St. James United Church Life and Work, February 12, 2017

We acknowledge the following donations:

*to the Memorial Fund in loving memory of Harold Price from Sandra Nightingale;

*to General Funds in loving memory of Harold Price from Jonathan Frost & Sherry, Robert Nightingale & Bessie, Lloyd Adams & Audrey, Lisa & Chad Lowe, Renee & Brad Hayley, Mary Power, Sharon Whalen & Bruce Burry, Sylvia & James Bulger.

Today, Remit 1: An information session on General Council remit 1 will be held following the 11am Service today. Remit 1 concerns the Three Council Model.

This evening: A Service for those who grieve loss at 7 in the Sanctuary with Rev. Pamela for those who have experienced loss of any kind during these past years. Loss may be due to death, unemployment, health, or any other transition in one's life that may cause suffering. The service will be one of reflection, candle lighting and quiet music. All are welcome.

Not a Bible Study - *Following Jesus:* Monday sessions continue tomorrow, 11-noon in the Fellowship Room; Wednesday evenings continue 7-8 in the Choir Room.

St. James monthly Long Term Care (Pleasant View Towers) Service will be held on Tuesday, February 14 at 2pm when we will be joined by members of the St. James Guitar Group. All volunteers please meet in the chapel at 1.30pm. We look forward to seeing lots of you for this special Valentine's Day presentation.

Next Sunday, February 19:

* at 11am, St. James will welcome the Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir to our worship. The choir will share stories in the form of video recordings and song, as well as a production in drama and song of John Lennon's 'Imagine.' This will be an inspiring time of worship filled with moments of hope, justice and liberation. *the Coffee Hour will be hosted by our Senior Choir after the 11am Service. Please plan to join us!

St. James' annual pancake supper will take place on Shrove Tuesday, February 28 at 6pm. Tickets are available from the office during the week; \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

GO Project/Rendezvous participants are selling coupons for Pizza Delight on Aberdeen Avenue; just \$20 for a 12" three-topping pizza and 12' garlic-cheese fingers. Eat in or take out. Coupons are available from the participants or Susan.

Are you in the mood for some homemade bread? How about some pie? In order to fundraise for her trip to Germany to be a steward at the General Assembly of the World Community of Reformed Churches, Chelsea Skanes is offering her baking skills to anyone who would like to avail of them for a small donation. Contact her at 709-699-5214, or email at chelseaskanes@hotmail.com to discuss your request.

For rent: Our former manse is now available for rent. If anyone knows of a group that is looking for a space to rent, please suggest that they contact our office for more details, 722-1881, ext. 200 or info@stjamesuc.org

Please see the notice board in the foyer for:

- *letter of Solidarity for our Muslim neighbours from Jordan Cantwell;
- $\hbox{*invitation to a panel discussion exploring queer spiritualities}.$

For the bi-weekly e-newsletter that will keep you connected to the work of the United Church in general and the General Council Office in particular, please search for E-ssentials United Church and subscribe.

Do Monkeys Go to Heaven: Faith and Evolution, a lecture by scientist, author and Jesuit priest, John McCarthy SJ, Wednesday Feb 15 at 7:15pm at The Lantern, 35 Barns Road. To register please contact Mary Tee, Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice, 722-0082, mcej@live.com

Message from George Street UC: The Mall Walkers Club: if you are 55 and older, and would like to increase your level of activity through walking, join us at the Avalon Mall Thursday mornings. It's a great opportunity to socialize and network with new people. For information call 726-8775.

Minute for Mission: As a result of the Syrian refugee crisis, millions of refugees have fled to neighbouring Jordan and Lebanon. In both countries, as well as Syria, ACT Alliance is responding to needs like food security, water sanitation, education and psychosocial issues. Zaatari Refugee Camp in northern Jordan is home to 80,000 Syrian refugees. Act Alliance members are using educational programs geared for teenagers and young adults to give these refugees hope and provide them with skills they will need to rebuild Syria when the war is over. Courses include computer skills, life skills and youth initiatives as well as non-violent communication, conflict resolution and English language skills. Some refugees' lives are completely changed in Zaatari – securing meaningful employment and a quality of life for the family. We sing thanksgiving for the hope carried in the resilient lives of refugees. Giving to M&S enables the songs of thanksgiving to continue.