



**St. Albert United Church**  
an Affirming Ministry within the United Church of Canada  
Telephone (780)458-8355 [www.stalbertunited.ca](http://www.stalbertunited.ca)

## Update From Council

December 14, 2023

Dear SAUC Family,

Advent is a special time when we all are filled with hopeful anticipation for the arrival of the baby, sent to save us all. As we savour our advent journey, we wanted to share some news from council.

These past few months have been very busy for everyone, and also for our church. It has been wonderful to drive past our church and see the parking lot full as we host a variety of concerts and events. A busy building is something we all wanted to see, and it bodes well for our church.

We have been so fortunate to have Pastor Anne to offer her gifts, talents and energy this fall, and we are pleased to announce that she has agreed to continue in her role as our temporary minister into the new year, until our search team finds a candidate to fill our vacant full-time ministry position.

Our search team has been working diligently and have conducted several interviews with potential candidates. When they are prepared to recommend a candidate, we will hold a congregational meeting to vote on the nominee. We will also take that opportunity to take care of the business that we normally deal with at our Semi-Annual General Meeting.

We are also pleased to share that the communications plan that Margaret Ward-Jack and Stephen Fitzpatrick have been working on is progressing nicely. Along with the role out of that plan, we will also be launching our refreshed church website. Ken Bautista has put a lot of work into this new website, and we are very grateful for everyone's hard work on this initiative.

In the new year, council will be spending some time assessing the organizational structure of the church, and we will continue the work of defining and refining the inner processes of our church so the church operates as smoothly as possible and so when new volunteers step into unfamiliar roles, we can offer a playbook to make their work much easier.

As we journey toward the manger in Bethlehem together, we pray that the stresses and concerns that often come with times of preparation and anticipation, are softened by the miracle that awaits us on Christmas day. We pray that you all get to share this special

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time of the year with loved ones, and, above all, we give thanks for our beautiful church family at St Albert United.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year,  
SAUC Church Council

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