

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 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 Starry Nights -- Light & Wonder resource is available, on the Welcome table after service, in the office, and on the AUC website--Worship page (<https://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca/worship>)

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



Aurora United Church

December 15, 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 15 to December 22~ Advent 3

Sun. Dec 15 Cash card del'v	11 am 11 am Advent 3~ Joy 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 2 pm AgeCare Aurora ~ service
Mon. Dec 16	7 pm - 9 pm Woman Spirit ~ Minister's office 7:30 Finance Committee ~ Sacristy
Tue. Dec 17	10:30 am Sunrise of Aurora ~ service 7 pm - 9 pm AUC Book Club ~ e-mail Rev. Lorraine for address
Wed. Dec 18	9 am AUC Breakfast ~ Sunny Morning (St. John's Side Rd and Bayview) 10 am Hollandview Trail ~ 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 19	11:30 am - 1 pm Martha's Table ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 7 pm - 8:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
Sat. Dec 21	9:30 - 10:30 Rise & Shine Community Breakfast
Sun. Dec 22	11 am Advent 4 ~ Love 11 am Nursery (to age 4) 11:15 am Funday Sunday ~ children's program (ages 5-11)



AUC OFFICE Hours over the Holidays

The AUC office will be closed from Tues Dec 24th, through Wed January 1. Reopening Thurs January 2, 2025.

Trinity will be closed from noon Tues 24th To Wed Jan 1, reopening Thurs Jan 2, 2025.

Happy Holidays



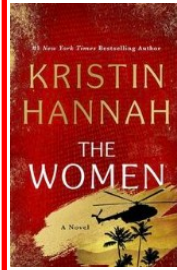
The Life and Work of our Congregation continues.....

AUC BREAKFAST

Join us 9am for breakfast,
Wednesday December 18, 2024



Sunny Morning (15975 Bayview Ave. - St. John's "Chocolats Favoris" plaza), entrance off of St. John Side Rd.



AUC Book Club Tues. Dec 17th 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 –

Aiding 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.



The Café Returns February 5th

Would you like to volunteer at the Café?

We are currently looking for three volunteers: chef, kitchen assistant and coffee station coordinator. Volunteers for these two positions would commit to being at the café twice a month.

Please contact Rev. Andy (andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca) if you would like to be part of this wonderful community program.

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

lorraine@auroraunitedchurch.ca
andy@auroraunitedchurch.ca
info@auroraunitedchurch.ca
bookkeeper@auroraunitedchurch.ca
margaret@auroraunitedchurch.ca
handbells@auroraunitedchurch.ca



Stained Glass Window greeting cards available in the entranceway after service
Set of 5 for \$20

All proceeds to Rising From The Ashes campaign!



RISING 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 4th Saturdays to set up and take down large round tables.



Contact the office: info@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.



2025 Offering Envelopes

are ready for pick-up.

Pick-up at the Welcome Table, before or after service
or
In the office Mon-Thurs 9am~2:30pm



Woman Spirit

Women of the congregation are invited to gather to further explore faith and life issues related to spirituality.

Come for sharing, for friendship ... come for community.

for more information contact:
Rev. Lorraine, lorraine@auroraunitedchurch.ca

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