

December 11th, 2016



Welcome to McClure United Church - a place of friendship. May our time together in God's presence be meaningful and renewing. Coffee and juice will be served in the dining room after the service. Please stay for this time of fellowship.

Office hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 4:30pm (closed 12-1)
 Phone: 306.373.1753 email: mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca website: mccluresktn.ca

Helping with today's service

Worship Setup

Jim Blackburn

9:15am

Greeters

Ushers

Candle Lighters

Coffee

Carol & Wayne Claypool
 Larrie & Wilma Roosdahl,
 Ron & Shirley Whiteside
 Noreen Powell & Norm Biram
 Beth Johnson

11:00am

Greeters

Ushers

Candle Lighters

Coffee

Zane Bahrey, Ann van Meter
 Dianne & Ollie Dohmann
 Charlene & Vern Racz,
 Doreen Henchel, Evelyn Gertner
 Alice & Emily Hugo
 Bernice Braaten

Special Music

9:15am

"Flowers Shall Bloom in the Desert" – Sr. Choir

11:00am

"Waiting for Bethlehem's Light" - Choristers

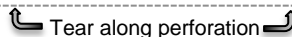
This week at McClure

December 12th – December 18th

Mon.	4:00pm	Fit After Fifty (Sanctuary)
Tues.	10:00am	Congregational Care (Gathering)
	1:30pm	Knitting Group (Gathering)
	7:00pm	McClure Place Board (Craft)
Wed.	9:45am	Wed. Women's Group (Library)
	7:30pm	Senior Choir (Sanctuary)
Thur.	10:30am	Choristers (Sanctuary)
	1:30pm	Quilting Group (Craft Room)
	4:00pm	Fit After Fifty (Sanctuary)
	7:00pm	Worship Band (Music Room)
Sun.	9:15am	Worship Service & Rainbow Village
	11:00am	Worship Service & Rainbow Village/ Jr & Sr Youth Groups



"HELPING HANDS" - If you are able to stay after the 11am service and stack chairs along with other volunteers, it would be most appreciated.



Are you a **NEWCOMER** to McClure United Church? Have you recently **changed your address**?

Would you like more information about McClure and our community? If you answered yes, please take a moment to tell us about yourself or update your info. *Place this completed form in the offertory plate or bring to the church office.*

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Postal code: _____ Phone/Cell: _____

- I would like to receive a newcomers packet (detailed information about the church and its' activities)
- I would like to receive the monthly newsletter – Paper copy or Email version (*please circle either paper or email*)
- I would like a call from a minister

Your email address: _____

**SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING
CHURCH BOARD MINUTES**

The Church Board meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month and both Draft and Final versions of the minutes are available to congregants. If you wish to obtain a copy of the minutes please contact the church office at 306-373-1753 or email: mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca

Meals on Wheels



This week (December 16th), Jan & Cal McCarthy are driving route #1. Jim Blackburn is driving route #2.

Thanks to Betty & Will Arscott along with Enid Smith who drove this past Friday. A new sign-up sheet is available for January – April 2017.

Saskatchewan Conference Prayer Cycle

We pray for the Saskatchewan Conference Office and the Pastoral Charges of New Venture (Kincaid, Ponteix), North Battleford: Third Ave, Ogema, Bengough, Pangman.

Helping Next Sunday – Dec. 18th

9:15am

Greeters Debbie & Doug Milne
Ushers Pauline Albinet, Joye Binnie,
Sylvia & Clint Cory
Coffee Joan Verity

11:00am

Greeters Karen Kovac, Ruby Kullman
Barb LeGoffe, Dorothy Murias
Ushers Rene Foster, Fay Peters,
May & Keith Plewis
Coffee _____

2017 Church Calendar
(available in the church office)

\$7.00 each

All proceeds help fund
Youth Programming
at McClure United Church

**Stewardship Update 2016 & Thank you for
your Support of McClure and Its Programs**

As we approach the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season please take time to look around and think of what McClure has done as a collective group within our community, nationally and internationally. Your support of the church's mission, 50th anniversary, outreach to local organizations, refugee support, and support of M&S is nothing short of fantastic.

Thank You, everyone.

In preparation for 2017, we are budgeting and need your help. Please consider your intentions for support of McClure, if not already done so through your commitment card, and help us plan for next year. Your commitment and information you provide will help us to plan, continue and initiate meaningful and much needed church programs. Commitment cards are available at the church office or on the Stewardship rack in the lobby. Help us start 2017 with confidence and optimism.

