



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 DECEMBER 9, 2018

2019 Contribution Envelopes

Please pick yours up in the Narthex.

Ministry Report Deadline Information for the Annual Report:

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

REFUGEE FAMILY - Khaldoun and his wife, Samah, and their three children have had, and passed, their interview with Immigration Canada and their application is making its way through government bureaucracy.

While we are ecstatic that their application has passed this important hurdle, their timeline is still long. We anticipate it will take about 20 months for everything to be finalized by Immigration Canada and their arrival here in Vancouver can occur, which puts us to Summer of 2020. They are fortunate to be in safety at the moment, living in Dubai, which is a temporary situation for them, but one that should last until they leave for Canada.

Continue to hold them in your prayers, and continue to donate to our fund for them – we will need every dollar when the time comes.

Feel free to come to us with any questions you may have.

Michael Klaver (10am)
and Lawrence Stephenson (8am)
St. Mark's Syrian Refugee Committee.

Purdy's Chocolate Orders available on, or after, Thursday afternoon, Dec. 13. You can pick up your order at the Senior's Luncheon, or at church on Sunday the 16, or direct from Isabel Chernoff by arrangement. Thanks everyone for your support of the Ladies Guild's ministries.

BAKERS please remember St. Mark's and consider baking for the Senior's Lunch on Friday, Dec. 14, and for the Shortbread and Mince Tarts special coffee hour on Sun. Dec. 23.
Thank you. – Isabel Chernoff

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

TOUR GUIDES & KITCHEN HELP:

We need help each night from 6-9pm except Sunday, December 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.

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

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

The Contact for the Prayer Chain for December, January and February. Please send your requests for prayer to Lynne Hurd at lynneh1@telus.net, or by phone at 604-542-2772. We currently have twenty men and women who will pray daily for your request for two weeks after receiving it, unless there is an update from you changing the timeline, or amending the request. This ministry has been a great blessing to those prayed for, but also to those privileged to pray for your loved ones.

Bible Readings for Dec. 16

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Luke 1:68-79,
Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

Contemplative Evening Prayers - You are all warmly invited to a quiet hour of contemplation as we read through the Christmas Story as told in the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, and take time to meditate on it in the presence of one another. In this very busy season, we invite you to this quiet time of reflection this evening, December 9, from 7-8pm in the Family Room. Lynne Hurd will be our Facilitator. All are welcome.
Advent Blessings,
Lynne, Janet and Sandra



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. 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 DVDs 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.

Flowers for the Altar - are given today by Margaret and Lorne Appleton, in memory of Martha and Fred, Margaret and Cecil to the glory of our loving God. And by Jean and Les Edmonds to the glory of God and in memory of James, and beloved family members.

The Lunch Basket For Hungry Children is provided this week by Margaret and Lorne Appleton to the Glory of God with thanks for our precious children.

The Lunch Basket Memorial & Thanksgiving Fund Donor Pledge Chart

The 2019 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 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.

ACW News – Calendars are available. They are \$8/each.

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 9th in a series of 10 “partners & innovative ideas that have made a world of difference” articles: **Joining the Canadian Foodgrains Bank in hunger relief** In 2007 PWRDF joined the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a group of church relief and development organizations whose collective goal is to end world hunger. When disaster strikes, we can leverage the dollars raised for emergency food relief by pooling our resources with other members in buying supplies, such as rice, beans, cooking oil, salt and shorghum. Together we have made an impact in some of the world's worst disaster zones, including earthquakes in Haiti and Nepal and famine in South Sudan. For every dollar donated to PWRDF's equity in the Foodgrains Bank, Global Affairs Canada matches it four times.

QUICK LOOK AHEAD

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, December 11

2pm – ACW Meeting – Family Room

6:30pm – Youth – Youth Room

Wednesday, December 12

9am – Yoga – Education Centre

10am – Service – Sanctuary

7:30pm – Choir Practice – Sanctuary

Friday, December 14

9am - Exercise – Education Centre

11:30am – Seniors Christmas Luncheon – Hall

Sunday, December 16

4pm – Service – Journey of Christmas – Sanctuary

5pm – Journey of Christmas Opens - Hall

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!