



# MINNEDOSA UNITED CHURCH



PO Box 692 Minnedosa Manitoba R0J 1E0, #48 Main Street South

Phone: 204-867-2674 Email: mdsauc@mymts.net

Website: <http://minnedosauc.ca> Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MinnedosaUnitedChurch](http://www.facebook.com/MinnedosaUnitedChurch)

## ***A Christmas Note from Kathy Platt***

In December 2019, I celebrated my first Christmas as your newly called Minister. In December 2020, we were in deep lockdown, and I celebrated a virtual Christmas with you – the Christmas eve service being broadcast from my own living room! Here we are in December 2021 – with high hopes that it might feel a wee bit “normal”, even though it continues to feel like we are walking on shaky ground. One of my favorite Christmas carols from Voices United is: *Still, Still, Still*. The melody itself is what has always spoken to me of peace, even when the world has felt somewhat turbulent. When I “googled” the hymn, I found the lyrics from the traditional Austrian lullaby – of which there are 3 versions – who knew?? I loved the last verse of the 3<sup>rd</sup> version – and so I leave it with you as my prayer for the season. Whatever this Christmas season holds for you, let alone what it holds for our topsy-turvy world, may we trust that there are better, more joyous days ahead. Days where we will be able to stop second guessing every decision we make before we travel anywhere – where we can leave our homes without the panic of making sure we have our masks with us – where we can talk to friends and neighbours without trying to sift through the vaccination status of those around us. Days where we feel safe and loved and at peace. May we hush the noise and cease our strife and listen to the song of the Angels... Merry Christmas to you!

***Dream, dream, dream,  
of the joyous day to come.  
While guardian angels without number  
watch you as you sweetly slumber.  
Dream, dream, dream,  
of the joyous day to come.***

## **A Message from Finance**

Hello from the finance committee and a brief update on the financial situation of the Minnedosa United Church. Although weekly giving's are down 16% compared to last year at this time, we are currently sitting in a positive financial position – thanks in large part to the government subsidies and grants that were offered to us. Those government funds have now ended for Minnedosa United Church. It is once again up to us to generate sufficient income. Facility bookings are increasing, and a couple of fundraisers are planned. We are grateful to everyone who contributes financially and also volunteers their time and energy! The finance committee would like to wish you a very happy and healthy Christmas season.



## **WORSHIP FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2021**

### **Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup> – “Waiting”**

Advent will begin with a video of the Rock project that our Sunday School has been involved with, including building the Inukshuks in our front flower bed. We will be celebrating communion – with everyone bringing their own crackers and juice. There will be a few other voices joining Jim for a special piece of music this week – a gift to us all!

### **Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – “Love Prepares the Way”**

For our Second Sunday in Advent, we will watch a video of Raeyah sharing her wisdom around how rocks can help us spread our love to another person. This week you will be invited to bring items requested by the Bear Clan for the work they do (details to be provided later), as well as bringing along cash donations to support the work of the local Christmas Cheer Board.

### **Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – “Journeying into Joy”**

The musical treat this week will be welcoming our Bell Choir back into the sanctuary. I am inviting some surprising guest story-tellers to join us as well. The focus of the service will be music and stories that bring us ever closer to Joy – may it be so!

### **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> – “Surprised by Peace”**

We will be bringing the story of Christmas to you in a video, made in a location very near to us, with actors who will look quite familiar to you – guaranteed to make all of us smile! We will have several musical guests joining us for the service – ‘tis the season for as much music as possible!

### **Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – Longest Night/Blue Christmas 7:00 p.m.**

A quiet, reflective service where we light candles and gain strength from being together in community.

### **Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve 4:30 p.m.**

A short family-friendly service that will include singing, stories & lighting candles.

**\*No Service Sunday December 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**\*Sunday January 2<sup>nd</sup>: an informal service  
with coffee & muffins in the hall.**

