

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memories of
Bethany Danielle Pike
"Remembering her birthday, January 8"
with love from Stephen, Susan and Rebecca.

St. James United Church

Minister:	Epiphany/Communion
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister Emeritus:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist/Choir Director:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Choir:	Paul Rodermond
Usher in Charge:	Senior
Greeters:	Michelle Skinner
Ushers:	

St. James United Church is a safe place for all people to worship, regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

MUSICAL PRELUDE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CANDLE: The candle is lit as a reminder of the light of Christ given to us all, as a symbol of God's presence each and every day.

CHOIR INTROIT:

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As the ancients gathered, so we gather to offer praise to our Creator.

All: As we hear the word of God spoken and as we sing our praises to God, the joy of the Lord our God is our strength.

One: Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER (together) Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of Your glory. Hear us, O God of past, present and future. We have come here in answer to Your call to worship. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of Your glory. Amen.

HYMN: *Arise, Your Light Is Come* 79

CHILDRENS TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HYMN: *Will You Come and See the Light?* 96

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY CHORUS: *Spirit, Open My Heart* (chorus) MV79
*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (together) Creator God we share these offerings, so that Your light is revealed. We commit ourselves to Your way of ministry. Keep our attention focused on the needs of others, so that we might always respond with love and compassion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

MEDITATION: "A Little Light Goes a Long Way"

CHOIR ANTHEM

INVITATION TO CONFESSION: Let us confess to God all that we know we have done that falls short of the glory of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together) Source of Love and Forgiveness, You wrap us in constant compassion, inviting us to journey toward the way of wholeness. Forgive us when we lose our focus, directing our attention toward goals that fail to bring new life. Remind us that we do not walk alone, for Christ is our constant companion. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

A NEW CREED 918

HYMN: *As with Gladness Men of Old* 81

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please see projected liturgy.)

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

(Communion will be served by Intinction)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (together) God of great mystery, we have shared in Your feast, but not only with those in this church this morning; we have also shared this Holy Communion with sisters and brothers around the world. A range of languages and smiles have praised You, O God, from all over the earth. Unite us to one another. Recommit us to Your cause. O God, may Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH: (together) Let us go from this place of prayer to lives of prayer and action. Let us share the light of Christ.

BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

A very Happy and Healthy New Year, 2019, to all.

St. James United Church Life and Work, January 6, 2019

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund, remembering Bethany on her birthday, with love from Stephen, Susan and Rebecca.

We gratefully acknowledge donation to Project Grace in loving memory of Bethany Pike from the Grennings.

Tuesday, January 8 at 2pm: Pleasant View Towers Worship Service conducted by members of the men's club. Volunteers please meet at 1:30 in the chapel to plan the congregation pick-ups; new volunteers are always welcome!

Important notice for volunteers: When residents are taken from their floor to go to the Chapel, they now need a floor identification tag, available from the floor nursing station. Residents are not to be taken off the floor without this tag!

Schedule change for Book Group monthly cafe style discussion of *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian McClain in the Youth Room at 7pm. This will now take place on Tuesday, January 15, not January 8.

Thursday, January 10: Winter weekly Not a Bible Study, '*Painting the Stars,*' begins at 7:30pm.

Celebrate the Week of Prayer of Christian Unity at the St. John's and Area Council of Church's Worship Service, 3pm on Sunday, January 20 here at St. James United Church. Rev. Faith March-MacCuish will be speaking on our theme, "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" (Deut. 16:20). Our offering this year will support L'Arche Avalon. May Christ bind us together in this visible act of corporate worship.

Guy Matthews Medical Assistance Fund: Rev. Guy Matthews a minister and friend to most of us underwent Heart Transplant Surgery in Ottawa in late September. Guy is doing very well, but a fundraising appeal has been established to help the Matthews family deal with the financial stress associated with this surgery. Your donation clearly marked "Guy Matthews Assistance Fund" can be made in several ways:

*Send / drop off donation to St. James Church office.

*Drop your donation in the collection plate at a regular Sunday service.

*Email money transfer to guymatthewsmedicalfund@outlook.com

*Online through the Guy Matthews Medical Assistance Fund Go Fund Me website www.gofundme.com/guy-matthews-medical-assistance Google "go fund

me” and then search for “Guy Matthews.” More Information regarding this fund raising can be found on the St. James United website www.stjamesuc.org or by contacting Stephen Pike, stephen.pike@nf.sympatico.ca 765-2438

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for M&S support ministries to those living on the margins, like First United Church Community ministry in east Vancouver B.C. The community has become the epicentre of the converging crisis of mental health, addiction, extreme poverty, homelessness and marginalization. The people who gather here for help are literally people who have nowhere else to go. They have been rejected by other shelters, mental health supports, hospitals, or their own families. The Executive Director notes that every day there has been a moment where he is surprised by joy: watching 2 participants of the Spirit Circle move through hostility to forgiveness; seeing the brother of a young woman murdered on the Pickton farm sweeping our steps, because he knows the role our staff play in advocating for missing and murdered women in our community. When the view is shifted from the negative to the positive in the Downtown Eastside, we see growth and community, not just poverty, addiction, and despair. He is filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community and surprised by joy in this place. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our M&S.

The next Grief and Bereavement Information Session in the Cafeteria Conference Room, L.A. Miller Centre on Tuesday, January 8, 7-9pm. (This session is held the 2nd Tuesday of every month). For further information, please contact Peter Barnes at 777-2167, peter.barnes@easternhealth.ca or Mag Snook at 777-8972, margaret.snook@easternhealth.ca

Housekeeping:

When driving to St. James during the week, morning and afternoon, please park for free in the first line nearest Elizabeth Avenue. Anywhere else in the parking lot is liable for a ticket.

Winter brings its share of challenges for St. James, one of which is keeping the floors of the Auditorium, Fellowship Room and Youth Church salt free. Please consider bringing indoor shoes with you when you visit the living rooms of St. James.

During periods of extreme weather, a committee consisting of Council Chair, Property Chair and the Clerk of Session (or their designates) in consultation with the Ministerial staff will determine if it is not reasonable to open for Sunday worship. Notification to the Congregation will be via VOWR, other radio stations, the website and the recorded telephone message by 8:30 am on the Sunday in question. A telephone contact sheet consisting of other key people to receive early notification will be maintained. This list includes, but is not restricted to the chief usher, musicians, and choir.

Sign up for weekly Congregational emails: register at info@stjamesuc.org

THE END