

# Orchard Valley United Church

130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7  
Contact: (902) 681-0366 / Ext. 1 - Admin Office

[orchardvalleyunited@gmail.com](mailto:orchardvalleyunited@gmail.com) / [revsellsted@gmail.com](mailto:revsellsted@gmail.com)

## Announcements for Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Welcome** all who worship with us! We're happy to be together. Thank you to the following people for their participation:

Leaders of Worship.....Rev. Don Sellsted  
Choir Director.....Thea Koenig-Burton  
Accompanist ..... Carmen Peng  
Scripture Reader..... Cheryl Sellsted  
Anthem..... Orchard Valley United Church Choir  
Live-stream Team ..... Gary Dunfield, Sylvia Jacquard, Grace Oleskevich  
Andrea Purvis, Gordon Wray  
Tellers..... Gail Gordon, Andrea Purvis  
Greeters..... Vicky Austin, Rose Doucet  
Hospitality..... Pat & Rebecca Godfrey, Margaret Kalkman, Polly Leonard, Mildred Watts

**Live-Streamed Worship on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024** - There will be a live-streamed service this Sunday at 10:00am. Please join us on-line if you are unable to attend in person.

<https://youtube.com/live/IzIvwghPFDs?feature=share>

**Regular OVUC Admin Office hours:** Monday – Thursday, 8am – 12pm

**Rev. Don's office days: Monday – Thursday**

**~All Church offices are closed on Fridays~(Please visit our website at [www.orchardvalleyunited.ca](http://www.orchardvalleyunited.ca) for online Worship and much more!)**

### **Upcoming important events at OVUC!**

**December 06 – 7pm Vigil for Action on Violence Against Women**

**December 08 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Communion Service**

**December 15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – White Gift & Concert/Pageant**

**December 20 – 7pm – Christmas In a Lower Key (Blue Christmas) Service**

**December 22 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**December 24 – 4pm Christmas Eve Family Service**

**7pm Christmas Eve Traditional Service**

**11pm Christmas Eve Covenanter Service**

**December 29 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas – Bev Thompson presiding**

**OVUC OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> AND REOPEN ON THURSDAY, JANUARY**

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 – emails & phone messages will be checked regularly.**

**Weekly Calendar at a glance:**

<b>Dec 06</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>All day</b> <b>8:30am</b> <b>7pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OVUC Offices closed</li> <li>• Friday Morning Women's Breakfast</li> <li>• Vigil for Action on Violence Against Women</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 07</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>9am</b> <b>8:30pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Hamper pick-up</li> <li>• NA Meeting (Narcotics Anonymous) – Details under Community Events</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 08</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>11:15am</b> <b>11:15am</b> <b>12pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worship Service</li> <li>• Men's Group meeting</li> <li>• OVUC Youth Rehearsal</li> <li>• Christmas Hamper pick-up</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 09</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>9am</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>6pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastoral Care</li> <li>• Spirit Yoga</li> <li>• Valley Community Choir</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 10</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>9am</b> <b>2pm</b> <b>2:30pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health Training - Centre 130</li> <li>• Prayer Shawl Group</li> <li>• Memory Cafe</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 11</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>9am</b> <b>2 pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health Training – Centre 130</li> <li>• Property Committee meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 12</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>1pm</b> <b>7pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope New Minas Al-Anon Family Group</li> <li>• Games Social</li> <li>• Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 13</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>All day</b> <b>8:30am</b> <b>11:45am</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>OVUC Offices Closed</i></li> <li>• Friday Morning Women's Breakfast</li> <li>• Men's Luncheon</li> </ul>
<b>Dec 14</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>1:30pm</b> <b>8:30pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Music Rehearsal</i></li> <li>• Narcotics Anonymous meeting</li> </ul>

**2025 United Church Calendars are here! Please visit the Admin Office to purchase your copy or call to let us know you'd like one and it can be set aside for you. Calendars - \$10/each.**

**The Christmas musical is fast approaching, and we need YOU!** Yes, this means parents, too.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the children and choir will perform, ***The Story of the Christmas Chimes***.

