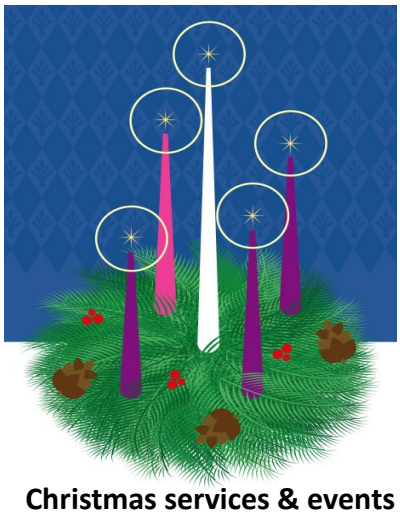
Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

Announcements — December 16th to December 25th, 2022

Friday, December 16th	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 9:00 p.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room) Secret Sweets (Kitchen) **WeCan Food Basket pick-up (Narthex)** Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary)
Saturday, December 17th	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Elite Kids Dance (Hall) Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary) **RUC Outreach Committee (Boardroom)** Private booking (Sanctuary) **RUC Youth Cookie Decorating (Kitchen & Hall)**
Advent IV, LOVE Sunday, December 18th	**10:30 a.m.** 12:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	**RUC Worship Service & Baptism (Sanctuary)** Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary) Al-Anon Family Group (Boardroom) **Christmas Carol Sing (Sanctuary)**
Monday, December 19th	8:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room) **Handbell choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)**
Tuesday, December 20th	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room) E2 Academy (Lower Hall) **Transitions Group (Chapel)** **Reflective Crafting (Chapel)** Elite Dance (Lower hall)
Wednesday, December 21st	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room) **Wednesday Walkers (Chapel)** Elite Dance (Lower hall)
Thursday, December 22nd	8:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room) E2 Academy (Lower Hall) Secret Sweets (Kitchen) **Devonshire service (offsite)** Wellness Junkies (Lower hall) **Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)**
Friday, December 23rd	8:30 a.m.	E2 Academy (Boardroom & Meeting room)
Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th	10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary) **Candlelight worship service with Choir** **Candlelight worship service with Choir** **Communion Candlelight worship service**
Christmas Day Sunday, December 25th	**10:30 a.m.** **10:30 a.m.** 12:30 p.m.	**RUC Service (Sanctuary)** **RUC (Chapel)** Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary)



Christmas services & events

December 18 worship service with Children's program

December 18
Christmas Carol Sing at 4:00 pm

December 24
* Candlelight worship at 5:00 pm
* Candlelight worship at 6:30 pm
* Communion candlelight worship at 8:00 pm

December 25 — Contemplation & Conversation at 10:30 a.m.

January 1 Worship at 10:30 a.m.

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Celebrating Rev. Bill Cantelon After 45 years of faithful ministry to the United Church of Canada, Rev. Bill Cantelon is now officially retired. He served Riverbend UC from 1992 - 2006. You can reach him at: billcantelon@cbunited.ca.

RUC Youth Group will celebrate the Christmas season Saturday evening, **December 17th** from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. They will be baking and decorating Christmas cookies and watching a Christmas movie in the basement of the church. They are making gingerbread and sugar cookies. This event was a big hit last year. Please let Luke or Madison know if you plan to attend and if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies.

Donation envelopes – Do you usually use numbered donation envelopes for your contributions? Would you like to receive envelopes again in 2023? If so, please contact the Church office at 780.430.7275.

An Interfaith Service of Lament & Light: Covid Sorrows … Covid Blessings McDougall United Church (10025 – 101 Street, Edmonton), in partnership with the Interfaith Centre for Education & Action, and the Muslim Association of Canada, invite you to A SERVICE OF LAMENT & LIGHT: COVID SORROWS … COVID BLESSINGS, Sunday, **December 18th** at 4:00 p.m. at McDougall United Church. This will be an Interfaith Service of Remembrance, Compassion and Community as we seek healing from Covid and all that it has taken from us, and who it has taken from us. This will be an in-person service, but also available via Zoom. A reception will follow, parking is free, and masking is strongly recommended as we respect the care and well-being of all. For information, visit our website, contact pastuckma@gmail.com or call 780.428.1818.

Deep Winter Song XVI Enjoy a mystical solstice evening of music and story on **December 18th** at 7:00 p.m. at 10740—19 Avenue NW, Edmonton. This “acoustic" musical presentation explores and celebrates the Mystery of the Winter Solstice, Christmas, and this wondrous dark season of winter. The night will include traditional and modern songs of winter, inspiring stories & poetry, angelic voices, delightful and mystical moods, beautiful projections, a time of Sacred Sound Journey, and a Solstice Fire Ritual. Join Nathalie Jackson, Storyweaver; Kris Elaschuk; Eily Aurora on the harp; rEvolve musicians Gord Oaks, **Chris Giffen** and Josh McHan; with additional music by Carrie Day and special guests. Tickets are available at Eventbrite: $25.00 for adults, children & youth pricing available.

Blue Christmas **December 18th** at 7:00 p.m. at Robertson-Wesley United Church, (10209 123 Street, Edmonton). Christmas is a holy time that can bring up so many memories that heighten our feelings of grief or sadness, pain or loneliness. This is a service of quiet reflection, remembrance and peace. We hope that this service will bring a sense of peace in this sacred season with quiet music, scripture, silence and candle light. Everyone is welcome, either in person or online at www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live.

Gifts with Vision The United Church of Canada provides Mission & Service support to partners for their ongoing work in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and right here in Canada. Gifts with Vision turns gift giving into an opportunity to do something extra for our church partners. Through Gifts with Vision, you give gifts to friends or family to support specific partner activities. With your gifts, we help create healthy places to live, promote justice, provide social services, and enliven worship. Check out the online gift catalogue at giftswithvision.ca.

Healthy Relationships is a unique and exciting virtual support group offered by Cornerstone Counselling that will help women ages 18 to 23 build a foundation for strong, healthy relationships. This group focuses on building awareness surrounding healthy relationships, communication skills, boundaries, and self-esteem. Participants will gain support, practice real-life skills, and will have the opportunity to observe and change patterns to achieve personal and relational goals. The support group will run every Tuesday evening from **January 3rd** to February 7, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Registration is **free** but space is limited so register early here or on their website at: www.cornerstonecounselling.com.