

# St. Andrew's United Church

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## ADVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The **story walk** was a huge highlight for our church family in December. We had approximately 80 people in attendance. It was the perfect evening, the weather was great and the actors, lanterns, and walk truly made it feel like you were on a journey to Bethlehem. The sheep in the stable were a huge hit. The caroling, cookies and hot chocolate also added a great vibe.





## Visit From Rev. Tony Snow Dec. 18/2022

On behalf of the Living Into Right Relations and St. Andrew's congregation, Don Fraser presented Rev. Tony Snow, Indigenous Minister for Chinook Winds Region, a gift of a handcrafted rattle. Rev. Tony Snow gave an interesting message during the morning service.



# Messy Church

Everyone had a great time at January's "Appreciation" Messy Church. The activities were a hit, especially the painting station! Thank you to the supporting cast of volunteers! A fantastic pasta meal was provided by our volunteer chefs! If you would like to volunteer with our upcoming Messy Church program, please contact the office. [office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca)



# Advent Highlights



**TODAY**  
is a  
**HOT**  
**CHOCOLATE**  
KIND  
of a  
**DAY**

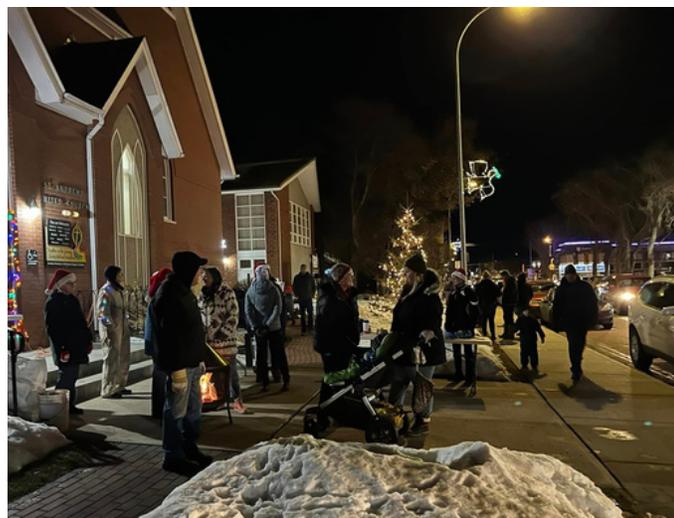


The newly formed St. Andrew's **Environment Team** will be holding a meeting at the church on February 16 at 7 PM. All are welcome to join!

**ENVIRONMENT TEAM MEETING  
ALL ARE INVITED!**

16TH FEBRUARY 7PM  
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

# Advent Highlights Continued...



## LIFT SOMEONE INTO THE LIGHT



What a great evening it was! The weather was above zero, and many came out to hang an ornament in honour of someone special in their lives. A big THANK YOU to the many volunteers who made this evening possible; the Men's Group for hanging the lights on the tree, the people who made the fire possible, all those who served hot chocolate, the folks at the decoration table and the group around the tree. About 100 ornaments were decorated and hung on the Christmas tree in front of the church. For anyone else not mentioned, thank you for helping make this evening possible. Submitted by: Anneke Kassies

## AGM

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, following the service and a finger food potluck. We hope to see you here!



## GARAGE SALE

Our annual Garage Sale will take place the Friday, Saturday of May 12/13. If you would like to volunteer, please contact:  
Annerie Dunnewind  
[anneriedunnewind@hotmail.com](mailto:anneriedunnewind@hotmail.com)  
The prepping/working will take place from May 8-12.

## Decoration Removal

On Saturday, January 7, 14 people came to assist in taking down the Nativity Scene and removing the lights from the tree and the church. The group then went for lunch at Milly Oak Café.

Thank you to all those who participated in this event.

# THANK YOU!

# GARAGE SALE

# GREETINGS FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

Happy New Year to our St. Andrew's Church Family!

Happy New Year means that everyone is wondering what happened - in total! - in the past year, 2022. Each Sunday, Rev Dave thanks everyone for their offerings to St. Andrew's and to the wider community, be they in cash or in service. We, on the finance committee, would echo that thanks, because St. Andrew's is a very generous congregation. Not only did your offerings of cash and service leave the St. Andrew's bank account in a positive position, but you have also given generously to our "flow-through" partners in the community and beyond.

Let me explain. St. Andrew's is allowed, as a registered charity, has the ability to issue tax receipts, to "flow-through" funds to other community service groups whose missions mesh with those of the church. When you designate donations to these funds, those givings are reflected in your tax receipt from St. Andrew's. Some of these groups have their own charitable status; some do not. Some of the worthwhile causes are directly related to St. Andrew's - like FROG (Friends of Guatemala - \$600) and Legacy Fund (\$8050). But you have also supported other community groups through St. Andrew's: Lacombe Food Bank (\$225), Central AB Foodgrains project (\$600), Lacombe Refugee Fund (\$1000), and Camp Kasota (\$7350). The total of funds that have flowed through St. Andrew's to these groups from your direct designated givings is \$17,850.

Of course, the single largest flow-through is "Mission and Service", the outreach arm of the national church. Your direct designated givings to M&S have been almost \$16000.

Speaking of tax receipts, they will be printed and mailed to you in the next month. If we have only email contact info, then that will be how your receipt is transferred. If you wish a paper copy, please contact the office with appropriate information.

The budget process for 2023 was completed and presented to the board. That budget - or a modified version - will be ratified at the January 29 AGM, along with the audited financial statements for 2022. We hope to see you there, and have answers to any questions you may have.

Again, we thank our St. Andrew's family for continuing to support our physical plant and operations with your dollars, but also for supporting our hard-working staff and volunteers - and one another! - with your prayers and connections.

We are all volunteers together, so we do what we can to make this family stronger and happier together!

On behalf of the finance committee: Hans Haefliger, Henk Kassies, Linda Hueppelsheuser

## AUDIO VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



*The St. Andrew's AV Team has been hard at work bringing Sunday services to life online! Below is a recent letter of thanks that was sent to St. Andrew's along with a tasty treat for our AV Team! Keep watch for future newsletters where we will highlight our team members!*

Hello AV Team:

We wanted to acknowledge the excellent work that you do to bring your Sunday services to the wider online congregation. Your attention to the quality of the product which you stream to the internet and your consistent weekly commitment to these services are as good as we have seen anywhere.

We both appreciate your dedication and look forward to joining you online throughout the coming years.

Please accept this as a small token of our gratitude for your work.

## THE LEGACY FUND

For the Congregational portion of THE LEGACY FUND, we have \$2,086.00 to disburse in 2023.

Disbursement item(s) must be of a non-administrative nature. In the past, we have provided funds for new pew cushions, an updated Church directory, and a computer for the Sunday School, as examples.

At the January 29th AGM, the Community of Faith will approve the allocation(s).

Please forward your ideas to Doug Maas at [dgmaas52@gmail.com](mailto:dgmaas52@gmail.com) prior to the AGM. I will compile a list of the items forwarded to me.

Thank you St. Andrew's,  
Doug Maas  
Chair - THE LEGACY FUND



# Worship is Seeking!

Coordinators For:

- Communion
- Greeters
- Scripture Readers

If you are interested please let Dave know or contact the office.



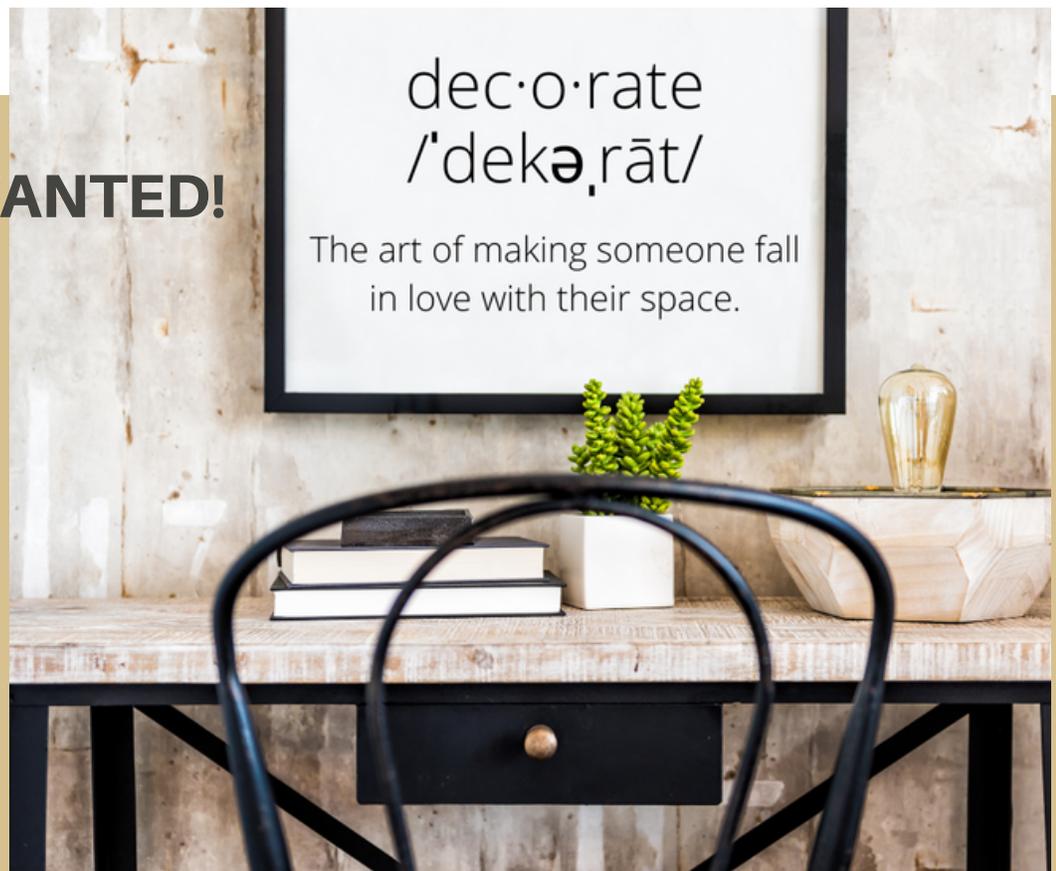
The Worship Team is seeking a coordinator for greeters and scripture readers. The job of the coordinator would be to send out a mass email asking people to come forward or to place people on a rotation. If people aren't available on that date, they switch with someone. Updated lists are available for both. If you are interested, please contact a member of the Worship Team or the office: [office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca)

## DECORATOR WANTED!

Do you love to decorate?  
If so, we need you!

St. Andrew's is in need of a decorator to decorate the sanctuary and entryways for Christmas, Easter, etc.

If you are interested please contact a member of the Worship Team or the office.



## MESSY CHURCH

The next Messy Church will be held February 3, 5 PM. The theme will be "Salt & Light". We hope to see you there! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office.

[office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca)



Mystery! Several pairs of small kitchen tongs have disappeared. The kitchen was cleaned thoroughly and it was hoped they would reappear. But, no. If anyone has any clues about our little mystery or may know the whereabouts, we would appreciate hearing about it or it would be wonderful if they just suddenly showed up. Sort of like your Book Amnesty at your Public Library.

