

NOTICES FOR JANUARY 8th

The Induction for Rev'd Canon Rob Lemon on January 22nd

Please join us as we celebrate the Induction of Canon Rob as Rector of St. James and St. Paul's and the new ministry we are sharing in this place and community. The service will be at St. James on January 22nd at 4 p.m. The preacher will be The Venerable Jane Humphreys. All are welcome!

Outreach Lunch Next Sunday, January 15

Our first Outreach Lunch of 2023 will feature COMMIT's amazing work in an impoverished region of Nicaragua. Dr. Doug Thompson and others from COMMIT will be here to tell us about their latest mission, the first one since before COVID. The menu will be Latin American. (Don't worry, we'll be gentle with the peppers, but do expect some beans.) Lower Hall, right after the 10:30 service; free-will donations go to COMMIT's continuing work in Nicaragua. Everyone is welcome!

Men's Breakfast – January 14

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.

Vestry Report Meeting & Luncheon – January 29

On Sunday January 29, we will be having the St. James Annual Vestry Report Meeting & Luncheon following the service. We are looking for 9 or 10 volunteers to make up some soup for lunch to bring in a crock pot for us all to enjoy. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for anyone wishing to help out.

Altar Flower Requests

It is a new year and perhaps time to think of doing an Altar Flower dedication. Perhaps in memory of a loved one, or even in celebration of a special occasion in you or your families' lives. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for anyone wishing to do so.

Pastoral Visits

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

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Thank You from the Food Bank

It's been a busy year at the Food Bank. The number of people seeking our help dropped during the pandemic restrictions. In 2022, it returned to and exceeded pre-COVID levels.

We're serving more families. And then there was inflation. We had to increase our monthly shopping budget by 33%! We could do that only because of the incredibly generous donations to the Food Ministries Fund in 2020-21. In fact, it was so well-funded that we asked you to redirect your 2022 donations to other parish needs!

The Fund is still in good shape, but it will need replenishing before the end of this year. Your financial contributions again will be welcomed, as well as your continued donations of groceries and personal care items that have helped so much.

Thank you also for your amazing donations of winter wear! It has been a blessing to a lot of people! We are well stocked now with coats, hats, mitts and scarves, and will not be accepting more of those - or other clothing - until next fall.

Update on our Refugee Family

Great news! Our refugee family are arriving on January 27 and will be moving into their new residence. Please pray for them as we wish them a smooth process as they settle into our community.

Refreshments after Church

We are continuing to enjoy our Sunday gathering after church to share refreshments, cookies and conversation. We are looking for volunteers who wish to assist in "hosting" this hour of fellowship. We will offer training, and it is a great way to mingle and get to know current and new members. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you can contact Nancy McCallum or Pam Ayres if you have any further questions.

****As an environmental effort, we are starting a "Bring Your Own Mug" theme to coffee hour. We hope you will take part too!****

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 11 - Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. BCP service
Christian Meditation at 4:30 p.m.
- Jan 12 - Celtic Prayer Service on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
- Jan. 13 - Bible Study on ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.
Coventry Litany of Reconciliation at 12 noon, St James
- Jan 14 - Christian Meditation at 10:30 a.m.

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