

# Interfaith Insider

Welcome to the SAIT Interfaith Centre monthly newsletter. Subscribe at [interfaith@sait.ca](mailto:interfaith@sait.ca) to meet our team and stay up to date on all that's happening!



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## CHAT WITH A CHAPLAIN

Rev. Tim Nethercott,  
United Church  
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## Celebrate the Lunar New Year - February 12

**Lunar New Year**, Chinese **Chunjie**, Vietnamese **Tet**, Korean **Solnal**, Tibetan **Losar**, also called **Spring Festival**, is a festival typically celebrated in China and other Asian countries that begins with the first new moon of the lunar calendar and ends on the first full moon of the lunar calendar, 15 days later.

Lunar New Year is the most important of Chinese holidays. Over a billion people in China and millions around the world celebrate it. It's considered a time to honour deities and ancestors and to be with family.

The origins of the Lunar New Year festival are thousands of years old, and are steeped in legends. Each year is associated with one of 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac, and **2021 is the Year of the Ox**. This year, the Lunar New Year is celebrated on Friday, February 12, 2021.

In Chinese culture, the Ox is a faithful friend that made great contributions to the development of the society. Like the Ox, people born in the Year of the Ox are industrious, cautious, hold their faith firmly, and always glad to offer help, and are known for their diligence, dependability, strength, and determination.

To Join the online Lunar New Year celebrations at Noon on February 12, please [click here](#) to register



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## Chat with a Chaplain

**Rev. Tim Nethercott, United Church**

Religions have times that are sacred. We keep track of these sacred times with the use of a religious calendar. The Christian calendar begins a few weeks before Christmas with the season of Advent, which is followed by the season of Christmas, the season of Epiphany and in February by the season of Lent. It is a season of preparation for Easter, when Christ is risen, the world is made new and, in a spiritual sense, death is defeated and we are reborn.

We will soon be in the Christian season of Lent, but it seems me that Lent has already come to us through this pandemic. Lent is a time of preparing for the glory of Easter.

And this covid time is a time of preparing for the glory of the pandemic ending. Don't lose faith, friends. This is hard, we have given up so much. But our patience will be rewarded some day with victory.



### What's Happening at the Interfaith Centre in February

- Feb 5:** [World Interfaith Harmony Week](#) - Celebrating UN efforts to promote interreligious dialogue and peace
- Feb 12:** [Lunar New Year](#) - Recognizing and celebrating our great diversity at SAIT
- Feb 19:** [Lent](#) - Importance and relevance of abstinence
- Feb 26:** [Black History](#) - Race and Religion

### Interfaith Interface every Friday at Noon

Interfaith Interface is a safe, inclusive and inspiring activity where students from different spiritual backgrounds and diverse cultures come together to engage in thought-provoking dialogue.

[Click Here](#) to join us for an online dialogue on MS Teams.

