

# Morning Messenger

## Southminster-Steinhauer United Church

An Affirming Congregation within the United Church of Canada  
10740-19 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6J 6W9  
Phone: 435-2028 Fax: 435-2058  
email: info@smsuc.com website: www.smsuc.com

### Advent 4

December 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2003

### Welcome One And All!

**TODAY: Service of Lessons And Carols With Adult Choir, Silvertones and Instrumental Ensemble**

- Small Hall Event for Children and Youth
- Baby Care

### THROUGH THE WEEK:

#### Wednesday

- Christmas Eve Services, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm

#### Saturday

- Healing Pathway, (with appointment)

### SUNDAY, December 28 (Christmas 1)

- Worship Planners: Charles Bidwell, Corinne Marshall and Debbie Culbertson
- All Ages Worship Service and Baby Care

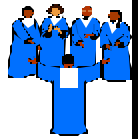
### SUNDAY, January 4 (Epiphany)

- All Ages Worship Service & Baby Care
- Sacrament of Communion

# THANK YOU!

We wish to thank the musicians and singers who have participated in this special morning worship today.

Bonnie Berg, Deb Mooney and Donna McGonigle,



### New Year's Eve



Celebrate with family and friends at SSUC.

Buffet dinner, entertainment children's activities and dancing.  
Tickets \$25 adults, \$15 teens (13-17), \$10 children (6-12) and children under 5 free. Tickets available from Charles, 436-8774

### Stewardship Responses



Please return your Response Sheets as soon as possible.

The Green Sheet "Stewardship on Time and Talent 2004" helps the various committees with their programming.

The Yellow Sheet "Stewardship of Financial Resources 2004" helps in the budget setting process. Additional Response Sheets are available in the foyer.

### Christmas Eve Services

- 5:00 pm - A Way in a Manager (A Service Especially for Young Children)
- 7:00 pm - Tracks in the Straw (A Family Service of Story and Song)
- 10:00 pm - Silent Night (A Reflective Service of Carols and Candlelight)



### Heartbeats



Our prayers and thoughts are with: Bill Robertson and his family on the death of his mother and Ken White on the death of his wife Elfriede.

### No Room In The Inn

The No Room In The Inn is an annual appeal to Edmonton area churches and parishes to assist the homeless in our city by sharing their Christmas Eve/Day offerings to a project that provides housing.

Our church has chosen to participate in the 2003 No Room In The Inn project. This year's project is the Hope Mission, to assist with the building of a new residence for people with special needs.

Hope Mission is planning a new building on 106 Ave. to provide: 70 mats for intoxicated women and men, 100 Beds for men, 40 transitional rooms for men, 20 bachelor suites for men and women.

Our Christmas Eve offerings will be contributed to this project. Special Offering envelopes are available on the table in the foyer and will be enclosed in your Christmas Eve bulletins.

### Financial Update



To the end of November 2003 givings to General Operations total \$237,793 with expenditures exceeding income by \$14,908. Last year at this time we had a shortfall of \$3,881

Through your combined generosity, hopefully we will end the year on a positive note.

☺ Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

★ To request offering envelopes, to inquire about PAR (pre-authorized remittance) or to verify contribution status, please contact Ann Didluck, Envelope Steward, 435-2288

### 2003 Givings


Please ensure cheques are dated no later than December 31, or cash donations are received by December 31/03, to ensure receipts for tax purposes for the year 2003. Your support is appreciated.

**AN AFFIRMING CONGREGATION**

Southminster-Steinhauer is an **Affirming Congregation**, a designation that signals our commitment to be a Christian community that is inclusive of all people, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, their families and friends.


For more **information**, please call **Charles Bidwell, 436-8774** or **Mieke Wharton, 435-1219**.

On the second Sunday of the month, a special opportunity for fellowship is offered, referred to as the **"Second Sunday Brunch."** All are welcome.



**Outreach Family Needs**

- Lady's Skates, Size 7-7 1/2
- Child's Skates, Size 9
- Boys Hockey Skates Size 4 or 5



**Seniors Luncheon Schedule 2004**

- Sun. Jan. 18 - Potluck Luncheon

Persons whose surnames begin with A-G Sandwiches or Veggies and those with H-Z bring squares, cookies, fruit etc.

- Sun. Feb. 15 - Surprise, Surprise!
- March no Luncheon pre-empted for Stone Soup Lenten Series
- Sun. Apr. 18: To be announced. Contact Jacky Boruk 434-4309.




**Calling** all cross country skiers. Come for a Sunday afternoon ski on one of the local trails and socialize over a simple one pot meal at the home of the host. First ski will be January 18th, hosted by the Sheppards using the trails at Terwillegar Park  
Additional info: Annabel 436-8150

**Set-up Teams**

**Dec. 28/Jan. 4**

- Shirley & Don Junk




**Need A Drive To Sunday Service?**  
Call **450-2113** and leave your name and phone number. If a driver is available they will phone you by Friday night to arrange for time of pickup on Sunday.





**Holidays Greetings From Your Church Office**

The Church office hours during the holidays are listed below:

Closed Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30th.  
Open: Dec. 31 - 9 am - 1 pm  
Closed Jan. 1  
Open Jan 2, 9 am - 1 pm


In the event that you require immediate pastoral service as a result of a death or serious illness please contact:  
Gordon McFayden at 438-9349

**Christmas Elves** needed on Christmas Eve to set up the outside luminaries at 4:15 pm and to pick up after the 10:00 pm service.  
Please call Deb Morris at 440-3089 if you able to help.


**Help Needed In Our Circle Groups**

A signup sheet has been placed on the table in the foyer. We still need leaders and helpers in some of the circle groups for the unit which is about to begin and the units in the new year. For more information please contact Carol Jackson at 435-1193. Please sign the sheet to indicate which age group you are able to assist.



**Case of Missing Keys**


Please check your key rings! Grand Master #17 recently strayed from the "secure" cabinet. Grand Master 10 and K9-2 are still missing. Contact the office if you found these gems.



**Missing Books!!! Where Oh Where Have These Library Books Gone?**


- ★ The Reinvention of Work
- ★ Christianity Without God
- ★ What We Wish We Had Known
- ★ The Poisonwood Bible
- ★ Excavating Jesus, Beneath the Stones
- ★ Life After Death
- ★ The Four Agreements
- ★ On Death and Dying
- ★ The Coming of the Cosmic Christ
- ★ Kennon L. Callahan
- ★ The God We Never Knew

If you find them, please bring them home. Thank you Mieke Wharton, Librarian



**Stewardship of Paper**

The Morning Messenger can be e-mailed to you each week. It is also posted on our website. If you would like to have it sent to you by e-mail each Friday, please sign the sheet on the table in the foyer. Hardcopies will also be available on the table each Sunday.



**Beads of Hope Campaign**

The beaded pins with the crossed red ribbon made by women in Africa symbolize the United Church of Canada campaign to raise funds in response to the urgent needs of Africa, Asia and the Caribbean to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Part of the campaign is advocacy. Join the signatures of hope and sign the petition asking the parliament of Canada for more financial aid to developing countries for HIV/AIDS and other diseases, for less expensive drugs to fight diseases and for work towards cancelling the debt of these countries.. The petition, pins and donation envelopes are available in the foyer. Additional info: Annabel 436-8150, Cliff 437-1405 or Lois 434-4330.