



# St. James Visitor

Christmas 2012

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 2012

We have once again embarked upon an expectant journey through Advent, towards Christmas. Greeting cards and e-mails from family and friends begin to trickle into our homes and places of work. Our thoughts become filled with memories of past Christmas gatherings and traditions. These memories can bring us great joy or may cause us to be in touch with feelings of loss and sadness. During a recent telephone conversation with my 85-year-old mother, she told me that she had spent the day making three Christmas cakes and six loaves of raisin bread. She is preparing for Christmas as she has done for many years, and I am assured that we will be enjoying some of that delicious bread and cake during the holidays. Our conversation ignited many thoughts of past Christmas experiences as well as expectant joy for this Advent and Christmas season.

Our beautiful sanctuary has been decorated by the young people in our youth group, following a tradition that was carried out by the Lake family for many years. We have begun singing traditional carols and are enjoying the special Christmas music presented by our Youth, AOTS, UCW and Senior Choirs. As our people light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and the Christ Candle on our Advent Wreath, we see a sparkle in their eyes and hear emotion in their voices. As we present our White Gifts for the clients of Stella's Circle and Street Reach, we are reminded that there are many who have special needs in our community. Our prayers and thoughts are also with many of our congregation who are confined to their homes, long-term care facilities or hospital during this Christmas season. We are also aware that some of you are grieving the death of loved ones, loss of relationships, and other hardships in your life, and for you, Christmas is a difficult season.

On Christmas Eve, our sanctuary will be filled with people of all ages celebrating the birth of the Christ Child. We will remember that God performed a miracle in the lives of Elizabeth, an elderly woman, and Mary, a young girl, and they each gave birth to a baby boy. This reminds us that regardless of age, we are all precious and special and we all have a part to play in the Christmas story. Let us all prepare our hearts for the mystery of the rebirth of the Christ Child in our lives.

### A Christmas Prayer

"Eternal God, in Jesus Christ your light shines in our darkness, giving joy in our sorrow and presence in our loneliness. Fill us with the mystery of your Word made flesh, until our hearts overflow with praise and joy, for he is the beginning and the end of all that exists, living forevermore." [Voices United](#)

Thank you for the many ways that you have supported our congregation throughout the year and especially for your financial gifts during the Christmas season. I am also deeply appreciative of your encouragement and support of my ministry with you at St. James. Wishing each one of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year, 2013!

Blessings, Rev. Bill, Carolann, Rebecca-Ann, David, and Stephen





## Christmas Memories

My dad reading "The Night Before Christmas" to my brother and me on Christmas Eve.

Singing in the St. James Youth Choir under the direction of Mrs. Sparkes....one year I played the xylophone .....as well that same year we had a drum set play with our choir ...Happy Birthday baby Jesus never sounded so good!!! It was AWESOME!!!

Christmas Dinner at my grandparents house on Liverpool Ave.....grandma set a special table for the children with kid "wine" glasses .....we were oh so important....

One special Christmas Eve (at St. James) both sides of the church joined hands, lights were dimmed and we sang and swayed to "Silent Night."

My mom visiting me in Halifax and shopping 'till we dropped....we had sooo much fun....

Our annual advent service at the Atlantic School of Theology....it was a very special occasion as it marked the beginning of Christmas (all our papers were done!!)....

Flying home on Christmas Day from my internship site in London, Ontario....it was the best gift ever!!.....

Standing at the foot of a grave on Christmas Eve in Hillview, overlooking the ocean.....there was no better picture of the Christ Child being born into the lives of those who mourned and gathered that day....

Christmas Caroling at the Escasoni Complex.....

Baking gingerbread with my children during advent....

....That feeling on Christmas Eve.....wonder, awe, there is no other night in the year that feels so special and magical.....

Attending Christmas Eve Mass at the Basilica with Scott....the smells of the church, the beauty of the building coupled with the grandeur of a solo voice singing "O Holy Night" .....

Packing Christmas Hampers for student families in the Chaplaincy office at MUN.....

