



THE PEWS REPORT

"To Unify & Inform"

Advent/Christmas 2018

A Publication of the Corporation of Christ Church, Dartmouth, Est. 1817

MAKING ROOM

By Rev. Kyle Wagner, Rector

The other day, I came downstairs to discover that Julie had moved the furniture in the living room. At my request, we are putting up two Christmas trees. Yet when I saw how the room was arranged, I was not so keen. Before the change I had a perfect layout to watch my beloved Montreal Canadiens, Boston Red Sox, and New England Patriot games. If I lay on the sofa, my view was optimal! However, with the change, things were not the same. Julie's reply to me was "Well we need to make room for the tree!" So with this change, I realize that making room sometimes isn't easy.

This season of Advent our Spiritual Development committee has decided that our theme is "Making Room." It's based on the scripture passage of Luke 2:1-7 where we discover Mary and Joseph "While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."

For the Holy Family, there was no room, yet the innkeeper was able to make room, even if it was in a manger. The question that we are called to reflect upon this Advent and Christmas is "How do we make room?" How do we make time for Jesus in our lives? How do we make room for prayer, for reflection, meditation? How do we make more time for our Christ Church family, not

just on Sunday mornings, but throughout the week? How do we make time for the lonely, the sick, those people who do not feel loved? Upon my ordination, I made a vow to the Bishop and our church as a whole to "be diligent in the reading and study of the holy scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister in Christ?... Will you do your best to pattern your life in according with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be an...example to others." (BAS, p. 647) Our baptismal covenant asks us "Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ? Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?" (BAS, 159)

With these statements, we



Music Ministry
John Bogardus
Shares the latest in
his article, p. 4



Partnering together with the MacPhee Centre
A note from Marg Seaman, p. 6



Theology on Tap!
Spirited Discussion,
p. 9

1

**CHRISTMAS
OUTREACH**

This year's initiative
p. 12

2

**ADVENT &
CHRISTMAS**

Schedule and events, p.
11

3

RECTOR'S READERS

Our latest update, p. 14

can use them as a guidepost to pattern our lives as Anglicans and Christians. By the nature of baptism, we are called to continuously make room for such things.

My prayer is that as we expect and prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord, that we, as community take the time to ask ourselves and to share together how we make room. Please feel free to speak to Candace Vieira (contact on p.) so we can compile how members of Christ Church, Dartmouth make room. Making room can be as easy as setting time daily to pray, volunteering at a non-profit or at the church, or serving in the various ministries that take place at Christ Church and in our community. We are called to be like the innkeeper who made room, even though it might not have been the easiest thing to do.

Since the family sofa has been moved, I notice that my son Elijah has asked to sit with me and because of this, I've experienced more hugs and time with him. Such a change wasn't great at first, but now I am so glad that I lived into the experience.

May you and yours have a Holy Advent, and a Merry Christmas, and Best Wishes in 2019!

About *The Pews Report*. *The Pews Report* is published four times a year. Parishioners are encouraged to submit news and articles to christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

Parish Contacts:
 Office Phone: (902) 466-4270
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Parish Office Hours:
 Monday–Thursday 9:00 am–3:30 pm
 Sunday 8:30 am–11:00 am
Church Hall: 61 Dundas Street
Postal: 61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth,

Invite a friend to church today! It's what we are called to do!



CHRISTMAS OUTREACH FOR 2018

Our 2018 program is well underway and a great big thank you to all who have donated to date. We have pledged our support to Feed Nova Scotia to

prepare & deliver 100 hampers and here's the ways you can participate:

Purchase a Hamper: An \$85.00 financial contribution = Support for 1 family

Gift Tag from the Giving Tree: Child's gift - \$40.00 value

Baking Cookies: Take a Cookie Tag from the tree

Lots of "People Power" will be needed and we encourage you to join in this fellowship opportunity! For further information, contact Marg Seaman at 466-2159 or email mseaman@accesswave.ca

See our hamper schedule on page 12!

THE ARCHBISHOP IS COMING!

December 9th 2018 Archbishop Ron Cutler, our Diocesan Bishop and Metropolitan will have his annual parish visit on December 9th. Archbishop Ron will preach and preside at our 8:00am Holy Eucharist, followed by Communion Celebration at our Advent Lessons and Carols service at 10:00am. He will then join us for coffee and conversation and also join our parish youth and families as we decorate for Christmas in the church at 12:00pm. Please make your best effort to come and worship with us as we welcome our Archbishop.

Are you or your loved one sick and in need of a visit?

Did you know that the clergy and members of our Pastoral Visitors Committee do not own a crystal ball! If you would like a visit or contact with a member of the clergy, please contact the parish office. Also, if you do not indicate your faith as "Anglican" upon admittance to a hospital, there is no way for clergy to know you are being treated. Best to play it safe and contact the parish office!



Heritage Oak Columbarium & Memorial Garden

The Perpetual Care Committee reminds everyone that niches are available for sale in our Heritage Oak Columbarium should you wish to inquire as part of your estate planning. Pre-planning provides peace of mind and can relieve decision-making at a difficult time. There are also many financial advantages to purchasing a niche; NO HST is charged. An Income Tax receipt is issued for that portion of the cost over \$750.00. There are no opening and closing fees A brass plaque, engraved is also provided. Interest free payment plans are available.

