

## SPUC Christmas Eve Service December 24 @ 5:00pm

The next Management Team meets Wednesday, December 19 @10:30:00am at Front Lounge.

Big thanks to all of you for filling the Holiday Hampers to the Saskatoon AIDS. Your generosity is blessed.

2019 Budget for St. Paul's United Church which was approved at the Congregational Meeting December 2 is available for pickup on the InfoDesk.

Warm Mittens and Scarves are needed for the students at Sutherland School. Please bring your donations and place them on the Christmas Tree in the foyer during this Advent Season. Spread the warm of God's Love. Thanks to Janet Potter for donating this Christmas Tree! Thanks to Evelyn Bowman for her skillful knitting.

Wednesday, December 19, Sutherland School Choir will join our Community Soup Lunch Program. Welcome donations of cookies for these kids. **Volunteers** are welcome to serve in the Soup Lunch Program. **Soup Lunch will be canceled December 26 and January 2, 2019, resumes January 9, 2019.**

The **January to November** summary of the **Income and Expense to Budget statement** is available for picking up on the Information Desk in the foyer.

SPUC Bargain Store is moved to St Georges Anglican Church, Ave I South. SPUC will continue to be a **drop off location** for good quality second hand clothing. SPUC is pleased to be liberating this ministry into the world, so that other good folks may take it on. Stay tuned for what new opportunities may exist in this place.

The new **Mandate magazine** is available to pick up at church office.

Advent has arrived, and so has the SGG resource **Underdogs and Outsiders**. The book is available to purchase at church office, \$15/each (only 8 copies left). It's always not too late to become part of a small group as we explore Jesus lineage. Groups meet Monday and Wednesday evenings as well as Wednesday afternoons. Contact SGGs' Leader Cheryl Wilken 306 371-1422 for more information.

Lions Clubs of Saskatoon and POW City Kinsmen Club present the 1st Annual Sutherland Christmas concert for Sutherland School – Sunday December 16, 2018. Doors open 6:00pm, show 7:00pm. Advance tickets \$25, at the door \$30. Sutherland Hall, 1112 Central Ave. **Tickets available at SPUC church office.**

Thanks to Roger and Gilda Pilon for donating the beautiful Christmas tree in the Worship Center! Many thanks to Men's Spiritual Growth Group for setting up and decorating the tree.

Furnished 1 bedroom & private bath in **Evergreen**. Linens can be provided on second floor with big windows. Share Kitchen and Laundry. \$650/month. Wifi, Netflix, cable. No Smokers, pets and parties. If you know someone is looking for a place to rent, please contact Ruth Bruce at [travellingruth2004@yahoo.ca](mailto:travellingruth2004@yahoo.ca), 306-244-5080 or text 306-250-2405.

Thank you Monday SGG for donating these lovely poinsettias in the Worship Center! They are gorgeous.

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**Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 3:00pm**

We inhabit the land of TREATY 6. May we live in respect.

## Be Brave

**December 9, 2018 @ 10:30 A.M.**

The story of Esther tells us the unlikely story of how an orphaned Jewish girl, living in exile in Persia, first becomes queen and then acts courageously to save the lives of her people. But Esther's bravery is not easy or automatic: in fact, she takes action knowing that what she does is likely to result in her own death. She prays; she fasts; she worries—and then she acts.

Many of us admire heroes whose great deeds are remembered through the ages. We wonder how we would respond in similar circumstances, and fear that we would not be able to “step up” and act so courageously. Yet Advent reminds us that each of us is special. Each of us has been called by God. Each of us has what it takes to be brave, to make a difference in the world. Who knows? Perhaps, like Esther, God has called and chosen us specifically “for such a time as this.”

**Scripture of today:** Esther 4:1-17

**Bedrock Belief:** God is our strength

**Seed of Learning:** Where have you seen or experienced small acts of bravery?

**Prayer:** Loving and sheltering God, sometimes the pain and suffering around us overwhelms us, and we just want to run away and hide. Help us to feel your strength and grace all around us, calling us to live bravely as we respond to your call to follow Jesus. Amen.

**Church Office** is closed December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 1st, 2018.