



December 2013 Newsletter



Sundre United Church Board and Choir members continued to be very busy in November and December providing the community and congregation with excellent musical and spiritual programs and services. The Sanctuary and church hall were beautifully decorated for the Christmas season.



November 25 – While six volunteers assisted Etta Evans, Special Events coordinator, in packaging over 250 baking items for the Bake Sale, members of the former “UCW” gathered for Christmas treats and fellowship in the church hall. The next “UCW” gathering is at the Foothills Lodge on January 10, 2014 at 2:00 pm. The monthly gathering at the Lodge is a three month trial.



November 26 – An excellent Community Choir Concert attracted approximately 130 guests to the Sanctuary followed by refreshments and a Bake Sale. The donations and purchasing of baking was greatly appreciated and netted over \$1100!

November 27 and December 11 – meetings between Olds and Sundre Church Boards to discuss opportunities for a trial Shared Ministry. A Survey has been circulated and is to be returned to the church by January 5, 2014.



November 29 – completion of a new Web Site! – www.sundreunited.ca. Watch for ongoing updates, announcements and photo gallery. If you don't have a computer, you can still receive information and newsletters in print form, but invite your children and grandchildren to bring their electronic devices to show you the web site. It is very professional and contains many sources of information about Sundre United Church and other levels of the United Church.



December 1 – Beginning of weekly Advent Candle lighting.
Community Carol Sing – Jean Dickman, Pat Toone and Cheri Jahnke performed for Sundre United Church

December 8 – White Gift Intergenerational service lead by Cheri Jahnke.
Advent wreath candle lighting – Sarah and Samantha Campkin
Special music: Jackson family, Judy (on guitar), Katie and Gracie singing “Silent Night”
Lawsen Augustowich – piano

Trio: Wes Schrock(guitar), Pauline Blech, Kim Lawrence
Skit: “Season for the Reason” –Alice Andras, Cate Campkin, Betty Bennett, Jean Dickman, Katie Jackson
The Guiding group added their Santas Anonymous donations under the big tree with our donations.



Samaritan's Purse – Operation Shoebox – individuals donated a Shoebox and the Board donated \$50 to provide contents for two shoeboxes.



December 8 & 13 – The Church Choir, comprised of Jean Dickman as Director, Cheri Jahnke, pianist, Verity Pickering, Pat Toone, Elaine Edey and Anne Grisswell sang at the Remembrance Candlelight Service (Palliative Care Service) and at the Sundre Care Centre (LTC) Christmas party.

December 9 – Ladies' Christmas party cancelled due to inclement winter conditions. This may be rescheduled in February, 2014.



December 22 – a very meaningful and memorable Baptismal service was performed by Rev Tammy Allan, Olds United Church, for Julie, Jada and Angus Sandilands. The opening hymn was "O come, little children" accompanied by Jean Dickman and Cheri Jahnke ringing bells and Joyce Wicks on piano.



December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 5:00 pm. Rev Tammy Allan read to 15 children the story about "Pippi" the pig who questioned why pigs weren't at the manger scene. The Choir sang their Christmas weekly anthems for 15 minutes prelude to the service and "Rejoice" during the service, accompanied by Cheri Jahnke on piano. Pat Toone sang "O Holy Night" to an appreciative audience. The conclusion to the service was everyone's favorite – lighting individual candles from the Christ Candle distributed by Rev Tammy Allan and singing "Silent Night".

Weekly Pulpit supply – despite all the inclement wintery weather, weekly services have been capably handled by Rev David Gilchrist, Chaplain Tim Kirby, Rev Bob Hillock, Rev Tammy Allan, Cheri Jahnke and Joyce Wicks.



Help wanted: Volunteer(s) for casual maintenance duties – change light bulbs, batteries and other small ongoing items. Many present Board members are wearing "multiple hats" and providing numerous hours of dedicated volunteer hours. We would appreciate one or two volunteers to perform light maintenance duties. Please call 638-4428.

Important Future Dates:

- January 5, 2014 – return Survey regarding Shared Ministry with Olds United Church(UC)
- January 12, 2014 – Pot Luck lunch – discussions about a trial Shared Ministry with Olds UC.
- February 2, 2014 – Annual General Meeting/Congregational meeting
 - +Voting by those on the Membership Roll regarding Shared Ministry.

Happy New Year...All the Best in 2014

