

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> 2014**

**CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTERS** are now available! Please pick up your letter from the table set up in the Narthex — the letters are displayed alphabetically by surname. The letters are available for pick up **TODAY**, following which they will be mailed. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Our **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** will be held on Wednesday, December 24th, at 7:00pm. Come and honour the birth of our Lord in worship, scripture and song. Please feel welcome to invite family and friends to come and join us in this celebration!

The following people have purchased **POINSETTIAS**, in memory of a loved one, to decorate our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. We are thankful that these loving memories help to beautify our worship space and celebrate the birth of Christ:

Harriet A...	in memory of Harold A.
Valerie B. & family...	in memory of Dorothy & Earl Gray, Joseph B.
The Burnett family...	in memory of Rev. & Mrs. A.L. Sutherland
Heather C...	in memory of Hilda Lang & Doris Cameron Pidgeon
Lois M...	in memory of Karl M. & Mark Diotte
Jane & John M.	in memory of Maurice & Gladys M., Andy & Beth McIntosh
David M.	in memory of Doris M.
Cliff & Jean M. ..	in memory of Henderson & Helen M., Mary & Jim Curtis
Shirley & Margaret M...	in memory of Robin & Frank M.
Cathy R...	in memory of Don R.
Esther S...	in memory of Betty Krunys
Lorna S...	in memory of Theodore & Florence James
Susan S...	in memory of Hazel S.

**THANK YOU** from Emily F. to all of the supporters and tireless volunteers who assisted with stocking, sorting and distributing the Christmas hampers! It was a big job, but our church family pulled together and got the job done! What a joy to experience the gift of giving to others this Christmas.

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 Roberts or the church office.

**“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!

**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 Fern is 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, 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, January 9th (2015)

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

**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)
- 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 57: WHAT DO WE BELIEVE WHEN WE CONFESS OUR FAITH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

**ANSWER:** We believe the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the triune God and is one with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit brooded over the waters of creation (Genesis 1:2), and gave life to all loving things (Psalm 104:30); raised up and inspired leaders and prophets of Israel (Judges 6:34; Ezekiel 11:5); conceived Jesus Christ in the womb of the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:35); witnesses to Jesus Christ (John 15:26); convicts of sin (John 16:7-11) and enables us to confess Him as Lord (1 Corinthians 12:3b). The Spirit is the counselor who opens our hearts to Jesus Christ and the comforter who has been promised by Him to be with us always, "leading us into all truth." (John 16:12)

## **COMING EVENTS!**

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
Jan 4th 2015	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Worship Service, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!