There are so many wonderful memories....some sad, most joyful...I am thankful for them all. What are your special Christmas memories?

Christmas has always taught me that there is goodness in the world..... there is hope, no matter what our circumstance ...happy or sad.....Christ's birth enables us to have peace in our lives and in our hearts.....and hope for a better tomorrow....

May God bless you all this Christmas season,

Rev. Pamela, Scott, Sophie, Nathan and Julia



### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 16	11 am	Advent 3—White Gift Sunday School Party
Dec. 23	9:30 am	Contemporary Worship
Dec. 24	11 am	Advent 4 — Christmas with the Senior Choir
	7 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service
Dec. 30	10 pm	Carols by Request
	10:30 pm	Christmas Eve Communion
	11 am	Regular Service — Baptism



## Greetings From Your Church Council

As Chair of your Church Council, I am writing to thank you for your support of our Church during 2012 and offer best wishes at this special time in our Church Year.

Since our October issue of the *Visitor*, I am delighted to report that the Worship and Sacraments Committee has provided an opportunity for many of our people to update their membership and establish definitive membership at St. James.

The Administration and Communication Committee has begun the task of updating the Church website with the assistance and guidance of Robert White. Visit [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org) and you will be pleasantly surprised by the new look. Other committees have been hard at work on the various aspects under their oversight, and we appreciate the leadership they have been providing.

As noted in the enclosed financial report, our maintenance projects have been completed within the budget approved by the congregation. To complete this project we have used our reserve funds and an additional \$75,000 loan from Scotiabank.

As we approach year end we are once again calling on our people to make a special effort to respond positively to our Christmas financial appeal. We began the year with an optimistic expectation of revenue, but unfortunately we are running well behind that expected figure. If you feel you have not met your personal financial commitment to your church for 2012, please use the next two weeks to help us balance our books by year end.

On behalf of your Church Council, I extend the wish that your Christmas Season be rich with love and friendship and filled with the promise of a wonderful year ahead as we work together in the life of St. James United Church.

Please do not hesitate to contact any member of Council if you have concerns.

Clyde Flight

Chair

## Escasoni Caroling



Volunteers are needed for our annual caroling event at Escasoni, Tuesday, December 18 at 7 pm. We will gather in the auditorium at 6:45 pm and travel from room to room bringing lots of Christmas Spirit. If you have any questions please contact Rev. Pamela 722-1881.

## Cell Phones

Thank you for having your Cell Phone ringer turned off or on vibrate during the worship service. However, if you do need a quiet space to receive or make a call or want access to a regular phone, one of our Ushers would be more than pleased to accommodate you.



## Scent Sensitive

Please remember that many people, including some in our congregation and staff, are extremely sensitive to the chemicals used to make scented products, such as colognes, perfumes, body sprays, shampoos and other household items. In consideration of others, let's all do our part to make our church gatherings as scent-free as possible.



## CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

### ST. JAMES AOTS by Les Dean

The St. James Men's Club has planned a number of activities this Advent Season. On December 9 we paid our annual pre-Christmas visit with the residents of Kelly's Brook seniors apartments. On December 18 we will be joining Rev. Pamela in a carol sing at the Hoyles/Escasoni complex, and on December 21 we will be visiting with the residents of Tiffany Village. Our Christmas social for members and invited guests will take place on December 19 at 6:30 for 7 p.m.

#### THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The twelve days of Christmas, although now largely associated with Christian rituals, date back to the pagan Yuletide feast of northern Europe. This was held at the time of the winter solstice and lasted 12 days. The origins of Yuletide itself lay in prehistoric days when, to encourage the dying sun to new life, primitive peoples lit bonfires to give the sun light and warmth.

No one knows when Yule logs were first ceremoniously carried into Norsemen's dwellings, but from the Middle Ages the custom was well established in northern Europe.

A huge log, chosen from a forest tree, was dragged home and decorated with greenery and ribbons. After it was dried, it was burned over the 12 days of Yuletide: Nordic people believed that this had a magical effect in helping the sun to shine brightly. But some part of the log was always kept for the following year not only to kindle a new Yule log but also to keep away evil spirits. (From The Little Book of Christmas by J. Mulherin).

