

Southminster United Church **Christmas Fair**

November 29th 2025, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm!!!

Online Auction (Nov. 24th-Nov. 30th)

Let's work together to stock our shops!!

Once again, we rely on you - our congregation to help stock our shelves. See the notes below. This year we are in particular need of refreshing our jewelry/bling collection - always a popular table. Perhaps ask your neighbors, family, and friends to search their drawers too.

We are also seeking volunteers to help on the day of the fair.

Contact: Southminster Christmas Fair Convenor, Nancy Watters – nwatters@rogers.com

Baked Treats from the Kitchen: mona.mcneil@sympatico.ca

- Do you have a favourite recipe you enjoy cooking for friends and family? Christmassy items are always popular, but other tasty treats are also welcome. Think cookies, squares, muffins, scones, and loaves. Pies and tarts are also a great option.
- Please scroll down to see directions for baking and packaging your goodies.
- Please drop off to the church Saturday morning of the Fair between 8-9:15 am

Fruit in a Jar: hmacfaden@hotmail.com

- This is the shop where we sell jams and jellies which are always fast sellers.
- Did you make more preserves than you can use this year and have some to share? Your donations will be much enjoyed.
- Please bring to the church Saturday morning of the Fair between 8-9:15

Quick Meals from the Freezer: nwatters@rogers.com

- Frozen soups are very popular. All varieties are welcome. Please use 750 ml containers for freezing and include a list of ingredients.
- We are also open to your contribution of frozen meals such as mac and cheese, stew or chili. These should be approximately 750 ml (two serving size) with ingredients listed.
- Please bring to the church Saturday morning of the Fair between 8-9:15

Books, games and puzzles: mona.mcneil@sympatico.ca

- We are interested in all types of books in good condition: hard or soft cover, fiction or non-fiction. (No textbooks, please.)
- Did you buy some books from the Fair last year that you have finished reading? We'll gladly take them back so someone else can enjoy them! (If you still have the bag they came in, we'll take that too!)
- We also welcome puzzles and games in good condition.
- Beginning November 9th until Nov 23rd, donations of books, games, or puzzles can be dropped off in the cubby area by the restroom in the Narthex of the church. Please indicate that they are for the Christmas Fair.

Crafts & Christmas: 4bernie@rogers.com

- This is the shop where we sell homemade items such as knitted hats and mittens and scarves, tea towels for hanging, crocheted dishcloths, placemats and more. Factory made items are also welcome. Please only offer used items that are in like-new condition.
- Christmas crafts and decorations, new and like-new are also sold here. Consider unused candles or Christmas baking utensils.
- Please bring to the church Friday November 28th between 1:00 - 6:30 pm

Baubles and Bling: edithfraser86@gmail.com

- This shop sells jewellery, and scarves. Donations are welcome (and needed).
- Please bring to the church Friday November 28th between 1:00 - 6:30 pm

Red Berry Café: Ann Hobden: glkit@yahoo.com

- Our Christmas café will return with offerings of coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cider! Also, yummy treats such as scones, muffins and cookies. Donations of baked goods that can be sold individually are welcome.
- To donate goodies or to help at the café contact Ann Hobden.
- Please bring to the church Saturday morning of the Fair between 8-9:15

Paint Me Happy:

- We'll be offering winter/Christmas-themed face painting for the young (and young-at-heart) to add to the festiveness of the occasion.

ONLINE AUCTION: John Temple: jtemple@xplornet.com

For items in this category, **please provide a digital photo with a brief description and approximate or minimum asking value/price.**

- We welcome fine art, valuable collectibles, fine ceramics or glassware; unique kitchenware/small appliances. Please think like-new rather than "rummage."
- Do you have a special talent or experience that could be auctioned off? Such as gift of music, art lesson, wine tasting, magic show, craft lesson, ride in a special car, scooter, canoe or boat, a cottage afternoon... Or, perhaps approach one of your favourite local businesses about contributing a gift certificate. The possibilities abound!
- To donate and for more information, contact John Temple.
- Your items will remain in your possession until the end of the auction.

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Guidelines for Baking

- Baking should be done within 24 hours of the Christmas Fair. If that is not possible the baking could be done the week before and placed in the freezer.
- Drop off curbside for bakers may be an option this year because of the limited parking and construction around the church. We will keep you informed.
- Buyers tend to purchase more if given the opportunity to buy a variety i.e. they will buy a small lemon loaf, a small banana loaf and a small pumpkin loaf rather than one large loaf of one variety.
- Muffins/Scones/ Tea Biscuits should be packaged as half dozen per package.
- Loaves - if possible make small loaves or cut a large loaf in half.
- Cookies will be sold by the dozen. One dozen per package.
- Squares and Tarts should be packaged as half dozen per package. i.e. 6 large tarts or 6 large squares per plate.
- Pies – small size would be preferably- 8”- 9” or less
- Cakes – small size – 8”- 9”

Guidelines for Packaging

- Use clear wrap so buyers can easily identify the product.
- Wrapped tightly to maintain freshness and placed inside a plastic bag i.e. zip lock bag if available. Provides an extra layer of protection in the freezer.
- Label clearly with name of baking item, ie “One dozen chocolate chip cookies, no nuts, gluten free”. List of ingredients if possible is helpful to the buyers.
- Use sturdy paper plates or tin foil pie plates work well for cookies, scones, muffins and squares. Remember one dozen cookies per plate and 6 scones/muffins/squares per plate.
- Cellophane “sleeves” for cookies work well too. Dollar store usually sells them this time of year for Christmas. However use what you have available.
- Information regarding date and time for drop off for baking will be made available closer to the day for the Christmas Fair.

Thank you for your support and your great baking! *Mona McNeil*