

December 2020/January 2021

At a glance

Full descriptions of activities in bulletin.

All worship and programming is online

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
20 Advent IV Online Worship 11:15	21	22 Prayer Service	23 Prayer Service 8:30am Zoom office Hrs 2-4:30	24 Christmas Eve 7 pm service 9 pm service	25 Christmas Day	26
27 Online Worship 11:15	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2
Russell Off						
3 Online Worship 11:15 Communion	4	5 Prayer Service	6 Prayer Service 8:30am Zoom office Hrs 2-4:30	7	8	9
10 Online Worship 11:15 Open Hearts Jar	11	12 Prayer Service	13 Prayer Service 8:30am Zoom office Hrs 2-4:30	14	15	16

We still need your support as our ministry continues! Making your offering [online](http://www.eastsideunited.ca/donate2.html) (<http://www.eastsideunited.ca/donate2.html>) couldn't be easier. Additionally, offerings can be mailed to Eastside at: **Eastside United Church, 3018 Doan Drive, Regina, SK, S4V 1M1** Or, if you do want to drop off an offering in person, please leave offerings in the mailbox at the office door. Thanks for your donation!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 20, 2020

306-761-0556 eastsideunited@sasktel.net
Like us on facebook (Eastside United Church)
Follow us on Twitter @Eastside_united
www.eastsideunited.ca



*W*elcome to Eastside United. May our opportunities of ministry offer you rest, challenge and peace on your Christian journey.

Ministers:

Minister: Russell Mitchell-Walker
Pianist: Michelle Dickie
Prayers of the People: Wanda Barr
Tech Support: Brian Mitchell-Walker
Attendance: Brian Mitchell-Walker
Congregational Care Greeter: Elaine Hill

Last week's attendance: 64 Offering: \$13,655 Weekly budget: \$3167
(not incl. PAR) Dec 1-15
this includes offering of those who give once a year, and some generous year-end donations.

Worship will be happening online via Zoom [HERE](#). You can also call into the Zoom session on the phone with audio only by calling 1-587-328-1099 or 1-204-515-1268. If you have trouble with sound on your computer, you can also call in with these numbers while watching on zoom.

Office Hours:

The Living Spirit Center is closed due to concerns over COVID-19. Both Harvey and Russell are working remotely. If you need to contact the Eastside United Office, please email Harvey at eastsideunited@sasktel.net.

Harvey's Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursdays, In office Thursdays 10-11am will resume again when restrictions are lifted and schools are back in person (for donations)

Russell's Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Russell's e-mail address: russell.eastside@gmail.com. (note change in e-mail address)

Russell will be holding **Zoom Drop-in Office Hours** Wednesdays from 2 – 4:30. You can join Russell online over Zoom [HERE](#).

Russell and Harvey are off for the Christmas break Dec 25-Jan 2.

Scripture Readings: The Christmas Story Luke 1-20; Matthew 2: 1-12

Songs –

Come Now O God of Love VU #35

Hope is a Star VU #7

A Candle is Burning VU #6

Away in a Manger VU #69

Once in Royal David's City VU#62 vs 1,2

Gentle Mary Laid her Child VU#46, vs 1,2

The First Nowell VU#91

Angels from the Realms of Glory VU #36

Still, Still, Still VU #47 vs 3

In-Person Worship: Consistent with the recommendations of the Living Skies Regional Council and the United Church of Canada, we will reopen our physical space and resume traditional services when we can be confident that we can do so in a manner that is meaningful for our community and is safe for every member of our congregation. We will continue to keep you informed as our plans unfold. The Leadership Team has established a "Return to Worship Task Group" to discuss the protocols and possibilities for gathering in-person. If you are interested, or have feedback, please let [Sarah Tkachuk](#) know. We will review again in January.

Meditation Schedule: The meditation group will continue to meet via Zoom for now on Monday nights and will resume in the New Year. If you have any questions, please contact [Shauna Powers](#). The schedule for the next meetings are: **January 4th**, **January 11th**, and **January 18th**.

Borrowing Hymn Books: If anyone would like to borrow hymn books to use at home for online worship, come in on Thursdays between 10 am and 11 am to ask Harvey and he will get you a hymn book to borrow!

Craft/Study: We will be meeting via Zoom on Thursdays starting Jan 7. **You can find the Zoom link [HERE](#).** The link will be sent out in Tuesday's email as well. We will begin *White Fragility* beginning January 7th, 2021.

[CALLING ALL RECIPES:](#) Do you have a favourite recipe, a family favourite that you'd be willing to share? If you have a recipe that you'd like to share a tasty treat with fellow Eastsiders, send it to Harvey and he will share it on the next weekly email.

Volunteers for the ICF: The Indigenous Christian Fellowship is looking for people on Fridays to make 90 lunches on-site. If you are available to help, contact Doug Scheurwater. We are also looking for those comfortable helping with deliveries. There will be an indigenous and non-indigenous person helping. They are also looking for volunteers for

cooking on the grill for Saturday morning breakfasts. Cookie makers are also needed. Let Russell (or Linda Fowler for cookies) know if you can help.

