

St. James' - Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave., Kitchener, Ont. N2B 1K2

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith

Gift of Joy



Love Bearer

***Luke 1:47-55
Isa 35:1-10***

Sunday December 12, 2010
3rd Sunday in Advent

10:30am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Please Rise in Body and/or Spirit when you see this symbol ()

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN **Joy Shall Come** VU#23

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The hope, the peace, the joy, and the love of God be with you all.

All: and also with you.

L: We gather to bless the Lord our God and to follow in the footsteps of our Saviour.

All: Blessed be the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

L: We gather to share the Word that our God has spoken, the word that gives life to all whom believe in it and in the One to whom it points.

All: Blessed are they who trust in the promise of God and wait patiently for the revealing of the glory that is to be.

L: Our Saviour comes! Even now the light of his presence shines in the darkness!

OPENING PRAYER

God of the unexpected and undreamt: in this holy season, instill your joy in our hearts. Prepare us; prepare us so we can hear again the song of the angels and see again the beckoning star. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(During the prayer of confession, you are invited to envision that you are holding on to the promises of faith. The promise you wish you could give birth to in your own life.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Let us be patient, beloved of God. As the farmer must wait for the seed to break open in the dark soil, push through the fertile ground, and produce its promised harvest, so, too, must we wait for the promises of our faith to be revealed. As we wait and work with God, may we sing joyfully with Mary and all the prophets, holding fast to the hope within us.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE – see insert

(Please leave inserts in the pews for future services)

A Light is Gleaming VU# 82 (Refrain, Verses 1,2,3 Refrain)

A TIME WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE CHILD WITHIN US ALL

THE LORD'S PRAYER

KENYA MINUTE FOR MISSION

Speaker: Aggrey Omondi, coordinator for PEACENET

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC **Dreaming Mary**

*DOXOLOGY **What Can I Do** MV#191 (2x)

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Let us pray: O God, beginning and end, by whose command time runs its course: bless our impatience, perfect our faith, and, while we await the fulfillment of your promises, grant us hope in your Word. Amen.

FIRST READING **Isaiah 35: 1-10**

One: This is the witness of Israel.

All: Thanks be to God for the Word.

GOSPEL READING **Luke 1: 47-55**

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ

All: Praise to Christ, the Word

SERMON **Love Bearer**

QUIET REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN **Song of Mary** VU# 899

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

L: May God be with you

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

CHORAL PREPARATION Watch and Pray VU# 33

Watch, watch and pray, Jesus, the Word, will come.

Watch, watch and pray, Jesus, the Word, will come.

[Leader continues...] Gracious God hear our prayer,

All: And in your love, answer.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN **'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**

*COMMISSIONING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Go now in peace, never be afraid
 God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day
 Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true
 Know He will guide you in all you do
 Go now in love, and show you believe
 Reach out to others so all the world can see
 God will be there watching from above
 Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen

By Nancy Price & Don Besig

POSTLUDE

Our Worship is Over – Our Service Begins

Large Print Bulletins and **Hearing Devices** are available.
Please ask an usher.



Please join us for Gather and Gab (Fellowship and Coffee) in the Rainbow Room following the worship service.

THANK-YOU for making the **Mission and Outreach Fundraiser** such a **success**. We are very pleased to be able to pass on to Olivia Curtis a donation of \$420.69 to go towards her trip to Nicaragua. Thanks to all who helped and purchased. Peggy Schott, Chairperson of Mission and Outreach Committee

Thank You to our Volunteers

THIS WEEK - December 12, 2010

Greeters

Evelyn Shantz, Roy Knight, Fern & Don Ward

Ushers	Gillian & Jim McNulty, Sandra & Terry Jardine
Counters	Gail Campbell, Jim McNulty, Terry & Sandra Jardine
Gather 'n Gab	Ellen & Ed Edwards

NEXT WEEK – December 19, 2010

Greeters	Rose & George Zeigler, Don & Anne Willcox
Ushers	Millie&Bill Wilson, Freddie McLarnon, Lois Chambers
Counters	Candy Dillman, Dana & Chris Moore, Grace Baer
Gather 'n Gab	Lorene Hay & Nancy Ebel

Unified Board Update regarding Church finances~

The 2010 Budget was set at \$265,241.

