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Week of December 3rd, 2017

The Flowers in the Sanctuary today are to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of:

- Gordon & Rhona Barnes, parents of Wayne and Kathy. Remembered with love by all the family.
- Bruce Caunce, sadly missed by his wife Carol, his children, and grandchildren.
- Mary Blankstein, remembered with love by her daughter Carol Caunce.
- John Kennedy, husband of Jean, father of Joanne, Wendy, Gordon, & Susan.

“Prepare the way of the Lord”

A two-part Advent conversation about St. Christopher’s past, present, and future on Wednesdays, December 6th & 13th at 7:30 pm. Join us for one or both evenings as we look at where God was present in the life of St. Christopher’s, and where God might be calling us now. Our evening will be part Bible study, part fun activity, part intentional conversation. It doesn’t matter whether you’re six or 106, and whether you’ve been part of St. Christopher’s for 60 years or 6 days. You’re invited - come prepare the way of the Lord!

Church Calendars

2018 Anglican Lutheran Church Calendars are now available in the office during regular office hours for \$5.



Carol Service and Tree Lighting

Sun, Dec 10th at 4:00 pm

We will begin this celebration with 15 minutes of carol singing followed by a service featuring lessons told by actors of various ages. Each lesson is followed by a reflective interpretation provided by our choir, band, and liturgical dancers. We will end the evening by lighting the tree on the front lawn and warming up with hot beverages and lots and lots of cookies. Invite your friends!

Seniors’ Christmas Worship & Luncheon

Thursday, December 14th

Come for worship at 11:00 am followed by a hot festive lunch and a sing-along of carols (no Bible study beforehand).

Children’s Advent Fundraiser

St. Christopher’s kids have chosen their Advent fundraiser: to help build a well in a community without access to clean water. This costs \$2,000 with PWRDF this year because the government will add the remaining \$12,000. Kids will be selling Christmas treats and soliciting donations. However you are able to support them as they learn the gift of generosity is appreciated!

Upcoming Jazz Vespers

We will celebrate Jazz Vespers with an homage to Charlie Brown next on Sunday, December 17th at 4 pm. Please join us!

For confidentiality reasons the prayer list does not appear online.

The **December Messenger** is available. Be sure to pick up a copy to find out about everything that is coming up. The online edition is on the homepage of our website, in living colour! www.stcb.ca.

Bridge

Our next evening of Bridge will be Friday, December 15th at 7:30 pm in the Preschool Room at the church. We meet every other Friday evening. Please join us if you would like to play!

A Quiet Christmas Night

Wed, Dec 20th at 7:30 pm

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are an emotionally charged time for some people, amplifying feelings of pain, grief, loneliness, or despair. Join us for this quiet, reflective celebration of Christmas.

Getting Ready for Christmas

Please help us assist families this Christmas season. Choose a gift suggestion from the Christmas Trees hanging on the windows in the Narthex and then return it to the church unwrapped by Dec. 14th. We would also be most grateful for the donation of any **new** toys, clothing, board games, books, mittens, hats, gifts for seniors and gift cards. We are also in need of “Elves” to organize our gift “store” and assist our guests in selecting their items on Dec. 15th and 16th. If you can help, or have questions, please contact Rachel Courey by phone at 905.634.1809 or via email at opendoors@stcb.ca.



Hospitality

Many thanks to Valerie Barnes who has agreed to coordinate the hospitality after the Carol Service and Tree Lighting! If you can provide some festive cookies or assist with the set up, serving or clean up, please sign up with Valerie in the Narthex.



Christmas Flowers

Envelopes are in the pews today for those who would like to contribute towards our Christmas flowers and decorations in memory of a loved one. The deadline is December 17th if you wish to have their name printed in the bulletin.

Coldest Night - February 24th

The Coldest Night of the Year walk this year will take place on Saturday, February 24th. This is the major fundraiser of the year for our outreach ministry through Open Doors programs. Please consider walking yourself, joining one of our teams, or forming your own team. Begin letting your friends and acquaintances know that you will be looking for sponsors and why the issue of poverty and homelessness is important enough to you to participate in this event.