Note: The burning of the Yule log was widely practiced by many English/Irish immigrants to Newfoundland especially up until the late 1800s when cast iron stoves replaced the open-stone kitchen hearths.

The St. James Men's Club takes this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry, Merry Christmas and a prosperous, healthy and happy New Year.

### White Gift Service



The White Gift service will take place on December 16. This year we will be collecting items for Street Reach and Stella Burry Corp.

Street Reach is in need of Men's and Women's Socks, Men's and Women's Razors, Shaving Cream, Packaged Snack Bars, Thin "Magic" Gloves, Lip Balm, 2-in-1 Shampoo Conditioner, Travel Kits, Laundry Detergent (Dry or Pods), Body Wash & Poufs, 4 ride Bus Passes, Pocket-sized Hand Sanitizer, Dental Floss, Gift cards to Coleman's, Dominion and Sobeys, Tim Horton's and Subway.

Stella Burry Corp. is looking for kitchen wear, blankets, sheets, pillows, towels and face cloths, personal care items, pajamas, underwear, socks, slippers, hats and gloves.

### Winter Solstice Service and Bonfire

Weather permitting, we will be holding our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Solstice Service at 397 Thorburn Road on December 21 at 7 pm. Dress warmly and bring a mug and flashlight. If the weather does not cooperate, the service will take place at the church in the Fellowship Room (without the bonfire).



*Merry Christmas from Jennifer,  
David, Linda, and Keith*



## UCW REPORT

by Barbara Adams



This has been an exciting fall for the UCW. We are nearing the end of the 50th Anniversary year for UCW across Canada with the theme, "Our Tapestry of Love." In September, five women from St. James attended the provincial celebrations in Lewisporte. They all spoke very highly of the event. As a true sign of the progressiveness and openness of the United Church of Canada, the keynote speaker was Sister Elizabeth Davis, a Roman Catholic nun. That would be unheard of 50 years ago! There was plenty of opportunity for networking among the 300 UCW members from across the province attending the celebrations. The women returned to St. James re-energized and with a sense that, although enrollment is declining, UCW is "alive and well."

In October the UCW conducted the regular church service on Laity Sunday, fittingly with the theme, "Our Tapestry of Love." The UCW choir sang the beautiful theme song for this celebration year composed by Diane Chappel. The song can only be sung until the end of the year, and we are looking forward to singing it one more time before putting it to bed. Several UCW members actively participated in the church service. We were all very pleased at how well everything came together, and we received many positive comments from congregation members.

The big undertaking for UCW in the fall is the annual Fall Sale and Morning Coffee. Although a great deal of work goes into putting off this event, we are rewarded by the number of people who attend and the income generated. This year over \$6,700 was made, the most that has ever been taken in at a Fall Sale. Much of the money will be given to the church to help with its expenses, especially important this year in light of the church's financial situation.

We are looking forward to our annual Christmas dinner on December 10. The hot turkey dinner is being prepared by a local catering company who has done several successful dinners for UCW in the past. Instead of exchanging gifts, each member will bring a monetary donation to be used to help needy families touched by St. James. Following the meal, five UCW members will be presented with Life Membership pins to acknowledge their contribution to the UCW. Of course, there will also be fun and frolic in the Christmas program that follows.

At this special time in the year in the Christian church, we wish you and yours a very blessed Christmas and a new year that is filled with peace, love and joy.

### Memory Tree Form



This time of the year thoughts of our loved ones are never far from our minds. One of the ways we acknowledge this is through the Memory Tree. For a donation of \$5.00 a colored bulb will be changed to a white one in memory of your loved one.

The changing of the lights is a beautiful seasonal visible symbol. Even when the tree comes down, the gift continues in the ongoing projects at St. James.