The close out of the 2016 year financially, for McClure was optimistic, with a deficit situation being much smaller than last year up to October. November, 2016 was a good month for giving and Faith in Action, but our recovery from last year was severely tested with two bills for building repair of approximately \$13,000. These repair bills were unexpected and shows how snug our church budget is. The bright side is that even with these bills our year to Nov 30 deficit is \$31,930, while last year's (2015) deficit at the same time was \$37,476. It should be noted that we finished last year with a \$23,772 deficit and with your help we can close this year's gap some more over the next couple of weeks in December.

Thank you to those that have already considered, and reconsidered, your commitment. And God Bless each and every one of you in this holy season.

Your Stewardship Committee

A Refugee Request

Our refugee from Eriterea, Gebremeskel, is in need of a sofa. If there is anyone who would have a sofa to donate, it would be appreciated. Please contact Sylvia or Clint Cory at 374-2563. We have access to a truck to pick up and deliver.



Gifts with Vision

The United Church of Canada provides Mission & Service support to partners all year long for their ongoing work in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and right here in Canada. The **Gifts with Vision catalogue** turns gift giving into an opportunity to do something extra for our church partners. With Gifts with Vision, you give a gift to friends or family to support specific partner activities. Catalogs are available in the lobby or on line at giftswithvision.ca or call 1-844-715-7969.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Would you and a friend or family member like to light the Advent Candles this season. There is a signup sheet on the desk by the elevator if you would like to indicate your desire. We need folks at 9:15 and 11:00. Debra will contact you during the week with the words that need to be spoken.

The Lighthouse Community Kitchen

The McClure Outreach Committee has again committed to assisting the Lighthouse Community Kitchen. The Lighthouse is a downtown shelter that provides night-time meals twice weekly to those in need. We are looking for volunteers (for January) to help between the hours of 5 – 7 pm. Our duties are to help set up, serve the meal, and clean up afterwards. We could arrange a car pool from the church that evening, for those who are interested.

This opportunity for service is a very worthwhile experience. It opens our eyes to the need for such a program, and to the people it serves. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway.

For further information, contact Diane Higgins at 227-5025 or email: dhiggins@sasktel.net

Message from Susan Sorensen

We are out of the province for the summer and fall (in PEI) and not all of our mail gets forwarded. I have just now read the letter about the Oct weekend 50th celebrations and sorry I wasn't able to reply sooner. We would not have been home in time for it in any case however trust the celebrations went well. I have fond memories of my time at McClure and I wish you all the best in the coming years. Susan

Advent and Christmas Services

Sun., December 18th (Advent IV)

- 9:15 & 11:00 am - Worship Service and Cantata

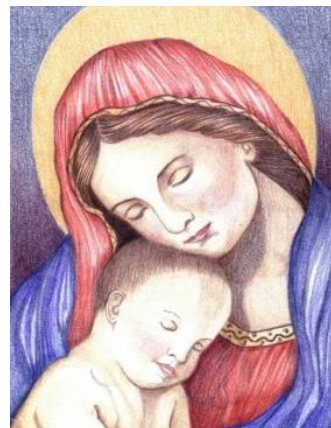
Sat., December 24th (Christmas Eve)

- 5:00 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service (pageant)
- 7:00 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service (pageant)
- 9:00 pm - Youth-led Christmas Service
- 11:00 pm- Communion Service

Sun., December 25th (Christmas Day) -
No Worship service

Sun., January 1st (New Year's Day)- 11am

Correction to the December and January Calendar – Fit After Fifty is at 4:00pm – Mondays & Thursdays – sorry for the error.



Mission and Service: your support has made a difference

As the Church year begins anew with Advent, and 2016 gets ready to depart, take a moment to reflect on this: in 2016 the United Church of Canada's work and members' gifts for Mission & Service have supported 88 congregations, over 25 Healing Fund projects, 7 theological schools, 2 education centers, 36 chaplaincies, 64 community and justice ministries, 94 global partners, and the new Embracing the Spirit initiative. (McClure United, Saskatoon, and its members come first in Saskatchewan Conference and sixth across the United Church of Canada in our total annual givings to the Mission & Service Fund.) This work we have collectively empowered is amazing. Take a moment to be grateful for Spirit-ed generosity throughout our church community. Please remember the special Christmas envelopes for Mission & Service that you received with your Newsletter and are available also on the table in the lobby. These can be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday.