If you wish to view the columbarium, please contact us at the number below. Remember Heritage Oak Columbarium and Memorial Garden, a peaceful and historical setting for remembrance in a secure building containing a small chapel. PHONE: 902-466-2443 www.HeritageOak.ca

STEWARDSHIP 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

Last day to drop off 2017 contributions will be Friday, Dec 28 until 10:00 am. After this date and time all contributions will be considered 2018. Thank you for your consideration of this timing.

Pre-Authorized Giving

If you are preparing your 2019 budget, then now is the time to think about budgeting monthly to your church. We have several parishioners already on this type of giving and they feel, due to the winter's inclement weather, it is to their great peace of mind to remit this way. It is also a tremendous help to your church to be able to depend on this regular monthly income. Please ask your greeter for the necessary form, or phone the parish office to have a form sent to you.

"Worship the Lord with Gladness!"

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NEWS

By Candace Vieira

As has been the theme this fall, we are continuing with the **What Would Jesus Do** theme. How do we show love the way Jesus did? Are we a welcoming church? What things can we do as a parish to be welcoming to someone who is new and looking for a place to worship? How can we be kinder to each other? How can we be good stewards of the earth? What would Jesus do in certain situations? Through Rev. Kyle's sermons, we have been exploring different ways to think both inwardly and as a congregation, and learn more ways to be Christ-like.

In keeping with the "how can we be more welcoming" vein, on September 30, at the 10:00 service, an **instructed Eucharist** was presented. It can be found online at: <https://www.christchurchdartmouth.com/documents.html>. The purpose of the service was to introduce and inform newcomers (and to remind us too) why it is we do what we do. As a result of this service, there is now a document at the back of the church for people to take home and reflect on. In the new year, we hope to have another service explaining the symbols of the church.

The **new bulletin format** is now complete, thanks to the diligent work of Rev. Kyle and others. It is now easier to follow and is more reader-friendly to newcomers as well.

The **Children's Choir** is now up and running! The Christ Church adult choir has now been amalgamated with our new children's choir to sing praises to our God! What a wonderful group of children. They are so keen and engaged. Thank you to our wonderful Music Director, John Bogardus, and his assistant Tessa Short, who is leading the children in rehearsals on Friday evenings from 5:30-7:30. It would be wonderful to support and encourage these children and their parents, as much as we can, and to try to draw in more children.

Kimberly Drisdelle has graciously agreed to lead our **Sunday School** this year. For those who don't know Kimberly, she grew up in Christ Church and is now looking to start a children's ministry here in her home church. In order for Kimberly to get a Sunday School programme going, however, she is looking for a partner to help her. Unfortunately, we have not been able to find that person yet, so for now, Sunday School is still put on hold. She will sit on the Spiritual Development committee where we will support her in running special events for children until we can find that other person to get the Sunday School programme running again. Please keep Kimberly and our children in your prayers.

On October 21, we held our annual **Blessing of the Animals service**. We had 16 dogs, 3 cats, 1 bunny and a picture of a chinchilla! Treat bags for the fur babies were generously donated by PetValu in Cole Harbour. It was a wonderful, fun-filled event for all who attended.

"Make a Joyful Noise all the Earth"

MUSIC MINISTRY

By John Bogardus, Music Director

As we wander from fall into winter and from Pentecost towards Christmas, the musical life of our parish continues to grow.

Our new Youth Choir is in full swing. It has been a real joy to have such talented young singers joining us for services Sunday mornings. We have 10 young singers on our roster. As well, our first Organ Scholar has begun his studies!

We have been blessed by some incredibly moving services this fall: All Souls and All Saints are particularly poignant in my memory.

There is a full roster of exciting musical services headed our way as well. On December 2nd at 6 PM. we will have our first BCP Evensong with music of Palestrina and other Renaissance composers.

On December 7th at 6 PM we are doing a remembrance service with the group Gardens Of Grace. This service is one of c o m m e m o r a t i o n and remembrance for those parents who have lost children. Author Sheree Fitch will be in attendance to do the readings for this service.

On December 9th at 10 AM, we are very excited to have Archbishop Ron joining us for our Lessons and Carols Eucharist.



Candace and Nicholas Wescott sharing their talents!



Moving our new piano in place!

On December 16th at 6 PM the Christ Church Choirs and friends will be putting on a concert of Advent and Christmas music and readings exploring the Advent journey looking towards the birth of Christ. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 and \$20 at the door. If you'd like to reserve a ticket for this event please email: john.bogardus@christchurchdartmouth.com or call (902)-441-6773 and leave a message.

Everything culminates with an exciting set of services on December 24th. The 4 PM and 6 PM services will be full of Christmas favourites and band full of musical friends to help us ring in the start of our Christian year. The 11 PM service will conclude this season with beautiful music from throughout the ages and a Mass setting sung by the choir.

The choir program is currently selling raffle tickets to a set of beautiful Christmas baskets put together by the choir members to raise money for the Music Ministry at Christ Church. If you would like to buy tickets, you can buy them after church on Sundays, from the choir members or contact John Bogardus at the above email address and phone number.

If you know of anyone who is returning for the holidays who would like to sing with the choir, for instance a son or a daughter who is coming home to visit and has a wonderful voice, have them get a hold of me, we would love to have them join our ranks!

Finally, as many of you may already know, at the end of this term, I will be resigning my position at the Halifax Music Co-op. I'm excited to be focussing all of my energy is on my work here at Christ Church. Thank you for all the support you've given me thus far and I look forward to our shared future here Christ Church's growing Music Ministry. Peace of Christ, John.

