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"PARISH PULSE" NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK SUNDAY DECEMBER 23, 2018

Ministry Report for the Annual

Report: The deadline for your 2018
Ministry Report is: Mon. Jan. 14, 2019.
The Vestry Meeting will be held on Sunday,
February 17, 2019.

Readers' Ministry - We prepare the readings each week. If you are not currently a reader and are interested in participating in this ministry, please come talk to me. In order to save paper, I would like to provide the 2019 schedule, phone list, and lectionary via email. If you are on the readers' list, and are not sure whether I have your email address, please email me. If you would prefer a paper copy, please see me: Lauren MacPherson climac@telus.net 604-531-6828.

JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS UPDATE

• Mon. Dec. 24 - closes at 9pm

<u>The Contact for the Prayer Chain</u> Please send your requests for prayer to Lynne Hurd at lynneh1@telus.net, or by phone at 604-542-2772.

Bible Readings for Dec. 30 = Morning Prayer

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

<u>ALTAR GUILD News</u> – the chart for Flowers for the Altar is now up on the Hall's bulletin board.

The Lunch Basket For Hungry Children is provided this week by Jef and Shannon Poulsen to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the birthdays of their daughter Natalie and her husband Scott Podwinski



Last chance to get in some Christmas reading. Catching Christmas by Terri Blackstock is the feel good Christmas book of the year. There is Sydney the first year law student, Callie her wheel chair bound grandmother, and Finn the gourmet chef turned cab driver, all mixed together in a story that will have you smiling from beginning to end.

Flowers for the Altar - The flowers are given this week by Doris MacKellar, to the Glory of God and in memory of family and friends absent from our family Christmas celebrations. 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.

The Lunch Basket Memorial & Thanksgiving Fund Donor Pledge Chart

The 2019 chart is up in the church 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.

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, lunch basket, PWRDF, etc.) or special events (Men's Club BBQ tickets, raffle tickets, Journey of Christmas donations, etc.). Attendees at weddings, funerals, concerts or other events can easily make donations to St. Mark's and receive a tax receipt. Pre-authorized Donation (PAD) application forms may be picked up and deposited at the station, and PAD users may also request changes to their PAD contributions using the 'Parishioner' envelope. Lastly, the Donation Station also provides a solution for individuals who miss the offering plate during the service, since they can put their regular offering envelope in the donation slot afterward.

The Donation Station is in the Narthex. If you haven't done so yet, stop by and check it out!

PWRDF – MEXICO

Adelaida Leonides learned to be a midwife from her mother. She works at the Indigenous Women's House (CAMI) in San Luis Acatlan, Guerrero State, Mexico, which is supported by PWRDF partner Kinal Antzetik. Kinal developed a training program for community health practitioners and traditional midwives. Leonides attended the training with her daughter who helped her with reading and writing. Kinal also adapted its training to includes illustrations and symbols so that Leonides and other illiterate midwives could still learn. CAMI serves as a delivery centre, teaching site, health clinic and social hub for Indigenous women in the region. It offers advice and checkups throughout pregnancy, and if the delivery is high risk, Leonides encourages the mother to visit the local hospital, and volunteers to accompany her on the journey. "Now I'm very careful to wear gloves during delivery," she said. "The training has also helped me in teaching the community how to avoid maternal mortality." By 2015, the maternal death rate in Mexico had dropped to 38 per 100,000 from 67 per 100,000 in 2011. Update at www.pwrdf.org

QUICK LOOK AHEAD

Wed. Jan. 2 – Seniors Get-Together

Tues. Jan. 8 – Prayer Shawls

Tues. Jan. 8 – ACW Meeting

Tues. Jan. 8 – Men's Club Meeting

Sun. Jan. 13 – Contemplative Prayer Service

Wed. Jan. 16 – Seniors Get-Together

Sun. Jan. 20 – Souper Sunday

Tues. Jan. 22 – Ladies Guild Meeting

Tues. Jan. 22 – Parish Council Meeting

Sun. Jan. 27 – Taize Evening Service

Wed. Jan. 30 – Seniors Get-Together

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 24

- Journey of Christmas open until 9pm
- 5pm Family Candlelight Communion
- 7pm Candlelight Communion
- 11pm Candlelight Communion

Tuesday, December 25

10am Christmas Day Service Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

(No 10am Service)
Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

9am to 1pm take-down of Journey of Christmas 9am to 11am – Al-Anon in the Family Room Office Closed

Friday, December 28

Office Closed

Sunday, December 30

8am Service – Holy Communion 10am Service – Morning Prayer

Monday, December 31

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 1

Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

10am Service - Sanctuary 1pm Seniors Get Together – Family Room & Hall 7:30pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary