

Congregational Announcements for

December

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministers

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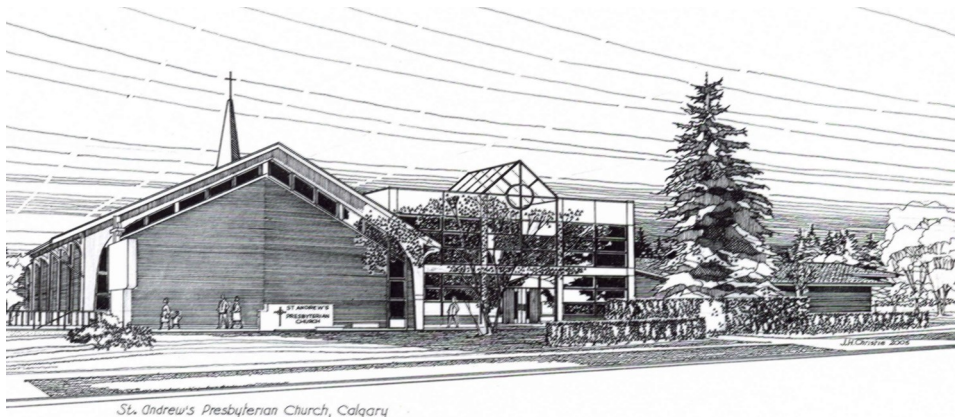
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Cody Obst

Deepali Gupta





GOOD MORNING!!! And **welcome** to our December edition of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Monthly Bulletin.

Please look at the back of your weekly Order of Worship throughout the month, as this is where I will be placing any 'current' news, as it arises. This might be about someone in the hospital, or special news where time is of the essence. So watch for snippets throughout the month, on the back of your Order of Worship.

Christmas Services Schedule 2016

Celebration of Life Service	November 28 th	7:30pm
Christmas Eve - December 24th		
Family Story Service		4:30 pm
Candlelight Service		7:00 pm
Candlelight & Communion Service		9:00 pm
Christmas Day – December 25 th	One Service Only	10:30 am
New Year's Day – January 1 st	One Service Only	10:30 am



WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S!

We want to get to know you, so please introduce yourself to a minister on the way out of the service.

Here is some information that may be helpful

Guest Book – found in the foyer – we appreciate having you sign.

For children and their parents:

Worship Bags just inside the sanctuary doors contain toys suitable for infants and toddlers. Please put the bag under the Usher's table when leaving.

Activity Sheets and children's bulletins are available from Ushers or on the back table in the Sanctuary.

Nursery available during both Services

Sunday Morning Programs

Church School at 9:30 a.m. service

One class for children aged 3-5 with a new curriculum designed for pre-schoolers published by Faith Alive Christian Resources.

One class for children aged 6-10 with a new elementary school aged curriculum published by Faith Alive Christian Resources.

Church School at 11:15 a.m. service

One multi-aged class for children aged 3-10 with the curriculum Young Children & Worship.

Bible studies for adults are at 9:30 am & 11:15am . However, November 27th is the last week for 11:15 am bible study for this year.

Do You Need Some Information or have a Question?

Visit the **Welcome Desk** in the foyer,

Ask an **Usher** at the back of the sanctuary,

Fill out the **contact card** in the pew and place it in the offering plate

Would Large Print be helpful

Large Print Scripture Readings and hymn books, as well as Hearing devices are available from the Ushers.



THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*will be observed **December 4th***

Please wait until everyone is served, so that we can partake together. This format for communion is one of several ways that communion is practiced within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. For those people with wheat sensitivity, there are rice crackers available on the usher's table **Our next communion will be held on Sunday, January 1st at 10:30 am. (One Service Only)**

WHAT TO DO BEFORE THE SERVICE STARTS

So, you've arrived a few minutes earlyand are wondering what to do while you wait.....



If you are new, have a look around. Say hello to whomever is standing at the Welcome Desk. They can provide you with lots of information about the congregation as a whole, as well as the various groups and activities held here. Please don't be shy, that is why the Welcome Desk is there!

If you aren't so new, have a chat with a neighbour or member you haven't seen in a while, or introduce yourself to someone new! But most importantly, whether you are new to St. Andrew's or not, please watch the Loop of Announcements showing at the front of the Sanctuary before, and between services. You can also watch this loop in the foyer on the television set up high in the corner next to the office. This is the place to catch up on anything new, that didn't make it into the "monthly" bulletin.

Please take a moment while you are here, to review all the different activities taking place over the next month. Sign up sheets are available at the Sign-up Desk in the foyer for upcoming activities.

Feel free to ask questions at the Welcome Desk. They are there to help!

AT THE SIGN UP CENTRE

- Listing of Small Volunteer Building Projects
- Nursery Volunteers
- Coffee Hosts
- Side by Side Bakers
- Christmas Eve Family Service Readers
- Advent Readers



Please check the announcement loop on the screen for those who are known to be in the hospital this week.

Please let the ministers or the office know of anyone who is sick, or in the hospital.



THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.....

HELLO

For the month of December the last Sunday is December 25th. That means it will be Name Tag Sunday on Christmas Day! Feel free to bring a name tag from home, or use one of the tags provided on the tables in both the Karl English Lounge, and in the foyer. Wearing the tag helps us all put names to faces, as we “Pass the Peace of Christ” (shake hands). Please remember that there is only one service on Christmas day, at 10:30 am.

Are you interested in being an Advent Reader?

If you would like to be an advent reader this Christmas Season, please sign up at the Sign-up Desk before you go home today. We will send you the reading in advance, so be sure to leave an email address or telephone number where we can contact you! Thank you!!!



Deadlines - please mark these very important dates

Friday, December 16th for the January Bulletin

Wednesday, January 18th for February News from the Pews



Get your information in to the office early! Remember, your ad may be around four lines, or 100 words, whichever is the greater.

You will have to think ahead now, to see what date your activity is and make sure to let us know the month ahead. If anything you feel is important gets missed somehow, we will put the information on the announcement loop that plays before each service, and if possible, on the back of the Order of Service. But please....keep your feedback coming!

Team Conveners—please remember your year end reports for the Annual Report. Year end is approaching....and

If you have **expenses** which you have incurred on behalf of St. Andrew's please turn them in for reimbursement by **December 15, 2016.**

And on behalf of all staff of St. Andrew's, we wish you peace, health and happiness during this blessed season.

- Dolly, Oscar & Rhonda

Heritage Seniors!!!

Interested in Line Dancing?

Let us Know – sign up on the

Heritage 50+ Seniors

Bulletin Board

Tuesday mornings

Starting January 2017



Please note that the Office will be closed on Monday, December 26, Tuesday December 27th.

On October 30th the Stewardship Team launched a congregational appeal to raise funds to repair the sanctuary roof. Our goal is to raise \$50,000.

Leaks are starting to appear and the roofing has to be replaced before any damage to the support structure is allowed to occur. Work is scheduled to begin in Spring 2017.



How you can donate:

Stewardship has measured the roof area in denominations of 200 “shingle bundles” at \$250.00 each. You can make a donation for the purchase of a “bundle” or part of a “bundle”. Whatever you donate to this big effort it will be gratefully received. You can donate by buying a “bundle” with family, with friends; buy a “bundle” as a memorial, or as a gift! Visit our display any Sunday and speak to members of the Stewardship and Facility teams.

Receipts will be given for any donation over \$10.00. Any amount donated over our target will go towards other major repairs.



Family Christmas Story Service

4:30 pm, December 24th, 2016

Calling all families, who could help with our “Story of the First Christmas”. We are looking for actors and readers, young and old, to participate in St. Andrew’s Family Christmas Eve Service. Please sign up in foyer.








