

## Life and Work – December 20, 2020

**We gratefully acknowledge** a donation to the Hymn Sing In memory of William Benson from Daphne Benson.

**We gratefully acknowledge** a donation to the General Fund in memory of William Butt from Menetha and Sid Dyke.

**We gratefully acknowledge** a donation to the General Fund in loving memory of Phil Saunders from Alice and Howard Forsey.

**We offer our condolences** to Herb Mullett, his family and friends, on the passing of Herb's beloved wife Grace on December 11. A private family service on Friday, December 18 at 2pm will be live-streamed on Barrett's Funeral Home website.

**We offer our condolences** to Wayne & Michelle Skinner, their family and friends, on the passing of Wayne's oldest brother Terrance on December 14. Funeral details will be announced as they become available.

### **Christmas Eve Services**

Due to the exceptional registration already received, two services on Christmas Eve will be going ahead as scheduled: 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm.

The front doors will open 30 minutes before each service.

The deadline for registering for either service will be 4:00 pm on December 18 – that's tomorrow! Call now to reserve your seat: 700-6064

**We wish to advise the congregation** that SuAn Randall, our Office Administrator, will be finishing her work at St. James on December 31. SuAn has provided excellent service during her time with St. James, and we have thoroughly enjoyed her presence with us. We are very sorry to see her leave and wish her good health and a well-deserved retirement from her work at St. James.

## ***Join the Chorus!***

### **St. James' Outdoor Community Carol Sing December 20**

Need a little cheer? Come "***Join the Chorus***", an ***Outdoor, Drive-in, Community Carol Sing*** in St. James' parking lot on **Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 to 8:30 pm**. 'Tis the season to sing carols to celebrate the joy of Christ's birth, and show charity, peace, and love! Wear your Christmas mask, hat, scarf; bring a hot beverage, and a candle or flashlight. Members of St. James Band, Sight Restored, St. James choir, and other community choruses will participate. ***Masks and physical distancing of cars and people are required.*** Come one, come all! It's a fun, free community event for all ages!

***We need more ushers!*** For more information or to usher, call Robin, 682-3927 or Amy, 765-1005; or visit St. James' Facebook page or [stjamesuc.org](http://stjamesuc.org).

## Important logistical notes!...

The hump by the doors will serve as the outdoor stage. People standing on, or in front of, the “stage” to sing, must stand 2 m apart. Parked cars (“bubbles”) will face it and the church.

**Drivers, for smooth controlled, traffic flow, please arrive and enter from Elizabeth Avenue only by 7:15 pm to be ushered to a designated, physically distanced, parking spot in lines, like lining up for the gulf ferry, and in a checkerboard pattern, to ensure you are 2 m from other cars, safe in your “bubbles” with the windows down. Exit onto Paton Street only at the end.**

To ensure visibility, ushers will try to designate the spots in front for smaller cars, while SUVs and pick-up trucks will be designated to park behind them.

### Registration Christmas hours

December 21,22, 23: 11am - 4pm

December 24: 10am - 3pm

December 25: Closed

December 28, 29, 30: 11am - 4pm

December 31, January 1: closed

Regular hours will recommence on January 4, 2021. Monday to Friday 11-4 and closed on weekends.

### New 10 week book group starting in January

The book will be *The Beatitudes for Progressive Christians* by Donald Schmidt and costs \$12.50. If you would like to order a book and join us for our weekly 1 hour discussion on zoom please contact Susan Sheppard, [susan@stjamesuc.org](mailto:susan@stjamesuc.org) , by December 31.

**2021 Envelopes:** Our Zone Captains will be delivering the 2021 envelopes that have not been picked-up. If you have received *The Visitor* by snail mail in the past, your envelopes remain at the church, so when you attend a Service, please ask an usher to collect them for you.

**We would like to send** our congratulations to Jake Thompson, St. James’ tech advisor, on his nomination for the MusicNL Media Person of the Year Award. His tv show, NL Now, was broadcast on the Rogers community channel for five years but has since been picked up by NTV and will be airing in 2021. The show is hosted by Gary Wheeseltin (one of Jake’s numerous puppet friends) and has featured 208 guests and 52 puppets. Good luck Jake! We are all rooting for you and cannot wait to see what your show brings in 2021.

**Sunday, December 20:** A Service of Lessons and Carols will take place at 7pm at Cochrane Street United Church. Soloists this year are Mary Antle, Meg Herder, and Darrin Martin along with our Music Director Evan Smith and our choir. To register to attend, visit: [www.cochranestreetuc.com/christmas-instjohns](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com/christmas-instjohns)

**George St. United Church** is offering fresh, locally grown, Christmas vegetable hampers for \$20 each, containing potatoes, carrot, turnip, and cabbage (13 lbs of fresh local vegetables). Orders must be in by Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> to be picked up or delivered on December 23rd. To order or request more information, please call George Street UC church office at 726-8775.

As a reward for your support, one purchaser and one seller will win a full turkey hamper with a fresh local turkey or a Butterball Turkey and all the trimmings including the Old Port Salt beef and local vegetables from Keith's Farm and Roadside Market In CBS.

## Humanitarian Aid for Rohingya

No person should ever be persecuted because of their religion or culture.; have to struggle daily to find enough food, a place to sleep, or simply a place to exist, yet that has happened repeatedly to the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. For decades they faced religious and ethnic persecution, which escalated in 2017. They were tortured and killed in Myanmar, and their homes and villages were burned to the ground.

Almost a million escaped to the town of Cox's Bazar in nearby Bangladesh to what became, in November 2018, the largest refugee camp in the world.

ACT Alliance, a Mission & Service global ecumenical partner, is on the ground at the Cox's Bazar refugee camp distributing humanitarian aid in the form of food, shelter materials, warm clothing, hygiene kits, safe water, and emergency medical help. ACT Alliance also hosted the organization Clowns Without Borders to share the importance of hygiene in a fun way. The Cox's Bazar camp is located in a floodplain; mix that with almost a million people and the result can be a variety of diseases, some of them life-threatening. Thanks to ACT Alliance, many of the Rohingya refugees are able to keep disease at bay by using the skills they were taught and the hygiene kits they received. Through our gifts for Mission & Service, lives are truly saved every day in Cox's Bazar camp.