Riverbend United Church

Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

November 8 to November 17, 2024

Friday November 8	10:30 a.m.	E2 Academy Remembrance ceremony (Lower level hall)
Saturday November 9	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Private rental (Kitchen) **Men's Walking Group (Chapel)**
Sunday November 10	10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	**RUC Worship (Sanctuary)** Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary) Al-Anon Family Group (Boardroom)
Monday Nov. 11	6:30 p.m.	**Remembrance Day** (Office closed) Handbell Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tuesday November 12	11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	**Transitions Group (Chapel)** **Reflective Crafting (Gathering area)** Elite Dance (Lower Hall)
Wednesday November 13	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	**Wednesday Walkers (Chapel)** **Restorative Yoga (Lower hall)** Private Rental (Sanctuary) Elite Dance (Lower Hall)
Thursday November 14	6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Private Booking (Lower Hall) **RUC Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)**
Friday November 15	7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	**Youth Event (St. Paul's United Church)** (Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary)
Saturday November 16	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Private rental (Kitchen) **Men's Walking Group (Chapel)**
Sunday November 17	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	**Advent Study (Chapel)** **RUC Worship (Sanctuary)** Ghana Methodist Church (Sanctuary) Al-Anon Family Group (Boardroom)

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Have questions about the church? Look for people with the red "Ask Me" stickers on their Name tags.

We are an affirming congregation of the United Church of Canada, everyone is welcome here.

Riverbend United Church ~ News & events

New Members will be received in worship soon. If you've been thinking of joining the church, please let Valerie or the office know. And welcome!

RUC Daily Reflections for Advent Do you enjoy reading daily reflections/devotionals? Have you ever wished you could contribute a reflection? The Spiritual Formation Committee is producing a booklet of daily reflections for Advent, written by members of this faith community. Would you like to write a reflection for inclusion? Please email spiritualprojects24@gmail.com with your submissions by **November 12th**. Questions? speak to Carolyn Miller, Valerie, or any member of the committee.

Youth Event Friday, **November 15**, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church. Youth grades 7-12 are invited to gather with other UC youth groups. Let Darryl Sparling or Valerie know you can come! If you need a ride, let us know.

Advent Book Study: *The First Christmas – What the Gospel Really Teach About Jesus's Birth* Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. from **November 17th** to December 15 to bring new meaning into the Christmas story. Sign up in the narthex to order your copy, $22.00 each. Kindle and Kobo e-books are available for $12.00. This book by Marcus Borg and John Crossan shines the light on our traditional scriptural story with scholarship and wisdom. You're welcome to the discussion even if you don't read the book.

Grocery cards Riverbend United Church is selling Sobeys/Safeway grocery cards as a Church fundraiser. Grocery card sales will be available before and after service in the narthex every Sunday. We have $50, $100 and $500 denominations available. Payment via cheque, cash or e-transfer.

Ease the Burden: End of Life Planning presented by Pine Box Funerals has been rescheduled to Sunday, **December 8th** from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. This presentation will walk us through end of life planning steps, focusing on the practical and emotional benefits of pre-planning and pre-arranging funeral services. Taking these steps can relieve stress on loved ones, ensuring that personal wishes are honoured and potentially saving money. This free event is sponsored by the Care Team, register with Holly Ruryk or call the office at 780.430.7275.

Outreach Committee projects The Outreach Committee has been busy with a number of initiatives. Please help with one or all of these projects as you are able and inclined. Thank you in advance.

- **Women's Shelters:** With Christmas rapidly approaching the Riverbend United Outreach Committee is preparing for it's annual support of two women's shelters in the inner city. We are asking the congregation to assist so that we can brighten the lives of these women once again. Your financial donation can be made by e-transfer, leaving a cheque in the offering plate or speaking to Judi Cook or Erin James.
- **Winter clothing:** We are collecting winter items for people in need. A collection box can be found in the narthex.
- **Food pantry collection:** The Outreach Committee is also responsible for the Food Pantry located outside the church. Items needed for the winter months include pasta, rice, dry beans/lentils, crackers, dry soup, instant noodles, cereal, peanut butter, granola bars, etc. Donations can be placed directly in the Food Pantry or dropped off in the collection box in the narthex.