## CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Please send your announcements to the church office by Wednesday.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>: UCW Christmas Dinner at 12:00pm
- Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>: Stewards meeting at 7pm in the Fellowship room
- Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>: Choir Practice at 6:30pm
- Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>: Handbell practice at 10am
- Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>: Carolling & Christmas Cheer Baskets

**2026** Canadian Church Calendars are available now for \$12 each. Please see Carrol in the church office if you would like to purchase one.

<u>Sock & Mitten Tree:</u> Throughout Advent we will be collecting donations of new socks and mittens for Souls Harbour in Bridgewater. These can be placed in the basket at the front of the sanctuary.

<u>Christmas Cheer Baskets</u>: It is that time of year again, when we turn our thoughts to our Central friends at home and start preparing our Christmas Cheer Baskets to deliver. We have compiled a list of people we wish to send warm thoughts to during this holiday season, and the sign up list is at the back of the church for items we are looking for to fill the baskets. As always, we are looking for cookies, fudge, christmas candy, fruit, etc. If there is something on the list that you feel you can help out with please sign up. All items need to be received by Dawn no later than **FRIDAY**, **DECEMBER 12th**. Everyone is invited to join us to go Christmas carolling and deliver our Christmas Cheer Baskets on **Sunday**, **December 14th** at 1pm!

<u>Free Family Skate:</u> Central United is sponsoring a free skate at the Lunenburg Arena on Sunday, December 21 from 6:15-7:30pm. All are welcome.

**Soup/Chowder Lunches:** Thank you to everyone who helped out at our latest soup luncheon on Wednesday! Whether you baked a cake, made a pot of soup, brought in milk, gave money towards the fish, worked in the kitchen, set up tables, or cleared and washed dishes... every little bit of help contributed to another successful soup luncheon. We cleared \$1762.00 this month! Looking forward to our next one in February!

<u>The Longest Night:</u> The Christmas season is often marked by expressions of joy, excitement, and happiness. But that's not how it feels for many people. Maybe your year has been hard and Christmas seems to highlight the difficulties. Or maybe in an over-busy life, you just want space to reflect, recall, regroup. Whatever the reason, whatever the need, you are welcome to an ecumenical service of comfort and hope on Wednesday, December 17th at 7:00 pm. St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg.

Making Room for Solidarity This Advent: Inspired by the image of the manger, this Advent, we are asking the question: "How can we make room... for hope, for peace, for love and for joy?" In keeping with this theme, and in recognition of the ongoing war and violence taking place in the Holy Land today, we have made room for those who are seeking to be in solidarity with the people of Palestine and Israel this Advent and Christmas season. At the back of the sanctuary, you will find a space with a variety of activities that you are invited to engage with over the coming weeks, should you feel the need. There are candles that can be lit, prayers that can be taken home, books you can borrow, and more. Please feel free to explore this space as and when you need. It will remain throughout the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

<u>Fair Trade Olive Oil for Sale:</u> On the table at the back of the sanctuary, we are also selling fair trade Palestinian olive oil this Advent and Christmas season. This oil directly contributes to the livelihood of those living in Palestine and Israel today, and is another tangible way we can be in solidarity with the people of the Holy Land this holiday season. *Pick some up for yourself or as a Christmas gift for a friend! Each bottle is \$30.* 

<u>Offering Envelopes:</u> 2026 offering envelopes will be available for pick-up starting next Sunday at the back of the church. If you would like to receive a box of envelopes, or join PAR, please contact Carrol in the church office.

Rev. Daniel MacDonald: 902-634-7165, centralminister@bellaliant.com Carrol Heinsma (office): 902-634-4035, centralsecretary@bellaliant.com CentralUnitedLunenburg.ca