



St. Mark – Ocean Park Anglican Church

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"PARISH PULSE" NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK SUNDAY DEC. 24, 2017

THE LUNCH BASKET FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN

- is provided this week by Violet Reimer and Family to the Glory of God with deep gratitude and heartfelt thankfulness to our Wonderful God for the blessings of children everywhere, especially Blessing for the precious Child Christ Jesus!! Amen

JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS

Tonight we open at 3:30 for your convenience.

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY - We are putting together a new photo directory, with the help of, once again, IPC Canada Photo Services. Parishioners can sign up beginning in early January to have their photo taken, here at St. Marks, somewhere between January 31 and February 10, 2018. There is no pressure to buy photographs, although many people take this opportunity to have lovely new family photos taken. We encourage everyone to be involved so we can have a complete directory for use within the congregation. If you cannot make it for a sitting at that time, photos can be submitted instead. If anyone would like to help with this project, we will need a sign-up crew throughout January and hosts and hostesses during the sessions. Please speak to Catherine Featherstone, Louise Ritchie or wardens, Ken or Art.

THE PRAYER CHAIN Coordinator is Lynne Hurd. She can be reached at 604.542.2772 or at lynneh1@telus.net.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR JANUARY

Sunday School starts again on Sun. Jan. 7

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR - The flowers are given this week by Doris MacKellar to the Glory of God and in remembrance of parents Reta and Russ Taylor, and beloved husband Bob. Flowers are also given this week by Bea Ross to the honour and glory of our Mighty God and in loving memory of her dear son Niall.

MINISTRY REPORTS for the Annual Report:

Thank you to all Ministry Leaders who have submitted their 2017 Ministry Reports for the Annual Report for Vestry 2018. This notice is a reminder to Ministry Leaders to please submit reports by: **Monday, January 15**
Forward to office@stmarkbc.org.

DECEMBER 31 BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14,
Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

THE LUNCH BASKET MEMORIAL & THANKSGIVING FUND DONOR PLEDGE CHART

The 2018 chart has now been put up in the Church Hall. Please sign up to donate to the Lunch Basket program, starting in January, and filling in the blanks until the end of the year. These donations go to help young single Moms with children under 18 years old. Thank you to all who have donated. The chart is located on the west wall in the Hall. Please call Darlene Wiegand at 604.536.7107 if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to a successful year ahead.

PWRDF – Christmas Reflection by Executive Director Will Postma

Christmas is about joy, about beginnings and newness. Jesus' birth as told in the beginning of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke – how beautifully they tell the story of a humble birth, the shepherd and the Magi in awe, the songs of Mary and Zechariah, a refugee family fleeing to and seeking safety in Egypt, of prophecy fulfilled.

Coming in the last few days of the last month of the year, Christmas also compels us to look back. In 2017, PWRDF responded to a double-digit number of emergencies -- hurricane after hurricane, drought, conflict, mudslide, flood. There was also a heavy realization that the world, with all of its technological advances, is still seeing so many at risk of falling farther and farther behind. Yet amidst the chaos, babies were being born and people were growing food and feeding their families through our development programs in maternal and newborn child health and food security. Communities from Africa to Northern Ontario are getting improved access to clean water. The work continues.

May this Christmas be a time of wonder and gratitude, of prayer for those who are hurting and vulnerable and for us too, for all that we can offer, inspired by Jesus' birth and the Gospel message of justice and peace for all. May the Christmas story of joy never cease to amaze, comfort and inspire.

A QUICK LOOK AHEAD

Mon. Dec. 25 10am Christmas Day Service

Wed. Dec. 27 9am Journey of Christmas
Take Down

Tues. Jan. 9 1pm – Prayer Shawl meeting

Tues. Jan. 9 2pm – ACW meeting

Tue. Jan. 9 6pm Men's Club dinner meeting; Guest speakers from the Gilbert & Sullivan Society and a short musical program.

Wed. Jan. 10 Seniors Get-Together from 1-3pm

Sun. Jan. 14 7pm Contemplative Prayer

Tues. Jan. 16 2pm Ladies Guild meeting

Wed. Jan. 17 10am Healing Service

Sun. Jan. 21 Souper Sunday

Wed. Jan. 24 – Seniors Get Together from 1-3pm

Sun. Jan. 28 7pm Contemplative Prayer

Jan. 31-Feb.10 Pictures taken for new photo directory. More details to come.

Tues. Feb. 6 1pm Prayer Shawl meeting

Wed. Feb. 7 Seniors Get-Together from 1-3pm

Sun. Feb. 11 7pm Contemplative Prayer

Tues. Feb. 13 2pm ACW meeting

Tue. Feb. 13 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Wed. Feb. 14 10am & 7pm Ash Wednesday Service

Sun. Feb. 18 11:30am Annual Vestry Meeting

Tues. Feb. 20 2pm Ladies Guild meeting

Wed. Feb. 21 10am Healing Service

Wed. Feb. 21 Seniors Get-Together from 1-3pm

Sun. Feb. 25 7pm Contemplative Prayer

Tues. March 6 Prayer Shawl meeting

Wed. March 7 Seniors Get-Together from 103pm

Sun. March 11 7pm Contemplative Prayer

Tues. March 13 ACW meeting

Tue. March 13 6pm Men's Club dinner meeting.

Guest speaker: George Garrett, CKNW investigative reporter 1956-99

Tues. March 20 Ladies Guild meeting

Wed. March 21 10am Healing Service

A.C.W. Announcement

The flower chart for 2018 is up. If you have a favourite date please put your name on the chart. We want to keep it to 2 bouquets per week. When using your envelope to pay for the flowers; instead of writing on the cheque, please mark on the outside of your envelope "Altar Flowers". We will continue the price at \$50 per month. If you want the Altar Guild to buy the flowers for you circle **YES**.

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 25

Office is closed.

Tuesday, December 26

Office is closed.

Wednesday, December 27

Office is closed.

9am Journey of Christmas Take Down

Thursday, December 28

Office is closed.

Friday, December 29

Office is closed.

HELP WANTED

The "Help Wanted" segment (above) is a new feature in the PULSE. If you are a Ministry Leader, and if you are seeking volunteers, please submit content for the "Help Wanted" feature to the Office by the PULSE deadline = Wednesdays at 4pm.