

ROXBORO REVELATIONS

Volume 84

Editor: Cynthia Snow

Christmas 2025

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER

Dear friends,



This year our Theme for Advent/Christmas is *The Christmas Tapestry*. I love one of the Celtic images of God being a Master Weaver, creating the tapestry we call life. The image God taking the time to choose the fabric, the thread and the weave in order to reveal a story where we are woven into the images and tale of God's creating brings me a sense of wonder and comfort. Tapestries were traditionally large wall hangings that brought warmth to cold walls, and they told stories like stained glass windows. They were colourful and intricate and were the loving handiwork of women and men to be handed down to the generations, much like the stories of Christmas. So this year we will explore this theme in worship and in song. We will once again join Cedar Park and offer two Carol Sing-a-longs, accompanied by Wayne Johnson. You are encouraged to come to either or both events. We will also be joining with other churches for the annual Ecumenical Sunday after Christmas; time and place to be determined later. We also have our Monday to Thursday Meditations for the Soul on Facebook to help you centre yourself for the season. Keep an eye on our email inbox and our website for details to be posted.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Rev. Darryl Macdonald

Monday to Thursday | Meditations for the Soul:
A good way to begin or end your day.
9 AM broadcast live on our Facebook Group page.

Saturday, November 29 | Christmas decorating and Pizza - 5 PM in the Sanctuary

Sunday, November 30 | Advent 1: The Cloth
10:30 AM in person and on Facebook

Sunday, December 7 | Advent 2: The Needle
10:30 AM in person and on Facebook

Sunday, December 14 | Advent 3: The Thread
10:30 AM in person and on Facebook

Carols by Day at Cedar Park United
3 PM in person only

Sunday, December 21 | Advent 4: The Story
10:30 AM in person and on Facebook

Carols by Night at Roxboro United
7 PM in person only

Wednesday, December 24 | Christmas Eve Family Service

4:30 PM in person only

Candlelight and Communion: A Christmas Tapestry
9 PM in person and on Facebook

Sunday, December 28 | Annual West Island Ecumenical Worship
11am at Lakeshore Trinity United Church, 98 Aurora Avenue, Pointe-Claire

We resume regular worship on Sunday, January 4, 2026, at 10:30am



MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL

The holiday season is fast approaching. By the time you read this we will have just had our Annual Bazaar, our biggest fundraiser of the year. Thank you to Lynda Scardocchio, the bazaar co-ordinator this year, and all the hard-working church members who put hours of work into getting this organized. It is quite the endeavour.

To keep you entertained and in holiday spirit we have several events that will be held over the Christmas season, starting with our annual decorating of the sanctuary on November 30th. Details will be announced at our upcoming services and sent out via email. Please also take note of the dates of upcoming fundraising concerts and shows that we will be hosting under Special Events in this newsletter.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Christmas and blessings for the New Year.

Janet St-Pierre
Roxboro United Church Council chair



MESSAGE FROM SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events have a couple of events lined up in the next few weeks.

First of all, we have a new fundraising partnership benefiting RUC and the Lakeshore Players.

“One Act Wonders” a night of 4 short plays with music & songs will be presented in our auditorium. Show times are November 27,28,29 at 7:30 or Sunday Nov 30th at 3:00pm.

Tickets are \$23 , available as of November 3rd by calling the Lakeshore Players box office at 514-631-8718 or online www.lakeshoreplayerdorval.com

Following that, the Kirkland Concert Band (KCB)will be coming to RUC on Saturday December 6th at 7:30pm to present “Winter Rhapsody songs of the season”, concert and Food Drive. KCB never disappoints. They will be playing an assortment of old and new music about winter and the holiday season followed by a delicious buffet dessert. Just the thing to keep you in the Holiday spirit. Non-perishable food donations will be collected and given to the On Rock Food Bank, to help local families. Tickets can be purchased using the following link [Tickets](#)

Hope to see you and your friends and families at these events .

Janet St-Pierre





UCW NEWS



RUC Candlelight Service, December 21st, 2025

In singing those familiar carols that evening, one could wonder about its origins. In the English Pitkin Book series, their history is explained with interesting notes and lovely illustrations.

The best definition of a carol is "a religious seasonal song, of joyful character, in the vernacular and sung by the common people". Its roots lie in simple folk songs that were sung in the open air on pagan feast days. After Christianity came about in the early Middle Ages, they were gradually absorbed into the Church, especially after it adopted and renamed certain pagan festivals for its own calendar.

"It was thanks to the Victorians who reinvented various Christmas traditions, for the survival of some of the oldest and loveliest carols. Whatever the debate, most of us would agree, that Christmas simply would not be Christmas without any carols!"

As always, you can Google the Internet to read more about this fascinating aspect of Christmas, but in the end, for you, our readers, Dickens 'Christmas Carol, has Tiny Tim famously says
"God Bless Us, Everyone"

Vivien and George Lapa: Wishing you the best of the season with good health and much joy.

Hello Everyone,

It seems we hit the ground running in September. Busy, busy.

I would like to begin by thanking all the ladies who contributed to the success of the Harvest Dinner and Bazaar. We could not have done it without your help.

