|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/08cec7ab-f669-4943-a9f0-e599b39dd23f.jpg | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | December 2019 Newsletter | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **THIS SEASON IN WORSHIP  - “Heaven and Nature Sing!”**  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/719b48ae-5439-4c18-bbca-d589097ab228.png“Joy to the World,” a beloved Christmas classic, turns 300 this year. Hymn poet Isaac Watt’s interpretation of Psalm 98 invites us to sing a “new song”– and it is a powerful cosmic performance of all creation being renewed and freed. Rather than “joy” being yet another word for “happiness,” we will discover that the depths of joy can be found even in the midst of struggle, the work of justice, and the presence of compassion–all part of the coming of Jesus to this world and a message the world still so desperately needs.    **Join us on Sundays at 10:30 to share together in the joy of preparing for the birth of Jesus!**    **KIDZONE SUNDAYS IN ADVENT  -** Our pageant will be "shown" in worship on December 15th - but you won't have to get dressed up in a costume that day. Instead, you'll see a series of mini-movies that you helped create! When they are all put together - they'll tell a great story!  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/100f46dc-9280-469e-a6c2-38bc7d9a2aff.pngTo be in our mini-movies, come to kidZone on November 17, 24th, and December 1st. Come to one of them or come to them all! Each week there will be different characters to dress up as. One week might be shepherds and sheep. Another week might be Mary and Joseph and angels. A third week might be kings, villagers, and the innkeepers. You'll get to have a different costume every week. Then we'll take short videos that will be edited into our mini-movies for December 15th.  We need all ages - toddlers, children, teenagers, and even adults can join in. Everyone is invited to participate in some way. Some of our teenagers will also be reading parts in worship on December 15th.  **It's going to be lots of fun! Maybe you want to invite a friend to come with you!** As well, come to kidZone on December 8th and 22nd for some fun Christmas crafts and activities. Looking forward to seeing you as we help tell the Christmas story!    **SUNDAY NURSERY CARE FOR WEE WORSHIPPERS -**Families with little ones under 3: be sure to come on Sundays to meet our new caregiver in the nursery. Yasmin has been hired as part of our https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/cf0a2dc8-9333-442d-80af-973ac68f32e4.pngteam so that parents can have their own Sunday morning break to worship while little ones are being cared for.    **ADVENT BIBLE STUDY  - “Living the Nativity”  -** Gather Fridays at 1 PM November 29th, December 6, 13, 20 – together we’ll explore the characters in the Christmas story and how their sacred story connects with our own. No cost. No book to purchase. Please call the office to register.  **DECK THE HALLS -**Saturday, November 30 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM - Potluck Supper, Crafts and Sanctuary Decorating! Come join us for a night of decorating the church for the Advent season and other festively fun things as a church community. Wear your ugliest Christmas Sweaters, come enjoy great food, decorate the church sanctuary and be ready for a few festive songs and activities along the way. For the Potluck, we suggest you bring a dish based on your last name: A-G – Main Dish, H-M – Side Dish, N-Z – Dessert Dish. Please register by contacting the office.  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/9aee23c2-704b-435f-9b3a-c705a7e33bc3.jpeg  **CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH** – stay for lunch after church December 1stand enjoy a meal prepared by our youth. Donations appreciated as they begin fundraising to attend a national United Church youth and young adult event next summer.    **CAROLING AT THE MANOR**– sing some of your favorites with residents at Huntington Hills Manor, Sunday, December 1st at 7 PM.   **SOUP FOR THE SOUL** – Thursday, December 19th at 11:30 – gather for friendly conversation and a bowl of soup as we share together in Christmas memories. Let the office know if you can attend or need a ride.  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/b0d9330e-aa7a-415e-a0bb-9458c7543685.png**SUPPER CHURCH AND MERRY AND BRIGHT CAROLING NIGHT**  Friday, December 20th - Gather for supper at 6 PM for a delicious meal prepared by Chef Craig. And stay for caroling in the warmth of our sanctuary at 7 PM (complete with cookies and hot chocolate). Donations welcome to cover the cost of supper. Please register at the office if you plan to attend. Hosts always needed if you can assist.  **INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH**  A personal invitation to church is the most effective way to grow a church. Be sure this season to invite someone to a Sunday morning service, Christmas Eve, or one of the many ongoing events we have at Northminster. This is something we can all do.    **GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS WITH ADVENT UNWRAPPED**  The four-week countdown to the birthday of Jesus begins on December 1. Get ready to make room for more Christ and the countercultural message he brings: help brighten someone’s day, care for each other and ourselves, help care for the earth, help to worship God. Throughout the season, Advent Unwrapped will introduce and explore the Christmas story. You’ll find bible-based activities, devotionals, and videos at [www.united-church.ca/worship-theme/advent-unwrapped](http://www.united-church.ca/worship-theme/advent-unwrapped) and on Facebook https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/5e7d3093-bd4f-4cd8-b8e3-271a7c0054d5.png(search Advent Unwrapped) | | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/6db02ec1-a894-44e5-be6a-afe15a96e413.png SERVICES  **6:00 PM** – gather together for a family-friendly evening of singing & sharing in the Christmas story. **8:00 PM** – all ages are invited to hear the Christmas story, share in Communion, & enjoy singing with candlelight. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **EMBRACING THE SPIRIT FELLOWSHIP**  For the last two years, Northminster’s Supper Church has received innovative ministries grants from the Edge Network of the United Church of Canada. Interested in seeing what other churches are doing with similar grants? Every Monday at 11 AM (MST), use this link <https://zoom.us/j/320889290> to hear stories of hope, fresh ideas, new relationships, re-imagining of community, and partnerships. Previously recorded gatherings can also be found on Edge UCC’s YouTube Channel (search “Edge UCC” on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com/)). | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL STOCKING STUFFER?**  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/0a7e82d2-1352-447a-be2a-086bcd9c9637.jpgThese beautiful Northminster Christmas ornaments will be available through the office **AND** after worship each Sunday through Christmas.  They are $10.00/each and make a lovely gift for all family members.  Please purchase yours soon as there are limited quantities. | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A HUGE THANK YOU!!  Thanks to all who helped to make both the Turkey Dinner & the Craft Fair huge successes!  The turkey dinner raised $5,567.90 and the craft sale raised $13,281.64.  Special thanks to our organizers and fearless leaders; **Lorie Haydu, Joanne Hiebert, Claire Goodson, and Mary Glessing.**  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/ca38b6e9-99fb-400a-93e8-056fdfc975c5.png      https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/_compresseds/b88a4a7f-335f-42e8-93ec-9c83689238ae.jpg    https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/86766844-1e07-461a-b5f4-87d63fdd1f78.jpg | | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **SUPPER CHURCH**  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/d52955f3-3b13-405e-84bb-da31e24f1b80.jpg This Thursday night meal and worship continues to bring together people from the neighbourhood and congregation. Many familiar faces return each month to enjoy a meal and conversation, and a brief worship service. Some are people from our church who aren’t able to attend worship on Sundays. Others are middle-aged to senior singles and couples from the area. We also have some of our youth who enjoy helping Craig in the kitchen, and a selection of committed volunteers to help host, bake, and assist our guests as needed.  We are grateful for this strong community of people who see this time at Northminster as “church” for them. And they are grateful for the opportunity. Thank you for your continued support of Supper Church – and remember that you are all welcome to attend any time. | |  |  | | --- | |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **BUSINESS PLAN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE**  **Mission Statement**  **“Aspiring to be a vibrant, caring presence in our community that connects people to God and one another”**  The Committee had their first meeting on June 15, 2019 and has had nine meetings since. In the first few meetings, the Committee focused on coming up with a Mission Statement for our Church. The rationale was for the committee to have a Mission Statement in place so they could build the Business Plan in concert with the Mission Statement.  The committee presented its proposed Mission Statement to the Board for their approval on September 18, 2019. We were given an initial date of November 2019 to report back to the Board and Congregation. At the September 18, 2019 Board meeting we requested an extension, as we need more time to make a recommendation. The board granted us an extension until February 2020 to present our Business Plan.   The committee has been provided with updates on the financial situation on a regular basis. The current financial situation is a major concern and we are working hard to ensure the financial wellbeing of Northminster moving forward. To that end, we are in the process of reviewing and examining several options.   We have discussed numerous options regarding the sustainability of housing our congregation in our current facility. The costs associated with maintaining our current facility pose a risk, as our current financial resources are very limited. Other issues we are reviewing are the decline in our membership and the shortage of our volunteer base, as well as our local givings not meeting the cost of our staff salaries.   We have contacted the Edge Group of the United Church of Canada and had a lengthy discussion with them, exploring our current financial situation in depth. The Edge has worked with numerous United Churches who have similar concerns and issues as we have. They have sent us a proposal of how they may be able to walk us through a process to address our concerns. We have also met with the Village Group in Calgary.  They are an organization that has taken over the old Rocky Mountain College in Brentwood and has turned the facility into a multi-faceted, community-oriented facility.  We met with representation from Chinook Winds Region of the United Church of Canada. They recommended that we answer the following six questions:  1 Why do we exist? 2 Based on what we do and how we do it, what might be the honest perception of the community about Northminster`s values, how we treat others, what are we about etc.? 3 What are we truly good at? 4 How will we succeed? 5 What is most important, right now? 6 Who must do what?  The Chinook Winds Region recommended that we go through this exercise of answering these questions to understand the. **Missional Perspective** of what Northminster is truly about, and which will also aid and expedite the work we will have to do with the Edge Group. The committee has made the decision to have the congregation answer these six questions for three Sundays after Church to gain the perspective of the congregation. We have applied for a grant for $3,000 from the Chinook Winds Region to work with the Edge Group. We have been informed that our request has been accepted. The Chinook Winds Region also suggested that we approach them for assistance in completing a formal Building Study. This will aid us in collecting information about the long term value and viability of our building.    