

THE CARILLON

Advent, 2013



St. Andrew's United Church, 111 Larch St, Sudbury ON
Email: standy@cyberbeach.net Phone: 671-0721 www.st-andrews.ca



Santa Claus parade Party worship, 2013

Greetings from Church Council

This past Saturday I attended the Advent Mini-retreat led by some clergy friends. I was pleased to find new insights in the old familiar story of the Nativity. I had met all the characters of the story before; I knew the plot by heart. I could review the story from many different perspectives and I could even transpose the story's traditional details to something more contemporary.

Which got me to reflecting on our traditions. Just this past Sunday we had shortbread, plaid attire and a piper to remind us of the traditions of St Andrew's. Our traditions mean many things to us - a sense of identity, memories of past events, people who were special to us, high moments of accomplishment, times of incredible meaning and intimacy.

Traditions help us keep connected and focused. There is comfort in rituals that we can count on, that don't need explanation. It is "what we do" or "the way it is done."

Last week over lunch with a St Andrew's friend, I

Inside...

Advent Calendar of Services, Concerts and Events, Poetry
And much more...

was asked," Why are we making these changes anyway?" The person was referring to the various changes that we are experiencing, many in our worship environment. And this was my answer.

Last year much effort was made to streamline our governance to accommodate fewer meetings and a less onerous load for those accepting various responsibilities. Now some of those proposals have filtered down to the everyday activities of our congregation. It can be a bit of a shock to realize that motions passed at congregational meetings are actually being implemented!

We are exploring ways to share the work in our congregation realizing that people are more likely to make short, time-limited commitments.

We are working at getting the job done with fewer people. For example we find we can easily recruit two people to take up the offering instead of six. We are using some old things in new ways that bring freshness and delight.

We are trying to make our worship less formal, more relaxed, less intimidating so people will feel comfortable in participating and taking leadership roles. We are trying to be open and welcoming, creating a warm friendly environment of acceptance and friendship, enabling the Spirit to move through us and touch us with new energy and enthusiasm.

Just as new insights led me to new awareness in that ancient Christmas Story at the Advent retreat we hold advent hope that our congregation will find new awareness for our journeys of faith that flow out of the strong familiar ties that bind us together.

Advent is a time for waiting, hoping, loving and longing. That story never changes.

Sylvia Carscadden
Chair, Church Council



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St. Andrew's Services and Events

November 27th
Advent Prayer Service, 12:15-12:45 pm

December 1st
Advent 1, Laurentian Choir 10:30 am

December 1st
Mission Market, 12:00 pm

December 4th
Advent Prayer Service, 12:15-12:45 pm

December 8th
Advent 2, White Gift Sunday 10:30 am

December 11th
Advent Prayer Service, 12:15-12:45 pm

December 14th
Advent 3, 10:30 am

December 18th
Advent Prayer Service, 12:15-12:45 pm

December 18th
Light in the Shadows (for those seeking healing and comfort), child care available, 7:00 pm

December 22st
Advent 4 and Christmas Play, 10:30 am

December 24th Christmas Eve
Family Service, 7:00 pm
Communion Service, 10:00 pm

December 25th Christmas Day
Shared Worship, 10:30 am

United Church M. & S. 2014 calendars are now available following our Sunday Worship Service. These calendars (cost \$5.00 each) and make great Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers. Thank you for supporting our **Mission & Service Fund**.

Mission Market

Just in time for Christmas, the Mission Market and lunch will take place on December 1st, 2nd floor gym after Worship (11:30 to 2:00).



Join us for lunch (soup, sandwiches, hot dogs and our Special Sundae Bar) and shop for one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts and homemade baking and the NEW Muffin Mania. All in support of St. Andrew's fundraising initiatives.

Everyone welcome! Invite family and friends.

Santa Claus Parade Party

On November 16th, St. Andrew's once again welcomed St. Andrew's families and friends and families from other Sudbury United Churches for our annual Santa Claus Parade party.

The 70 or so children and adults who attended played, socialized, participated in a short worship service and enjoy hot apple cider and a delicious lasagna dinner before heading out in the cold to watch the Santa Claus Parade go right past St. Andrews' doors.



Thank you so much to the volunteers who worked to make this a really special event for our families and guests.

Nursery NEWS!

St. Andrew's is thrilled to announce that our Nursery Program is growing! Our educator, Shanda Mese offers a high quality program in a safe and caring environment for children up to 6 years old.