Raffle for Music Programme at Christ Church

Two beautiful theme baskets (Company's Coming and Baking Extraordinaire) have been generously donated by members of the Christ Church Choir to raffle off as a fundraiser for our music ministry here at Christ Church. There will be members of the choir selling tickets at the back of the church after each service from Sunday, November 18 to Sunday, December 16, which will be the date of the draw. Tickets are \$3.00 each or 2/\$5.00. Thank you for your support of this important ministry!



One of the two baskets which will raise money for our music programme

“Love, Care, Support”

PASTORAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Submitted by Carolyn Chenhall

Love, Care, Support. These three words are specific to the work of the Pastoral Ministry Committee particularly at this time of year – as we approach Advent and Christmas.

They have been most important in the time of Pentecost as the committee solicited congregational support for school supplies and the ‘World of Gifts Campaign’ and the PWRDF Christmas card project.

How do these words find their place as we begin a new church year?

The Fellowship Pot Luck Luncheon on Reign of Christ Sunday sets the stage as our congregational family shares a meal together. As Christ shared meals with his disciples and friends, so do we – dine, share stories, laugh and become the core of our community of faith to begin this journey of expectant



Rev. Kyle our Rector, was guest speaker at the Dartmouth Men's Prayer Breakfast on November 20th at the Dartmouth Seniors Centre

waiting for birth.

The Tree of Remembrance Sunday on December 16 will be an opportunity for members of the parish family to place an ornament on the Christmas Tree remembering friends and family who are no longer with us. How our homes decorated for Christmas make us feel warmth and joy is how our living and gathering room, the nave of the church, will likewise exude warmth and joy. Please feel free to come with an ornament to add to the tree decorations at 10:00 am joining in a service of Advent Lessons and Carols and Eucharist.

Pastoral Committee members, Pastoral Visitors and Parish members will make about 50 plus visits in the days before Christmas to call on families who have been bereaved or folks who are shut in due to circumstances which prevent them from leading an active involved life. In most instances a rose is taken to those visited. 'Lo, how a rose e'er blooming' – the words of a Christmas hymn comes to mind. "Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine; Love to God and neighbour, love for prayer and gift and sign." CP 131

“Diocesan Mission”

MORE MISSION SCHOOL

Module #3 - Dartmouth Region: The topic is “Seek MORE” which includes an emphasis on joining God in the neighbourhood and discernment. (Discernment is listening for the Holy Spirit to guide us to discover what God is calling us to.)

Saturday, January 12, 2019
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM Location:
Church of St. Andrew, 2
Circassion Dr., Cole Harbour.
Register online, or contact the Synod Office at 902 420
0717 to register by phone. There is no charge for the
event. Lunch provided. Open to Everyone.



Showing our support for our friends at the MacPhee Centre

“Community Outreach”

THE BEGINNINGS OF A NEW FRIENDSHIP!

Submitted by Marg Seaman

The MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning is an active & vibrant organization serving our youth and is located in the hubbub of our beautiful Downtown Dartmouth.

The Centre provides, free of charge, creative learning programs in a non-traditional learning environment that reaches youth in need of safe space to explore their creative sides.

Programs include: *Drama, Photography, Filmmaking, Painting, Writing, Graphic Art.* MCCL also offers a drop-in program where youth are encouraged to complete their homework (assistance provided) and to share a meal together.

Our Parish has committed to partnering with MCCL by providing a home cooked meal to feed approximately 10 – 15 people the third Tuesday of every month.

Christ Church is asking for any parishioner interested in joining this ministry to contact Marg Seaman at (902) 478-3564 or email to mseaman@accesswave.ca.

As our friendship develops, we will look for other ways to build community and welcome any suggestions you may have. This is a wonderful opportunity and fits well with our established mission statement

“The Liturgical Life of the Church”

NEW ALTAR HANGINGS AT CHRIST CHURCH



Our new blue hangings for Advent

On November 25th on Reign of Christ Sunday new altar hangings were dedicated to the Glory of God and in Loving Member of Rev. David Ferguson. Sheila Ferguson, a lifelong member of the Altar Guild, made this donation in memory of his ministry, service, and love of social justice.

Our new hangings, which we will use in Advent, are blue. Yes, this may be new for some of us here at Christ Church, but it is quite common across the Anglican Communion.

Historically, following the tradition of the *Sarum Rite* (an old English rite), blue is the colour for Advent. During the Middle Ages, when blue was an expensive colour to reproduce, purple was often used instead. This is why you still many churches using purple in Advent. Also, purple was used by churches that followed the *Roman Catholic Rite* as opposed to the *Sarum Rite*. Theologically, however, blue is the great colour for this season, as blue is the colour of Mary, and Advent is a time where we await her to the stable, and the arrival of the Incarnate God. Blue is the colour of hope, expectation, confidence, and anticipation.

“Community Building”

GO FLY A KITE! ONE SKY ONE WORLD: COMMUNITY INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT

By Kyle Wagner, Rector, Christ Church, Dartmouth

On October 14th, close to seventy people, both young and old came together at the Dartmouth Commons Ball Field and flew kites in recognition of world peace. This initiative from the Dartmouth Regional Council was an effort to host a

Blue is the colour of hope, expectation, and anticipation.

regional intergenerational event for parishioners and the wider community. As we gathered on a beautiful windy day, we were a witness to the world and the mission of the church.

