

ANNOUNCEMENTS – December 14th 2014

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTERS are now available! Please pick up your letter from the tables set up in the Narthex — the letters are displayed alphabetically by surname. The letters will be available for pick up today and next Sunday (December 21st), following which they will be mailed. Please remember to pick up your letter on either of these Sundays, as it saves the church the postage costs. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

As we celebrate the Advent season, we wish to welcome as many newcomers, friends and family as possible. Please see the **ADVENT POSTERS and POSTCARDS** on the Narthex table — feel free to take some and pass them out!

Once again this year, we offer you the opportunity to **PURCHASE A POINSETTIA** in memory of a loved one, for display in the Sanctuary. These 6-inch, red poinsettias can be ordered through the church office at a cost of \$10.00 each — please see the bulletin insert, or pick up an order form from the Narthex table! Please submit your order to the church office no later than TOMORROW, Monday, December 15th!

The church is now looking for a **NEW ENVELOPE SECRETARY** to replace Janet S., who has accepted an out of town job transfer. We thank Janet for her conscientious service to St. Andrew's. If you are interested in taking over this responsibility, please speak with Peter R. or the church office.

If you are able to **HELP THE MISSION COMMITTEE WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**, please see the sign-up sheet on the Narthex table. We will need people on the following dates:

- Monday, December 15th, 1:00-5:00pm
- Tuesday, December 16th, 12:00-4:00pm
- Friday, December 19th, 11:00am-4:00pm (Christmas Hampers AND Food Bank)

For further information, please call Sheila Smyth at (905) 668-3425.

“TELLING TIME in the CHURCH YEAR CYCLE” is a publication, located on the table in the Narthex, which provides historical backgrounds, meanings and reflections for the seasons in our church year. Please feel welcome to pick up a copy!

Just a **REMINDER** that the **TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** group will meet once more, prior to Christmas, on Tuesday, December 16th to study “*What is so special about Christmas?*” This will be our last meeting until the new year, when the group will resume on January 16th, 2015!

A **REMINDER** that the **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** group will meet at Corina B.'s home, on Wednesday, December 17th, at 10:00am, for a pancake brunch! This will be the last meeting until the new year.

Please be aware that the **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** is breaking for the Christmas season and will resume on Wednesday, January 14th, 2015.

WANTED! PRAYER BUDDIES! We are looking for prayer support for our St. Andrew's children and young people. We have created a Prayer Calendar to assist you in praying for one child and his or her family each day, throughout the month of December. Please pick up your prayer calendar from the Narthex table. Thank you for your support!

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available for pick-up on the table in the Narthex. Hopefully, these daily readings will bring you closer to Christ this Christmas season.

The **SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR POSITION HAS BEEN FILLED** by Michelle W., and she is looking forward to working with the other teachers! We are, however, still **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** to fill the positions of Nursery Coordinator and Youth Ministry Coordinator. Currently, Emily F. filling all three positions until the conclusion of this year. If you are interested in either of these open positions, please contact your Elder or the church office accordingly.

HOCKEY NIGHT in WHITBY! Paul S. invites the men of St. Andrew's to join him in his unwavering support of the Toronto Maple Leafs! Hockey night will be held at Paul's home, as per the schedule outlined below:

- Tuesday, Dec. 16th, 7:30pm, vs the Ducks
- Tuesday, Feb. 10th, 7:30pm, vs the Rangers
- Tuesday, Mar. 3rd, 7:30pm, vs the Capitals

DONATIONS for SYRIAN REFUGEES are still being accepted! Our church has committed to a \$5000 donation toward this cause. If you still wish to contribute, please designate your offering envelope accordingly, or submit your donation to the church office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Community Outreach Drop-In Fridays throughout the fall, 12:30-2:30pm, as follows:

- Friday, December 19th (Food Bank AND Christmas Hampers)
- Friday, January 9th (2015)

If you are interested in assisting, please speak further with Emily Fern!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SUPPORT PROGRAM (Mission Room): The following list is of items that are most needed for our Community Outreach program: boxed cereal, deodorant (men and women), liquid dish soap, laundry detergent, lunch box snacks (individually wrapped granola bars, crackers, cookies, etc.), crackers, soup. Your donations are well used and much appreciated! Together, we are making a difference!

CATECHISM for TODAY

The following question(s) come from "*A Catechism For Today*" booklet published by "A committee on church doctrine, The Presbyterian Church in Canada" in 2005. Each week, for the 52 weeks of the year, there will be questions printed in the bulletin announcements, taken from the total number of 141 questions in the booklet. If you want to move along more quickly, complimentary copies of the booklet are available through the church office.

QUESTION 56: WHAT IS THE THIRD PART OF THE APOSTLES' CREED?

ANSWER: "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

COMING EVENTS!

Dec 14th	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Advent Service, in the Sanctuary (JOY)
Dec 15th	— 12:00noon	Christmas Hamper program (sorting hampers)
Dec 16th	— 9:00am	Christmas Hamper program (recipients pick up)
	— 7:30pm	Tuesday evening Bible Study, in the Parlour
	— 7:30pm	Liturgical Dance practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 17th	— 10:00am	Wednesday morning Bible Study brunch, at Corina's house
Dec 18th	— 7:00pm	Praise Team practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 19th	— 12:00noon	Christmas Hamper program (recipients pick up)
Dec 21st	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Advent service, in the Sanctuary (LOVE)
Dec 24th	— 7:00pm	Christmas Eve Advent Service, in the Sanctuary (CHRIST)
Dec 25th	— ALL DAY	MERRY CHRISTMAS, CHRIST IS BORN!!!
Dec 28th	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Worship Service, in the Sanctuary