

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Sunday, December 4th 2016

This week, we celebrate the **BIRTHDAYS** of Mary Anderson who turns 76 years young on December 7th, and Lynne Sikorski, who will turn 29 on December 9th! Best wishes to both ladies for a happy and celebratory day!

Please pick up a few **ADVENT/CHRISTMAS POSTCARDS** from the Narthex table! Feel welcome to hand these postcards out and invite your friends and/or family to join us at St. Andrew's this Christmas season!

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2017 are now available for pick-up in the Narthex, after the service, if you have not already done so. If you have never used the numbered/dated envelopes and would like more information, please speak with Christine Smith.

Please see the **POINSETTIA ORDER** FORM included with your bulletin this week! Each year, we decorate our Sanctuary with this seasonal flower, in memory of our loved ones. These 6-inch, red, standard poinsettias are \$10.00 each, and orders should be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, December 11th.

Our Treasurer, Peter Roberts, confirms that the final tally for **BAZAAR PROCEEDS** is \$5150.00 — YAY, TEAM!!! Thanks again to everyone who made this such a successful church fundraising event!

The **DUTY ELDER for DECEMBER** is Grant Terry! The Duty Elder is responsible for staying in the Sanctuary following Sunday's worship service to see if there is anyone in need of prayer or assistance. Should you wish to pray or speak with the Duty Elder, please remain in your seat following the service and the Duty Elder will come to you.

The **NEW IPC PHOTO DIRECTORIES are in!!!** If you have not already picked up your new church photo directory, please see Heather in the Church Office. Please keep in mind that **only those** who had their photo taken for the directory are entitled to a free copy. Once all free copies have been distributed, we should have a handful left over for purchase, at a cost of \$12.50; otherwise, printed copies of the church roster are always available through the Church Office.

Please join the Social Committee for the St. Andrew's **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK & CAROL SING**, on Saturday, December 10th, at 6:00pm. Come out and celebrate the Christmas Season by sampling each other's best dishes and joining together in song! If you are interested in attending, please see the sign-up sheet on the Narthex table — be sure to note what you are bringing for the potluck! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Please be aware of the **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM** still being conducted at St. Mark's United Church, 201 Centre St S, Whitby! St. Mark's will have a turkey dinner on Christmas Day, at 1:00pm. If you're alone this Christmas, please join St. Mark's to share some good food, fellowship, friendship and holiday spirit! The next hot lunch will be offered on Monday, January 30th, at 12:00noon. Please call their church office, at (905) 668-3091, if you wish to reserve a seat!

PRAYER CALENDARS for the months of November/December are available on the table in the Narthex for you to pick up! Please join our Sunday School kids in praying for each other and for each other's families!

“Retirement with Meaning: Living with the Spirit of Adventure!” **CRIEFF HILLS** Retreat Centre is offering a unique opportunity for those recently retired or looking toward retirement. This two day retreat will provide opportunity to focus on this time of transition, and to explore how your time and talents can be focused, shared and bring meaning to your life, as well as to others. Sunday, February 5th—Tuesday, February 7th. Speaker is Rev. Dr. Andrew Irvine. Cost is \$250.00 per person, or \$450.00 per couple. Call to register, at (519) 824-7898, or through website at www.crieffhills.com.

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LIVING FAITH

In every generation, the church needs to confess its faith anew. That confession must, at one and the same time, be the ancient faith of the church and yet spoken into the mood and questions of its own time. “LIVING FAITH” endeavors to do that. This *Statement of Christian Belief* was prepared under the direction of the Committee on Church Doctrine of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. It has been received by the General Assembly of the church and commended as an acceptable statement, and as useful in both worship and study.

CHAPTER 5.2-5.3: The Bible

The Holy Spirit gives us inner testimony to the unique authority of the Bible, and is the source of its power. The Bible, written by human hands, is nonetheless the Word of God, as no other word ever written. To it, no other writings are to be added. The Scriptures are necessary, sufficient and reliable, revealing Jesus Christ, the living Word. Both Old and New Testaments were written within communities of faith, and accepted as Scripture by them. Those who seek to understand the Bible need to stand within the church and listen to its teaching.

COMING EVENTS!

Dec 4th	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Worship Service, in the Sanctuary (Communion)
	— following service	Little Harmonies practice, in the Sanctuary
	— following service	Jr. Handbells Choir practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 5th	— 7:30pm	Board of Managers meeting, in the Parlour
Dec 6th	— 7:30pm	Liturgical Dance practice, in the Sanctuary
	— 7:30pm	Tuesday evening Bible Study, in the Parlour
Dec 7th	— 10:00am	Wednesday morning Bible Study, in the Parlour
Dec 8th	— 7:00pm	Praise Team practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 9th	— 1:00pm	Community Outreach food bank, in the Hall
Dec 10th	— 9:00am	Delta Kids Club, in the Hall
	— 6:00pm	St Andrew’s Christmas Potluck/Carol Sing, in the Hall/Sanctuary
Dec 11th	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Worship Service, in the Sanctuary
	— following service	Little Harmonies practice, in the Sanctuary
	— following service	Jr. Handbell Choir practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 13th	— 2:00pm	Ladies Afternoon Group, in the Parlour
	— 7:30pm	Liturgical Dance practice, in the Sanctuary
	— 7:30pm	Tuesday evening Bible Study, in the Parlour
Dec 14th	— 10:00am	Wednesday morning Bible Study, in the Parlour
Dec 15th	— 7:00pm	Praise Team practice, in the Sanctuary
Dec 16th	— 1:00pm	Community Outreach food bank, in the Hall
Dec 17th	— 9:00am	Delta Kids Club, in the Hall
Dec 18th	— 10:00am	Sunday morning Worship Service, in the Sanctuary
	— following service	Little Harmonies practice, in the Sanctuary
	— following service	Jr. Handbell Choir practice, in the Sanctuary

LIBRARY

*****ADVENT IS HERE AND SO ARE A FRESH LIST OF BOOKS
FOR YOU TO ENJOY!*****

“The Purpose of Christmas” by Rick Warren: Regardless of your religious background, you need to know how the three purposes of Christmas solve your three greatest needs. Understanding and receiving God’s Christmas gifts to you will transform your life...forever!

“All Is Calm, All Is Bright” by Cheryl Kirking: Capture the spirit of Christmas with this collection of more than forty true stories, each one a tribute to the power of God to bring peace, joy and love into every life.

“In Search of the Real Spirit of Christmas” by Dan Schaeffer: Even those who know the “Reason for the Season” can find themselves wondering if they’ve missed something? This book takes us beyond the trappings and trimmings and into the wonder of the best Gift of the season...the essence of Christmas.

“God Rest Ye Grumpy Scroogeymen” by Laura & Michael Walker:...Let no one you dismay; remember joy at Christmas time, at least on Christmas Day (To the tune of “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)

“New Traditions for Comfort and Joy at Christmas:” Christmas miracles by several authors: Magical, true stories of modern-day miracles! This book offers an open door to a world where miracles can happen every day, to even the most world weary souls. Kick back your feet, throw a log on the fire, and prepare to be filled to the brim with the stories of God’s magic!

*****PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO VISIT THE ST. ANDREW’S
LIBRARY TO PERUSE THE GREAT BOOK SELECTIONS THAT ARE
AVAILABLE TO YOU! *****