This event was carried out in conjunction with the international organization “One World, One Sky” (<http://www.oneskyoneworld.org/>). Established in 1985 and inspired by the nuclear negotiations between US President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev of the U.S.S.R. The organization seeks to “develop awareness of and respect for human and cultural diversity, nature and the environment at home and around the world. Public education in the technology of kites, art, history, and participation in age old practice of flying and building kites

generates a greater sense of global community, enjoyment of nature and greater appreciation for all life on earth. The message becomes clear to thousands through the activity of flying kites in the universal sky.”

As a region, we linked up with the Halifax Regional Municipality to rent the ball field, and we also hosted a BBQ. Free kites were passed out to participants. It was also nice to see that some folks from the wider community stopped to see what the event was about, and many ended up participating by flying a kite.

As our Dartmouth region continues to explore our shared ministry together, it was a wonderful experience to have members from all nine parishes sharing laughter and kite flying advice.

Anais Nin once wrote “Throw your dreams into space like a kite, and you do not know what it will bring back, a new life, a new friend, a new love, a new country.” I think for those gathered there was a great sense of witness and companionship as we all tried our best at getting our kite into the winds. Our event

very much complimented the fourth Mark of Mission “To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.”



Rev. Matthew Sponagle (St. Luke’s) and our Rector Rev. Kyle at Kite Day

The joy of seeing someone fly a kite for the first time, or for the first time in 50 years, truly was remarkable and a testament of what can happen through simple acts.

Next year, we plan to host this event again, with a kite making workshop prior.

“Remembering Our Past”

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Submitted by Janice Silver

Christ Church WWI Casualty; Corporal Ralph Harold Turner, 1st Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps

Given the particular significance of this being the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, the Historical Committee was pleased to receive additional information about one of the men whose name is etched on the Christ Church War Memorial. Corporal Ralph Turner was the great uncle of parishioner Marilyn More. In addition to kindly supplying tidbits about the Turner family and this picture of two of her three great uncles who served in WWI, she said this, “Ralph died 100 years ago but as strange as it sounds, he has had a significant impact on my life - one of my heroes and a favourite uncle was named after him. His loss had a tremendous impact on my family that lasted for years, if not generations.”

This is a bit about the life, death and times of Cpl Ralph Turner. The family of Frances Jane and Donald Roderick Turner, Preston Road (now Lake Major Road, Halifax County) suffered a lot of tragedy before and during World War 1. The first son, aged 10 or 11 drowned in Lake Loon with another boy in 1903, resulting in one of the largest funerals ever seen in the Dartmouth area (double funeral held at the current Woodlawn United Church). The younger daughter died in 1906, when about a year old. In 1907 the father died on the kitchen table during an emergency appendectomy - leaving his

pregnant wife and six surviving children (12, 11, 9, 8, 6, 4). The new baby died from polio at 4 years old in 1912.

Back in the days before any government social safety net, family lore suggests the widow and her family of seven children survived on their garden produce, occasional donations of meat left anonymously on the doorstep and odd jobs the older boys were able to find. Two brothers joined the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force in 1915 (Corporal Ralph and

Sergeant Donald Turner) and the oldest son - Sapper Percy Turner - traded family responsibilities for national duty in 1916. All three listed gardener or farmer as their t r a d e .

Corporal Ralph Turner was described as 19 years, 10 months, 6'1", blue eyes and dark hair on enlistment papers, unmarried and of Wesleyan faith (his mother, Frances attended St. John's Anglican Church for many years). He joined the 1st Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps and was killed August 10, 1918 at 22 years of age, presumably during the Battle of Amiens that helped bring an end to the war. He's buried in Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. Of the three brothers who went overseas, Ralph was killed, Donald survived and Percy was gassed, suffering health problems for the remainder of his life.

The photo shows Ralph sitting on the left and Donald standing on

the right.

Also to note, we at Christ Church, tolled the bells 100 times at dusk on November 11th this year in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice which ended the First World War.

Christ Church War Memorial Book On November 8, 1964 the Christ Church War Memorial Book was dedicated by Rector Leonard Hatfield. A committee of Gerald S. Clark, J. Eric Forbes, William B. Greatorex, Cyril F. Smith, Victor G. King, and the Rector compiled the roll and planned the project. Bequests from the



Two of Marilyn More's Uncle's served in WWI

estates of Florence Congdon and Dr. Frederick Stevens provided the initial financial impetus.

The War Memorial Book contains the inscription of exactly 500 names of Christ Church members who had served in the Armed Forces and the Merchant Marine during the wars of 1914-1918, 1939-1945 and the Korean conflict. With this book, parishioner Cyril Smith produced a truly exquisite piece of art work.

The book is displayed in the glass topped oak desk to the left of the church entrance. It was designed by Boyack E. Webber and created by the Halifax Shipyards under the supervision of Fred Strum.

“Building up Leaders together”

ORDINATION IN OUR CHURCH

On November 1st (All Saint’s Day) Rev. Michael Tutton was ordained a priest in our beloved church. A great turn out of Christ Church parishioners welcomed Rev. Michael who was joined by his family and friends. Michael was presented by The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke, and Eucharistic ministers for the service included Rev. Kyle our Rector and Beth McDonald. Rev. Michael is now an associate priest at St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Halifax. A message from Michael: *“It’s hard to tell you how grateful I was for the presence of so many of you at my ordination on Thursday night and for the generous gift. I will use the funds to buy my own white stole, so that in the days to come whenever I celebrate the prayers of thanksgiving on holy days, it will be Christ Church sitting on my shoulder, lifting me up with the Holy Spirit that first touched me here for my baptism. I am so grateful for my*

connection to Christ Church. When the grad research project is over and things settle down, I hope I can come and celebrate in God’s presence with you all. Again, my deep gratitude and love to all of you. May God bless each and every one of you. the Rev. Michael Tutton.”

