

WEEK AT A GLANCE – October 11 – October 17, 2020

Sunday	In-person worship with Rev. Mervin Scripture Readings for October 11, 2020 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15 Luke 17: 11-19	10:00 a.m.
Monday	Restorative Yoga	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Outreach Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	TOPS UCW Shalom	8:30 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Study via Zoom	noon

WEEK AT A GLANCE – October 18 – October 24, 2020

Sunday	Affirmaversary Service – Affirm Team	10:00 a.m.
Monday	UCW – Mary & Martha Restorative Yoga	1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	TOPS	8:30 a.m.
Thursday	Bible Study via Zoom	noon

The Bissell Centre is once again collecting donations at the end of each month at the St. Albert United Church.

Kindly call Laurie to book a time for you to drop your donation items for the Bissell hamper.



Happy Thanksgiving!



Grapevine
October 11, 2020

**PASTORAL & OFFICE CONTACTS
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY DURING COVID-19:**

When the Ministers are not in the office, they are available by phone and working from home at other times.

Laurie Symbaluk (Office Administrator): 780-458-8355

office@stalbertunited.ca

Tuesdays – Fridays in the office from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Deborah Hoekstra Cell: 780- 983-2148

Deborah1@stalbertunited.ca

Tuesdays and Thursdays in the office from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 pm

Rev. Mervin Gallant Cell: 587- 989-3579

mervin@stalbertunited.ca

Wednesdays and Fridays in the office from 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Sandy Skogstad (Church Treasurer)

treasurer1@stalbertunited.ca

Re-Opening News....

Hello Everyone,

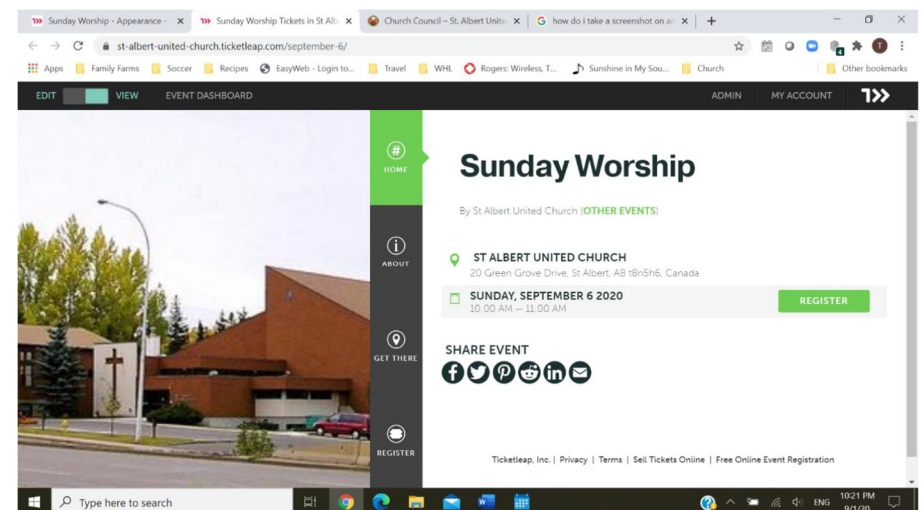
We are now three weeks into our return to in-person Sunday worship and I'm pleased to share that things have been going fairly smoothly. We had an issue with our sound system last week, which was unrelated to the pandemic, but which made us unable to share the service online.

The protocols for Sunday worship remain largely unchanged and the most important areas we remain focused on are ensuring that we observe proper social distancing and that we remain diligent with the proper use of cloth or non-surgical masks covering your nose and mouth. To allow for two meters of space between cohort groups, every other row has been blocked off using green masking tape and the rule of thumb, to leave three empty chairs between groups, remains.

Thus far, our Sunday morning attendance has not reached our limited capacity, but to maintain accurate records of those who have attended, we ask that you continue to pre-register for Sunday worship each week. For those who are more comfortable with the telephone than a computer, you can register by calling the office and speaking to Laurie. For those registering online, **the link to the TicketLeap website is posted to the CHURCH WEBSITE** each week and **registration will be allowed starting at noon on each Wednesday.** You can register right up until Sunday morning before the service.

The first page you will see looks like the picture below and you can register by following these easy steps:

- **Click on the Register button.**
- Enter the number of tickets you need and click Register again.
- Enter the name for each attendee.
- Answer the COVID symptom questions for each attendee. If you check any of the symptom boxes, please do not proceed any further with your registration for that Sunday. If none of the boxes are checked, click on Register and you are finished.
- To add the event to your electronic calendar, click the "ADD TO CALENDAR".
- You will receive a confirmation email and do NOT need to print any tickets. Your name will automatically be on the list at the church for that Sunday.



For many, the return to our church building has been uplifting and we are grateful to be gathering again. We remain very aware of the increasing number of COVID cases in the Capital Region and we understand that, for many, they are not comfortable meeting in person yet. We have been working toward being able to live-stream our Sunday services so that those who prefer to stay home can participate from the comfort of home. The last technical issues are supposed to be resolved this week, so we remain optimistic for a successful trial this week.