DECEMBER 2016

Please verify all meeting dates & times with your Team's Convener.

Regular events for Heritage Seniors are not included.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday two Services 9:30 & 11:15am Sudanese Service 1:30pm Trinity Hall	C&C means Coffee & Conversation KEL denotes the Karl English Lounge	This calendar does not show all church bookings. Please call the Office at 403 255 0001 if you wish to book a meeting.		1 Choir Practice 7:30pm Trinity Hall	2	3
4 Communion  5		6 Facilities Team 7pm Lower Fireside	7 Side by Side 9:45 KEL Worship Team 7pm KEL	8 Choir Practice 7:30pm Trinity Hall	9	10 Cookie Plates 9am 
11 Joy to the World at St. Gerard's	12	13 Ladies Afternoon Guild Luncheon 11:30am Stewardship & Planning Team 7pm KEL	14 Side by Side 9:45 KEL	15 Choir Practice 7:30pm Trinity Hall	16	17
18	19 Ladies Evening Guild 7:00 pm KEL	20	21 Side by Side 9:45 KEL	22 Choir Practice 7:30pm Trinity Hall	23	24 4:30pm Family Service 7pm Candlelight Service 9pm Candlelight & Communion Service
25 One Service Only 10:30 am & Name Tag Sunday 	26 	27  Mission Team 7pm Lower Fireside	28 Side by Side 9:45 KEL	29 Choir Practice 7:30pm Trinity Hall	30	31

NEWS FROM THE PEWS!!! The December Issue of News from the Pews will be available on December 4th to pick up. Copies will be available on the table outside of the Sanctuary in the Narthex. These issues are not labelled & have no names are on them. So please, help yourself.

In order to cut down on paper & postage costs, we will only be mailing this and future editions of News from the Pews to those in the congregation who are Home Bound. If you know of someone who would benefit by receiving this newsletter by mail, please let the Office know. Maybe now is the time to sign up for an emailed copy of NFTP. This makes certain you always receive it, even when you are away. Also, you get the colour edition! Call Rhonda today at 403 255 0001!!!

“No Crib For A Bed” Neighbourlink: ICU2

This project is to help infants (0-2) born into low-income households to get the best possible start in life by providing baby essentials which their parents cannot afford. It is also known as ICU2, which stands for “Infant Care Under 2”. Babies who are currently sleeping on the floor or in a laundry basket are given a safe crib to sleep in. Neighbourlink’s goal of ‘Neighbours Helping Neighbours’ depends on people like us who help with both items and financial donations. Neighbourlink helps more than 10,000 unique clients in Calgary every year. Clients are screened financially, and come from all walks of life.



Beginning November 27 and ending December 18, there will be a play pen in the foyer for collection of your items. Special collection envelopes can also be designated to Neighbourlink ‘No Crib For a Bed’ during this time and will be put toward cribs and these baby necessities.

The specific items requested from Neighbourlink are as follows: **Diapers Size 1-6, Baby Food, Baby Formula, Baby Lotion, Baby Wipes, Shampoo, Diaper Cream.**



Christmas Cookie Plates

A St. Andrew's care share mission project for our members who are in nursing homes, home bound, who have suffered the loss of a spouse this year, and for those who are challenged by major health problems or other crisis.

This small gesture is hopefully a reminder to the recipient and their family, that we do remember and we do support them in thought and prayer, especially at this time of year.

Anyone who is willing to share a batch of Christmas cookies is asked to deliver their baking to the Karl English Lounge on Friday December 9 during office hours (9am-12noon & 1-4pm). Last year 78 plates were delivered, each with a Christmas greeting and a Christmas message prepared by one of our ministers.

We appreciate your consideration of our request for help with the baking.