“Fresh Expressions”

THEOLOGY ON TAP



A great turn out for Rev. Michael’s ordination!

Typically we meet the First Wednesday of every month: At New Scotland Brewery (91 Alderney Dr, Dartmouth,) at 7:30pm

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

December 5th: A Virgin Birth? Mary and the Miraculous Birth of Christ

January 16th: Heaven and Hell

February 6th: Doubt(ing) as Faith

March 6th: Angels and Demons

April 3rd: The Resurrection: Really?

May 1st: Social Justice and the Church

June 5th: Interfaith Dialogue: Talking to our Neighbour.

“With Love and Care”

ALTAR GUILD NOTICES

CHRISTMAS 2018 MEMORIALS The Christ Church Altar Guild is now accepting donations for Christmas Memorials. Cheques are payable to Christ Church Altar Guild and please include your envelope number with your donation. The deadline is Sunday, December 9, 2018 to insure inclusion in the Christmas bulletin. Thank you.



Our first Theology on Tap was held at New Scotland Brewery in November!

“Come unto me all who are weary”**FOOD AND CLOTHING MINISTRY**

Submitted by Gearlyn Tutty

The colder months are right around the corner. What happened to that endless warm summer, As a result of that warm summer we would like to thank the Gardening Committee for the beautiful fresh vegetables supplied to our clients over the harvest period. They are truly the healthiest vegetables as they are planted, tended and watered with love. Our Food-bank Volunteers always deserve a shout out. They are dedicated, reliable people who show up endlessly on Wednesday and Thursday mornings to insure our Food-bank flows smoothly. Thank you to our parishioner's who support us on an ongoing basis, with donations of food, clothing or funds. We would not be viable without your continued support. A thank you to Tim Horton's Waverly Road for supplying us with donuts and Little Caesar's Pizza Penhorn Plaza for supplying us with pizza and our friends at Feed Nova Scotia. Thank you Rev. Kyle for your prayers and support to our clients.

Christmas is slowly creeping up on us. We will again be having our annual Christmas Room on December 6 and 13th. This is the time of year each of our clients can take home 1 or 2 gifts for themselves or for a loved one. Our supplies of gifts are accumulated during the year from new items that have been donated to our Food-bank. For these 2 weeks our volunteers also bake homemade treats to put out on each table for the clients to add a bit of festive spirit.

As the cooler months are approaching, we are looking for gently used women's and men's boots, jackets, gloves and socks. We are in constant need of men's underwear. God Bless.

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www.glasbergen.com

**“Communicating with dead people is easy.
Communicating with live people is hard!”**

“I was sick and you visited me”**PASTORAL VISITATION COMMITTEE**

Submitted by Esther Kennedy

I recently read a story about a man named Roger. Roger spent years not caring about his appearance. He gained weight, and didn't pay attention to the clothes he wore. He didn't get his hair cut, he didn't exercise or even care about personal hygiene. Some time later though, he decided to turn his life around. He got fit, ate well, dressed well and looked like a different man altogether. Then, one day, he got hit by a truck and died. Before he died however he said to God: “God, I am a good man, why did you let me die?” And God said, “Roger, so sorry, I didn't recognize you!”

This joke struck me on many levels. First, it implies that life is always fair.

It seems to say that we have control over what happens to us. And it suggests that God might not recognize us for what we are and who we are.

Lorraine and I recently attended a workshop called End of Life Conversations, offered for those in Pastoral Visitation, in ministry and medical fields, as well as for caregivers. The session, which was interesting and lively, and illustrated with real life examples, was presented by The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke of our own Christ Church Parish.

While death and dying are difficult subjects, Jody stressed having honest conversations and basing those on our deepening relationships with those we in pastoral care are honoured to visit.

Most importantly our role is to “minimize suffering”. We might also be able to help those we visit to accomplish their goals at end of life, whatever those unfulfilled dreams might be. To help them deal with and discuss regret, and deal with anger, as life is not always “fair”. In this way, we enter a Covenant with the person we are visiting. We hear stories that may not have been told before, we truly “hear” what we are privileged to be witness to. In a sense, we are able to truly “recognize”

those we visit at end of life. And to assure them that God will recognize them also.

Submitted by Esther. Pastoral Visitation Committee members are: Lorraine Frauzel, Bernie Hart, Jean Thompson, Margie Vaughan, Esther Kennedy and Shelagh Gordon, led by Rev. Kyle.

“Made with Love & Prayer”

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Submitted by Shelagh Gordon

About six years ago one, of us heard about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the thought of starting a group here in Christ Church took hold. During this time, we have had 14 members, some of whom have passed away and some of whom have never been able to come and meet together with us, but between us all, we have managed to complete a surprising number of shawls.

This ministry was started in Hertford Connecticut USA by two women in 1998. As one of them, Janet Bristow states “sometimes there are no words. A Prayer Shawl wraps someone in a hug that is the accumulation of thoughts and prayers for them.” Care for people and love of knitting have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of solace and comfort.

Many prayers and blessings are knitted into every shawl and when it is completed, it is given a final blessing in church before it is given away. So both the giver and receiver feel the unconditional love of a sheltering and compassionate God.

We have been able to give away nearly three dozen shawls, each of which, as stated above, has been blessed in church and each of which goes out with a prayer attached “May the wearer of this shawl feel its comfort and warmth and also from the prayers that are woven into it ‘May God bless you.’”