The Estimated Actual is \$246,720.

That's the good news....The challenge is that....excluding money owed to the Manse Fund, we have a projected deficit of \$41,620.

To cover this short fall in revenue we will borrow the money from the Manse Fund. There will be about \$5,000 left in the Fund.

The Unified Board is asking you for your prayerful support and your donations in December to the Operating Budget so that we will need to borrow less from the Manse Fund and still continue the work started here at St. James'-Rosemount more than 50 years ago.

Looking at the 2011 Budget - we have 340 members who have contributed time, talent or treasure at points over the past three years. With a Total Expenditure Budget of \$242,624 that means that if each household gave \$713.60 per year or \$60 a month we will meet our 2011 Budget. Not all have the same talent, the time to volunteer or the same treasures. God has blessed us differently. If, as a family, we all give the best of our time, talent and treasure we will achieve our goals.

Cec Omand - on behalf of the Unified Board

Stewardship Seconds

Open our eyes, unstop our ears, and let us rejoice in being able to use our gifts to do God's work.

Prayer Cycle for the churches of Hamilton Conference

Eternal Spring, Hamilton in Hamilton Presbytery

This congregation of about 60 calls itself a "mission". Under the leadership of Dr. David Galston, who has



held the position for ten years, Eternal Spring uses part of the Westdale United Church in west Hamilton where they rent space. Their website (www.eternalspring.ca) declares: "We emphasize education and compassion, founded on the wisdom tradition of the historic Jesus." On January 9th, they will be holding a peace service which will be addressed by our moderator, Mardi Tindall. Members of other faiths will be in attendance.

Pastoral Care Needs

Please contact Val Pitt, our Minister of Pastoral Care, if you know of someone who needs Pastoral Care.



Next Week (Advent IV) Bible Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25

Advent Calendars are available in the narthex or in the pews for a special advent donation. When you have filled the calendars you can place them on the offering plate on a Sunday morning.

Mid-Week Morning Hymn Sing & Prayer

Every Wednesday morning at SJR 10:30am

Let's pause and connect with God in our busy schedules



Sanctuary Christmas Flowers – To remember a loved one by contributing to the Christmas Flower Fund, please fill in your information on the form in the Narthex or on the bulletin board by the church office door. Please put your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and place it on the collection plate **BY TODAY Sunday December 12, 2010**. A tax receipt will be issued. Please call Anne Willcox, if you have questions 519-744-5074.



HEY KIDS!

Who wants to be in the Christmas play on Christmas Eve December 24? All ages welcome!

Please see Rev. Val.

Are you willing to drive a senior church family member to and from some of our exciting evening programs? A few minutes of your time would mean a lot to those who aren't comfortable (or can't) drive at night. If you are willing to be a driver – or if you would like a ride to a specific program – please leave your information with Linda in the office.

Advent Study Wednesdays Nov. 24 – Dec.15 6pm-7:30pm

Join us this Wednesday evening for the final night in our study. Come for a simple supper and some time to “stop the madness” of commercialism and the busyness of Christmas. Please feel free to attend even if you haven’t attended the other weeks.

Turkey Dinner (& all the fixings) TODAY December 12 at 12 Noon

Join us! Net proceeds will be shared with our Two Countries One World participant, Olivia Curtis. Tickets at the door: \$15, Children \$8.

An evening of Outdoor Caroling TONIGHT December 12 at 7pm

Back by popular demand ‘round our real Christmas tree

Men’s Breakfast Saturday December 18 at 8:00am

Again this year we will have an old fashioned sing along with Gordon Ambrose {keyboard}, Rick McClarnon and Brian Madil {Guitar} and special East Coast star Terry Jardine {fiddle extraordinaire}. If anyone plays the spoons or some other instrument come along, you don’t even have to audition. Last year all present had a great time; COME AND ENJOY.

