

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 6206, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 6J9

76 Queen's Road at Long's Hill

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Dent, BA, MTS, STM, PhD.

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Ian S. Wishart, C.D., B.A., B.D., M.Th., D.D.

Stated Supply: The Rev. Dr. Bob Rowlands, OPA

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Advent 2

December 07, 2014

Welcome to St. Andrew's Church! In Advent we prepare to celebrate the gift of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We bring our hope, joy, peace, and love to be touched by His. May God bless you richly and deeply as we prepare for Christmas together.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP, 11:00 A.M. APPROACH TO GOD

Organ Prelude

Entry of the Bible (Congregation Standing)

Choral Introit: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" ...McGee

Greeting

Responsive Call to Worship:

O Lord of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Hymn of Approach: Prepare the way, O Zion #129

Prayers of Adoration & Confession

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the

Glory forever. Amen.

Children's Hymn: All the earth is waiting #109

Lighting of the Advent Candle - *Peace* (see insert)

Children's Story and Prayer

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11 Heather Saunders (page 667)

Responsive Psalm: 85 (page 543)

New Testament: Mark 1:1-8 Jonathan Marshall (page 034)

Choral Anthem: "Go, tell it on the mountain" ...Traditional

Sermon: "*What does Christmas mean?*"

Hymn: Make me a channel of your peace #740

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Announcements

Offering and Offertory

Doxology (822, vs. 4)

Offertory Prayer

Confession of Faith: Living Faith 6.1.1 (page 15)
" *Faith is a gift of God....*"

Commissioning Hymn: On Jordan's bank #126

Benediction

Postlude

NURSERY ATTENDANT Agathe Ratsimandresy *For those who wish, a nursery is available in the church hall next door.*

ANNIVERSARIES... Dec - 07 William and Margaret Lawrie; Dec - 12 James and Elizabeth Cooper; Dec - 13 Kenneth and Christine MacKenzie.

If Pastoral Care is required, please contact Rev. Bob Rowlands at the church office (726-5385) or home (754-8944).

Dr. Dent's five minute "Mediation" on VOWR each morning this past week can be read on our webpage or a copy can be given to you by contacting Elizabeth at the church office.

Would you like to be a King? A Shepherd? A Soldier? Now you can! After more than 40 years our costumes for the annual children's pageant are being updated with new ones.

With the help of many elves this task is underway so that we can debut the new costumes this year. The cost of the new costumes is \$500 and we are asking the congregation to help cover this by giving as they are able. Please mark your envelope in the "Other" section with a note saying "Costumes". We are so blessed with a congregation who supports our Sunday school with a generous heart.

Search Committee Update: The Search Committee would like to let the congregation know that we continue to meet regularly to move the search process forward. The Church Profile document required as part of the search process was completed at the end of October and circulated to candidates who over the last few months had expressed interest. A copy is available for review in the church office. Advertisements have also been placed in the Presbyterian Record. We are now entering the phase of researching prospective candidates and have begun reviewing resumes and candidate profiles that have been submitted. Please keep us in your prayers.

It's that time of year again: St Andrew's Sunday School Annual Christmas Pageant is Dec 21st. We will be preparing for it over the next few weeks and would like to extend an invitation to all our youth to come along and take part in all the fun. In order to make it a big success we need lots of help and extras so even if you have not attended or are here every other week please feel free to come and bring a friend. As is tradition, our Christmas party and dress rehearsal will be held on Sat Dec. 20th. We will once again have our Baby Shower where gifts are brought in by students and members of the congregation and given to Santa at the Christmas party for those in need. Please contact Jennifer Pallard at 697-6183 or jennpallard@gmail.com with any questions. Hope to see you soon.

The Friday Morning Bible Study will be in recess for the remainder of Advent and the twelve days of Christmas. The Study will resume at 10 AM on the first Friday after Epiphany (January 9).

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Please mark your calendars: WHITE GIFT SUNDAY is December 14th. When choosing white gifts we encourage you to give food items for Christmas Hampers and healthy snack treats for some of our senior and shut in members.

St. David's **AMS** is will be having their Christmas service at 7:30 pm on December 9th. It is a peaceful time in the middle of a very busy season. A social time will follow. All are welcome.

NEW Take Home Booklets available!

Unit 3: Preparing and Celebrating booklet has lots of suggestions for families to learn about Advent, Christmas, and the Season after Epiphany. ***Have fun making an Advent wreath, Gingerbread Teddy Bears and winter ice candles! **These booklets will change on a regular basis. Check the box in the vestibule for the latest booklets.***

CHRISTMAS CAKES: Rotary Christmas Cakes and assorted TREATS are available! The cakes are \$10 each and the proceeds will go to the Kirk Association. For more information on the TREATS, please contact Ian Wishart at 722-3769.

Bridges To Hope: The Pantry at Bridges To Hope requires your donations more than ever. More and more families and individuals are hungry. Your generous support is appreciated.

Christmas encouragement cards are being sent out to university/college students that are studying here in St. John's and also away from home. If you would like a card sent to your son/daughter, niece/nephew, grandchild, etc. please make sure to get their name and address to Amy Palmer as soon as possible.

Advent Babysitting is on Saturday, December 13th from 1-4pm at St. David's church (98 Elizabeth Ave). The Youth Group is offering free babysitting to parents with young children. There will be snacks, lego, games and cookie decorating. Parents - take some time to relax, enjoy peace, quiet and a moment to yourselves.

Thank you to **Sheena Findlay** for providing a delicious meal for Food for Thought this past Monday. A meal nourishes not only the body but the soul as we come together for fellowship and study. We are still in need of a meal provider for Monday, December 8th. Thank you!

Youth Group (grades 7-12) is meeting for the first two weeks in December at St. David's church. Come join us on Sunday nights from 7-9pm for fun, faith and fellowship! This week the Food for Thought group is challenging the Youth Group to a games night. Bring your favourite games and be prepared to play some Xbox Kinects.

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Food for Thought (university/early career young adults) meets together on Monday nights for a meal and Bible study. We have now completed the book of Judges. Our last meeting for the year is on December 8th. We will have a simple gift exchange of under \$10. Join us at 71 Stirling Cres for great food and discussion! Contact Amy if you have food allergies or need a ride: amyralmer@gmail.com; (709) 730-3676.

The Youth Ministry website has been updated: <http://pccweb.ca/newfoundland-youth-ministry>. Schedules and news will be posted there. If you have additional photos you'd like to share, please contact Amy Palmer.

Please pray this week for good health for not only the youth, but also their parents and leaders as well. Pray for protection from flus and colds, and for strong immune systems.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CALENDARS for 2015 are available in the church vestibule. They can be purchased for \$5. Please place your money in the donation box provided.

It's that time of year again for the Annual Cantus Vocum Christmas Concert... **'Night Before Christmas' featuring Karl Wells reading from Dickens' A Christmas Carol.**
 DATE: **Sunday, December 14th**
 TIME: **4:00pm**
 PLACE: **Wesley United Church** (corner of Patrick Street and Hamilton Avenue)
 COST: **\$20 / \$15** students and seniors
BONUS: Admission this year includes a copy of Karl Wells' recording of Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

*****Dec 07 - Dec 13*****

Sun	11:00am	2nd Sunday of Advent
Mon	7:00pm	Rovers Meeting
	7:00	Food For Thought
Tue	7:30	Board of Managers Meeting
Wed	7:30	Choir Practice

*****Upcoming*****

Dec 14	White Gift Sunday
Dec 19-20	Rotary Hampers Preparation and Distribution
Dec 21	Pageant Sunday
Dec 24	4:30pm Family Service
	11:00pm Candlelight Service

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