All our knitting is done in our own homes and most of the wool is donated. As a group, we only meet two or three times each year and enjoy tea, coffee and fellowship together. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us. The meetings are always announced in the weekly bulletin.

If you would like a shawl for yourself or for a friend please speak to Rev. Kyle through the parish office and remember there is no cost, just ask!

DID YOU KNOW? WEEKLY BULLETINS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://WWW.CHRISTCHURCHDARTMOUTH.COM/BULLETINS.HTML](https://www.christchurchdartmouth.com/bulletins.html)



Advent 2018 “Make Room”

Our theme for Advent is “Making Room.” Advent is a time of anticipation as we await the birth of Jesus. The question we wish to explore as a parish is “How do you make room for Jesus, your faith, and your commitment to community?” What are some of the things that you do to make room for these important things? If you are interested in sharing some of your plans or thoughts, please email Candace Vieira our Co-Leader for Spiritual Development at cvieira@sutherlandwatt.ca and we will gather our findings to share with the community!

A great way to make room for Advent is to participate in a community! Please see a list of events in our events section or check out: www.christchurchdartmouth.com/advent that will help you in "Making Room" please feel free to invite a friend



CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2018

December 24th Christmas Eve:

4:00pm: (BAS) with Holy Communion. A family service with a chance for the children to meet Saint Nicholas and learn the story of Christmas. Geared towards young families, this service also includes lively

Christmas music, that speaks to people of all Christian backgrounds.

6:00pm: Holy Communion (BAS) Contemporary Anglican Holy Communion Service with Christmas Eve Sermon and popular Christmas Carols sung.

11:00pm: Holy Eucharist (BCP) Carolling to start at 10:30pm: *For the traditionalist.* This majestic service features the Book of Common Prayer, 1962 with Holy Eucharist, and traditional Christmas Eve Homily. This service leads us into Christmas Day, highlighting the Birth of Jesus Christ.

December 25th Christmas Day:

10:00am Said Holy Eucharist (BCP) A short traditional said service with a Reflection on Christmas Day, with Holy Communion. The perfect way to celebrate the Birth of Jesus!



Christmas Cards 2018

This year, as PWRDF marks 60 years, we give you nine ways to celebrate the season with your loved ones. Help us be responsible stewards of the Earth and order from our inventory of best-loved cards. Spread the word of The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's important work and support its programs at the same time.

Packs of 12 cards and envelopes are yours with our blessings. Cards may be ordered by contacting Shelia Ferguson by emailing ds.fergus07@gmail.com or by phone at 469-3662. A donation of \$20 per pack to support our work is welcome. Donations of \$20 or more will qualify for a charitable tax receipt.

Make the PWRDF part of your Advent

PWRDF is pleased to offer our annual Advent resource, a collection of daily scripture, reflections, stories and prayer to take you through the 24 days of Advent. This year, the Reverend Robert Mitchell, a parish priest in the Diocese of Toronto, draws parallels between the stories of women in the Bible and the women of PWRDF's programs around the world.

"Stories of women are found all throughout the Bible," he writes. "Like the men of the Bible, the women featured by the Biblical writers represent a range of personalities and dispositions. Like men, Biblical women were political and religious leaders, parents, slaves, and simply ordinary people driven to extraordinary achievements through circumstance and God's guiding hand."

PWRDF's 2018 resources were created around the theme of Empowered Women, Empower Women. As Advent unfolds, we invite you to take a journey through the Bible and discover — or rediscover — the women at its heart, beginning December 2 with Eve, "the mother of all humanity" and ending on Christmas Day, with Mary, "the mother of all Christians."

To access the PWRDF Advent resource Visit <https://pwrdf.org/get-involved/advent2018/>

The Anglican Canadian Church calendars are available to purchase for \$6.00 each. Please speak to a member of the Ethel F. Stevens ACW. Profits from the sale of the calendars will support the unit's commitment to the Diocesan ACW project "A Home Forever" - a residence for Bonny Lea Farms persons for whom Bonny Lea Farm is and will be their home in retirement. Stella Warnell has calendars for sale!

The Sacraments of the Church

Confirmation: Interested in exploring the church and the wider world? Want to know more about Anglicanism and confirm your baptism? If you are of age 15 or older and are interested in discovering more about faith, spirituality, and how Christians live, please contact the parish office 902-466-4270

