



***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**

**December 2021**

### **Minister's Message**

Dear Friends,

Advent is upon us and we are so blessed to be able to celebrate this season once again in Little Britain United. Last year our Advent wreath, Christmas tree and the decorations were all "boxed" as we felt the effects of Covid on our worshipping community. But not this year. The Advent wreath with the candles of hope, peace, joy and love are set upon our worship table and we await with anticipation the lighting of the Christ candle to announce the arrival of Christ the King in our midst. We are so aware of those of our worshipping community who are not able to be present with us for various reasons, but please know you are missed and we await the day when masks, hand sanitizer, vaccinations will no longer be a barrier to our church family being together.

Little Britain United Church has a long history of outreach and Covid and its restrictions has not changed this. We continue to support the Selkirk Food Bank and Soup Kitchen with goods and monetary donations, the mitten tree is up and is already filling with mitts and hats for elementary schools in Selkirk and we will have the opportunity to contribute to a family Christmas hamper. Nova House will also appreciate donations. This past week we heard the exciting news that the Nelson Family has arrived from a refugee camp to make their home in Selkirk. Please consider a monetary donation to Little Britain United Church for the Nelson family and a receipt will be issued. If you have any donations outside of church times, please watch your email for office times when the hall is open.

As we journey through this Advent time of waiting, may we be able to focus on the true meaning of Christmas and may this year be filled with the knowledge that Christ first came to a world filled with chaos and uncertainty and as Christ has been with us, Christ will come again.

May hope, peace, joy and love be with you this day and always.

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

## Red River Churches Refugee Team (RRCRT)

Our latest RRCRT sponsored family has arrived safe and sound in Selkirk. The family – Sohail (Sunny), Sana, Ashley and Moses are very excited to be here.

Little Britain has been a member of the RRCRT since shortly after its inception in March 2016. To date, four families have been sponsored, two of whom are related and came together from the Sudan via a refugee camp in Chad in July 2016. One of the brothers of the first family who did not come when they arrived 5 years ago will join his family in Selkirk in December. We also sponsored a single mom with two children from Syria who arrived in 2018 and then relocated the following year to Ottawa to be with her mother. In 2018, the RRCRT committed to sponsoring our current family from Pakistan who were in hiding in Thailand.

While the RRCRT does have some money in the bank, it will not last us more than four months before needing replenishing. The continued support of our congregation would be greatly appreciated. Contributions can be made to LBUC with the notation RRCRT.

## Affirming News

**Friday, December 3rd is International Day of People with Disabilities**, promoting Inclusive, Accessible and Sustainable Societies and Communities. It is a special time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of people with disability and to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance.

How can we at Little Britain help achieve this? We can support organizations like:

Inclusion Selkirk [www.inclusionsehkirk.ca](http://www.inclusionsehkirk.ca), a non-profit local organization dedicated to helping build an inclusive community so that people with intellectual disabilities can live full, productive lives.

ImagineAbility [www.imagineability.ca](http://www.imagineability.ca) in Winnipeg. Their mission is to support the independence, abilities and aspirations of individuals living with a disability.

**Inclusion Selkirk** runs two social enterprise business's which we can support by shopping and dining. Both business's work toward earning a profit while contributing to social good - providing volunteer work placements for people living with intellectual disabilities. Their profits reduce Community Living Selkirk's dependency on Government funding. They are:

**Wishme** at 377 Eveline St. in Selkirk sells unique, handcrafted, made in Manitoba gifts and artwork ranging from natural scented candles to jewelry crafted by Indigenous makers to sculpture. By shopping at Wishme, you are contributing to an inclusive community - It provides clients with on-the-job training in sales, inventory control and cash management. The experience helps clients acquire full-time employment in the private sector and contributes to their own well-being, a cornerstone of Inclusion Selkirk programs. For a virtual tour of the Wishme store on Eveline St., click on this 4 ½ minute video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OyojUqmido>

**Riverside Grill** at the corner of Manitoba Ave. & Eveline St. is a cute little 1950's style diner that serves up tasty milkshakes and homemade food like sandwiches, burgers, wraps, salads, fish & chips, etc. It is open for breakfast and lunch from 8am to 4pm. The restaurant provides volunteer work placements where clients can train to work in the kitchen, as waitress & waiters or in customer service. They develop skills that can be used to acquire another job [www.riversidegrill.ca](http://www.riversidegrill.ca).

## Fundraising News

"Say It With Stars" will be launched again for the month of December. This is an opportunity to have a commemorative star placed on the window of the church to honour a loved-one or celebrate a special occasion while supporting the ministry of Little Britain United Church. The following information will be requested along with your donation.

### Little Britain United Church "Say it With Stars"

I, We \_\_\_\_\_ wish to purchase a star as a gift to Little Britain United Church.

#### Purpose/Occasion:

Christmas Gift for \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

In Gratitude for \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Colour of Star:** Gold - \$100 Silver - \$75 Blue - \$50 Red - \$25

"Say It With Stars" forms will be available in the church during worship services or from the church office. The stars will be hung in the sanctuary. The name(s) of the donor and the person or event recognized will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. For more information or to obtain a "Say It With Stars" form, please contact **Judy** or **June**.

## Church Council News

Financial update as of September 30, 2021

### INCOME: Jan 1 - Sep 30, 2021

Offering: 40,825.00

Annual Budget: 64,000.00

Other: 19,795.29

Annual Budget: 18,400.00

### EXPENSES: Jan 1 - Sep 30, 2021

Capital Projects: 51,704.92

Budget: 80,000.00

All Other Costs: 83,277.20

Annual Budget: 75,462.00

