

## Dates To Remember

|                |                                                      |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Dec. 24</b> | Christmas Eve - Lessons & Carols 7:30 p.m.           |
| <b>31</b>      | Hospitality Breakfast 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Fleck Hall) |
| <b>Jan. 8</b>  | Holy Communion                                       |
| <b>11</b>      | Session 7:30 p.m.                                    |

**NOTE:** Some of these dates and times are subject to change.

**Church Office will be closed December 23 through January 2 and will re-open Tuesday, January 3, 2023.**

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**Responding to Drought in Somalia** – The general humanitarian situation in Somalia is worsening, with famine alerts being declared in some parts of the country. Humanitarian needs are extremely high due to the impacts of four consecutive seasons of poor rainfall and high food prices, made worse of conflict and insecurity, and disease outbreaks.

The food situation is fragile and could further deteriorate without urgent intervention.

Additionally, the United Nations has reported that almost one million people have been displaced due to the drought. The internally displaced people have left their homes in search of food, water and pasture. Over 1.8 million children are at risk of malnutrition.

PWS&D supports this project helping treat children under the age of five and lactating women who are experiencing malnutrition. Over the course of the project, more than 22,000 people will receive assistance.

You can support PWS&D's ongoing response in Somalia. Indicate that your donation is for *"Somalia Relief."*

**Give a gift with meaning!** - The **2022-23 Gifts of Change** catalogue supports marginalized communities across Canada and around the world. Not only is giving a gift from this catalogue unique, but you can be sure your gifts will be used to carry out life-changing programs that are responding to the needs of people affected by poverty, hunger, natural disasters and conflict. Catalogues available in the Narthex and church office.

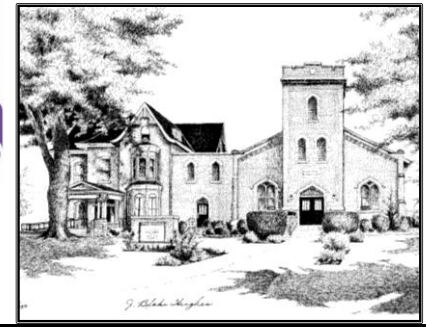
Send a Gift of Hope card - Make a gift in the name of a friend or family member and a card will be sent acknowledging the donation. When you complete your online donation, enter their name, address and a brief message. You may also call the PWS&D office at 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291 and they will send them a card on your behalf. Your loved ones will be honoured to know that they inspired your generosity.

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Office Hours (currently): 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday  
111 Elmwood Avenue E., London, Ontario N6C 1J4  
Phone: 519-438-3492 Hall: 519-438-3491  
Email: [contact@elmwoodchurch.ca](mailto:contact@elmwoodchurch.ca)  
Website: [www.elmwoodchurch.ca](http://www.elmwoodchurch.ca)



**Community  
Caring  
Christ**



**December 18 2022**

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton  
Director of Music: Angus Sinclair, B.Mus., ARCT, ARCCO, LRSM, DD  
Organist Emeritus: Bert Van der Hoek, ARCCO

*Welcome!*

Our mission as a congregation, with the Holy Spirit as our guide, is to share the good news of Jesus Christ in the world, and to fulfill our responsibilities to God and our neighbours.

An offering can be made in one of the offering plates upon entering or leaving.

*If able, please stand where indicated with an \* asterisk.*

Prelude: Carol Sing with Lorraine Clark  
Words of Welcome and Announcements

## We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn: **Go, tell it on the mountain**

**# 133**

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

**P: Christ, have mercy upon us**

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

Prayer for the Day

**P: Amen**

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace  
L: The Peace of Christ be with you all  
**P: And also with you**

\*Hymn: **Good Christians, all rejoice**

Solo: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Soloist: Steve O'Neil

# 141

Alan Bullard

## **Hear the Word of God**

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 7:10-16** (pgs. 740-r, 669-w, 554-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

Responsive Psalm: **80:1-7**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.*

**St. Matthew 1:18-25** (pgs. 1036-r, 933-w, 783-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

**P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

\*Hymn: **What child is this**

# 161

Anthem: Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Soloist: Alistair McGhee

Sermon

Solo: O Thou That Tellest (*Messiah*)

Handel

Soloist: Kathy Pearson

## **We Respond in Faith and Service**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy

**P: Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

\*Hymn: **Oh come, all ye faithful**

# 159

\*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne



**PCC Daily Prayer** – We pray that the love we know in Christ will nourish and nurture our love until we conform to the pattern of Christ's life.



**Stewardship Moment** Time cannot be packaged and ribboned and left under trees for Christmas morning. Time can't be given. But it can be shared.  
*Cecelia Ahern, novelist*



**Welcome Visitors!** - Thank you for worshipping with us today, at Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. You have enriched our community and we hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. Please feel free to remain after the worship service and join us in Fleck Hall for fellowship and Coffee Hour. You may wish to visit us on the web at [www.elmwoodchurch.ca](http://www.elmwoodchurch.ca) to learn more about us and what opportunities are available for personal spiritual growth and service to others. If you are not an involved member of a faith community, but seeking one, we invite you to return here any Sunday for worship and fellowship.

**If you would like to speak to the minister**, or have him visit, you are very welcome to be in touch with him. Please contact the church office 519-438-3492 or email [afullerton@elmwoodchurch.ca](mailto:afullerton@elmwoodchurch.ca)



## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Today Is Food Bank Sunday** - Non-perishable food items are needed for our food cupboard and by the London and Area Food Bank. The need is great. Please leave your donations in the basket located in the Narthex. Thank you!

**Annual Report time is fast approaching.** The 2022 written and financial forms have been emailed to the group and committee leaders. If you require hard copies of these forms, please contact Karen in the church office.

**Completion date is January 15, 2023....or earlier please!** If you are not the person responsible for the completion of these forms, please ensure they are directed and received by the appropriate person. Thank you!

**Elmwood Ladies Fellowship** – No meetings in January & February, but will resume March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Please Check Your Mailbox** – The 2023 offering envelopes have been distributed. Please advise Karen Russo (Office Admin.) if there are any errors or omissions.

**Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)** it is a convenient way to give--and the church benefits from your steady contributions. Contributions are automatically debited from your bank account on the 20th of each month. To sign up for PAR, call the Church Office.



For the month of December, you will see the mitten & sock tree on display in our sanctuary. Please hang new hats, mitts, gloves and socks anywhere on the tree and these will be distributed to Mission Services and The Salvation Army. These two organizations are always so delighted with our contributions!

For the months of January and February, please consider donating the following items, either new or gently used: facecloths, hand towels, facial tissue, laundry detergent - preferably pods.

This collection will be available to our diners at our April 2023 Community Breakfast. If you prefer to donate cash or cheque, please feel free to do so. Cheques are to be made payable to Elmwood Ave. Presbyterian Church Mission Project, please and thank you.