Name of person donating: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Env #: \_\_\_\_\_



## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – Brian Ramjattan, Chair

In February 2012 at a special congregational meeting, it was agreed to put aside \$30,000 for the roof repairs, as we had received \$158,212 from the insurance company for damage done by Hurricane Igor. At the annual congregational meeting in March, it was agreed that we would put \$80,000 towards the roof repairs, instead of the agreed upon \$30,000. And at another congregational meeting, it was agreed that we would get a bank loan to cover the repairs for the Daycare Center. The bank loan was approved in October for \$75,000.

### Revenue:

Insurance	\$158,212.00	
Church	80,000.00	
Loan	<u>75,000.00</u>	\$313,212.00

### Expenses:

Roof	268,563.00	
Daycare 3	33,208.00	
Legal Fees	<u>2,765.00</u>	<u>304,536.00</u>

Balance: \$ 8,676.00



We have had a good year doing repairs around the church, resulting in a beautiful, well-presented property.

As for the operating side of the church, our revenue is down and our expenses are up. To the end of October we are showing about a \$70,000 deficit.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregation for their financial support in the past. Given our current financial situation, we will need to increase our financial support to reduce our deficit and allow the work of St. James United Church to continue.

### **2012 Givings** Please Note:

The financial year-end will be December 31. If a contribution is marked for year 2012 by January 1, 2013, it will be recorded in 2012. If you have further questions, please call our church treasurer, Jean Thompson.

### **PAR Program (Pre-Authorized Remittance)**

The United Church of Canada administers this program. You decide the amount you wish to donate to the church, and your bank account will be debited on or about the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Visa/Master Card:** You can also use Visa/Master Card via the PAR Program. People wishing to do this are asked to call/email the church office for more details. (Small cards are also available to put in the offering plate in place of envelopes)

**Post-Dated Cheques:** This is another option for you. Leave your post-dated cheques at the office and we will deposit them accordingly.

Presently we have 48 families participating in the Par program. Many people use PAR for their offering, finding it a convenient way to take care of their regular commitments to the church whether they are at home or traveling. Please call the church office for more details.



## St. James Youth

by Rebecca Pike

### Youth Group

St. James Junior and Senior youth groups are both running again this year with great success, meeting every second Saturday. They have a system so that for at least an hour each Sunday the two groups meet together resulting in all the youth of the church, no matter their age, are getting to know each other!

With a large interest in the Go Project again this year, the youth of St. James have been working hard on numerous fundraisers, with many more to come in the New Year. We appreciate the support we receive from the congregation every year. If there is anything the youth group or just a few members of the group can help you with, please let us know by contacting Rebecca (rebeccapike@warp.nfld.net) or calling the church office.

The Youth group was given the honour again this year of decorating the church for Christmas! It was a night full of fun and team work. We hope you enjoy the decorations and are thankful to the congregation for trusting us with this job!

Finally, I would like to thank the youth for their constant commitment to the church and each other! You all have created a wonderful support network for each other and work so hard at every task we are offered. You all inspire me every day with your faith and love!

### Sunday School

Although our attendance numbers have not be the highest this year, the Sunday school is still going strong and having lots of fun every week. We are having great success merging Godly Play with our crafts!! We are hoping to train more teachers to be storytellers in the New Year so the job isn't always left to Susan. Hopefully in the New Year our numbers will go back up, and we encourage you to bring any young children to church to join Sunday school or the Nursery!!

Personally, I would like to thank my wonderful teaching staff! The Sunday school could not function without all of you, and I appreciate all you do! We are blessed at St. James to have some very dedicated volunteers who come and help with our young children at least once a month (sometimes more often). These teachers are my support and the only reason I am able to make the Sunday school program what it is. So I would like to thank Jillian Grenning, Heather Warren, Mary Oates, Susan Hounsell, Denise Hooper, Janna Grenning and Ashlea Legge for their help with the children of St. James and the constant support they give me.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the congregation of St. James!



### Sunday School's Annual Christmas Cookie Sale

This year's cookie sale will take place Dec. 16th after the service. Anyone willing and able to donate cookies to the sale is asked to drop them to the church on December 14 (between 9-5) or December 15 (around 4 pm). Bagging of the cookies for the sale will take place on December 15. Anyone who would like to help with this, we will be starting at 4 pm.

