

## Sask. UCCW Newsletter December 2024

**An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them. “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2: 9 – 11 NIV**

I sometimes think we spend so much time getting THROUGH CHRISTMAS that we do not take time getting TO Christmas.

This year I am trying to take time to get to the many Christmas events, traditions, decorating and baking that I like. We've been to three very special birthday celebrations. We went to the Weldon Care Home annual Christmas supper for residents and their families. We attended the opening night of Willie Wonka at the E.A. Rawlinson in Prince Albert that our granddaughter danced and sang in. We've attended hockey games and hockey tournaments that our grandsons played in. We've eaten an entire roaster of caramel popcorn ourselves. Duane got the annual Christmas cakes made and we're on the third cake already. We put together the 1000 piece Nativity Scene puzzle that our neighbors gave us last year. We attended a pot luck Christmas supper for the Museum Board. I attended a UCW ladies' night supper at our local restaurant followed by a community ladies' evening out hosted by the Lake Park Baptist Ladies. We went out for lunch with long time friends that we had not seen in many years. We went to the Children's Christmas Concert at church and we're going to the school Christmas Concert. We had lunch with our son and daughter-in-law in Saskatoon as part of our gift shopping excursion. Then we often just sit quietly and listen to Christmas music and enjoy the lights both in our house and in the distance across the snow-covered fields.

### Acts of Kindness

The following was sent to CBC's request for acts of kindness by a lady from the La Ronge United Church Mitten Tree Group.

Even though the unhoused are often not welcomed in stores and restaurants in our towns and cities regardless of weather, that is not the case at Marker 47 coffee shop/bistro in La Ronge. Abby welcomes folks to sit, warm up, use the bathroom, and to order small food and drink items. They are treated with the respect and dignity offered to all customers. In return, each person in Marker 47 knows that this same respect and dignity is expected of them. How does she

fund feeding people with no money? I'm sure she funds some of it herself, but she also accepts "pay it forward" donations from caring community members to help sustain her kind actions. Since there is no official daytime warming center in La Ronge, the kindness of Abby and Marker 47 is truly appreciated.

I have been fortunate to be another "agent of Santa Claus", a term I heard on your show today. I have been delivering mitts and toques to the unhoused, the shelter and to the schools that need them in the La Ronge area. They have been knitted by a very kind 90-year-old from the Mount Royal Emmanuel congregation in Saskatoon. She must have been knitting all year around to create the bags of warm things she sent! In past years, there has been a team of knitters from the congregation doing the same; the non-knitters contribute by paying for the wool. I had the pleasure of seeing the smiles and appreciation on faces as I delivered the gifts and told her story. I wish she could have been there to witness those herself.

### **Letter from our National UCW Communications Chair**

With the next issue of *Keeping In Touch* due in January and with an update scheduled for Facebook I have a request for everyone to share.

Please ask any of the UCW's and women of your church to send your photos of activities taking place this Advent Season. The plan is to have a few in *Keeping In Touch* and the rest on Facebook. I am working on a new and updated Facebook page. A flood of Advent photos would be a great start to our new page.

When photos are sent for use, please include names of the people, location including name of the church, town, city, and village, and what the activity was. I will assume that the people in the photos have given permission to have their photo published.

The deadline for the photos in *Keeping In Touch* is 8 January 2025. This is a gentle reminder requesting articles, information on upcoming special events, and other photos for the January *Keeping In Touch*. Photos can be sent throughout the year for Facebook.

Phyllis Robinson  
Communications Chair NUCW (effective 1 January 2025)  
phyllis.r2@sasktel.net

## **Executive Nominations**

Just a reminder that we will be looking for nominations in the new year.

Second Vice will be open for sure with First Vice moving up to Co-chair and Second Vice moving to First Vice.

We will also need a new Secretary.

Nominations are welcomed by anyone on the executive and voting will take place at the Women's Gathering on April 26.

## **SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2025:**

**WOMEN'S GATHERING in Saskatoon on Saturday, April 26, 2025**

**WOMEN'S GET-TOGETHER in Abbey on Tuesday, June 10, 2025**

**WOMEN'S CAMP at Camp Tapawingo at Candle Lake, June 20 -22, 2025**

Love fashions each small flake of snow

With beauty for us all to know;

Love fills the song of birds with cheer.

Love keeps Christmas, year by year.