“Love makes the world go ‘round” Bible Study

Join us for the first eight Wednesdays in the New Year 2011 as we take a look at – FOUR GREAT LOVES – Loving God, Loving God’s Word, Loving God’s people in all their diversity and Loving God’s purposes in the world. That’s an awesome task but this Lifeguide Inductive Bible Study will show us how God promises to equip us for it. We’ll meet in the Parlour at 7:00pm beginning Wednesday, January 5th and will finish this study on Wednesday, February 23rd. Please sign the sheet on the Narthex table if you plan to attend so that a book may be ordered for you.

Book Nook

***Christmas Moccasins* by Ray Buckley.** A young boy discovers the depth of the Creator’s love and forgiveness as he accompanies his grandmother to deliver Christmas gifts. Suitable for all ages. On display – borrow for 3 weeks.

December 2010 Youth Group Schedule

Friday, December 17th,

“This Christmas” concert in Binbrook 7:00-9:00

Cost: \$10/person or \$25/family. All ages welcome so again bring your parents ☺

***DRIVERS NEEDED* Please let Meghan know ASAP if you know of anyone that can drive, and how many they can take.**

Never hesitate to contact me everyone ☺ Cell: (519) 880-6532
E-mail: mwitzel@hotmail.com

UNICEF urgently needs nurses to work in Haiti to help with the cholera epidemic. If you have friends or family who might be interested please have them send an email with their name and phone number to info@unicef.ca. UNICEF will pay for their flight and living expenses in Haiti. For more information please contact Kimberly Moran, President & CEO (Interim), UNICEF Canada Phone: 416-482-6552 ext 8823 or Fax 416-482-8035

Peace Building, and Conflict Resolution; A Kenyan Experience

TONIGHT Sunday December 12 at 7pm at Trinity United Church, Kitchener

Speaker: Aggrey Omondi, a co-ordinator for PEACENET - Kenya and involved in the EU funded Partnership for Peace initiative in Western Kenya following the election violence of 2008. More information - phone 519 743 2554.

For the Young People



Mary and the Angel Gabriel

"And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." —Luke 1:31

[Kid Explorers](http://www.KidExplorers.com) Coloring Book, www.KidExplorers.com—[Copyright Eden Communications](http://www.EdenCommunications.com), PO Box 200, Gilbert AZ 85299, USA.

Minutes for Mission 2010

Hidden Treasures

Have you ever met a painfully shy person – someone who keeps his or her head down, never making eye contact with anyone? Daniel Thomas was like that. Whenever he visited the Family Resources Institute (FRI) at St. Paul's United Church in Halifax, he avoided social interaction. At the emergency food bank, staff tried to help him overcome his shyness. They hoped he'd join their programs and meet staff and other people in need. One December, FRI received some Christmas lights with the food donations. They offered the lights to Daniel, and that small gesture helped him come out of his shell. He joined the Collective Kitchens program to learn budgeting and cooking skills. Although he was quiet at first, adopting an eat-and-run attitude, eventually he stayed longer, chatting and assisting with the cleanup. He volunteered to help when food orders arrived and by spring had joined the Spryfield Community Garden at St. Paul's. When Daniel joined the watercolour classes, staff were surprised to discover he is a talented artist. He now feels confident enough to give his paintings as Christmas gifts and has mounted an exhibition in the community centre. Daniel discovered a hidden treasure in FRI, where there are resources to help with his food needs, shy nature, and love of art. FRI discovered a hidden treasure in Daniel, who is optimistic, helpful, appreciative and kind. **FRI is supported by your gifts to the Mission and Service Fund.** In all Conferences, your M&S gifts offer treasures to those in need and uncover hidden treasures like Daniel. **Through M&S people are able to live fuller lives. Please give generously.**

We are a united church! Today, remember the staff and volunteers who serve our mission and ministry in our 13 Conferences.

St. James'~Rosemount United Church

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Meghan Witzel

Youth Leader

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Secretary - Linda Thompson

Church Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9:30am-3:30pm

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