



St. Mark – Ocean Park
Anglican Church

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"PARISH PULSE"
NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MARK OCEAN PARK
SUNDAY DEC. 3, 2017

Today

There will be a SPIRIT - Strategic Plan Innovation, Recruitment and Implementation Team - presentation following each service at 9am and 11:30am in the Family Room.

Information is on the final page of today's PULSE.

Please grab a coffee and join us!

***** SPIRIT *****

Strategic Plan Innovation, Recruitment and Implementation Team

OUR MISSION: Fed by the word, led by the spirit, reaching out to all.

OUR VISION: A vibrant, living congregation of all God's people.

In moving ahead with our growth and renewal, several new initiatives are being considered. Our congregational needs and our local community needs are the goal. All will be considered with a deep respect for the present context and tradition. The following four areas have been identified by the congregation as your priorities.

- Prayer and Worship
- Study and Learning
- Communications
- Life in the Community

This is our starting point.

What's Happening Now ?

- The new Church Membership Directory will be started in late January.
- Sunday Sermons are now being recorded and made available to Bible Study Groups and ESL Groups.
- The Sound System in the Sanctuary is being upgraded.
- An expanded music team, being led by Emily Worden-Kwok is trying out, and then assessing new music/styles for the 10am service.
- External Communications are being changed, upgraded and worked on by an expanded Communications Team.

Your SPIRIT Team:

Jock Ferguson, Barbara Grantham, Ken Miles, Ben Schmidt & David Soy,

2018 Contribution Envelopes

Please pick yours up from the Narthex.

JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS

is pleased to announce its Arts Showcase for this year.
They will be entertaining you nightly in the Hall.

Fri. Dec. 15: Boy Scout Night. The Scouts will be hosting, singing and serving you.
Sat. Dec. 16: Gilbert & Sullivan Society singers
Sun. Dec. 17: Chris Simmons & Debra DaVaughn
Mon. Dec. 18: Domaren Recorder Consort
Tue. Dec. 19: TBA
Wed. Dec. 20: Ashley, Cierra & Jordan Van Nes
Thu. Dec. 21: St. Mark's Choir
Fri. Dec. 22: Florence & Rosemary (Rwandan singers)
Sat. Dec. 23: Cecilia Wong & Friends
Sun. Dec. 24: Open at 3:30 for your Christmas Eve celebrations

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 lovey 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 Lunch Basket for Hungry Children is provided this week by Morny White to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the safe arrival of our precious granddaughter.



Library News

Yes they are out and ready for you . . . the Christmas books and DVDs are waiting to be taken home and enjoyed. So that as many as possible have a chance to read or see all the Christmas selections, the Books are on **2 week** loan and the DVD's are on **1 week** loan. Please return them in a timely manner so that others can enjoy them as well. And while you are enjoying a Christmas story or movie, check around to see if you have any missing books or DVDs. The Library's wish for Christmas is that all overdue books and DVD be returned before the New Year. Check the bulletin board in the Library to see if you have something overdue that you have forgotten about.



Library News

The Advent Tree of Kindness is by the Library door and we need your help to decorate it. Balls are available in the Library. Write your Act of Kindness on the ball and put it on the tree.

Deadline Information for the MINISTRY REPORTS for the Annual Report:

The Vestry Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2018. The deadline for your 2017 Ministry Report is: **Mon. Jan. 8, 2018**. If the Office does not receive your report by that date we cannot guarantee that it will form part of the 2017 Annual Report. Please email your Ministry report in 10-point Arial font, Microsoft Word, to: office@stmarkbc.org.

Bible Readings for December 10 – Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

Flowers for the Altar - The flowers are given today to the glory of God by Irene Snow in memory of her beloved husband Bill.

Sunday School Information for Nov/Dec:

Saturday, December 9 - Christmas craft morning from 10am-12noon, followed by lunch and a complete pageant rehearsal in the Sanctuary. Donations of sandwiches, cookies and fruit for the lunch would be appreciated; all food must be peanut free.

Sunday, December 10 - Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17 - last Sunday School class before Christmas.

Prayer Chain Contact – Coordinator for the Prayer Chain is Maggie Ferguson. She can be reached by calling: 604.538.6160. Her email is: maggieferguson@telus.net

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.