For those working through feeling/anxiety about coming back to in-person worship, this video about making faithful decisions about re-entry to gathered worship in buildings produced for the United Church of Canada may be helpful in that process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peIzAQNEcc&feature=youtu.be&mccid=4>

If you have any questions about the safety protocols, feel free to reach out to myself or Laurie in the office. Below is a link to a brief video that walks you through what to expect when you come to church this Sunday.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPKqCrmmv9y>

Troy Sartison
Council Chair



Safeway/Sobey's Gift Cards
are still available for purchase thru Ken Hutchinson.
He will arrange social distance delivery.
Email: kdhutchkenson@gmail.com
OR CALL
(780) 217-6961

SAUC Protocols

Phase 2 Guidelines for In-Person Worship

St Albert United Church (SAUC), endeavors to follow all of the Government guidelines and regulations that are currently in place and we are committed to keeping all of our protocols updated to reflect any changes to Government regulations.

The safety of all of our members, guests and staff is of utmost importance and for that reason, SAUC will be diligent in following all safety guidelines. We must look after one another and be respectful of the rules that have been put in place.

1. Current guidelines require that all people attending church maintain 2 meters of social distancing between participants unless they are members of family cohorts. Rows have been blocked off in the sanctuary and there must be three empty chairs between cohort groups to leave the required 2 meters of distancing.
2. If people are feeling at all unwell, we ask that they refrain from coming to the church. Anyone who has: experienced any COVID-19 symptoms over the last 14 days (including but not limited to: fever, shortness of breath, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, headaches, diarrhea, aches and pains, fatigue, sneezing, sore throat, and/or runny nose), has travelled outside of Canada over the last 14 days, or who has been in contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, cannot attend worship service. Upon entering the church for worship, people will be asked if they are experiencing any of the above symptoms.
3. **Masks are mandatory. Masks will be available from one of the greeters in the church should you not be able to supply your own. We also request that if people stop to visit once they leave the church, please continue to socially distance and wear their masks until they are in their vehicle.**
4. SAUC will keep a record of attendees for each service, along with contact information to allow for contact tracing should there be a positive case of COVID-19. This information will be destroyed after 14 days.
5. Because capacity will be limited to allow for social distancing, those wishing to attend worship will be required to register on the website or through the office ahead of time.
6. Attendees will be required to sanitize their hands and those of their children upon entering and before leaving the building.

7. All children are to be supervised to minimize touch points throughout the church. This includes visits to the bathroom. Wandering throughout the church is not allowed at this time.
8. No food or drink is to be served. Personal bottled water, and other beverages are allowed if they are in a spill-proof container.
9. As people arrive, they will be greeted outside the front door by a volunteer, who will provide a dose of hand sanitizer and will take people's temperature using a touchless, infra-red thermometer pointed at the person's wrist.
10. There will be two stations where masked volunteers would check the person's name off an attendance list. Access to the office will be restricted on Sunday mornings as we attempt to limit traffic in a tight workspace.
11. Inside the sanctuary, two ushers will help to guide people to their seats to help ensure distancing restrictions are adhered to and to ensure family/cohort groups are seated properly. Every other row of chairs has been blocked off with tape and there must be three empty chairs between cohort groups. Paper bulletins will not be utilized.
12. Congregational singing will not be permitted at this time.
13. Collection plates will not be passed but a collection plate will be placed in the narthex once the service has begun to allow people to drop their offerings as they leave the building.
14. Egress from the church will be done in a fashion similar to when people leave the church following a wedding or funeral starting at the front of the sanctuary. Each row will exit one at a time in the direction of the main exit and the ushers will help to guide this process.

SAUC Worship Options During COVID-19

The **“presider notes” for each Sunday’s SAUC worship service** will be available on the SAUC website link <https://stalbertunited.ca/> under the “Services” link <https://stalbertunited.ca/services/> on the same tab as the “COVID 19 News” link <https://stalbertunited.ca/covid-19-news/> each week. These notes are on the website and include the prayers, hymn suggestions, readings, and message of an entire SAUC worship service that you can access at any point for personal or family meditation/worship.

To find services from previous weeks click on the Archive link <https://stalbertunited.ca/archived-services/>

If you would like **‘online live’ worship options**, here is a link that provides other churches who already have ‘streaming’ capabilities that have been put together by the national United Church of Canada: <https://arcg.is/1TaKqS>

Offering online space for community and worship:

National resources will be posted on the national United Church page, above. For children and youth: The GO Project is offering online options. [Click here for details](#). If that link does not work, here is a direct link for the daily “Virtual Camps” for **a)** children and **b)** youth: <https://thegoproject.ca/virtual-camp/>
A growing [national list of worship live streams is available here](#).

An option for those who find **religious poetry** to be a good meditative activity. Click on the following link.

<https://www.unfoldinglight.net/>

2021 Church Calendars:

If you are interested in having a 2021 church calendar, please contact Holly Parker at 780-458-8772.

