploration of "Love your Neighbour" crafts, celebration, laughter, and food on Friday, November 3rd from 5-7pm. Event is free. Free will donations to cover cost of supplies will be gratefully accepted.

GRACE UNITED CHURCH: Christmas Bazaar, November 18th, 10am-2pm



Grace United Church, located at 6215 104 Ave., is hosting a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 18th from 10am-2pm. There will be new and "new to you" gifts, crafts, Christmas items, and a kids' shopping opportunity! Also featuring baking, preserves, and food products. Santa will arrive at 11am. Lunch - \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12.

ARDROSSAN UNITED CHURCH: Annual Turkey Supper, November 4th

Ardrossan United Church located at 22 Main Street in Ardrossan, is hosting their Annual Turkey Supper on November 4th. There will be two sittings: 4:45pm and 6:45pm. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for children (6-10) and Free for children under 6. For tickets, call Lauraine or Keith Barber at 780-464-7235.

STRATHCONA COUNTY NEWS

SMART Family and Friends: Wednesdays, starting November 1st, 7-8:30 pm



SMART Recovery Family and Friends support group. For people affected by the addictive behaviour of a loved one. Has your life as a family member or friend of someone with an addiction become unmanageable? Are you living on an emotional roller-coaster? Learn the latest science- and evidence-based skills that you can use today, to create a better tomorrow for you and your Loved One. It's true - using a unique blend of cognitive skills and tools and the evidence-based strategies of CRAFT, the SMART Family and Friends program can help you regain your sanity and give you the skills you need to support recovery for your Loved One.

Where: 2 Mission Street (Salisbury United Church building) Sherwood Park, (main doors, follow signs)

When: Weekly Wednesday meetings starting Nov. 1, 2023

When: 7-8:30 p.m.

Contact: k2harline@gmail.com

MUSIC OF THE SEASON: November 25TH @ 2:00pm



The Festival Singers Christmas Concert "Music of the Season", with guest performers, is Saturday, November 25th at 2pm. Tickets are available from choir members and Festival Place box office. Ticket prices are \$25 (Adult) and \$15 (Child).

Bread Planet is a FREE, family friendly event on Saturday October 14th, from 1pm to 5pm, in the Agora at the Strathcona County Community Center from 1pm to 5pm. Come sample carbs from around the world! Additional details posted in the Narthex.

SNOWBUSTERS: Looking for Volunteers



Being a part of your community can be as simple as helping a neighbour. Help a senior and/or person with a disability clear their sidewalk and driveway of snow this winter season – Volunteer Today! Please contact Dianna with Volunteer Strathcona at 780-464-4248 for more information.



40 DAYS OF ENGAGEMENT ON ANTI-RACISM ONLINE EVENTS AND STUDY GROUPS!

The 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism program returned for the third year on October 10, with a series of live events that you can join at any time through the [CHURCHx platform](#).

40 DAYS OF ENGAGEMENT
on Anti-Racism
Study Groups



The inaugural live event was a discussion of “The Dual Function of Genealogy and Family Lore in Cases of Race Shifting,” by Prof. Darryl LeRoux. In case you missed it, you can still view the [recording](#). In this talk, we learned about how genealogy and family stories can be used to appropriate Indigenous identity, and the impact this is having on Indigenous rights.

On November 7, Dr. Ingrid Waldron will be talking about environmental racism in racialized and Indigenous communities. There are also a number of written resources on anti-Indigenous racism on the [40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism web page](#).

HOME ON NATIVE LAND

NEW



[RAVEN](#), an Indigenous rights and environmental organization, has put together a new self-directed course on Indigenous law, designed to help non-Indigenous allies advocate with greater understanding.

[Home on Native Land](#) is a series of 10 videos, cartoon and lessons, that take you on a journey through history — and the frontlines of legal action — with Anishinaabe comedian Ryan McMahon.

ECUMENICAL STATEMENT ON VIOLENCE BETWEEN HAMAS AND ISRAEL

NEW



KAIROS Canada and its member churches and agencies are following reports of the escalation of violence between Hamas and Israel with deepening alarm and profound grief. We condemn the violence, particularly against Israeli and Palestinian civilians, which constitutes a war crime.

Read the full [Ecumenical Statement on Violence between Hamas and Israel](#).

UNITED CHURCH URGING CEASEFIRE & HUMANITARIAN AID IN PALESTINE & ISRAEL

NEW

With the rest of the world, the United Church of Canada is watching the terrible violence gripping Israelis and Palestinians, and adds their voice to global calls for a ceasefire. There is an additional call for an end to the blockade of Gaza and for the restoration of humanitarian aid and access to the basic necessities of life. May we hold in our hearts and souls the horrific human and ecological impact of war.