### Diaper Pins

We collected the T-shirts and made the diapers. Now we need diaper pins to help keep the diapers on little bottoms. At the Christmas Eve service we are inviting everyone to bring along a package of diaper pins to be sent to Guatemala with the diapers.

Since diaper pins are virtually impossible to find, we will gladly accept packages of large safety pins.



## A HOPEFUL DREAM

*Dream a dream,  
a hopeful dream  
as children do on Christmas Eve,  
imaginings, surprising things  
to hold and to believe.*

Shirley Erena Murray (More Voices #158)



This year, Helen celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. She lived, with a dream—“a hopeful dream”—of helping The United Church of Canada through a legacy gift. In the hope of making her dream a reality, Helen purchased four United Church Charitable Gift Annuities. These annuities accomplished two things:

- First, they provided her with a guaranteed personal income for life.
  - Second, they offered the prospect of leaving a significant gift to the area of church work that Helen held close to her heart.
- For example, in 1990 Helen purchased her first annuity for \$10,000 and then three more \$5,000 annuities during the 1990s. Because of the excellent annuity rates at the time, her \$25,000 provided almost \$43,000 in income from the Church before her recent death.

But Helen’s real, long-term “imaginings” were to leave gifts to help the mission and service of the Church.

- Two of her \$5,000 annuities have contributed \$2,459.65 to both the Generosity Fund of Maritime Conference and Mission and Service of The United Church of Canada.
- And the third provided a benefit of \$569.75 to her congregation.

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United Church Charitable Gift Annuities allow you to dream a hopeful dream of surprising things. Below are some examples based on today’s rates.

### Single United Church Charitable Gift Annuities Examples

November 28, 2012

	Female, Age 65 \$10,000	Male, Age 65 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	\$4.32 per \$100	\$4.64 per \$100
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$2,000.00	\$2,207.87
Annual Income	\$431.62	\$464.00
Non-taxable Portion	\$397.95 (92%)	\$453.72 (98%)
Taxable Portion	\$33.67 (8%)	\$10.28 (2%)

	Female, Age 70 \$10,000	Male, Age 70 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	\$4.78 per \$100	\$5.13 per \$100
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$2,210.27	\$2,548.80
Annual Income	\$478.00	\$513.00
Non-taxable Portion	\$478.00 (100%)	\$513.00 (100%)
Taxable Portion	\$0.00 (0%)	\$0.00 (0%)

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	Female, Age 80 \$10,000	Male, Age 80 \$10,000
Annuity Rate	\$6.23 per \$100	\$6.75 per \$100
Charitable Donation Receipt	\$2,885.58	\$3,152.08
Annual Income	\$623.00	\$675.00
Non-taxable Portion	\$623.00 (100%)	\$675.00 (100%)
Taxable Portion	\$0.00 (0%)	\$0.00 (0%)

**Notes:** Donors over the age of 80 can also purchase annuities. Joint annuities are also available. Minimum age is 60 years; 55 for one partner in a joint annuity. Minimum amount is \$10,000.



For more information about  
United Church Gift Annuities, contact  
**Clyde Flight, Financial Development Officer**  
Newfoundland & Labrador Conference  
709 722 9935      CFlight@united-church.ca

## ***Grief and Bereavement Information and Support Group***

*This 8-week Bereavement Information and Support Group is designed for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. In this facilitator-led group, members provide support to each other through a program developed for the sharing of resources and information.*

***Facilitated by Jacintha Penney and Paul Grimes***

***Start Date: Thursday, January 24, 2013***

***Time: 1:30 pm to 4 pm***

***Location: Health Science Centre - St. John's***

***REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED***

***For further information or to register please call 777-6959***





## GREETINGS FROM DOHA

Hello All!

Some of you have been asking what it is like to celebrate Christmas in Doha. This is the first year since Bob has worked over here in the Middle East that we have not returned home.

