



St. Mark – Ocean Park
Anglican Church

12953 20TH Ave., Surrey, BC, V4A 1Z1, Tel: 604-535-8841 email office@stmarkbc.org, www.stmarkbc.org

"PARISH PULSE"
NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MARK OCEAN PARK
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2018

JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS UPDATE

Tue. Dec. 4: We need your help to set up the theatres, install the lights around the path, install 10 stereo systems, put up lights around the entrance area poles and decorate the Hall. There a few people arriving at 8:30am to get the mannequins outside and the trees inside. Best time to arrive for decorating and staging is around 10am. Shannon is preparing a delicious lunch for us. Invite your friends and neighbours and make this a community event!!

Here is the list of who is on stage at the Journey of Christmas Arts Showcase:

- Sun. Dec. 16 5 pm Cecilia & Friends
- Mon. Dec. 17 6 pm Scouts Canada Night
- Tue. Dec. 18 6 pm Domaren Trio (recorder trio)
- Wed. Dec. 19 6 pm Langley Ukulele Ensemble
- Thu. Dec. 20 6 pm St. Mark's Choir
- Fri. Dec. 21 6 pm St. Cuthbert's Choirs
- Sat. Dec. 22 6 pm Gilbert & Sullivan Society Singers
- Sun. Dec. 23 6 pm Debra daVaughn, Chris Simmons & daughter Casandra

TOUR GUIDES & KITCHEN HELP:

Next Sunday, Dec. 2 we will begin signing up tour guides & kitchen help.

We need help each night from 6-9pm except, Sun. Dec. 16 when we start at 5pm.

Christmas Eve we need your help from 3:30-9pm or whenever you can help.

Westminster House seniors are coming on Thurs. Dec. 20 from 1:15-3:15pm.

We will need 2 tour guides and 2 to help in the kitchen that day.

HOLLY BERRY FAIR IS NEXT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST!!

The ACW, Ladies Guild and Men's Club are busy preparing for this fun Parish event. Don't forget to come check it out and stay for a delicious lunch.

It's not too late to be involved. Donations of antiques, collectibles, good used treasures, trinkets, jewellery, knick knacks and giftware will be gratefully accepted on Thursday 12 noon to 2pm or Friday 9am to 1pm.

The ACW would appreciate baked goods for the Bake Table too.

"Many hands make light work" How true this is! If you can spare a couple of hours to help on Friday any time from 9am to 3pm or Saturday from 9am to 4pm, please let us know.

Please contact Linda O'Donovan 604-536-7983, lindaodee@hotmail.com or Kathryn Smith 778-549-0858, hksmith@shaw.ca"

Sunday, December 2 is White Gift Sunday - St. Mark-Ocean Park will once again work with the local Salvation Army to make Christmas more delightful for underprivileged children in our community. You are invited to bring a new, or mint-condition previously owned toy, wrapped in white paper, to the 10am Service next Sunday. And remember: **Sunday, December 9 is Pageant Sunday**

2019 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES – will be available for pick up in the Narthex next Sunday – December 2.

Saturday, December 8 is "Christmas Decorating Morning in the Hall" – We are looking for people to take over and do this event, as Pat Zammit used to do in the past.

Library News



Walk with **Kathie Lee** on a journey through spiritual foundations in her book **The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi**. Hear about Kathie's deepening connection to the Rock (Jesus). Explore the Road (Israel) with her and get a deeper understanding of the Rabbi (God's Word).

A Note To All Our "Senior" Seniors: Please mark Friday, December 14, on your calendars for our Christmas Lunch. We will be handing out invitations at Church today, and we will have one for you from last year's list. Please plan on joining us!

Bible Readings for Dec. 2 = White Gift Sunday

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 24:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Prayer Chain - The Coordinator for the Prayer Chain is Maggie Ferguson who may be reached at 604.538.6160 or at maggieferguson@telus.net Please give your requests to Maggie & she will send them out to the rest of the members of the chain, which now numbers 20 men & women, for daily prayer during their quiet time. Please renew or update your requests every two weeks as needed.

Flowers For the Altar – are given today by Brian and Ingrid Switzer to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for God's love and blessings.

The Lunch Basket For Hungry Children is provided this week by Chris and Leslie Ann Hebb, to the Glory of God with gratitude for a wonderful father, Bill Snow.

The Lunch Basket Memorial & Thanksgiving Fund Donor Pledge Chart

The 2019 chart has now been put up in the Hall. Please sign up to donate to the Lunch Basket program starting in January and filling in the blanks till the end of the year. These donations go to help young Moms with children under 18 years old. Thank you to all who have donated this past year. The chart is located on the west wall in the Hall. Please contact Darlene Wiegand at 604-536-7107 if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to a successful year ahead.

Advent: Waiting With Mary

Taize-Style Contemplative Evening Prayers

Advent is a time of waiting with anticipation for the birth of our Saviour. Sometimes, waiting can be challenging. This Advent, we invite you to journey with Mary as she awaits the birth of the Christ Child.

Join us this evening for a time of quiet music, sung prayer, readings and silence. We will meet in the Family Room at 7pm for approximately one hour. All are welcome! - Janet, Cecelia, Sandra and Lynne

Ladies Guild Purdys Chocolate Sale

Catalogues for this sale are available from the table in the Narthex or Hall. Purdy's chocolates make great gifts for Christmas, stocking stuffers or hostess gifts. Please return your orders to the box on the display by today, before. For further information contact Linda O'Donovan at 604-536-7983.

