

# THIRD AVENUE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

## From the Desk of Rev. Jo-Ann

As I begin my third year at North Battleford, I realize that I have finally settled into this urban setting. It was a struggle to deal with the sound of traffic, horns blaring and children in the street rather than wildlife on the road. I recognize most of the faces that attend church regularly and have gotten to know the names of those who sit on the committees. I still struggle with some names but even after 16 years in Rosetown there were some names that never got to the tip of my tongue. When I arrived here, I found a congregation that was exhausted from dealing with the pandemic and working very hard to follow the protocols that were set out to resume public activities; it was hard for some people to move away from those precautions as the world began to leave the pandemic behind and much easier for others.

What I have noticed in the past year with leaving some of those safety measures behind is that, as a whole, we all have more colds, flu symptoms and sick days than we did when we sanitized our hands every time, we entered a new space or wore masks when out in public. However, I am not ready to go back to wearing a mask regularly. Since I got ran down and was sick last week, I recognize that we do need to take care of ourselves as we enter cold and flu season and activities at the church begin once again. Take time for rest and eat as healthy as you possible can; I know it is not always easy.

With that little preaching done with I want to hold up my other observation; as a church some people have used the slow down during the pandemic to step away and not be as active. That has made my task of getting to know people easier but it also means that there are many of you who were once active that I have not met; I would like to get to know you and welcome you to join us Sunday mornings or call the church and set up a time for you and I to meet face to face over a drink of some kind; which I say because I don't drink coffee. My drink of choice is Pepsi. Help me get to know you. I really appreciate the families who have had loved ones in the hospital that have let me know so that I can go visit. I enjoy doing hospital visits and I have appreciated those families that have invited me into the final days of their loved one's journeys; this is a helpful process if I am asked to do a funeral service. It has allowed me to say a goodbye alongside family.

Being active in worship is one thing but for the success of the church we need help with fundraisers like our suppers or craft fair or even knew ideas. We also need help to fulfil Christ mission of reaching out into the world and helping those in need. Come talk to me how can we reach out and make an impact in our community. How can we keep our church financially stable and do the outreach that many people are interested in. Come talk to me let's find a project and make a Christ like difference in this community we call home.

## Greetings from the Board ~ Brian Welford

One of the many positive attributes of living where we do in Saskatchewan is that we can enjoy the changing of the seasons. Fall is one of my favorites. If you're a gardener, to see the bountiful vegetables being produced and nothing tastes as good as fresh veggies from the garden. If you're involved in farming, seeing the bushels of grain coming off the fields is a gratifying result of long hours, stressful concerns about the weather, and the ever-present need to continue supplying food to feed the world. The start of the leaves changing into their vibrant fall colors is a beautiful sight to see. Children are back in school, ready to resume their studies and activities after the summer break. Life in the church is also gearing up again with many activities and events being planned.

Our monthly Sunday brunches have resumed, as has Sunday school. Our fall supper is planned for Sunday October 27th, a craft fair on Saturday November 9th, and other events are being planned to help us continue to support what we do in Third Avenue United. It is important for us to look inside ourselves and ask, "Why is Third Avenue important to me and our community? I help, but can I do more?" It takes a lot of people to make our church community flourish and whether it be donating time, talents or financial support, every contribution is important and needed. We encourage you (and bring your neighbors) to come and enjoy the fellowship of each other as we support our church.

Our fall supper is a major event being planned for this fall. To help defray the costs of the supper, we will be asking people, if able, to donate garden produce, pies, buns, etc. Please contact our church office to indicate how you can help. We also need volunteers to help in the food preparation before the event, and to help serve meals to the masses. Again, you can make a difference.!

Thank you to Rev. Jo-Ann for her spiritual leadership, Jodi Hargreaves in the office, and Ken and Mary for keeping our building in good repair. Thank you to Ilene Wettergreen, Kathleen Link and the Handbell Choir for providing the musical element for our church. We express our appreciation to our faithful members who are always ready to participate and step up when help is needed.

Have a busy and safe fall. Stay healthy and hope to see you in church.

## Fundraising Committee ~ Brian Welford

Welcome to the fall newsletter. We trust that everyone has had an enjoyable summer and look forward with anticipation to different activities being planned for Third Avenue this fall. Expenses of operating our church, unfortunately, do not take holidays, and we require a concerted effort by everyone to help raise funds to help us continue doing what we do. We have several events in the works this fall to provide some entertainment, a chance to enjoy the fellowship of our community, and an opportunity to support Third Avenue United Church. We are always open to new suggestions. To be successful, these events take time and effort, and we ask for your help in volunteering to help in any way you can. Tell your friends and neighbors about our monthly brunches and our fall supper coming up on Oct. 27th. Please check with the office for information on what you can do to help. We thank everyone for their continued support of what we offer at Third Avenue.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Community Involvement Committee is looking for events for 2024-2025.

If anyone has any ideas they would like to present, please let us know.

We are also trying to rebuild our committee.