The main reason for our staying this year is to be here for the opening of the new church building on Epiphany Sunday. Unfortunately, that opening has been delayed until April. I really wanted Bob to be in Doha to be the first to play the organ in the new church. Although he plays for services here, a piano keyboard is no substitute for an organ, and those of you who know Bob well know how much he enjoys that instrument! He will have to wait a little longer to share his talents with the congregation but the organ is now in place in the church ready for the "voicing" to take place in February. This will involve a professional installer who will travel over from Europe to work on the sound quality of each note.

The church is located in an area of Doha known as "Church City" where there is already a very large Catholic Church, an Indian church and an Orthodox church. There are well over 40 different protestant Christian groups who have been using the temporary buildings on the church site for their services. Our church, the Church of the Epiphany, will occupy the main church area and will be responsible for the allocation of space and service schedules for the other groups.

It is really spiritually inspiring to see Christianity "alive and well" and thriving in this Muslim culture. We are fortunate indeed that the Emir (the ruler of Qatar) has graciously donated land for church construction and given permission for Christian services to be held in Qatar.

We have had a busy week of social engagements that have helped to awaken our "Christmas spirit"! Last Friday after church we were treated to "brunch" at the Marriot Hotel by two of our Newfoundland friends. We were eating a delicious meal from a myriad of different selections surrounded by people from many different cultures and countries of the world. From our seat in the restaurant we could watch hotel guests swimming in the pool and relaxing on sun loungers--not a possibility in Newfoundland in December!

On Saturday past we attended the College "Holiday Dinner" served at the Diplomatic Club. We enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner, cranberry sauce and gravy-but no Newfoundland dressing!!! After the meal the Doha Singers entertained us with a selection of Christmas carols and songs.

On Wednesday night we were invited to the home of two of our Sri Lankan friends who live in an absolutely stunning villa. It is "gi-normous!", built in the Arabic style with one side supposedly for the "gentlemen" and one for the "ladies." They,

however, allow both men and women to intermingle in their home! We were served a supper "under the stars" in the courtyard of their villa and sat at tables where the chairs were covered in white fabric tied with large red bows. It was a "catered" affair with a delicious meal served under a gazebo. The bushes were covered with coloured Christmas lights.

Dinner music was provided by a vocalist who played a synthesiser. He had a lovely mellow voice and his selections added much to the ambiance! Bob played for the Christmas singalong that followed, and I helped lead some of the carols, most of which were unfamiliar to the guest musician. This was a truly memorable experience--singing "Silent Night" under a starlit mid-eastern sky!!

On Friday evening we joined members of our church congregation at "Church House" where we had an inter-generational Carol Sing. This again was a lot of fun, especially when we broke into different groups to sing our "own verse" of the 12 Days of Christmas. Some groups were slightly less tuneful, but enthusiasm made up for any pitch problem!!

The children sat on the carpet in the middle of the room as they accompanied Jingle Bells vigorously shaking their little handbells. Singing "Joy to the World" once again surrounded by so many different nationalities, so many different skin tones, the true meaning of Christmas Love, Joy and Peace on earth seemed so evident, so possible, despite the turbulence surrounding us in this troubled region of the world.

Here in our villa we have a small Christmas tree adorned with what are known here as "rice lights." We have a few decorations, so although it is 29 degrees today, it is "beginning to look a lot like Christmas"! Jeremy will be joining us on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, so we will have some sort of "family Christmas." Amy and family may be traveling over early in January.

It is possible to purchase a turkey here and most of us from NL have brought over our own packages of savoury!! Those less inclined to cook can enjoy a traditional Christmas meal at many of the large hotels or even order "take-out" and have Christmas dinner delivered to their door! Many of the hotels also have Christmas tree lighting ceremonies, and one chef has created a "Gingerbread Town," so you can see many of the "ex-pat" customs are observed in Doha!

Christmas is indeed "alive and well" in Doha, as are we! "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Best wishes from us both for a happy and healthy New Year!