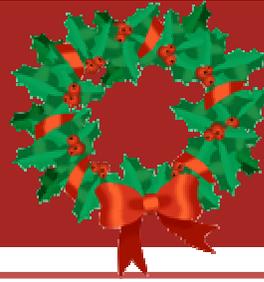
To make sure our kids are safe and happy, we need volunteers to help out when there are more than five little ones, which is a common occurrence these days! If you are willing to be put on the schedule as a volunteer nursery helper, please let the Church office know.



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Calling all kids and youth, and friends! Be a star (or a sheep) in our Christmas Play!

On Sunday December 22nd children of all ages will be part of a special Christmas play during Sunday morning worship. There is a role for any child or youth who wants to participate! There are speaking and non speaking roles and costumes will be provided. If your child/teen (or a child you know) would like to be included, please let St. Andrew's know by calling Kate Barber at 674-7349 or emailing kbarber144@gmail.com by December 10th. This is open to everyone, the more the merrier!

White Gifts on Sunday Dec 8

With a view to getting to know our neighbours we have asked three community agencies to identify the needs of their clients and we will be distributing our gifts to them.

Foyer Notre Dame is a home for homeless teens between the ages of 16 and 19. They go to school or have jobs.

The Inner City Home is a crisis drop in centre and hospitality home that meets the needs of people who have fallen through the cracks of the social network.

Value Vault at Sudbury Secondary School is a resource that supports students who are often on their own.

What to bring on White Gift Sunday?

Gift cards for grocery stores, Walmart, movie passes, Tim Hortons, Subway. Small denominations eg \$5 - \$10

Toiletries: hair products, toothpaste, brushes of all kinds, deodorant, lotions. **SOCKS**

Your gifts will be collected and distributed. You may designate the agency to which you would like your gift to go

Out of the Cold News

Out of the Cold began their 2013-2014 season Nov. 1st with the St. Andrew's (Dickson/ Smith) team hosting & serving 85 guests. St. Peter's U.C. served approx. 112 guests Nov. 8th; St. Andrew's U.C. (Carscadden/ Ritchie) Nov. 15th served 175 guests; and the Church of the Ascension (Stephanie Doveton & Matt Walchuk) served 190 guests Friday Nov. 22nd.

Volunteers are welcome to assist at future St. Andrew's team dinners . . . please contact Jim Dickson 705-671-9538 jmdcksn@gmail.com or Alan Ritchie 705-673-9167 barbara.ritchie@fibreop.ca or Sylvia Carscadden 705-692-5086 sylviac@bell.net

Offering Baskets

The Shaker-style offering baskets you'll see beginning December 1 have been hand-woven by a local artist, Terryl Ryan from Field ON, specifically for St. Andrew's. They are made of natural materials and feature a blue accent colour for the Advent Season. Terryl's baskets and textiles are woven using natural materials, from traditional to modern, but always functional. Terryl teaches classes at Cambrian College and also attends many local craft fairs. Her work is also featured through "Art on Main" in North Bay and on their website www.artonmain.ca



A Little Laugh

They tell me that these notices (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services....

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.



Advent Blessings

And so it begins, the road to Bethlehem—
a journey that emerges from the harsh realities
of subsistence peasant living
and the cruel vagaries of unjust power systems
a journey that careens through uncertainty
anxiety
fear
desperate hopes and grasped-at straws
and lurches into the dankness and dinginess

of an old stable
a place that cries out
poverty and dirt and yet
shelter
a place that has room
for something new fresh
and sweet
to come to bud
and oh we dare
again to dream



~ Judith Visser

Advent Mary

Tears in the darkness
Engraved on the cheeks,
Risk spiralling in on all sides
* * * *

Renounce the accepted,
Invoke the call for freedom.
Fear in the bones
* * * *

In the morning light
Enough courage and spunk to
Decide to accept the Gift

Sylvia Carscadden

Coming Round The Moon

I followed a star peeking overhead,
And heard through the branches
Some startling song of joy singing
round the moon.

It drew me far into the woods,
and stopped where a stable
stood bare, but lit.
I could not look it was so bright,
and fell, my head swimming
round the moon.

Small creatures crawled from
under rocks, and mosses, some flew
to settle near the beaming stable.
A cry goes up, a baby born,
And amazement sends my soul soaring
round the moon.

This is the little One we know and love,
and who loves us.
A tiny new born how could this be?
Love owns no ego self, no self interest.
So embrace Love, and let's meet life
coming
round the moon.

S. Diane Trollope©
Christmas . 2013

Have any news you'd like to share about St. Andrew's Members? Or ideas for pictures or articles you'd like to see in the Carillon?

Please submit them for future editions of the Carillon through the Church office or to kbarber144@gmail.com The Carillon is published by St. Andrews 3 times per year.



ST. ANDREW'S
UNITED CHURCH