

Friday, November 27th, 2020

Here we are once again, standing at the end of another month. Standing at the verge of another and in our life of faith, standing or “leaning in” to a new year.

Advent is on its way and already much preparation has gone into my, our, getting ready for the Advent-Christmas journey. This week our PUC Elves were hard at work transforming our sanctuary into a place of light and beauty. I hope and trust that that by now you receive your *“Lean Into the Light” Advent- Christmas 2020 @ PUC* bundle of resources. If not, they are available on our PUC Facebook page -under the “photos” tab; and also, on our PUC website- under “worship resources” then “Advent -Christmas 2020”: OR please be in touch and we can arrange safe pickup or delivery of your bundle.

In my Advent-Christmas 2020 letter I extend a number of invitations which I hope will enrich these days ahead. Please take a moment to ponder those and especially the at-home practice of using our PUC Luminary and accompanying resource. The theme of *“Leaning Into the Light”* will gather us and ground us and guide us.

Again, we begin our Advent-Christmas journey this Sunday...



As always, if you are unable to be with us in-person, we welcome you through our FaceBook Live and please do “check in” using the Facebook chat feature. I enjoy reading your notes and feedback. And remember our Sunday worship bulletin is available by Friday of each week from our PUC website, with printed copies in the folder on the front doors.

A FEW REMINDERS...

☆ In preparation for our worship on the 3rd Sunday in Advent (December 13th) as we *“Lean Into the Light of JOY”*, please remember I need your help. Sunday, Dec. 13th, would normally be the Sunday when we join in what we name as our ‘White Gift-Star Gift’ Worship. Often this is the Sunday when the young and young at heart offer the Christmas Story in a uniquely PUC way. It is also the Sunday we support the Christmas Star Gift program of our Pictou Town Opportunity Shop.



Unfortunately, this year, nothing is quite normal, so since we are unable to move around and offer a paganet type worship, I am planning a ‘video’ offering as part of our worship. This is where YOU come in!

What I am wanting is a 2 - 3-minute video of you or your family, or a video of your children or grandchildren answering the question...

*‘Where do you see the light of joy this Advent-Christmas?’ OR
‘How will you share the light of joy this year?’ OR ‘What gives you joy at Christmas?’*

If you do not like these questions, please know I am not offended...

So sing a joyful Christmas song! or share a joyful Christmas story
OR talk about a joy-filled Christmas tradition!

If you can show your *Lit At-Home Luminary* in the video - all the better!

If you are not comfortable with videos, take a photo and then send me in text your response to the above questions. Whatever works for you.

Please, please, please!! Send me your videos/photos by email, Dropbox, I-Cloud, Messenger, USB, safe drop off or pick-up, or courier pigeon!! however you are able by NEXT **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2nd!!**
Thank You!

★ Your Ways & Means Committee is thrilled to announce new fun & fundraiser. Every day, beginning THIS Tuesday, DEC. 1st, and running for 12 days, our **12 Days of Christmas** Facebook Page will feature a delicious and delectable Bake Sale Raffle items. *From cheesecakes to sweets & squares to pies, to an ED HAWKINS cake and much more.*

The day's featured bake sale item will be posted in the morning, with 20 'spots' available at \$5 a spot. If you wish to be part of the days raffle, then you simply respond "spot" in the comment box. Once all 20 spots are spoken for the raffle is closed and Gracie Weatherbie (our **12 Days of Christmas** Coordinator) will announce there are no more spots available and will ask those who have a spot to e-transfer their money.

The draw for the featured baked sale item will take place on Facebook Live the following morning - before the next day's featured Bake Sale Raffle item is offered.

If you are a lucky winner, arrangements will be made for safe pickup / delivery.



So please look for your Facebook invite to join the **12 Days of Christmas Online Bake Sale Raffle** Group.

A Huge Thank You to all our amazing baker volunteers!

★ In one of this week's press conferences Dr. Strang reminded all of us, regardless of faith tradition, that the meaning of the Christmas season is not found in Black Friday shopping. The meaning is found in how we express our love, care and gratitude to and for each other. For us at PUC the invitation is to *Share the Light of Hope! Live the Light of Peace! Spread the Light of Joy! Be the Light of Love!* One of the ways we do that as members of the United Church is through the work and ministry of Mission & Service. So, a reminder about **Gifts with Vision** – gifts that do make a difference- with out the Black Friday long check out lines ☺ To find out more go to www.giftswithvison.ca or call Margaret Anne Dodson 902 485-6301 for your 2020 catalogue.



★ our Online /ZOOM Advent Study begins this Tuesday evening (December 1st @7:30pm) .. drawing on the resources of Janice MacLean -The Prayer Bench- **Now Is the Time invites us** to re-imagine the Christmas and Advent stories, exploring what it means to live in this liminal space and time of Covid-19.

If you are interested in joining in this Online Advent Study Group, please be in touch ASAP as you will need the ZOOM link .

Namaste- Peace

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You can also message me on Facebook.