The major concern before us is how much longer can we keep our facility operational and financially functional. The realistic outlook is if we continue to do nothing differently with our facility and with the funds we have, we will have used up all the funds within 2.5 years.   While no decisions have been made at this point in time, some of the suggestions we have discussed are as follows:   * Amalgamation - * Sell building and relocate to a smaller and functional facility * Tear down current building and rebuild onsite * Form a joint partnership for revenue-generating purposes such as the Village Group.   We look forward to exploring options in greater depth and presenting our business plan in February 2020. We, as the committee, want to make it clear that this work is a**Long** **Term project** that if it is to be successful will require the patience and understanding from the Board and the Congregation.    Respectively yours, Phyllis Snider, Nancy Nourse, Sarah Hughes, Lloyd Vincent, Ernie Abbott Mark Vandervoort & Ted Carter | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **THE CAREFUL STEWARD**  We are called as individuals and as congregations and communities into God’s mission. We participate by  giving the gifts that God has entrusted to us. These gifts are everything that we have: our time, our talent and  skills, and our treasure or physical resources. Christian stewardship includes all aspects of our lives.   Stewardship is how we spend our time, how we care for our body and make healthy choices, our priorities  around money, how we share our time and skills, how we manage our relationships, how we care for the  environment, and how we practice our faith. Christian stewardship is everything we think, say and do after  we say “I believe”; it is how we invest God’s stuff, for God’s mission in God’s world.   Northminster is so very grateful for the ways you make the stewardship of this congregation part of your life.  Please remember to make Northminster part of your giving this Christmas – every dollar you give makes a  difference…making more ministry and mission possible going into 2020. **All donations received by Sunday**  **December 29th (or December 31st if you donate with Tithely) will receive a charitable tax receipt.**  Thank you for your generosity! | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Financial Update from Administration** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/84012c76-2459-4ac4-baf2-b4e430ee295b.jpg | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | NORTHMINSTER UPCOMING EVENTS ... | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/5f4fb82a-efe0-4960-a9d0-f556f930edbe.png**SANTA’S WORKSHOP**  In cooperation with North Central Community Resource Centre, we are hosting this event for invited guest families in the community. Contact Elsie Ross or another member of Mission and Outreach if you can help host this event. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/8af8732b-71e8-40a8-8e67-4a959e7df7c2.png **FREE MOVIE NIGHT**  Join together on Friday, January 31st for a showing of the new release of The Lion King. Pizza by donation at 6:30, and movie with popcorn and drinks at 7 PM. Bring your own pillows, blankets, lawnchairs, etc to make viewing more comfortable. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. | | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | ODDS & ENDS ... | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **Help us get to know each other better. Order a magnetic tag from the office for $11, or use (and re-use) a complementary tag found near each entrance.** | |   **IF YOU ARE IN HOSPITAL OR MOVE** Seniors, in the busyness of a sudden illness or move, your family members may forget to notify the church where you are. Please remind them to call or email us so we can keep in touch and support you as needed. Also, when you are admitted into hospital, remember to put Northminster United or United Church on your forms so that a chaplain can be in touch and connect us. |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **KEEP IN TOUCH** You can always find details about events upcoming at Northminster by checking out our website and by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.   Thanks for all the “likes” and “follows” – don’t forget to share our events and posts on your own newsfeed so others can see the great things that happen!  **CALL FOR PHOTOS** The United Church is looking for photos of United Churches (interior and exterior) to use in the 2021 Calendar. Photos must be colour, excellent quality, and horizontal format, and they are in need of all seasons. Deadline is December 30, 2019. Successful photos will receive a $100 honorarium. Find more details at [www.united-church.ca/community-faith/get-involved/submit-your-photos](http://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/get-involved/submit-your-photos).  **CANDIDACY PATHWAY** Do you ever have questions about what is involved in becoming a minister in the United Church? There are many options and opportunities that are flexible with your stage of life. Don’t hesitate to ask Rev. Nancy questions. Or go to [www.united-church.ca/leadership/entering-ministry/candidacy-pathway](http://www.united-church.ca/leadership/entering-ministry/candidacy-pathway). | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/488861f4-64db-4905-93e6-e3545ebbd472.jpeg |  |  | | --- | | **Bring Your Mug to Church**  In an effort to *green* Northminster, we invite you to bring your mug to church. A few years ago, we discontinued using washable coffee cups from the kitchen as it’s often difficult for volunteers to lift heavy dishracks of dirty mugs. Disposable coffee cups are always here if you need them, but we encourage you to bring along your favorite reusable one. | | | | | | https://gallery.mailchimp.com/910067356d105b3e7fdead5b2/images/08cec7ab-f669-4943-a9f0-e599b39dd23f.jpg |   **3311 Centre Street North \* Calgary, AB T2E 2X7 \* (403) 277-0322**  **Email:** [**office@northminster.ca**](mailto:office@northminster.ca) |