

NOTICES FOR DECEMBER 11th

Warm Coats Update

We thank you all for your kind warm coat donations. At this time, we are fully stocked with winter coats to offer our Foodbank guests. However, we are still in need of mitts, gloves, and hats. We are so fortunate to live in such a giving community!

Lessons & Carols at St. Paul's Church

On December 18th, St. Paul's is hosting a lessons & carol sing service at 4 p.m., with music led by Tim Elliott. The intention is to use the format of the traditional lessons & carols service with a more intimate, accessible musical style. We are planning to open this up to the community and enjoy fellowship together afterwards.

Any and all from St. James would be most welcome to attend or participate. There will be 6 readings and it would be awesome to have some representation from St. James in that capacity. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out! The Rev'd Allie McDougall
Assistant Curate St. Paul's Anglican Church, Stratford 519-274-1196.

Baking for the Connection Centre

As we prepare for Advent and Christmas in our homes we often bring out our favourite family cookie recipes for the season. Imagine how special it would be for someone living unsheltered to receive a few of those favourite treats. If you would freeze a few cookies when you are baking for your family and bring them along on a Tuesday morning during Food Bank hours we would be sure they are delivered to the Connection Centre for those folks to enjoy.

Pastoral Visits

If you would like a pastoral visit (either in person or on the phone), please contact Rev'd Canon Rob Lemon at: 519-271-3572 (ext,102), home phone 519-305-2338 or roblemon@stjamesstratford.ca

Community Christmas Dinner

Please join us on Christmas Day at 12pm (in the lower hall) for our annual Community Christmas Dinner. This is the first one we have been able to do since COVID, so we anticipate a great turnout. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, please contact Jan Schonfeldt at jan.schonfeldt@hotmail.com

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St. James Choir...

...is welcoming new choir members! If you are interested in experiencing the joy of singing with others and sharing in this important ministry, please speak with our organist Stephane Potvin.

Chime Concerts

Come and sit in the beautiful gardens of St. James to enjoy a variety of tunes coming from the Bell Tower as Peter Ryde presents a musical concert every Wednesday at 12pm.

Help for the Food Bank

Thanks for the very generous donations in the last two years, the Food Ministries Fund is still in excellent shape. Even so, inflation and increased Food Bank utilization are consuming it faster than expected. We still are not accepting money donations from the parish this year, but it would help stretch our financial reserves (and simplify the shopping) if you'd be able to donate the following items:

Bar soap, shampoo or conditioner, Shampoo or conditioner, toothbrushes (single or two-packs), deodorant, razors, feminine hygiene products (individually wrapped), dish detergent, liquid laundry detergent, dog or cat food.

(Thanks to an amazing anonymous donation, we still have a VERY good supply of toothpaste on hand right now).

Men's Breakfasts

The next date for the Men's Breakfasts will be Saturday January 14th. at **8:30 am**. Tea, coffee, and juice will be available at **8:15 am**. Fingers crossed even more of our former members will feel confident now to join the fellowship and good food which will be shared.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec. 14 - Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. BCP service
Christian Meditation 4:30pm
- Dec. 15 - Celtic Prayer Service on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
- Dec. 16 - Bible Study on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
Coventry Litany of Reconciliation at 12 noon, St James
- Dec. 17 - Christian Meditation 10:30am

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