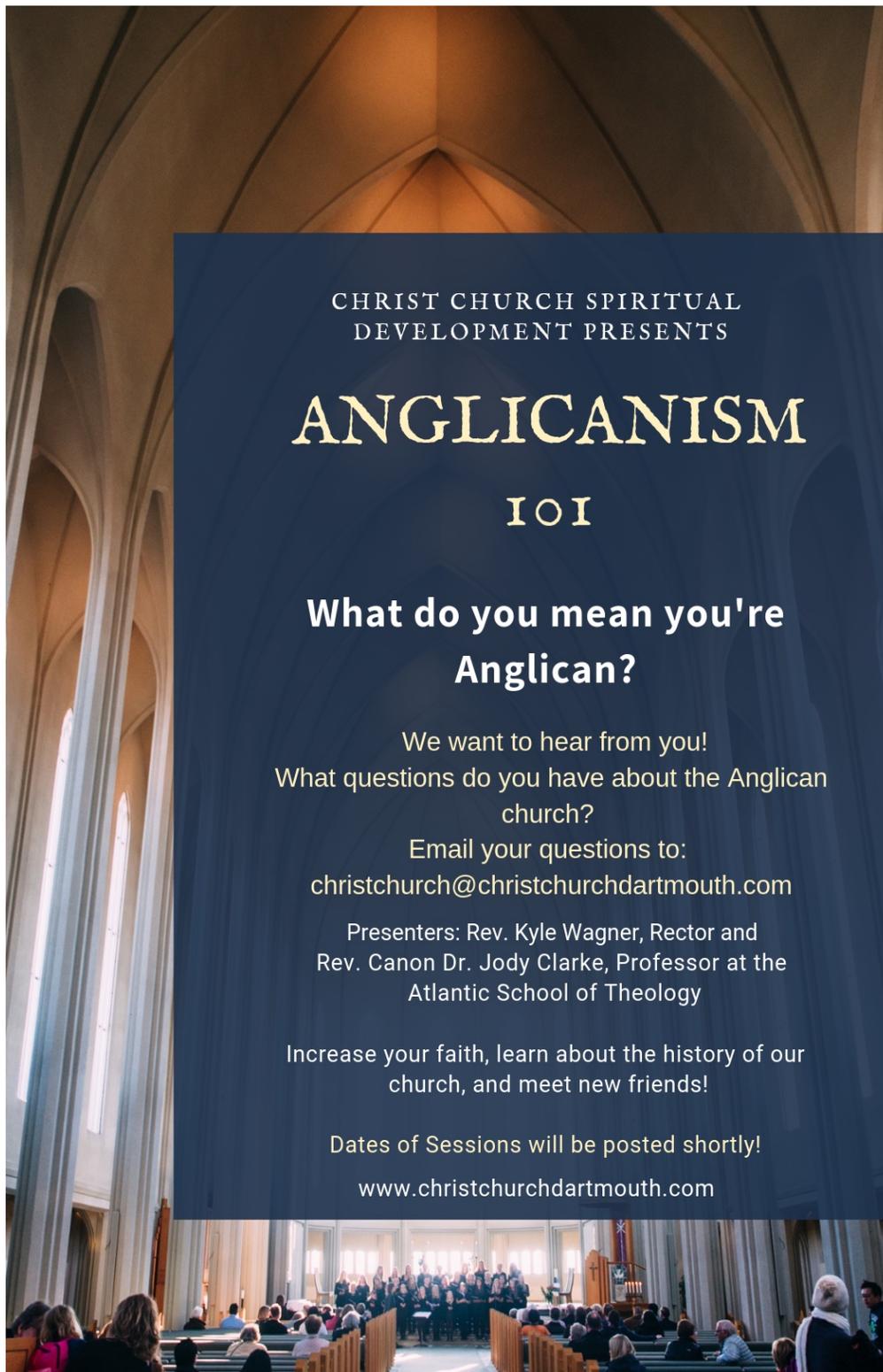
"Caring for All"

2018 CHRISTMAS HAMPER SUPPORT

It is that time of year when Christ Church jumps in to provide support to many in our community who are in need by

making sure they are able to enjoy a wonderful Christmas. Last year's program was a great success, with





CHRIST CHURCH SPIRITUAL
DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS

ANGLICANISM

IOI

What do you mean you're Anglican?

We want to hear from you!
What questions do you have about the Anglican church?

Email your questions to:
christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

Presenters: Rev. Kyle Wagner, Rector and
Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke, Professor at the
Atlantic School of Theology

Increase your faith, learn about the history of our church, and meet new friends!

Dates of Sessions will be posted shortly!
www.christchurchdartmouth.com

Purchase a Hamper: An \$85.00 financial contribution = Support for 1 family

Gift Tag from the Giving Tree: Child's gift - \$40.00 value

Baking Cookies: Take a Cookie Tag from the tree

• **Wrapping Party:** Thursday, December 20th, Lower Hall at 7:00 pm

• **Lower Hall Setup:** Friday, December 21st, Lower Hall at 2:00 pm

• **Hamper Packing:** Saturday, December 22nd, Lower Hall at 10:00 am

• **Fellowship Lunch and Commissioning:** Saturday, December 22nd, Lower Hall at 12:00 pm

• **Hamper Delivery:** Saturday, December 22nd, Lower Hall at 1:00 pm

Lots of "People Power" will be needed and we encourage you to join in this fellowship opportunity! For further information, contact Marg Seaman at 466-2159 or email mseaman@accesswave.ca

Heartbeat of the Church

"Discover the Heartbeat" <https://www.anglican.ca/heartbeat/> In September 2018, the 125th anniversary of General Synod, Archbishop Fred Hiltz will invite the church to listen to its

many in our congregation and the wider community taking part.

We have pledged our support to Feed Nova Scotia to prepare & deliver 100 hampers and here's the ways you can participate:

heartbeat—launching 10 months of "conversation circles" which will take place all across the country. Conversation circles are guided by 4 simple steps that will help Anglicans speak from the heart about their faith: where the holy is



experienced in our lives, what moves us to pray, and what makes our hearts lift—or ache. The Primate is inviting all Canadian Anglicans to listen carefully to their experiences of how God has touched their hearts, and to share their prayers for our beloved church with one another.

RECTOR'S READERS

CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

Book List 2018-2019

Saint Augustine once wrote "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page." We meet monthly so if you cannot make each month's meeting, that is okay. Here is our list of books for the next little while. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in the Rector's office. If you wish to join our group please contact Lindsay at the parish office. In Christ, Rev. Kyle.