[Here is the link to the Church's full statement](#). To support the people impacted, you can: [pray, donate, and advocate for an end to violence](#).



[Image credit: Islamic Relief Canada / Humanitarian Coalition]

GENERAL COUNCIL 44: CHURCH ADOPTS SOCIAL JUSTICE PRINCIPLES AND ADDRESSES DESIGNATED LAY MINISTRY

NEW

The annual recall meeting of the 44th General Council met virtually on October 21, 2023. It included greetings from the [Partner Council](#) and recognition of [John Egger](#) as the last long-term overseas ministry personnel.

Small group discussions in breakout rooms provided opportunities to discuss the proposals before the General Council, specifically the Principles-based justice framework and the Leadership in the 2020s proposal related to Designated Lay Ministers. Read more at GeneralCouncil44.ca.



Thank you for your support of Salisbury United Church and congratulations for helping your church to meet ongoing ministry obligations.

[Click Here](#)

TO DONATE ON-LINE WITH CANADA HELPS



We are now set up to accept Interac ETransfers. If you are familiar with Etransfers, just use our email address salisburyuc@telus.net to send your donation.

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS & EVENTS



ADVENT OF GENEROSITY: INVITING GIVING AND PARTICIPATION DURING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 10 AM (VIA ZOOM)

NEW

December tends to be a very busy month in the life of the church. It is also a busy month for individuals—there is extra baking, shopping for family and friends, Christmas parties, and more. Most charities save their biggest appeals for this “giving season”. Does your community of faith talk about generosity during Advent? Many people want an invitation to give. This can be a time to invite generosity or deeper participation. And it’s an opportunity to tell visitors about your ministry, and invite their support. This 60-minute session will talk about different ways that church leaders can bring conversations of stewardship into Advent, Christmas Eve, and beyond. Let’s help make this Advent the beginning of a church year full of deeper generosity. This session will be presented on Zoom. Please [register here](#).



NO ROOM IN THE INN CAMPAIGN FOR 2023-24

NEW

The No Room in the Inn campaign this year is in support of A Safe Place. A Safe Place is a residential facility, opened in 1984, for those who are escaping intimate or family violence. It is located in Sherwood Park. A recent review of their facility found major and unexpected issues with the roof. [Click here to view the poster with full details](#).



NORTHERN SPIRIT WEBSITE

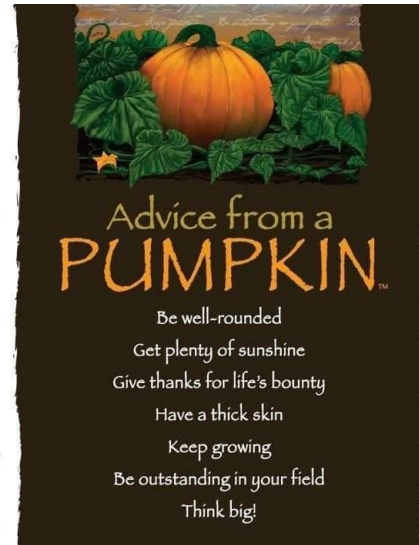
Northern Spirit has a website! Go to www.northernspiritrc.ca for more information.

TODAY'S FUNNIES



We should probably stop putting people who are preparing for the rapture in charge of anything anymore.

The Mind Unleashed



RECOGNITION OF LAND



We worship with respect on land where people have lived, prayed, and held ceremonies since long before Canada was a nation. This is Treaty Six Territory, and we affirm the traditional relationship of the Cree, Blackfoot, Déne, Assiniboine, Nakota and later the Métis people with this land, along with our ongoing treaty relationship with each other.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERSHIP



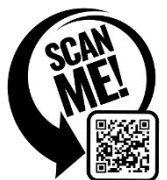
NORTHERN SPIRIT
REGIONAL COUNCIL
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA



*Salisbury United Church is a member of the Northern Spirit Regional Council and the United Church of Canada.

WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN QR CODE

We have posted a QR code on the door of the sanctuary. When you arrive for worship, you can scan the QR code on your cell phone and it will appear in your downloads for you to use. We also e-mail our bulletin each week for those who prefer to print one at home and bring it with them.



Salisbury United Church E-mail Addresses

Church Office Administrator:

salisburyuc@telus.net

Rev. Britt's email:

revvedtoo@gmail.com

Contact Us:

2 Mission Street, Sherwood Park, T8A 0V3

Church Office: 780-467-7310

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Minister:
Rev. Britt Aerhart



Music Coordinator:
Lucienne Holzman



Church Office Administrator:
Brittany Pelletier