

Paulin Newsletter

December 2022

Message from Reverend Lisa

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. In my house this means that the tree is up and the lights are on. We are waiting for a special delivery of Christmas cookies to make their way from Alberta to Windsor, as part of our Christmas celebration is found in the food we eat as well as the songs we sing. For Christmas is a celebration of all of the senses while we count down the days until the time comes for us to once again welcome the child found lying in the manger. Each Sunday we gather together to light the Advent candles and hear anew the story of Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and angels that joyfully proclaim "joy to the world, the Lord has come." We gather to worship with our heads and our hearts, but Christmas is more than just



2022 Children's Christmas Play

sitting in a pew hearing the story. It is about allowing that story to shape the way in which we choose to live our lives. This is why we have so many traditions that have built up over the years that centre around the birth of Jesus. Some are new and some have been passed down for generations, but they all come together to help us rejoice that to us a child is born and to us a Son is given. Each time we see the lights on a neighbour's house or we grab a gingerbread cookie we're reminded that Christmas is coming. These activities are the sights, sounds, smells, tastes and even touches that help us step away from our

everyday lives and enter into a holy time: a time when we believe the good news of the angels and seek to share with one another in the name of the one who came to save us all. So I would like to challenge you this day to take a moment and enjoy this most blessed time of year. Allow yourself to feel the joy, hope, peace and love of this season. Fill your heart and overflow into the world around us. Now is the season for us to celebrate the wonderful things that God has done for us, as he has given us Emmanuel, God with us now and forever more.

Thanks be to God, Amen

Reverend Lisa

Worship Committee Briefings

The large tree has come to the end of its many years as a centre-piece of our sanctuary decorations during Advent and Christmas. Thanks to Mary Ellen Sands-King for providing a temporary replacement. A special fund has been opened for anyone who would like to donate to a new tree for future years. Please mark any donations "Christmas tree."

A new tree has been purchased and looks wonderful

A Few Words from your Board of Managers

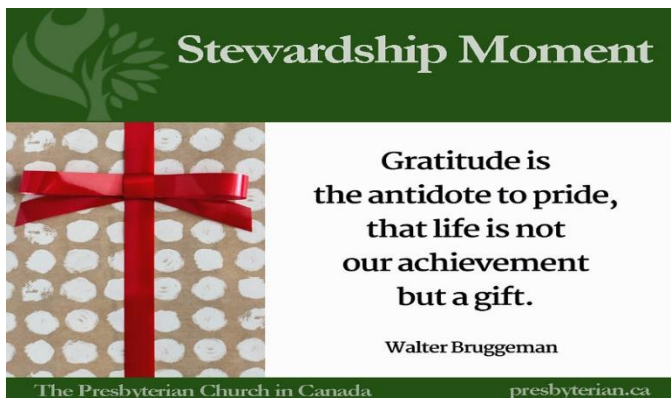
Since we last updated everyone, our church building has been very active with most of our pre-covid groups returning. We also served as Voting Station for our community during the recent Windsor Elections. We are seeing activity return for recitals in our sanctuary and gatherings in our upper hall. We have also made arrangements with Riverfront Theatre group to rent some of our unutilized space for their storage needs and as such will see a regular monthly increase to our facility rental income next year.

A grant was applied for and approved from the Ontario Government that will be used to fully fund the replacement of the door at the north entrance. The door was in bad repair and this grant availability was very timely and it enables us to permanently fix the problem! Although not yet completed, due to product delays, hopefully soon! Our elevator was also out of commission and has since been repaired. Our property committee has done a great job in keeping up with the other smaller repairs required by aging building!

With regards to our finances, the end of November year to date deficit is \$9965. While we struggle each month to meet our expenses, we managed to have a very small surplus this month. We are on a property insurance "holiday" from our payments for two months. We also had a secret angel donate the funds to cover the cost of a part needed to fix a heating problem. Many thanks to everyone who helps in whatever way they can. No gift to the church is too small whether it be monetary or with helping hands and all is appreciated.

Mission & Outreach Committee

Thanks to everyone who brought in food items in October to support our Food Drive for Our Lady of Guadalupe's Food Bank in October and items to support Hiatus House in November. Hiatus House is the local shelter for people fleeing Intimate Partner Violence in Windsor & Essex County. While providing white gifts and donations to Hiatus House is a band-aid solution to gender-based violence, real change involves supporting men in changing their attitudes towards conflict resolution and their relationships with women and children. The mitten tree has returned and in December and we are collecting mittens, hats & socks for elementary schools in under resourced neighbourhoods. Any loose offering collected at the Christmas eve services will be split between Presbyterian World Service & Development and Presbyterians Sharing. If you are interested in joining the Mission & Outreach Committee at our January meeting, please contact Anne McLachlan.



Stewardship Moment

Gratitude is the antidote to pride, that life is not our achievement but a gift.

Walter Bruggeman

The Presbyterian Church in Canada presbyterian.ca

Bereavements: We were saddened by the passing of the following members of our Paulin Family.

Gail Bereza and Rosalie Laughland



\$\$ END OF THE YEAR DONATIONS \$\$

The end of the year and the deadline to get your donations in for qualified receipts is quickly approaching. Cheques for deposit must be in the church by noon on Friday Dec 30th. Tythe.ly contributions take two days to reach our account so please contribute no later than Dec 28th for end of the year receipting. E-transfers are real time, so you have until Saturday Dec 31st to make your transfer.

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

AND THERE WERE IN THE SAME COUNTRY SHEPHERDS ABIDING IN THE FIELD. KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCK BY NIGHT.

AND LO THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME UPON THEM AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE ROUND ABOUT THEM AND THEY WERE SORE AFRAID.

AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM, FEAR NOT: FOR BEHOLD I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY, WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE.

FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOUR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD.

AND THIS SHALL BE A SIGN UNTO YOU; YE SHALL FIND THE BABE WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES. LYING IN A MANGER.

AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST PRAISING GOD. AND SAYING.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.

LUKE 2:8-14



Dates and times for worship

December 11: 10:30 am - Advent 3 Children's Christmas Play

December 16: 7:00 pm - Blue Christmas worship service

December 18: 10:30 am - Advent 4 Special music offering

December 24: 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Worship

December 24: 9:00 pm - Christmas Eve Worship

December 25: 10:30 am - Christmas Day Worship

January 1, 2023: NO Church Service/ Church closed

January 8: 10:30 am - Worship Service

Save the Date

Robbie Burns Dinner
Saturday February 4, 2023