Thank you,
Lois Kerslake
403-252-9597



Cameroon Mission Trip

Between February 1st to 12th, Dr. Caroline Bain, and Dr. Yvonne Kangong will be travelling to Cameroon for a medical and building mission trip, in collaboration with the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon Buea Station. They will be providing medical care and education to churches, orphanages, rehab centres for special needs kids and the community at large, even helping to repair a school where Dr. Kangong attended Sunday School as a child.

Prayers & donations are appreciated to make this a success. Please send your donations or cheques payable to Cameroonian Canadian Foundation, or email money transfer to chair@ccf-fcc.org (question—what for? - answer-Cameroon). Please include your return address for tax receipts.

For more information please contact Yvonne Kangong at yvonnebey@hotmail.com.

A bake sale will be held here at St. Andrew's in support of this mission on Sunday, Dec. 4th. Thank you & remember the African proverb "it takes a village to raise a child".

- Yvonne



FEEL THE WARMTH



It feels good to be warm, both inside and out! But for many in our city the winter months bring nothing but cold, bone-chilling cold. We, as a missional church can help lessen that cold and bring warmth to others, by participating in supplying mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, warm socks, ear muffs and headbands to those in need. They will not only feel warmth against the cold weather, but maybe also, will feel a little inner warmth knowing that others in Calgary care.

The “mitten tree” will be decorated with your warmth at both services during the “children’s time” on **Sunday, December 18**. This is a unique opportunity for all ages to participate in mission by purchasing or making winter items for the Mitten Tree. Items will, then, be donated to various charities as the Mustard Seed, Drop-Inn Centre, Acadia House or others as the need becomes known.

Please help spread the warmth!



Save The Date!!!!

Save the date for The Coldest Night of The Year, Saturday February 25th.

Join us for a family-friendly 2k walk and dinner.
More info to come!



Bible Study—11:15 am

Beginning in the new year, the 11:15 am Bible Study will be looking for a new Leader! You can choose your own material as a group, so there’s no real pressure on the “leader”. You will be with a group of like-minded individuals who will all be willing to assist! Call the office today, if you think you might be interested, and ask to speak with Rev. Jan.



Session Highlights November 2016

This year the Session of St. Andrew's is intentionally striving to seek God's will for our future together. We have spent much time at meetings to develop the Ministry Position Descriptions and the necessary related accountability and feed-back provisions.

We also begin each meeting intentionally with scripture and prayer using a method called "word-share-prayer". This involves prayer and discussion of where we have experienced God's leading in our lives and in the congregation. It involves praying for each other and for God's guidance as we as a congregation move toward calling a Minister, Vision and Direction. This month our passage was Colossians 1:11-20.

Some items of interest that were discussed:

The Budget for 2017: We received the draft budget both for our continuing ministry on Heritage Drive and the 5 year plan for ministry South of Fish Creek with some discussion not just about numbers, but about good stewardship of resources.

Alternate Worship Service: Starting in January 2017, there will be a monthly Alternative Worship Time that will be the next generation of Holy Smoke Café. This service will take place early evening on the last Saturday of each month. We look forward to a fresh format and developing a family worship time that might be appropriate for ministry South of Fish Creek.

Congregational Visitors: As a congregation, we continue our tradition of trying to keep in contact with our congregation through our "District Visitors". As our society has changed, our culture does not experience visits in the same way it once did. We have asked our District Visitors to contact our congregation to find the preferred ways for us to be in contact, whether it be through personal visits, telephone calls, email or texts. We hope that you will help us through your visitor, to know the best way to communicate important information, usually about 3-4 times a year, and establish ways for you to communicate with your visitor when the need arises.

Search Team: Although the particulars of the Search Process need to be confidential, the co-convenors of the Search Team, Cathy Millar and Loran McVittie, reported that they are meeting regularly and that the search is progressing.