--M.A. Scott

## **A CHRISTMAS PRAYER:**

May the reality that Christ came to earth for you, stir in you a fresh sense of wonder and awe.

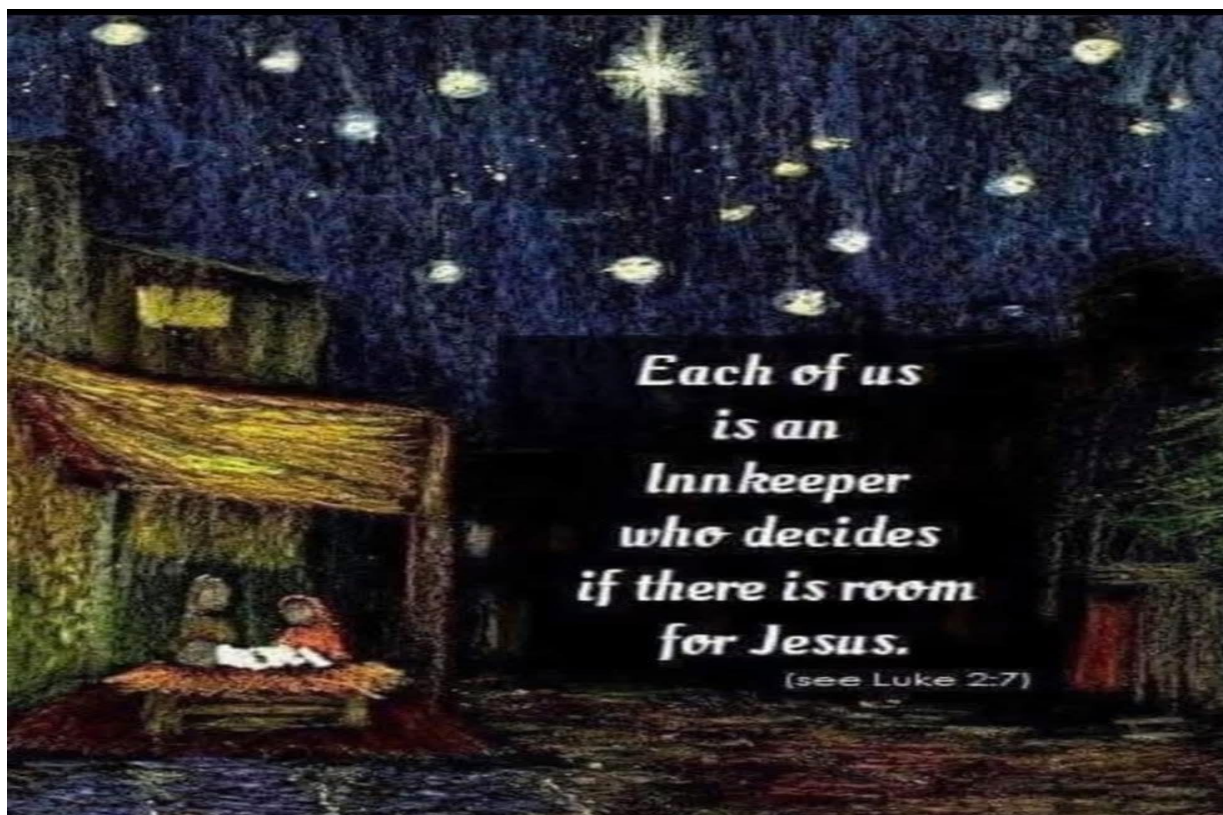
May the power of His love pour in and spill out of you.

May the treasure of His nearness give you safe assurance that you're never alone.

And may the price He paid to save you remind you that He will always be there for you.

Amen

Written by Susie Larson in her book 'Blessings for the Evening'.



As we get to the third Sunday of Advent, the executive of Sask. UCCW wish you a JOY-filled Christmas season and LOVE in abundance in the coming year.

**Merry Christmas** from: Your Saskatchewan United Church of Canada Women's Executive (Sask. UCCW)

Co-chairs: Diane Thurlow and Allison Irvine

First Vice: Debz Ferber

Second Vice: Eleanor Bowie

Secretary: Barbara Byers Bradley

Treasurer: Phyllis Robinson

Past Co-Chair: Dawn Weber,

Newsletter Editor: Mary Mohn