As we get closer to the performance, the need for practice increases. Children and parents who want to participate are asked to come to rehearsal this ***Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am - 12:30pm***.

We also need all children and parents participating in the musical to be at rehearsal on ***Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm***. We will give suggestions for costumes soon.

**Please contact Thea Burton [theakoenigburton@gmail.com](mailto:theakoenigburton@gmail.com)**

**Or Bev Thompson [bevcyf@gmail.com](mailto:bevcyf@gmail.com)** if you can not make it to practice or have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you there!



**Do you enjoy sewing? Grand View Manor** mobility therapists would love to have some handmade bags for wheelchairs – These are used to hold foot pedals and extra cushion covers and personal items the residents like to have with them. If anyone from our Orchard Valley congregation is interested in making some of these bags for Grand View Manor residents, it would be greatly appreciated! Note: the measurements are 16X16. Thanks!!

**ITEM LOST AT OVUC** – A grey and black umbrella has been misplaced after an event at OVUC. If anyone has seen it or accidentally picked it up, please drop it off at OVUC the next time you are here. Thanks!

**Men's Group Meeting** - following Worship Service on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (approximately 11:15am).

**The Christian Development committee is looking for volunteers to help with our children and youth on Sunday mornings.** Programs will be prepared for you, but we need at least 2 adults to lead the children. We are hoping to have enough so we can have a monthly rotation. Please contact Cheryl Hill if you have any questions or you are interested in volunteering.

**Friday Morning Women's Breakfast** – The last breakfast before Christmas will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> and is a Congregational Breakfast at 8:30am – All are invited, so please register on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship room so we know how many to expect!

**Orchard Valley Book Club - Our next meeting is January 11.** We have selected *"The Wish" by Nicholas Sparks*. Maggie, a renowned travel photographer is unexpectedly grounded over Christmas and is struggling to come to terms with a sobering medical diagnosis. Increasingly dependent on a young assistant, she becomes close and shares with him the story of a Christmas—decades earlier—and the love that set her on a course she never could have imagined. There is ample room for more participants so come join us!

**Men's and Women's Fellowship Luncheon:** All are most cordially invited to our next *Fellowship Luncheon on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at noon. This will be our Christmas Luncheon.* Come a little earlier for a time of coffee, tea and fellowship. Cost is \$7 per person.

Our speaker will be Amy Savoury, who is a Business Prof. at NSCC Kingstec Campus. Amy will give us a presentation on Nova Scotia's wine industry - an important and fairly young industry in our Valley. To indicate your intention to attend this Luncheon, please sign the list on the table in our hospitality room. Thank you!

**OVUC's Men's Group Guy's Cans Fundraiser - A reminder the deadline to return your Guy's Can or make a donation is this Sunday, December 1, 2024.**

**OVUC Men's Group Fundscrip Program –**

**REMINDER:** Gift cards make excellent Christmas gifts! *The last date to order before Christmas will be December 8<sup>th</sup>, with orders delivered to all by December 15<sup>th</sup>.*

For those who place their own orders online, you can order digital Fundscrip cards up to and including December 23/24 and receive your digital Fundscrip cards *immediately!*

Please plan to place your orders soon so you will have grocery/gas/shopping gift cards on hand during our "shut down" period over the Christmas Season (from December 8<sup>th</sup> until January 5<sup>th</sup> – our first order

date in 2025). For more information on the program please speak to Cecil White, Bruce Tymchuk, or Ian Godfrey.

**Schedule:**

Dec 08 – Place Orders (last order date until Jan 05, 2025)

Dec 15 – Orders Arrive

**Subscribe to OVUC's YouTube Channel** – Did you know we have a YouTube Channel? Simply select the 'Subscribe' button the next time you are watching one of our videos or during the Live Streamed Worship Service. (Please note that you must have a Google account in order to subscribe.)  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEW4VOpk\\_znrA5qevOqCr9Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEW4VOpk_znrA5qevOqCr9Q)

**Video Recorded Worship Services** – Please view our weekly posted video recorded services by going to our webpage and clicking on "Worship Services/Video Recorded Messages".