The UCW will host its Christmas Potluck luncheon, this Sunday, November 23rd, after the worship service. All ladies are welcome. Please bring something for everyone. Fun Christmas games are planned. Who knows, you might win a prize!

On Sunday, December 21st, the UCW will host the reception for the Candlelight service. Emails and phone calls will be made soon for contributions to this event. The Candlelight service is a warm, magical evening of beautiful Christmas music. It's a way to pause, relax and enjoy an introspective moment during a very busy time.

We will celebrate love in February with a potluck luncheon. Details to follow in 2026.

Blessings,
Cindy Snow, President, UCW





Ricochet

Roxboro United Church Annual Food Drive 2025

Our church supports Christmas baskets for our community this time of year. Now more than ever they still need our assistance. You can send your cheque payable to Roxboro United Church, 21, 9th Avenue, Roxboro, QC, H8Y 2M7. You may also e-transfer your donation to bevbaker@sympatico.ca. Please consider purchasing gift cards through our Fundscrip, which in turn helps our church too. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Claudia at (514)684-0114.



Winner of Social Economy-Service to the Community award: Ricochet

The Suburban Newspaper of Wednesday June 18, 2025 featured an article "Accolades 2025" of the West Island of Montreal Chamber of Commerce Awards, of those who were winners of various categories. One of them is well known to us: **Ricochet** - Winner of Social-Economy-Service to the Community Award. It is this service that often we have helped, either by giving monetary donations, items of clothing or food that can be shared by our church members to its clients. Generous thanks to Claudia Rourke-Frew and her team for encouraging us to help out and for organizing times and places for us to do so.

Our work in the Community helps fulfill our outreach ministry with love and compassion.

We support other organizations within our community every month. We always need extra help, so if you can help, please reach out to Claudia at 514-684-0114 for more details.

The "W" in Christmas -
Author Unknown

Each December, I vow to make Christmas a calm and peaceful experience. I had cut back on nonessential obligations – extensive card writing, endless baking, decorating, and even overspending. Still, I found myself exhausted, unable to fully appreciate the precious family moments and, at times, the true meaning of Christmas.

My son, Nicholas, was in kindergarten that year. It was an exciting season for a five-year-old. For weeks, he'd been memorizing songs for his school's "Winter Pageant."

I didn't have the heart to tell him I had to work the night of the production. Unwilling to miss Nicholas' shining moment, I spoke with his teacher. She assured me there'd be a dress rehearsal the morning of the presentation. All parents unable to attend that evening were welcome to attend the rehearsal. Fortunately, Nicholas seemed happy with the compromise.

So, the morning of the dress rehearsal, I filed in ten minutes early, found a spot on the cafeteria floor and sat down. Around the room, I saw several other parents quietly scampering to a space. As I waited, the students were led into the room. Each class, accompanied by their teacher, sat cross-legged on the floor.

Then, each group, one by one, rose to perform their song. Because the public school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas," I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment - songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer.

So, when my son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love," I was slightly taken aback, although with pleasure, by its bold title.

Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates, adorned in fuzzy mittens, red sweaters, and bright snow caps upon their heads.

Those in the front row-center stage -- held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class would sing "C is for Christmas," a child would hold up the letter C. Then, "H is for Happy," and on and on, until each child holding up his portion had presented the complete message, "Christmas Love."

The performance was going smoothly, when suddenly, we noticed her; a small, quiet, girl in the front row holding the letter "M" upside down -- totally unaware her letter "M" appeared as a "W."

The audience of 1st through 6th graders began to snicker with suppressed laughter at this little one's mistake. However, she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W." Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the light sound of laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and ... then we all saw it at the same time.

A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, we understood the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in chaos, there was a purpose for our festivities. For when the last letter was held high, the message read loud and clear:

"C H R I S T W A S L O V E"
And He still is.
We stand Amazed in His presence... Humbled by His love.

May each of you have a Blessed Christmas and a Hopeful New Year as you reflect on His Amazing Love for us. Wishing all a wonderful 'CHRISTWASLOVE' holiday season.
Submitted by Terry Wong

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR

Hello everyone,

Well, here we are again, at the end of another year, 2025.

Thank you for your continued support of Revelations. Keep sharing stories, quotes and congregational news with us all.

I remember one of Rev Darryl's recent services that really stuck with me. It was focused on the mantra Abundant Faith, Increase love.

So, in the spirit of celebrating the birth of Jesus and his message, I wish you all abundant faith and increased love in 2026.

Editor

Cindy Snow three.ms@sympatico.ca



Matter of Perspective Ever hear of Mean Moms?

We had the meanest mother in the whole world!

While other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast. When others had Pepsi and a Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And you

can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different from what other kids had too.

Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She insisted that if we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less.

We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the Child Labor Laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lie awake at night thinking of more things for us to do.

She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers, she could read our minds. Then, life was really tough! Mother wouldn't let our friends just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door so she could meet them.

While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother we missed out on lots of things other other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalizing other's property, or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault.

Now that we have left home, we are all God loving, educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be mean parents just like mom. I think that's what's wrong with the world today. It just doesn't have enough mean moms anymore!!!

Submitted by Norma Kolotelo