Come & Go Tea

Celebrating Ronnie Meyers 85th Birthday
Sunday, December 18th
1:30 – 3:30pm
McClure Hospitality & Dining Room



is
Next week.
Sunday December 18th

E-GADZ

The Place... For New Beginnings

Every year McClure sends boxes of gifts and supplies to Egadz- A centre that assists children/youth and their families by advocating for, doing referrals, housing and education, all towards helping them become contributing citizens in our community. Egadz tries to ensure each Youth/Child gets a gift for the holiday. Please help them reach their goal!

Collection boxes will be out **Sunday, Nov 27 – Monday Dec 19** to accept your generosity. We will be sorting and packing the items on **Monday Dec 19 and Deliver Tues Dec 20** if you would like to join in on the fun we could use your help with both.

Donation suggestions -

- **Cash Donations-** please leave your cash/cheque (payable to McClure United Church – tax receipt given) donation labelled Egadz at the church office
- **Teen “Stocking Stuffer” items** – individually wrapped Christmas candy, **Gift Certificates** (example Tim’s, WalMart, McDonalds), ear buds, magazine
- **Hygiene** (New only)- Deodorant, Razors, Tooth brushes/toothpaste and dental floss, shampoo and conditioner, soap
- **Sport, recreation or craft supplies**
- **Clothing-** Toques, Gloves, New underwear, Socks, Teen appropriate t-shirts
- **School Supplies** –pens, pencils, erasers, loose leaf, calculators, geometry sets, markers, alarm clocks
- **Baby Ideas** – blankets, baby shampoo, lotion, bottles, baby wipes, baby towels, soothers, disposable diapers, toys and games

Any questions? Contact Joanne Hamlin - tomjo@sasktel.net or 306-343-1657

Keeping the Clock of Life Ticking

At the end of 2015, thanks to support from United Church Women, Mission & Service partner Morogoro Women's Training Centre had provided maternal health worker training to over 500 women working as traditional birth attendants, or midwives, across Tanzania. Collaborating with the Tanzanian Ministry of Health, this program is part of a national objective to reduce mother and infant deaths in Tanzania.

The training builds on existing skills and expertise for women already working as traditional birth attendants. For many it is their first formal training. Some learned their skills from mothers, aunts, and grandmothers, and many others through lived experience. All are deeply committed to caring for mothers and infants and improving the outcomes of deliveries.

One of the women, Molen Abdul, has been delivering babies in her village for more than 47 years. During that time she has encountered many challenges and is happy to learn more about how to manage potential crises for the benefit of mother and child. Molen says, "This is very important to me. It is like it keeps the clock of life ticking."

Norah Robert Mallya has helped deliver babies in buses, churches, and all the surrounding villages. She is happy to have received training that will improve her skills and knowledge.

We are thankful for our gifts for Mission & Service that support our partners to make a real difference in the lives of women and children in Tanzania.

Please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith.

Loving God, we are called to be your colours in the world, to walk with each other, to share in love through our gifts for Mission & Service.

Guide us to shine brightly in the world. Amen

Polish Up Your Dancing Shoes

It's time to polish up your dancing shoes for the second McClure Family Dance, on Friday Feb 3, 2017. Whether you are a family of one or ten, you are invited to practise up your dance moves!! It's also time to keep an eye open for ideas for the basket auction at the dance. Remember the baskets are made along a theme. You might see some really great shopping bargains on Boxing Day that will help you develop a wonderful gift basket for the silent auction. Proceeds will be going to Outreach projects, with many more details to follow in the New Year. So save the date and we'll see you all there!!

Message from your M & P Committee

With the encouragement of the Ministry & Personnel Committee and the support of the McClure Church Board, Ron and Debra will be away from the office the week following Christmas Day. They have worked many extra hours during the season of Advent plus preparing for and leading the Christmas Eve services. We have encouraged them to take some time for rest and renewal. In case of urgent matters or pastoral emergencies, please contact Debra at 306-382-2566. The answering machine in the church office will be checked once a day, during this period.

Items to remember:

- There will be no magazine pick up in December. The next collection date is January 8th.
- The 2016 Photo Directories have arrived. If you had your picture taken then there is a complimentary copy waiting for you in the church office.
- New publications of The Upper Room and Alive Now are available in the literature rack outside of the church office.
- Keep up to date with happenings at McClure United Church through our Facebook page.