

United Church of Canada

On Giving Tuesday, I invited you to inspire those in your community of faith and others in your personal networks to make a gift to provide full vaccinations for those around the world who need them most. The generosity that followed was nothing short of incredible.

Since we first launched the vaccination appeal, including support on Giving Tuesday, we have provided over 8,360 full vaccinations to those living in the Global South and East. What an amazing result! Thank you so much for your generosity.

Over the last couple of months, I've been thinking and praying about what more we can do to help here at home. I worry about the rising number of Canadian families who can't make ends meet.

Since COVID struck, visits to Canadian food banks have climbed 20 percent. Already, over 33 percent of food bank users are children. In 2022, food prices are predicted to rise another 5 to 7 percent.

We can do more to support our friends and neighbours living in Canada. That's why on February 21—as many provinces celebrate Family Day—I'm hoping you will encourage those in your network to support families by giving the gift of a meal through our Mission & Service partners. A gift of just \$25 will provide a family of four with a warm, nutritious meal.

You can support the appeal by sharing social media posts and announcements like the one below, and this Mission & Service story.

Whether you are celebrating Family Day, Heritage Day, or just another day, please join me in making February 21 a day of generosity. A day to show that we as a whole United Church really care about our neighbours.

As always, your leadership is a deep blessing.

In Christ,
Sarah Charters,
Director of Philanthropy

Life and Work – February 13, 2022

We gratefully accept the following donation to the Church Expenses:

*From Minnie Penny

NOTICE: Worship/Office Update

St. James United Church invites you, as you are comfortable, to return to in-person worship this Sunday, February 13th, 2022 at 11 am.

Registration is required to ensure adequate seating as are masks and vaccine passports for those who have not yet provided one. Physical distancing will be in place. Please call our registration line at 700-6064, from 11 am - 4 pm, Monday - Saturday for a personal response, or leave a message with your name, number, and time of your call.

Our Contemporary Service with Susan Sheppard, DLM will remain virtual at this time, at 4:30 pm Saturday.

We extend our appreciation to Dr. Fitzgerald and her team for recognizing the impact the restrictions have had on churches and their congregations.

We offer our condolences to Barry Cutler and family on the passing of Barry's Uncle, Cyril Cutler, on Feb 3rd. Funeral took place on Feb 8 from Centerville.

Administration and Communications Committee are now accepting submissions for the Easter Visitor. If you would like to make a submission, please email it to info@stjamesuc.org with the subject line "Easter Visitor Submission." The deadline for submissions is March 4, 2021, at 11:59 pm.

St. James Diversity Committee is looking for new members! If you are interested in promoting diversity and inclusion within the church, then this is the committee for you. The diversity committee is the organizing body behind such events as the diversity fair and the affirming process. If you would like to join or would just like some more info email Hannah at hdcsheppard@mun.ca

Ministers Corner

Setting Up a Phone Tree: In order to help everyone stay connected, especially as we continue to navigate this pandemic, we are setting up a phone tree at St. James. You can help out by volunteering to make regular phone calls to a small group of families. Please let James know of your interest in this initiative by emailing him at james@stjamesuc.org.

General Council 44: This Sunday is the beginning of the 44th General Council, both delayed by a year and moved online. To make a weeklong gathering doable online, the meeting has been broken into parts between this month and August. Please pray for all of our commissioners as they learn about, discuss and make decisions about the various proposals before them, including electing our new moderator. Among those commissioners is Hannah Sheppard so please pray for her as well.

Pub Theology: When James hosted a pub theology evening with young adults last fall, it didn't take long for adults over 30 to ask if he will do the same for them. Well, you are in luck. On February 23 at 7:00 pm, James will host a pub theology discussion on Zoom. This is an opportunity to talk about God, spirituality and life's big questions in an open and supportive space. If you are interested, email james@stjamesuc.org for login details.

Community News

Members of the Association of Chartered Professional Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador are once again offering free income tax services to senior citizens and low-income residents of the St. John's, Mount Pearl and surrounding areas.

Senior citizens with total personal income of \$30,000 or less and other individuals with income of \$25,000 or less qualify for this free service.

The program excludes all persons with self-employment or rental income or income from foreign sources.

For more information or to arrange for an appointment, please call the Association of Chartered Professional Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador at 753-3090 ext. 201

VACCINE PASSPORT AND ID WILL BE REQUIRED

MUN's Gardiner Centre is holding complimentary one-hour webinar on all-round wellness or self-care on Valentine's Day and appropriately in the middle of this third wearisome, pandemic winter. Perhaps some people will benefit from this.

Interested folks need to register to get the link.

<https://www.mun.ca/gardinercentre/professional-development-seminars/Free-Webinar-Prioritizing-Wellness-Putting-Yourself-First>

Wellness is more than the absence of illness. Wellness is multidimensional encompassing many components including cognitive, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual wellness. When you prioritize wellness, you set goals that put your needs first. This webinar will explore techniques to increase self-awareness and form habits that will help you live your best life.