December 12th: *Mr. Ives Christmas* by Oscar Hijuelos (Harper Perennial 2003)

January 9th: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr, (Scribner, 2014)

February 13th: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* by Mark Haddon (Anchor Canada, 2014)

March 13th: *The Bishop's Man* by Linden MacIntyre (Random House Canada, 2009)

April 10th: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho (HarperOne, 2014)

May 15th: *The Footprints of God* by Greg Isles, (Pocket Star, 2007)

June 12th: *The Opposite of Loneliness: Essays and Stories* by Marina Keegan, Introduction by Anne Fadiman (Scribner, 2014)

July 10th: *Desmond Tutu: Rabble-Rouser for Peace: The Authorized Biography* by John Allen, (Chicago Review Press, 2008)

August 14th: *Kim* by Rudyard Kipling

"Engaging the Community"

CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Below is a letter that Rev. Kyle our Rector sent to members of City Council in relation to the proposed



Members of our Christ Church choir. We are of all ages!



Members of our youth group gathering for some fun!



Learning the "Pumpkin Prayer" just before All Hallows Eve

Plastic Bag Ban. This letter was supported by Parish Council and it seeks to care for God’s Creation. It also connects to our baptismal covenant which asks us to *“strive to safeguard the integrity of God’s creation and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth.”*

November 19, 2018

Councilor Tony Mancini
Mayor Mike Savage
City Clerk’s Office

Dear Sirs/Madams:

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In God’s hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all humankind.” -Job 12:7-10

On behalf of the Parish Council of Christ Church, Dartmouth, this is a letter of support for the Motion to Ban Single Use Plastic Bags in HRM being presented by Councilor Tony Mancini to Regional Council on November 21st 2018. If the Province is unwilling to introduce a Provincial ban we encourage the Council to take independent action on this issue as have other Canadian Cities such as Montreal, Victoria and the Province of PEI. We here at Christ Church, Dartmouth believe the fight against Global Warming and the problem of Plastic Pollution in the Ocean are closely linked and will profoundly affect the kind of world we are leaving for our children and grandchildren. This is a moral issue and for Christians we see the stewardship of the planet as vital to living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We call on the City of Halifax to set an example in protecting the environment for future generations.

Sincerely,

The Reverend Kyle Wagner, BA, MDiv
Rector, Christ Church, Dartmouth
Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI



Our Re-Creation gathering. The theme was “God’s Creation.” What fun!



Dennis Ramsay, cooking up a storm at our annual Steak and Beer Dinner!



The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke and his friend Mr. Walter lead the children’s story. It’s so wonderful to see Mr. Walter back in church! He encourages all of us to invite a friend to Sunday Worship!



Rev. Kyle blessing the animals at our service!



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1st:

Christmas Bazaar 10:00-1:00pm in the Hall

December 2nd:

- Dartmouth Community Concert Band Christmas Concert 2pm at the church
- Book of Common Prayer Evensong 6:00pm

December 5th:

Theology on Tap 7:30pm at New Scotland Brewery

December 7th:

- Gardens Of Grace Remembrance Service in commemoration and remembrance for those parents who have lost children. Author Sheree Fitch will be in attendance to do the readings for this service. 6:00pm

December 9th:

- Archbishop Ron's Visit
- Lessons and Carols Service 10:00am
- Family and Youth Event 12:00pm in the church (Lunch and decorating the church for Advent and Christmas)

December 16th:

- Christ Church Christmas Concert tickets available from John Bogardus 6:00pm

December 22nd:

- Hamper packing at 10:00am followed by lunch at 12:00pm. Delivery at 1:00pm

December 24th:

- 4:00pm Family Service with Saint Nicholas
- 6:00pm BAS Holy Communion
- 11:00pm BCP Midnight Eucharist

December 25th:

- 10:00am Said service *Book of Common Prayer*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT Our mission at Christ Church is to be a welcoming Christian community committed to enabling each other to grow through worship, spiritual fellowship and service, following the example of Christ.

We are an inclusive church welcoming everyone. We are an affirming church, and we offer a warm welcome to people of all walks of life. This is a safe space for everyone as we are all created in the image of God. We gratefully acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

PARISH DIRECTORY**Parish Contacts:**

Office Phone: (902) 466-4270

Email: christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

Web: www.christchurchdartmouth.com

Parish Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am–3:30 pm Sunday 8:30 am–11:00 am

Church Hall: 61 Dundas Street

Postal: 61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B2Y 4H5

Rector Rev. Kyle Wagner, BA. MDiv

Parish Wardens John Gallant, Christine Hoehne, Jim Graham

Parish Administrator Lindsay Patriquin
christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com

Sexton Larry Graham

Director of Music John Bogardus
john.bogardus@christchurchdartmouth.com

Music Director Emeritus Christopher Allworth

Honorary Assistants Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke Rev. Canon Peter MacDonald

Lay Readers Vanessa Turner, Joan Halsey, Mackenzie Turner-Simmons (in training)

Finance Marg Seaman, John MacLeod

Altar Guild Judy Carter

Youth Ministry Rev. Kyle Wagner, Vanessa Turner

Pastoral Ministry Carolyn Chenhall

Spiritual Development Rev. Kyle Wagner, Candace Vieira

Historical Janice Silver

Property Cathy Connors

Anglican Church Women ACW *Isabel Creighton Unit:* Sharon Mailman, ACW *Ethel F. Stevens Unit:* Carolyn Chenhall

Perpetual Care Committee Marg Seaman, John Gallant, Shelly Bridges

Food and Clothing Ministry Madelyn Bell

Heritage Oak Columbarium 902-466-2443