If anyone is interested in joining our group, please contact:

Shannon Lindgren 306-445-5114 Or Bev Anderson 306-441-0615 😊

## THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM ~ BARB H, JUDY, PAT W, KATHLEEN L

Each of us are blessed with special skills, talents, gifts, resources and what we do with those resources matters scripture tells us. The stewardship team asks you to consider how you will use your gifts, your talents, your skills, your financial resources to accomplish even more amazing ministry. Your gifts make such a difference!

On Sunday, October 20th, 1:30 pm (Third Ave) the Stewardship team invites you to attend "Sweeping the Dust out of the Soul" Concert featuring:

- 1) Battlefords Blend Chorus - Director Jo Carter
- 2) Beth Rempel & Jo Carter
- 3) Diane Jones - organist
- 4) Nathan Negad - pianist
- 5) Jubilation Handbell choir - guest: Gary Gansauge

Admission by donation (proceeds to support the United Church Mission & Services and the Battlefords Trade & Education Centre). Refreshments in Logie Hall.

Michelle and Ben Harder remind us in the book The Definitive Guide to Faith Based Fund Development "...Stewardship is about 'thanking' and we show our thankfulness to God through giving. So, it's really about thanking and giving together..."

In the words of the hymnist Carol Rose Ikeler

"The church is wherever God's people are helping,  
caring for neighbours in sickness and need,

The church is wherever God's people are sharing  
the words of the Bible in gift and in deed."

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE - LORNA REIMER

Our Sunday School students had the opportunity to be welcomed to Church Services throughout August by Rev. JoAnn. A table was provided beside the Choir Loft for children to sit during the Church Service. They worked on coloring pictures that related to the Minister's message that day. It was an excellent way to keep families in touch with Church in the summer months when we do not provide Sunday School classes. Parents I spoke to were very pleased to have their children be able to interact with JoAnn each week.

As a member of the Congregation, I was excited to have a new option available to the children.


Fall Sunday School classes resumed on September 9, 2024. We have 8 registrations which include:

- 2 Beginners (K to 2),
  - 4 Intermediate (Grade 3 to 5)
  - 2 Seniors who are working with our Beginner class
- We have also had 3 guests accompany the regular group.

Peg Maunula, Sophie Maunula and Kaesha Balbon will do their best to provide classes each week until Christmas. We really need additional teachers to fill in as substitutes or take over part of a class during the winter months. Please contact the Church Office if you could help.

The children are working on decorating Grocery Bags to send home with the Congregation. Fill the bag and provide Donations to the Food Bank at Thanksgiving!

Children will also be participating in any Church Services where JoAnn needs their help. We look forward to a successful year with smiling faces and busy hands.





# WORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP – Lorenzo Bacchetto

Welcome to autumn my friends. Let's get you updated on what's going on.

World Wide Communion Sunday is/was on October 6.

Pulpit Supply for Oct. 24 and Nov. 24 – Rev. Hills has those days off, but we will have someone to fill in for her.

Remembering the Veterans service is on November 10.

Advent 1 (Hope) – December 1 – Special guests, the Children's Youth Choir.

Advent 2 (Peace) – December 8 – White Gift Sunday and Communion.

Advent 3 (Joy) – December 15 –

Advent 4 (Love) – December 22 –

Christmas Eve Services – December 24 at 4 & 7 pm (times yet to be confirmed).

Christmas Day – NO SERVICE

Agape Pot Luck Service - December 29 @ 10:45 am downstairs in Wesley Hall.

\* Please be aware that there could some changes in the schedule.

Scripture Readers are needed for Sunday services. To save some stress on Jo-Ann's voice, we are bringing back the scripture reader sign-up sheet.

Cold and Flu Season is coming (and don't forget about COVID), so get your shots, stay home if you are sick, or wear a mask if you need to go out somewhere.

## Lorenzo's Jokes of the Season

A man is in the woods and suddenly a bear pops out and starts chasing him. The man is terrified and begins to pray. He prays frantically "Lord please make this bear more Christian!!"

Suddenly the bear bows his head and begins praying "dear Lord thank you for this food I am about to receive"



A priest, a minister, and a rabbit walk into a blood bank.

The rabbit says, I think I might be a type o.

**Third Avenue United Church**  
**ROAST BEEF  
FALL SUPPER**  
**Sunday, October 27th**  
**5:00 - 7:00 PM**  
Roast beef dinner with all the fixings  
(Celiac friendly meals available)  
**Adults - \$18 (Take out \$20)**  
**Children under 12 - \$7.00**  
**Under 6 years - FREE**  
**TAKE OUT MEALS AVAILABLE -  
PRE-ORDER ONLY**  
**Pre-order Tickets by Phone**  
**306-445 8171 Or Text 306 490-7376**  
**by Sunday, October, 20th**

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**VENDORS NEEDED**  
**THIRD AVENUE UNITED CHURCH**

**Crafts and Collections Fair**

*Saturday, November 9, 2024*  
*10:00 am ~ 4:00 pm*

 **Handmade**

 **Homemade**

 **Homebased**

*'Rent a Table' ~ \$40.00*

**FOOD BOOTH AVAILABLE**

Registration: Call 306-445-8171

**Payment confirms your table**



**Admission: Adults \$1 – Includes entry for Door prize**