Love to you all, Jean and Bob

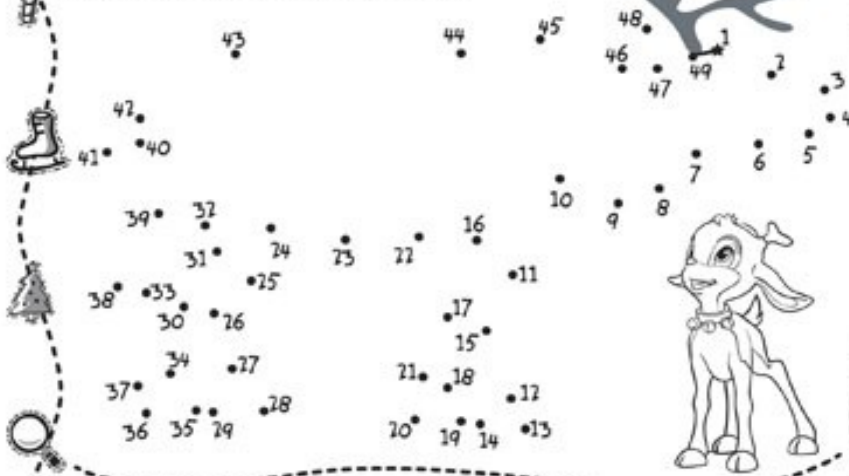
As many of you will remember, Bob Rose was our organist for many years and Jean was a member of the senior choir and director of the UCW choir. Bob is currently teaching at the College of the North Atlantic in Qatar.





### Little Lost Friend

One of Pooh's friends has gone missing. Connect the dots and help the "Super Sleuths" find out what kind of animal it is.



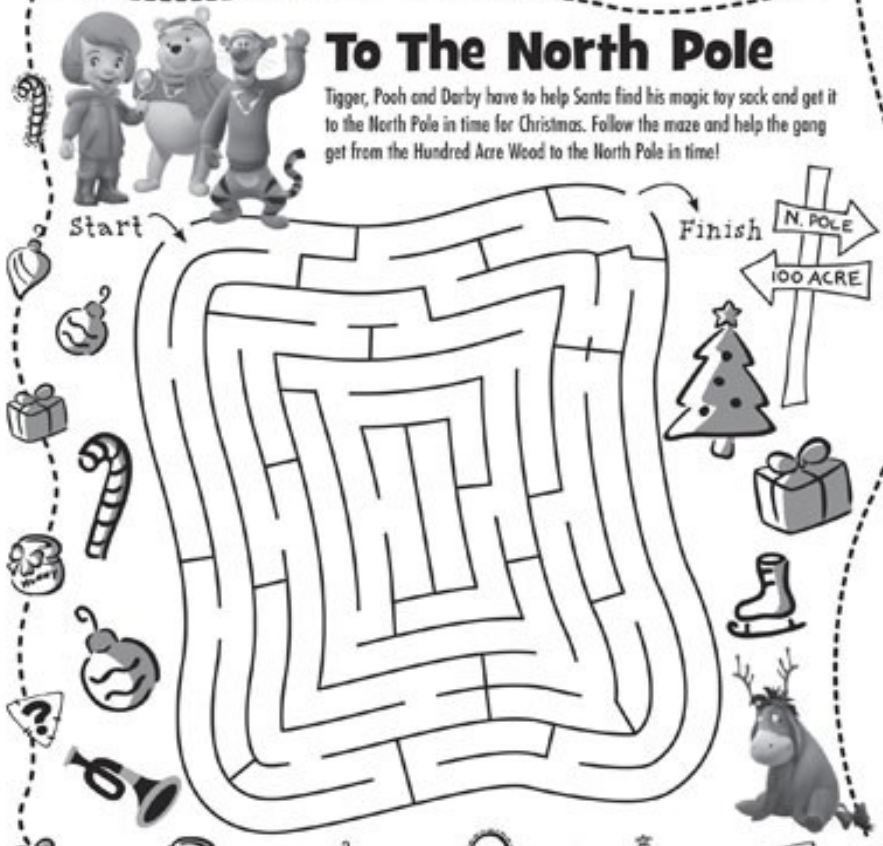
### Snowflakes

The Hundred Acre Wood is a magical place in the wintertime when it snows. They say no two snowflakes are the same. Can you find the two snowflakes below that ARE the same?