**Hope New Minas Al-Anon Family Group** – Hope Al-Anon is a fellowship that offers help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics. *The group meets at OVUC on Thursdays, 10-11am and can also be accessed by using FONGO for phone meetings.*

To enter the meeting, call 1-902-932-1200 and enter 902-932-7986#. For more information about Al-Anon visit [www.al-anonmaritimes.ca](http://www.al-anonmaritimes.ca) or Al-Anon World Service Office at [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org)

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**Community Events**

**NA Meetings** – Narcotics Anonymous will be holding meetings each week at OVUC: Saturdays at 8:30pm. *"An addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live. Our message is hope and the promise of freedom."* There are other meetings in various communities throughout the Valley and beyond. For more info, please visit: <https://carna.ca> or 1-902-789-8323

**Valley Voices presents, "Harmony In Bloom"**, the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show! Featuring their chapter quartets plus special guests, *The Dukes of Kent Chorus*, and Area 1 quartet champions, *Wired for Sound*. **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** – Acadia Festival Theatre (504 Main St., Wolfville)  
Tickets: \$25 (and under 12 yrs of age is free) and are available at the Acadia Box Office. Visit [eventsacadia.ca](http://eventsacadia.ca) or call 902-542-5500

**The Kings Kikima Grannies will be holding their annual Jewelry Plus Christmas sale on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at the Wolfville Lions Hall from 9-2pm.** There will be puzzles, jewelry art, a silent auction, stuffies for kids, a Christmas mish- mash table and of course lots of jewelry and more! Thank you for your support.

**Annapolis Valley Honour Choir in Concert - "It Feels New"- Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm & 7:00pm, and Sunday December 8, 2:00pm at the Horton High School Performance Centre.** Tickets: [www.avhc.ca](http://www.avhc.ca) or at the door if available. This concert always sells out, so get your tickets early! (poster on the bulletin board at the back of the Fellowship room).

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual "Christmas With Friends"** – Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at University Hall, Wolfville. Rachel MacLean hosts her annual Christmas show and welcomes talented multi award-winning Maritime guests, *Charlie A'Court* and *Cassie & Maggie MacDonald* for a wonderful night of music. Tickets are \$31(taxes included) available at the Acadia Box Office – (902) 542-5500 / (800) 542-8425 or online at [acadia.universitytickets.com](http://acadia.universitytickets.com)

**Gaspereau Valley Elementary School annual Holiday Shopping Party** - This is favourite event for many of the students. They get to “shop” for the special people in their lives. **We need items!** We are looking for *gently used items* for all age ranges. Ideas include: **Children:** toys, books, games, puzzles. **Teens:** bath items, journals, jewelry. **Adults:** candles, socks, ties, frames. Monetary donations also welcome (items will be purchased to fill in where needed). Also appreciated is wrapping paper, gift bags, tags & tape. Drop off in a marked box in the church entrance until December 15th.

**“Back by Popular Demand!”**

The traditional ***Christmas Tea at the Kings County Museum***, Bridge St., Kentville is back this year on December 7th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Courtroom. Come enjoy the Victorian Christmas Exhibit in the Museum. Minimum donation: \$5.00, or buy a yearly membership in the Museum (\$20) and your tea will be included.

***Santa Mailboxes! The holiday elves at the New Minas Volunteer Fire Department are collecting and delivering letters to Santa.*** Children from all across the Valley can drop their note off in the Merry Christmas mailbox outside the fire hall at 6 Jones Road. Please be sure to include a return address so a firefighter can-deliver a response from Santa! Please check out this facebook post on the NMVFD facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/18C27He2Uh/>