Eastside T-Shirts: If you ordered a t-shirt, please come pick them up!

They are ready! They can be picked up on Thursdays between 10 am and 11 am. If you did not order but are interested in purchasing one, email Harvey to see what colour and sizes are available. \$30/each.

Our Advent/Christmas Newsletter is out! See what is happening this season. Click [here](#) to download it.

Munch Lunch Revised – Donations for Glen Elm Community School are suspended until school resumes in-person again. Thank you to everyone who has donated! Harvey will send an update when donations are being collected again.

We are continuing the A Work of Art and Its Story during worship!

If you have a piece of work that has a story or holds spiritual meaning for you and would like to share on Sunday during worship, please let Russell know.



Stewardship Campaign Update: Thank you to everyone - every donation big or small, is part of the puzzle.

This week we were able to add 2 pieces to our puzzle. We are "doggedly" working away, hoping to continue adding to our total. You can see the piece just above the puzzle that was actually "by" Dianna's dog! We are hoping to put that piece into the puzzle next week.

Our total committed so far to the budget is \$131,080, which is \$29,420 less than our

budget amount.

Wanted: curious, thoughtful person who would like to know our partners at the Living Spirit Centre better - to sit on LSC Council as one of 3 Eastside reps, along with Russell. There are usually 5 meetings a year, 2 hours in length. Decisions on the LSC are made through discussion and reaching consensus. Meetings this year have been via Zoom. Please talk with current reps Bonnie Yake or Bonny Manz to volunteer/for more information.

Calendars and Broadview Subscriptions: If you would like to order a new United Church Calendar and/or renew your Broadview subscription, please let [Harvey](#) know so he can facilitate that for you. The calendars are 10\$, and a year's subscription for Broadview is 29.95\$

Cloth Masks: It is important to wear masks when we are out in public, especially indoors. **It is now policy to wear a mask when in the church building.** If you would like a mask, please email the office indicating how many masks you need, and we will connect you with someone making masks. Elastic is needed if you have any! Thanks to Clare Banks, Wanda Barr, Gladys Olekson, Nancy Cranfield, Jean MacKay who are willing to make masks. More sewers are welcome!

Hello Neighbour Card Reminder: If you would like to and are healthy enough to do so, download a Hello Neighbour card that was sent with the **weekly email** to let people know you're available to help! By putting these cards in mailboxes, it allows those of use who are well to help the people around us who may need it. **This is more important again as we are asked to reduce our contacts and go out less!**



Were you unable to attend worship in the past? Don't worry about it! You can find a video recording of past services online. Visit our website [HERE](#) to find uploaded videos of service.

PAR and M & S Donations: If you would like to add or increase PAR and/or M&S offerings, please contact Harvey and he will help you get set up or make changes. Email eastsideunited@sasktel.net to let Harvey know what changes you would like to make, and he will submit the changes for processing.



Did you miss the announcements at last Sunday's worship service? Sometimes feel like an event snuck up on you and you didn't receive proper notice? Printed announcements are saved on the Eastside website each week - check 'em out at www.eastsideunited.ca under the **What's New** heading!

Financial Update: download October's financial update [HERE](#). October income showed a surplus of \$7,567, leaving Eastside in good shape for the year. The year-to-date surplus is \$7,010 and the bank balance (counting the Whitmore Park reserve) is \$50,905. PAR giving was flat to September, and the LSC account maintains a healthy balance of \$35,868. This is also an end of the year reminder to get donations in for the end of the tax season!

Suspended/Moved Programming as of December 16:

- **TOPS** is suspended until further notice
- **Eastside Choir** has canceled rehearsals until further notice
- **Messy Church** is suspended until further notice. Watch for Messy Church at home resources.



Here are some advent activities that can be done at home with family! These are downloadable links for each activity:

- [Scavenger Hunt](#)
- [Advent Wreath Candle Liturgy](#)
- [Advent Journey Colouring Pages](#)
- [Homemade Clay Recipes](#)
- [Making Star Luminaries](#)
- [Wisemen Paper Chain](#)



November's financial update is available to view [HERE](#). November was another strong month for Eastside's finances, with a surplus of \$789. This brings the year to date surplus to \$7,799. Revenue is \$1,147 ahead of budget, and expenses are \$6,652 below budget. As noted last month, the

key factor that has kept expenses below budget is the amounts recovered from the disability insurance plan from Russell's absence in the summer.



On Christmas Eve, we will be having two services.

At 7 pm, we will be having our [Family Service](#).

At 9 pm, we will be having the [Candlelight and Communion Service](#). All are welcome to this service as well. Please be prepared with candles and the elements of communion for this one. Both services will be held over Zoom. Please invite family members that would usually come with you to Christmas Eve in-person to join us online!

