

## St. James United Church Life and Work, December 8, 2019

**We offer our condolences to** Judy Barrett, her family and friends, on the passing of Judy's husband George on November 27. His funeral took place from Barrett's Chapel last Monday.

We also offer our condolences to the family of Jessie Oates, whose funeral took place from Carnell's Chapel last Wednesday.

**The white Christmas poinsettia adorning the Sanctuary today** is in loving memory of Nellie & Bill Bishop from their children, Bev, Keith and Karen, and grand-daughter and family, Kara, Stephen, Juliana and Joshua.

**Bethlehem Market thank you!** The organizing committee would like to thank all the people who helped to make the market a success. From the people who donated all the items that we asked for; to the people who looked after the publicity; to the people who got us the animals; to the people that helped set up and clean up; to the people on the stalls; to the servers in the café; to the kitchen staff; to the musicians; the tax collector and everyone else that helped out. Without everyone's support this event could not have happened. It was great to see both the congregation and the community come together to start the advent season. Please mark November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 on your calendar for our next Bethlehem Market. We did raise \$2378.00.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund** in loving honour of Mom's, Ruby Hiscock's 101<sup>st</sup> birthday tomorrow, from her daughter Patsy;  
\*in celebration of Ruby Hiscock's 101<sup>st</sup> birthday from Glenn Hiscock.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund in loving memory of:**

\*Helen Crummell, "*a true friend*," from Shirley Bursey;

\*Helen Crummell from Barbara & Bill Butt;

\*Ben Lake from Philip Saunders;

\*George Barrett from Marilyn & Kevin Pardy;

\*a special friend, Beth Holloway, from Glenn Hiscock;

\*Jessie Oates from Doug & Joan Bursey;

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund** from Susan Pike and Michael Kavanagh.

Financial Update: St. James sincerely thanks our congregation for their ongoing support. To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$3,961. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.)

Givings: November 17: \$3,264

November 24: \$4,585

December 1: \$4,929

**Poinsettias** will be available for pick-up and sale today in the Fellowship Room following the Services; \$15 per plant. This is a fundraiser towards our Youth participation in Rendez-vous 2020 in Calgary in the summer.

**Youth Ministries' Fundraiser:** Gift wrapping! Take the stress out of Christmas; drop off gifts to the church office during the coming week. Our Youth will wrap, label and even deliver locally for you. The gifts can be picked up on Saturday, December 14, 1-2pm, or at church next Sunday.

**Gifts with Vision catalogues** are available on the coffee table in the office area.

**Important notice:** In 2020, our Contemporary Worship Service will move to Saturday afternoon at 4:30pm, beginning on Saturday, January 4.

**Are you looking to help in some way?** Our Lay Visitation Program Co-ordinator is seeking folks who may be interested in participating in the program. If this area of help speaks to you, please call or email SuAn in the office, and let her know your availability.

**This afternoon at 3pm** in the Sanctuary: Project Grace Semester freewill donation; all welcome!

**Monday, December 9:** Last session for the season: Susan's Sewing Studio continues 3-6pm.

**Tuesday, December 10 at 3:30pm at Pleasant View Towers:** Members of the Men's club and St. James youth will gather at the East Wing of Pleasantview Towers at 3:15 on Tuesday December 10 for Carolling with the residents, 3:30 - 4:30. Other members of the congregation are welcome to join us. It's always a great activity.

**Tuesday, December 10 at 4:30 – 6pm, Project Grace Open House at The Bethany Center** (10 Paton Street - former Manse). Please drop by for some tea, coffee, hot chocolate and sweets, along with a holiday sing a long! Some of our students and teaching artists will be performing, and you'll have the opportunity to see what we've been up to next door!

**Swarovski Starfish Necklaces in Support of Project Grace:** A limited number of Swarovski Starfish necklaces are on hand to help you with your holiday shopping. These beautiful, genuine Swarovski crystal starfish on sterling silver chains make the perfect gift for friends and family.  
[www.projectgrace.ca](http://www.projectgrace.ca)

**Next Sunday, December 15: \*White Gift Service at 11:** As usual we will be accepting donations of toiletries, small, new household items, mitts, hats and gloves, etc. for Stella's Circle and Thrive (Street Reach).

**\*at 7pm: St. James Christmas Concert:** A varied evening of Christmas music showcasing the musical talents of St. James United Church and the local community. Performers include the St. James Senior Choir; Amy Dalziel, organist; Shelby Marshall, violinist; Gillian Sheppard, flutist; Glenda Winsor, soprano and Project Grace students. A freewill offering will be collected at the door.

**This afternoon:** The Seniors Memory Mug Up, a free and informal story sharing session for seniors at the St. John's Farmers' Market, 245 Freshwater Road.

**This evening:** Candle Light Vigil at 7:30pm at St. Mark's Church, 203 Logy Bay Road to remember those who died by suicide, and to support survivors of suicide loss. Gather in music, poems, prayers and candle lighting. You are invited to bring a framed photograph of your loved one to be displayed during the vigil. All are welcome.

**The United Church bookstore** is seeking volunteers to help with inventory, December 16-20. If you have any time to give, please call Leona Laundry, 1-800-268-3781, ext. 6141. *"More hands make light work."*  
**WaterWerks** is collecting donations for their 10th Annual Christmas Diaper Drop. Diapers can be dropped off to Sarah in the Sunday School Classroom on Sundays, or during the week you can be delivered to 96 LeMarchant Road. You can also donate online at [diaperdrop.ca](http://diaperdrop.ca) All proceeds will be going to the Community Food Sharing Association.

**Please see the Community notice board** outside the Sanctuary for information on more community events.

**Minute for Mission:** Many ministries these days are wondering what they can do to serve young adults. In 2015, a small team of youth and young adult leaders in Southern Ontario met at Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre to envision a resource that could be used by the church to accompany young adults as they discerned questions of vocation and meaningful work. The hope was to create an opportunity for spiritual development that was more advanced than youth confirmation, but more accessible and broad than the discernment process for paid accountable ministry. The Discoverment Process, a seven-session small-group program that brings together young adults finishing high school, or in their 20s, with adult mentors to explore questions of faith in the 21st century, was born out of those conversations. It launched as a free online curriculum in early 2017. With additional funding from Mission & Service via a Vision Fund for Flourishing Ministry Programs' grant, the Discoverment Process is currently developing a workbook for individual use, as well as a series of retreats where young adults can engage with the Discoverment materials over a weekend. Mission & Service supports programs like the Discoverment Process that offer a way for young adults to discern what God is calling them to.

**At 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, a colored bulb will be changed to a white one in memory or celebration of a loved one. Deadline: December 16 at 10am. 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.

**Memory Tree Form**

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

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

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