

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 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 22, 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 22 to December 29~ Advent 4

Sun. Dec 22	11 am 11 am Advent 4~ Joy 11 am Nursery (to age 4)
Mon. Dec 23	10 am - 2 pm Office hours
Tue. Dec 24	5 pm Christmas Eve Family Worship ~ Trinity Sanctuary
Wed. Dec 25	Merry Christmas 5 pm Welcome Table, take-out ~ Trinity Anglican
Thurs. Dec 26	Office closed 11:30 am – 1 pm Martha's Table ~ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Sat. Dec 28	9:30 - 10:30 Rise & Shine Community Breakfast
Sun. Dec 29	11 am Christmas 1



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.

Merry Christmas



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



News From the EDGE



On Wednesday December 4, Church Members, the Project Team and Town of Aurora gathered on-site at 15186 Yonge Street, the corner of Yonge & Tyler St., in Downtown Aurora, to celebrate the construction progress of the new Aurora United Church.

Thank you to The Dalton Company for hosting this festive gathering. Those present were given a tour of the building and enjoyed a social time on the lower level.



For more pictures and information go to: daltonbuild.com/post/celebrating-the-holiday-season-on-site-at-the-new-aurora-united-church



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



Affirming Ministry

Affirming ministries work in many different ways toward the healing and wholeness of creation, challenging bias and discrimination based on appearance, culture, class or age; working to end racism; promoting economic justice; increasing accessibility or caring for the planet.

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

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.

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 December 15 we have raised **\$175,733.06**

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 Loblaws 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



The Café Returns February 5th

The Cafe is a non-profit, partnership of local churches and a NFP coffee catering vendor. The purpose of the cafe is to provide opportunity for adults with differing abilities to learn to prepare food, serve and customer relations.

Would you like to volunteer at the Café?
We are currently looking for three volunteers: chef, kitchen assistant and coffee station coordinator.

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

The Life and Work of our Congregation continues...