



First United Church

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*"...called by the Spirit to be a caring community of faith
actively pursuing spiritual growth and compassionate outreach"*

November 23, 2016

Dear Friends,

On CBC radio this morning they were taking a poll. The station was asking when they should start playing Christmas music. I was very grateful that the "start right now" vote lost. Don't get me wrong, I love Christmas carols. I have most of Christmas Day in my car with only

Advent is also a busy time for our congregation. Please check the calendar included with this letter to review all the fundraising events and special services that will be taking place in the next few weeks. Here at First United the celebration has already begun. Thanks to talented volunteers the building has been beautifully decorated for the season and today I joined Unit #8 of the UCW for a delicious Christmas luncheon.

This has been an exciting year for the church as we have welcomed new people to our congregation, introduced new programs for spiritual growth, installed a new sound system in our sanctuary and started the work of refurbishing the hallways and rooms in our beautiful building. We are also thrilled that our outreach work is expanding with plans for sponsoring a refugee family and that we are once again preparing hampers for families in need here in our community.

We send out mailings at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas with seasonal greetings, a calendar of events and a special offering envelope. Many of our contributors use these envelopes to top-up their givings or to give their yearly amount.

I want to thank every one of you for all the ways that you support the life and ministry of First United Church. Every gift, whether it be time, talent or money is deeply appreciated and is used to support God's work in our church, our community and our world.

May you find hope, peace, joy and love in this blessed season.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gnette".

Rev. Annette Taylor
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