PWRDF Christmas Gifts

Give a goat! The 2017 PWRDF World of Gifts brochure is available on our PWRDF table in the Narthex. Global Affairs Canada is providing \$6 for every \$1 that you spend on selected gifts this year, so please consider these items for friends and family at Christmas. Christmas cards are also available. There are two different designs. Check the posters in the Narthex. Cards are \$20 for a pack of 12 cards and your donation helps forward the work of PWRDF in the world. See Valerie Barnes for more details.

Ginger Group - December 11th

Our Christmas meeting is on Mon, Dec 11th at 11:45 am in the Great Hall. Our agenda will reflect the sounds and menu of the season. To this end we will be joined by Andy Elmhirst and some members of the choir. All retired or semi retired gentlemen of the parish and guests are invited. Contacts: Winston Campbell 905.336.1396 or George Beadle 905.636.8640.

Toy Drive for Open Doors

Expedia Cruise Ship Centres

Thanks to Expedia Cruise Ship Centres for holding their Third Annual Toy Drive for Open Doors which will run from November 25th until December 13th. Donations can be made during store hours, Monday to Friday 10 am - 6 pm, Saturday 10 am - 5 pm at 2025 Guelph Line (beside Fortinos). For more information please contact: mboyle@cruiseshipcenters.com or 905.331.7331.

Bishop's 2018 Lenten Book

Bishop Michael has chosen "Let Me Go There: The Spirit of Lent" by Paula Gooder as this year's Lenten Book. "Let Me Go There" reflects on some of the key events in the life of God's people that occurred in the wilderness as a way of preparing us to enter more fully into the experiences of Jesus' 40 days and nights in the desert at the beginning of his ministry, and to hear afresh the call to the disciples that ensued. The cost is \$15 per book. To pre-order, contact Jane Wyse by email or call 905-527-1316 x420.

December Events

Prepare the Way of the Lord	Dec 6 & 13: 7:30 pm
Carol Service and Tree Lighting	Dec 10: 4 pm
Seniors' Christmas Worship & Luncheon	Dec 14: 11 am
Children's Pageant	Dec 17: 9:30 am
Jazz Vespers	Dec 17: 4 pm
Quiet Christmas	Dec 20: 7:30 pm
Advent 4	Dec 24: 10 am
Christmas Eve	Dec 24: 4, 6, 8, & 10 pm
Christmas Day	Dec 25: 10 am

Birthdays/Anniversaries

Birthdays this week

Trevor Cant	Amy Collard
Lucy Nicoll	Anthony Allevato
Kathy Hartog	Betty Coombs
Shirley Case	Carrie Ford-Jones
Emily Johnson	Paul Tomlinson
Greg Bilous	Mark Bilous
Emily Hendrie	Liz Woloshin
Patti Jo Brooks	Ben Cosgrove
John Reszitynk	

Anniversaries this week

Martin Pinney & Karen Lock (29)

Services This Week

Thursday 11:00 am Holy Eucharist

Services Next Sunday, December 10th

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

9:30 am Holy Eucharist

11:30 am Holy Eucharist

4:00 pm Carol Service & Tree Lighting

Child Care provided at the 9:30 am Service

Office Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed from Dec. 23rd through Dec. 26th. The office will be open on the 27th, 28th and 29th from 9 am until 1 pm. Please note that donations which you would like credited for 2017 will need to be in the office by 1 pm on the 29th. The office will reopen in the new year on Jan. 2nd at 9 am.

Meetings & Activities This Week:

Monday	9:30am	Fitness Class & Coffee Break
	12:00pm	Senior Singles Group
	4:30pm	SHINE
	7:00pm	Band Practice
Tuesday	9:00am	Men's Cooking #1
	1:00pm	CMHA Counselling
	2:00pm	Seniors' Afternoon Social
	4:00pm	Free Clothing Store
	4:00pm	Kids' Club/Tween Club
	4:30pm	Food Bank
	6:00pm	Community Dinner
	7:00pm	Calling All Parents
Wednesday	9:30am	Fitness Class & Coffee Break
	10:00am	Active Tots
	7:30pm	Prepare the Way
Thursday	10:15am	Bible Study
	12:00pm	Seniors' Lunch
	12:45pm	Food Bank
Thursday	1:00pm	Free Clothing Store
Friday	9:30am	Fitness Class & Coffee Break
Saturday	10:00am	Free Clothing Store
	10:00am	Food Bank