



Little Britain United Church, 5879 Provincial Trunk Hwy 9, Lockport, MB, R1A 2P7

(204) 757-2489

***We are not alone. We live in God's world.***

**United Church of Canada Creed**

## Pass It On...

**What's Happening at Little Britain United Church**

**November 2021**

### Minister's Message

Greetings,

As the calendar turns to November, the church turns its thoughts to the upcoming season of Advent and how we, as a Faith Community move into this time with Provincial Covid restrictions. As I write, Little Britain remains a fully-vaccinated Faith Community for worship in the church and events held in the hall. It is therefore difficult to host those annual events such as Breakfast with Santa with social distancing, masks and many active children, however we are optimistic that next year will be a time of welcoming back our children and families.

Advent begins the last Sunday of November and you are welcome to join us as we journey to Bethlehem. It is our hope to have our Jessie tree filled with mittens, scarves, hats for distribution to Selkirk elementary schools who are in need of warm clothing for their students. We continue to support the Selkirk Soup Kitchen and Food Bank. Further information will be available in regards to Little Britain's preparation of food hampers.

These are challenging times as churches maneuver their way through re-opening protocol and Little Britain is no different, but in faith we have moved forward and it is in faith that we continue to serve as a Church focused on our Call to reach beyond our walls out into the community. As Advent begins, may we be blessed with the knowledge; "that unto us a Child is born".

**Peace to all,  
Beth McLean, Minister**



**Remembrance Day  
Thursday, November 11**

## Update from the Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee

In case you haven't heard, this summer marked a happy event for Little Britain. We were able to renew the contract for our Minister (Beth McLean) for three years instead of having to do this on a yearly basis. That means we are excited that Beth has agreed to continue to come out of her retirement to serve with us. Her contract with us is for fifteen hours weekly which includes many things; researching for and preparing and delivering our worship on Sundays (with the added challenging of learning the logistics of virtual worship, outdoor and indoor worship), keeping abreast with changes due to the current pandemic with meeting regularly with others from the Prairie to Pine region of which we are a part, supporting community outreach efforts, providing baptism and wedding preparations and services as well as ministering to our individual needs as they arise (just to name a few!). She often works from home and is always available to us by phone, and will let us know on a week-to-week basis, when she will be in the church office should folks wish to stop by. We wish to thank Beth for all the support she has continued to provide us!

### Affirm News

Beth will be away on Sunday, November 21 so during our service we will show the 3<sup>rd</sup> episode of our Affirm video series called **8<sup>th</sup> Fire - Who's Land Is It Anyway?** We will include discussion, hymns and prayers. We will meet in the hall that Sunday for the service.

Here is the video summary - There is no getting around it. Land is the biggest sticking point in the relationship between Indigenous people in Canada and the "settler" population. Who owns it, benefits from it, gets to say when, if and how it gets developed? These questions are all the more crucial because the lands in dispute sit on a treasure trove of resources, which the world is eager to buy from Canada. But don't despair. This episode explores the creative ways of working this out.

If you unable to attend, you can watch at home by clicking on this link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROOyjGCxhys&t=6s>

**November 20<sup>th</sup> is Transgender Day of Remembrance.** This day was set aside to recognize those who have been killed due to ignorance and hatred, targeted because they were trans or gender non-conforming. The first event took place in 1999 in San Francisco to honour Rita Hester who had been brutally murdered the previous year. Rita was a highly visible member of the Transgender community in Boston, Massachusetts. She was killed in her apartment and her killer has never been found.

Sadly, Transgender people face much higher rates of poverty, homelessness, unemployment, and mistreatment in the workplace compared to the general population. They also have higher suicide rates and face higher rates of murder.

We can help by learning to be Allies for Transgender people. See Tips for Allies in this link <https://www.glaad.org/transgender/allies>.