### To The North Pole

Tigger, Pooh and Darby have to help Santa find his magic toy sack and get it to the North Pole in time for Christmas. Follow the maze and help the gang get from the Hundred Acre Wood to the North Pole in time!





### EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES

The Administration and Communications Committee has just spent the last month updating our zone mail list for distribution of church mail, the *Visitor*, etc. If you have moved or if you would prefer to receive the *Visitor* via email, please contact [janwinsor@yahoo.ca](mailto:janwinsor@yahoo.ca). We look forward to any suggestions or comments you may have regarding the *Visitor* or St. James website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org).



### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday	Yoga	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Guitar Group	11 a.m.
	Youth Choir	7:30 p.m.
	Men's Choir	8 p.m.
Thursday	Senior Choir	7:30 p.m.

### BRIDGES TO HOPE

Please bring a non-perishable food item for our Food Chest when you come along to service so we can help others in need.

### CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

On June 1, 2012, we were presented with a certificate recognizing that in 2011 St. James Pastoral Charge has exceeded last year's givings to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada to keep its support of our congregations vital and its outreach visionary.

### YOGA

Come and spend a relaxing hour of stretching and strengthening. Our instructor will guide you through a series of yoga positions and tailor classes to your specific needs. Sessions will start on January 14 at 9:30 a.m. Previous experience is not required.

10 week session \$50.00 or \$6.00 per session drop-in.  
For more information, please call Susan at 722-1881 or email [youthchurch@stjamesuc.org](mailto:youthchurch@stjamesuc.org)

### Coffee Hour Schedule

#### January to March 2013

January 20	Property, M and P, Finance
February 17	Senior Choir
March 17	Worship and Sacraments

### Accessibility at St. James United Church

#### Hearing devices

#### Wheel Chairs

#### Enlarged Bulletins

If you wish to use one of the above services we offer, please check with one of our ushers and they will be happy to assist you.



### WORSHIP SCHEDULE - December 2012 to March 2013

Date	Time	Details	Music
Dec. 16	11 am	Advent 3/ White Gift Sunday School Party	UCW
Dec. 21	7 pm	Winter Solstice Service (Susan's house)	
Dec. 23	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Advent 4/ Christmas with the Sr. Choir	Sight Restored Senior Choir/ Liturgical Dancers
Dec. 24	7 pm 10 pm 10:30 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service Carols by Request Christmas Eve Communion	Youth/ Sight Restored Senior Senior
Dec. 30	11 am	Baptism	Senior
Jan. 6	11 am	Baptism	Senior
Jan. 13	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Communion	Sight Restored AOTS
Jan. 20	11 am	Regular ( <b>coffee hour</b> —Property, M&P, Finance)	Senior
Jan. 27	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Regular	Sight Restored Senior
Feb. 3	11 am	Baptism	Youth/AOTS
Feb. 10	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Communion	Sight Restored Senior
Feb. 13	7 pm	Ash Wednesday Service (Fellowship Room)	
Feb. 17	11 am	Lent 1 ( <b>coffee hour</b> - -Senior Choir)	UCW
Feb. 24	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Lent 2	Sight Restored Senior
Mar. 3	11 am	Lent 3/Baptism	Senior
Mar. 10	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Lent 4	Sight Restored Youth/AOTS
Mar. 17	11 am	Lent 5 ( <b>coffee hour</b> —Worship & Sacraments)	UCW
Mar. 24	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Palm Sunday	Sight Restored Senior
Mar. 29	10 am 7 pm	Good Friday Walk Good Friday Service	Sight Restored and Youth
Mar. 31	8:30 am 9:30 am 11 am	Communion GO Project Breakfast Easter Sunday	Senior  Senior