

st.martin's united church

Our Core Purpose: To nurture Christian faith, purpose, and joy  
An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada  
Located on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Metis  
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# MESSENGER

November 21, 2021  
Last Sunday After  
Pentecost

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## Christmas Decorating



Nov. 7, 2021

St. Martin's  
UNITED CHURCH

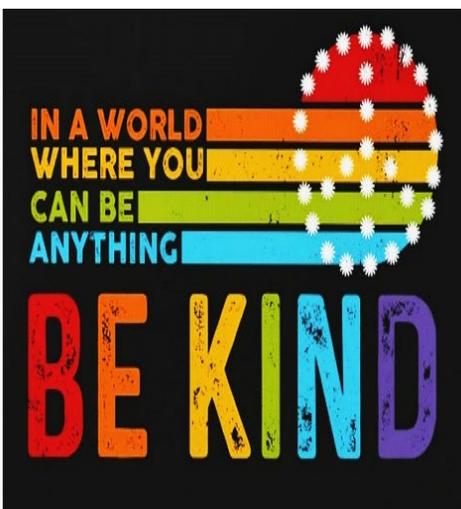
Advent and Christmas are on the way, and it is almost time to give them a warm welcome. The Worship Support committee welcomes additional hands to help with the decorating of the sanctuary. So we invite you to bring your fully vaccinated Christmas spirit and a friend from your "bubble" to St. Martin's on Nov. 27 @ 10:30 a.m. and share in the joy of welcoming Christmas.



**St. Martin's Jr Youth Group will be hosting an Advent Pyjama and Sock Drive again this year!**

For the first three Sundays of Advent (**November 28th, December 5th, and December 12th**) the Jr Youth will be collecting donations of new children's pyjamas and socks (sizes newborn to 12 years).

On each of the above Sundays, meet the Jr Youth in the St. Martin's United Church parking lot between 11:00 and 11:30 am to drop off your pyjama and sock donations. The Jr Youth will be wearing masks while collecting your donations, and we politely ask that you do the same. If you attend church in person, feel free to leave your donations in the chapel. Last year, our church community donated



over 70 sets of pyjamas and socks to Haven Kids' House, an organization that offers emergency child-care, provides a temporary home for children, and supports families when they are in need.

**Let's make the Christmas season more cozy for kids in need and spread some Christmas cheer!**



The Outreach committee is selling olive oil, soap, seasoning packs, and dates in

support of Palestinian farmers. Oil.\$20; soap bars \$5.00; seasoning packages \$5.00, dates \$20.

Dates have been ordered and they go fast..DELICIOUS TOO!!!

Contact Pat Turner at 306-373-1170.

Please place your orders soon! Thank you!

### **Ministry by Phone**

The fall session of Ministry by Phone begins November 8th and will go until December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Over that time, you should receive a phone call from one of our 13 phoners supported by 12 prayer mates.

They will be in touch, not to ask you for donations of time, talent or money but to offer the care of the congregation, to ask how you are doing and to

ascertain if and how St. Martin's is feeding your spirit.

We hope that you will receive these calls with grace and offer good feedback which our phoners can pass on to staff, committee chairs, board members and others.

Thank you for participating in this vital Pastoral Ministry of our church.

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### **A Prayer for British Columbia by Moderator Richard Bott.**



There is so much beauty from sea to sky,  
on roads that twist and turn along the sides of mountains, where one can look down from dizzying heights into valleys that are lush and green,  
or into ocean waters, salty, and full of life;  
and look up to see mountain peaks that have stood, sturdy, far longer than humankind has walked your earth, God!

But when the rains come down,  
hard and fast,  
turning the soil into liquid slurry,  
tonnes upon tonnes of rock and mud will move with an unimaginable force, and the rivers rise, flooding more than the plains,

sweeping over and away everything in its path.

Nothing human-made can stand in the face of that force, God of all creation.

That is what the people of British Columbia have been facing, these past days,  
with loss of life;  
with communities cut off from each other,  
some lacking power,  
some in places already touched by fire this season.

We pray for those who have died or been injured, and all those who are grieving;  
we pray for the crews who are out,  
trying to figure out how to clear the way, safely;  
we pray for those who are in need,  
and those who are wondering, "What next?!";  
and we pray that we would come together as this community of Canada, to offer what support is needed.

And, God, we pray that the rains would quiet, to their normal, seasonal, flow;  
that the land would remain sturdy,  
that we would be held by its beauty, once again.

Amen.