Other volunteers this month:

Greeters for December

	9:30 am	11:15 am
Dec. 4	Clayton & Shirley Howe	Peter & Judy Waldron
Dec. 11	Bart & Jennifer Stolee	Clarence & Pat Lomheim
Dec. 18	Jayne Martin	Pauline Evans, Bill King
Dec. 24	4:30pm Family Service—spots available 7:00pm Candlelight Service-spots available 9:00pm Candlelight & Communion Service James & Sheila Adams	
Dec. 25	10:30 One Service Only– spots available	

Ushers for December

	9:30 am	11:15 am
Dec. 4	Val Hall, Loran McVittie Don Koch, Brenda Pudwell	Christine Pepper, David Platt, Cathy Millar, Marlene LaMontagne
Dec. 11	Otto & Elly De Nooij	Gail & Rene Prevost
Dec. 18	Noel White & Marianne Attridge	Sean & Christine Pepper
Dec. 24	4:30pm Family Service—spots available 7:00pm Candlelight Service—Bob & Annette Shaw 9:00pm Candlelight & Communion Service –spots available	
Dec. 25	10:30 One Service Only—spots available	

Advent

We have ordered special devotional resources for families and individuals. Look for the display in the Narthex (foyer) and choose the ones that are most appropriate for you and your family.

Questions? Ask Rev. Jan



HERITAGE SENIORS

(Registration \$20 – September to August)

Monday

9:35 am	Aerobics
10:30 am	Carpet Bowling
10:30 am	Yoga
12:30 am	Bridge

Tuesday

10:00 am	Art Group
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Wednesday

10:00 am	Music Makers
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Thursdays

9:25 am	Aerobics
10:30 am	Carpet Bowling
10:30 am	Stretch
11:00 am	Floor Curling

December 5th Catered Luncheon @ 12 noon

Bring wrapped gifts for boy/girl under age 10

(please mark gift who it is for)

Luncheon Tickets available from Ron & John

Things to know

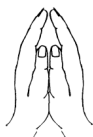
The last day for Seniors Activities for 2016 is December 19th.

We will resume programming on January 5th, 2017.

Next Luncheon—January 9th

Luncheon Tickets available from Ron & John

Prayer Partnership Pamphlets for December are now available at the Usher's Desk at the back of the Sanctuary. Please feel free to take one.



A huge **“THANK YOU”** to all of the Sunday morning volunteers!!! A few are listed below:

Scripture Readers in December :

	9:30 am	11:15 am
Dec. 4	Audrey Cole	Jo-Anne Platt
Dec. 11	Bob Shaw	Ted Cantlon
Dec. 18	Nicola Cameron	Debby Dorcas
Dec. 25	<i>One Service Only at 10:30am Sheila Kirkland</i>	

At the Welcome Desk in Dec.

	9:30 am	11:15 am
Dec. 4	Emma McIntyre	Terry Zimmer
Dec. 11	Carol Olton	Gail Prevost
Dec. 18	Eleanor Art	Shirley Allen

Bible Processors in Dec.

	9:30 am	11:15 am
Dec. 4	Sheila Kirkland	Cathy Millar
Dec. 11	Annika Koch	Christine Pepper
Dec. 18	Don Koch	David Platt
Dec. 25	<i>One Service Only 10:30am Kevin MacFarlane</i>	

Shepherds in Dec.

	9:30 am	11:15am
Dec. 4	Joan Rowe	Mark Rowe
Dec. 11	Duane Tritter	Steve Henrichsen
Dec. 18	Noel White	
Dec. 25	<i>One Service Only 10:30 am</i>	

The Ladies Afternoon Guild will be holding their buffet Christmas Lunch on Tuesday, December 13 in the Garden Court Dining Room, Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail SE beginning at 11:30 a.m., and we invite all ladies of the congregation to join us.

Prices are \$19.02 regular; \$16.60 for seniors, 65 and over.

All prices include a 15% gratuity (groups more than 10) and include coffee, tea and pop.



Please sign the sheet at the sign-up centre in the Narthax to reserve your spot.
Hope you can join us!