

The Season of Advent - 'Starry Nights - Light & Wonder'

In the darkest time of the year, God's people await the light of Christ, born to us at Christmas. In these days of preparation, we will mark the weeks of **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love...** this year turning our eyes to the skies in wonder at the vastness of God's creation.

'Starry Nights - Light & Wonder' is this year's Advent Theme, expressed beautifully in this year's Advent Devotional booklet of the same title which is available from the Welcome Table, or from the Church Office.

You can participate in marking our theme this year by bringing a star to place on the Communion Table to add to our worship week to week...perhaps a star that holds special meaning to you in this time of the year, reminding us of the star that leads the way in this time.

As we consider what it means to give of ourselves in this time, let us encourage one another to open ourselves to the light, which even now is making its way to us.

The Worship Committee wishes you and yours, a blessed Advent and Christmas Season.

December 1 Advent 1 Hope Worship 11:00 a.m. (Poinsettia deliveries)

December 8 Advent 2 Peace Pageant/Baptism Worship 11:00 a.m.

Pageant: 'What's Important About Christmas?'

Carols by Candlelight: 'A John Rutter Christmas'

4:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Trinity Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 11th 7:00 p.m - Christmas Calm

Thompson Funeral Home

December 15 Advent 3 Joy Worship 11:00 a.m.

December 22 Advent 4 Love Worship 11:00 a.m. Communion

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Family Worship, 5:00 p.m. Trinity Sanctuary

Sunday, December 29 Christmas 1 Worship 11:00 a.m.



The Story Nights -- Light & Wonder resource is available on the AUC website--Worship page (<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/worship>)



Aurora United Church

December 8, 2024~11 am

Church Office Hours 9 am ~ 12 pm (noon) Monday ~ Thursday

Aurora United Church Office 905-727-1935 x 21 ~ www.auroraunitedchurch.ca

Annual License w/Podcasting, no. A-718074 for Mar 01, 2024- Feb 28, 2025

Hearing assists available on the Welcome Table and from the volunteer in the sound booth.



December 8 to December 15~ Advent 2

Sun. Dec 8 Cash card order	11 am 11 am Advent 2 ~ Pageant Sunday, Sacrament of Baptism 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 4 pm & 7:30 pm Carols By Candlelight ~ Trinity Sanctuary (7:30 pm also live-streamed)
Mon. Dec 9	7 pm - 9 pm AUC Council ~ Binions Hall
Tue. Dec 10	6 pm UCW Pot Luck Dinner ~ Binions Hall
Wed. Dec 11	10 am - 2 pm Aurora Community Café ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 10:30 am Chartwell Park Place ~ service 5 pm Welcome Table ~ Trinity Anglican 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm Faith-A-Peal, Handbells ~ Sanctuary 7 pm-8:15pm Bellissimo, Handbells ~ Sanctuary
Thurs. Dec 12	11:30 am - 1 pm Martha's Table ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 7 pm - 8:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
Sat. Dec 14	9:30 - 10:30 Rise & Shine Community Breakfast
Sun. Dec 15 Cash card del'v	11 am Advent 3 ~ Joy 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11) 2 pm AgeCare Aurora ~ service

Thank You!



Thank you to all the people who purchased poinsettias and donated them for distribution to members of our AUC family in retirement and long-term care residences, as well as families who have experienced a bereavement this year. Thanks also to the team of people who wrote Christmas cards and delivered them along with the poinsettias.

Pastoral Care Committee

The Life and Work of our Congregation continues.....



Aurora United Church Presents...

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

"A JOHN RUTTER CHRISTMAS"

AURORA UNITED CHURCH • 79 VICTORIA ST • AURORA

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2024 4:00 & 7:30 PM

AUC Chancel Choir & Handbell Ensembles
Aldbury Gardens Brass Quintet
Tim Birch, trumpet Wesley Bells, violin
Jakob Robertson, timpani

Come early to join in the Christmas spirit with carol singing!
Freewill Offering

[WWW.AURORAUNITEDCHURCH.CA](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)



Affirming Ministry

Check out the Affirming Ministry table in the entranceway for resources, key fobs, buttons, and other items relating to our Affirming ministry, locally, and nationally.

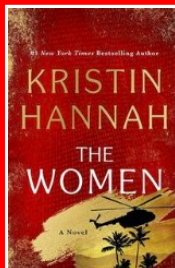
See website for more information:

<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/open-hearts-affirming-ministries>

Contacting Our Church Staff by Phone 905-727-1935 or Email

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar x 23 Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care
Rev. Andy Comar x 22 Minister of Faith Formation & Pastoral Care
Suzanne Whitehurst x 21 Secretary
Affe Zhao x 24 Bookkeeper
Margaret Heney x 26 Music Coordinator
Lisa Kyriakides x 27 Handbell Choir Director

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AUC Book Club
Tues. Dec 16th
6:30 pm

An intimate portrait of a woman coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided by war and broken by politics, of a generation both fueled by dreams and lost on the battlefield.

E-mail Rev. Lorraine for location of meeting.

Advent Awareness!

The Outreach Committee invites you to join the Advent journey through the United Church of Canada's *Gifts with Vision* program –

Aid Displaced Persons:

On average, one person flees their home every two seconds because of war, persecution, starvation, or climate disasters. In 2022, 108.4 million people worldwide were displaced. The United Church's partners in Africa, the Middle East, and South America provide care and support to people who have had to leave everything behind.



Food for the North



Everyone has a right to have enough affordable nourishing food for themselves and their families. Help people in the Far North access the food they need.

You can support this initiative after service or by contacting the office.



Stained Glass Window greeting cards available in the entranceway after service

Set of 5 for \$20

All proceeds to Rising From The Ashes campaign!



Aurora Community Café

10 am—2 pm

St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

Volunteers Needed

contact Rev. Andy If you would like to volunteer: andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca



Cash Cards



When you purchase gift cards for everyday items you are buying anyway - groceries, gas, coffee, etc. - the church benefits because the retailers offer the cards to us at a discount. For example, if you purchase a \$100 Loblaw gift card, AUC makes \$4.00.

To purchase Cash Cards go to: <https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/connect/cash-cards--43>

Sunday Morning Nursery

Infants to 4yrs



If you are interested in serving as a Nursery volunteer (ages teen to adult) contact the office at: info@auroraunitedchurch.ca



Coffee Time

You are invited to remain in the entranceway following worship for a time of conversation and refreshment.



RIISING FROM THE ASHES

Check out the AUC website:

<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/news/aurora-rising-from-the-ashes>

to read more about the campaign and see how you can donate today!

As of Sunday November 24th we have raised **\$171,617.76**

Thank you for your support!



Rise & Shine Volunteers NEEDED

Strong volunteers to help once every 4 weeks to set up and take down the large round tables. Contact the office:

info@auroraunitedchurch.ca hurch.ca



UCW

Potluck Dinner

For all Women of the congregation
Please join us for a joyous evening of good food and fellowship

Tuesday, December 10th in Binions Hall.

We will gather at 6:00 pm
dinner begins at 6:30.



Please bring a potluck dish as well as your plates, cutlery and mug.

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar is our Guest Speaker.

The topic of her presentation will be "Christmas Traditions".

Hope to see you there.



The Life and Work of our Congregation continues.....