Mystery Knit-A-Long - Clue 4 Available

Clue 4 is ready for pick up in the Library. This is the final clue so please bring those finished shawls into the Library to show them off. I hope you are having fun so far. Don't forget if you need any help or clarification of instructions drop into the Library and we will be happy to help you. Happy Knitting.

A QUICK LOOK AHEAD

Fri. Dec. 8 7 pm Alex Browne's reading of "A Christmas Carol" with the St. Mark's Choir
Sun. Dec. 10 10 am Christmas Pageant
Sun. Dec. 10 – 7pm – Contemplative Prayer
Tues. Dec. 12 – 2pm, ACW meeting
Thurs. Dec. 14 – Senior's Christmas Lunch
Fri. Dec. 15-Sat. Dec. 23 6-9 pm Journey of Christmas outdoor display
Sun. Dec. 17 8 & 10 am Readings & Carols – shortbread cookies & Mincemeat tarts are requested for Coffee Hour – please contact Isabel Chernoff
Tues. Dec. 19 – 2pm Ladies Guild Meeting
Sun. Dec. 24 10 am Advent Morning Prayer
3:30-9 pm Journey of Christmas
5:00, 7:00 & 11:00 Christmas Eve Services
Mon. Dec. 25 10 am Christmas Day Service
Wed. Dec. 27 9 am Journey of Christmas Take down

Thank you

Betty Bear wishes to thank the Church Family for their Kindness in sending cards and gifts during her time of recuperation. It has been much appreciated.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study – in the Family Room
Has ended for 2017; but will continue in January.

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 4

9am – Exercise – Hall

Tuesday, December 5

1pm – Prayer Shawl Meeting – Family Room

7pm – Youth – Youth Room

7:30pm – ESL Bible Study - Office

Wednesday, December 6

9am – Yoga – Education Centre

10am –Service – Sanctuary

1pm – Senior's Get-Together

7:30pm – Choir Practice - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 7

7:30pm – Bible Study – Family Room

Friday, December 8

9am – Exercise – Hall

10am – T.O.P.S. – Family Room

7pm – Alex Browne Reads A Christmas Carol

Saturday, December 9

10am to noon - Pat's Crafts – Hall

Pageant Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Saturday, December 9

7pm – Contemplative Prayer – Family Room



A Dramatic Evening
Alex Browne
reads

A Christmas Carol
by *Charles Dickens*

St Mark Ocean Park Anglican
Church 12953 - 20 Ave Surrey
Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:00 pm
"Rwandan Market" 6 - 7 pm & intermission

Sing along carols lead by
St Mark's choir at 6:45 pm

Tickets \$15 – Proceeds
benefit Embrace Rwanda

Tickets available after church
and at the door

DID YOU KNOW.....

The PAD or Pre Authorized Donation Program is the easiest way to manage your donation so that even when you are unable to attend church, your giving is consistent throughout the year. It eliminates trying to catch up with your giving and having cash and cheques on hand.

It can be set up as a monthly debit from your bank account.

It can be set up as a monthly debit on your credit card and may earn travel points or cash back for you.

It is the most effective way for the church to manage its budget each month.

It eliminates the cost of printing envelopes, and reduces the work/time for the counters each Sunday and for the office administrator.

*****The contact person for the PAD program is Barbara Carington Smith. *****

Set up or change your PAD offering by contacting Barbara in person, by phone 604 531-8436 or by email @ bacarington@gmail.com

★ Please give the PAD program your prayerful consideration. ★

There are pew envelopes to use for any additional donations you wish to make.

Small cards indicating you have given through the PAD program are available at the back of church each Sunday to place in the collection plate if you wish.

Official tax receipts are issued by the end of February for all church donations and qualify as a charitable donation on your income tax return.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

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|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Barbara Carington Smith | <i>bacarington@gmail.com</i> |
| Brenda Horner | <i>bhenze@shaw.ca</i> |
| Betty-Ann Bainbridge | <i>btttyann@gmail.com</i> |
| Bernie Schneider | <i>berniehs@gmail.com</i> |



Our biggest haul yet!

Last weekend we sorted & transported 2,000 lbs. Yes 1 Ton of metal & kept it out of the landfill!

Many thanks to Tom, Laurie & Phil for their trucks & muscles & to each of you who contributed to this success.

Congratulations to Merrilee as our largest contributor. **Next Event:** March 2018 - hang on to those strings of old Christmas lights when you tidy up or up grade. All wire is accepted.