Donation Station Launched! The Financial Stewardship Committee is excited to present the St. Mark - Ocean Park Electronic Donation Station. This provides an 'on the spot' option for parishioners and visitors to make donations using their debit or credit card, especially convenient for those people who do not carry cash or cheques. In addition to allocating donations toward church operations, users can choose that funds go toward other church ministries (e.g. altar flowers, PWRDF, etc.) or special events (Holly Berry Fair purchases, Men's Club BBQ tickets, Journey of Christmas donations, etc.). Also, attendees at weddings, funerals and other events can easily make donations to St. Mark's and receive a tax receipt. Finally, the donation station also provides a solution for individuals who inadvertently miss the offering plate during the service; they can put their regular offering envelope in the donation box afterward. The Donation Station is in the Narthex. Stop by and check it out!

Financial Stewardship Committee Donation Analysis and Financial Update

The Financial Stewardship committee is grateful that so many of us contribute to the life of our parish in so many ways. We also know all donors do not have equal ability to give, nor is this expected.

However, since our donations for 2018 are 7% below budget, we ask that you consider the following questions: Where are you on the chart below? Can you move towards the top of your range? Can you move up one step? Please review this intentionally, carefully and prayerfully and then decide what you can offer to God this year.

2017

Number of Donors for Maintenance & Operations

Per Week	Less than \$10	\$10 to 29.99	\$30 to 49.99	\$50 to 69.99	\$70 or more
Donors	130	71	25	14	25
Per Month	Less than \$44	\$44 to 129.99	\$130 to 214.99	\$215 to 299.99	\$300 or more
%	49%	27%	9%	5%	9%

PARISH OF ST. MARK - OCEAN PARK " OPERATING ACCOUNT "				
FINANCIAL STATUS AT OCTOBER 31, 2018				
	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
TOTAL INCOME	33,555.73	307,297.94	330,871.68	(23,573.74)
TOTAL EXPENSES	32,073.11	313,979.29	330,871.68	16,892.39
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 1,482.62	\$ (6,681.35)	\$ -	\$ (6,681.35)

Many thanks to all donors for helping us reach our 2018 budget goals.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

ACW News – Calendars are available. They are \$8/each. AND...the time has come to make our drive for the Mission to Seafarers. The Mission will be packaging gifts for all the Seafarers in the Port of Vancouver over Christmas. Needed: socks (must contain wool), work gloves, warm mitts and gloves, cowl scarves, candy and toiletries (both male and female). To see the complete list it is on the table in the Narthex. For candy we will take your leftovers from Halloween. All donations must be at the Church by 11am next Sunday, December 2.

Dear brothers and sisters, it is with gratitude Cecilia and friends will be gathering at **Journey of Christmas on December 16** celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. If you play an instrument or sing, and like to be included in practices, please send me an email at cecibert@gmail.com. Don't forget to suggest your favourite Christmas Carol.

PWRDF – This is the 7th in a series of 10 “partners & innovative ideas that have made a world of difference” articles: Improving Access To Health Care With Bicycle Ambulances. If you can judge the success of an innovation by how often it is replicated, then bicycle ambulances first introduced in Mozambique have been very successful. In 2010 Mozambican partner SALAMA first created the bicycle ambulance, then Bangladeshi partner UBINIG replicated the idea in 2012, with Burundi following the trail in 2014. The bicycle ambulances have connected people in hard to reach rural areas with lifesaving health care and have even evolved into boat ambulances in Bangladesh. PWRDF received a Civil Society Effectiveness Award from the Canadian Council for International Cooperation for its work with the bicycle ambulances.

7th Semi-Annual Metal Recycling Drive – Many volunteers assisted in making this the most successful event to date. On Sat. Nov. 18 we kept 3,118 lbs of mixed metal out of the landfill!! Our thanks especially to:

- Tom Chernoff and Laurie Stephenson for their muscles and vehicles. Thanks also to:
 - Mike Indridson
 - Heather and Rod Parker
 - Merillee Trask
 - Heather Higginson
 - Lawrence Hurd
 - Phil Tubbs
 - Anne and Ernie Thiessen ...
- and to all who contributed.

QUICK LOOK AHEAD

Sat. Dec. 1 8:15am Façade & Christmas star installation
11am-2pm Holly Berry Fair
Tues. Dec. 4 8:30am set-up Journey of Christmas
(inside & outside)
Tues. Dec. 4 1pm Prayer Shawls
Wed. Dec. 5 9am Decorate the Hall for Christmas
Wed. Dec. 5 1pm Seniors Get-Together
Sun. Dec. 9 Christmas Pageant
Sun. Dec. 9 7pm Contemplative Evening Prayer
Tues. Dec. 11 2pm ACW Meeting
Sun. Dec. 16:
4pm Journey of Christmas 20th Year Celebration Service
5pm Journey of Christmas opens
Tues. Dec. 18 2pm Ladies Guild Meeting
Mon. Dec. 24 3:30pm Journey of Christmas extended hours
until 9pm
Mon. Dec. 24:
5pm Christmas Eve Service
7pm Christmas Eve Service
11pm Christmas Eve service
Tues. Dec. 25 10am Christmas Day Service
Thurs. Dec. 27 9am to 1pm take-down of
Journey of Christmas

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 27

9:30am – Bible Study – Family Room
6:30pm – Youth – Youth Room
6:45pm – ESL Bible Study – Office
7pm – Parish Council Meeting – Family Room

Wednesday, November 28

9am – Yoga – Education Centre
10am – Service – Sanctuary
7:30pm – Choir Practice – Sanctuary

Thursday, November 29

Set up in the Hall for the Holly Berry Fair
1:30pm – Outreach Committee Meeting – Family Room

Friday, November 30

Set up in the Hall for the Holly Berry Fair
9am- Exercise – Education Centre

Saturday, December 1

11am to 2pm – Holly Berry Fair in the Hall