

Dates To Remember

Dec. 17	Food Bank Sunday
24	Christmas Eve worship 7:00 p.m.
25	Christmas worship 10:30 a.m.
30	Hospitality Breakfast 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Fleck Hall)
Church office will be closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 1, 2024	

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



For the month of December, we will continue with our usual collection of hats, mitts and gloves for The Boys & Girls Club and we will also continue to collect men's socks for The Men's Mission. Thank you for your generous givings!
Your Mission Committee



In northern Ghana, people living with disabilities face a range of issues, such as widespread poverty, limited access to livelihood opportunities and health care, and social barriers to full inclusion. Political, environmental, and economic challenges work together to create those difficult conditions. PWS&D works with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana in a Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program to address these challenges through vocational skills training programs such as soap and pomade making. Ateni Lois, a participant in the soap-making class, expresses her gratitude, stating, "We are so grateful to the CBR program and PWS&D for equipping us with the skills to be able to produce soap and pomade for money. Very soon, we will be in good business and will be out of poverty in our respective communities."

Give a gift with meaning! - The **2023-24 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.



PCC Daily Prayer – Human Rights Day - Give us peace in our relationships, homes, churches, communities and in our souls, O God, as we prepare to welcome Christ among us again.



Stewardship Moment – The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation.

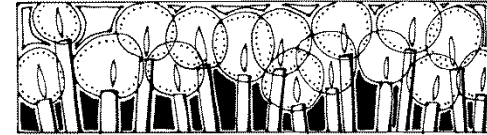
Corrie Ten Boom – Christian writer, public speaker



Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday
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Community
Caring
Christ



Second
Sunday
in Advent

December 10, 2023

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton

Music Director: Bonnie Neaves

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: Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

Michael Praetorius

with arrangements by David Johnson, John Barr and Gerald Near

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **On Jordan's bank**

126

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: **Blest be the God of Israel**

Solo: An Advent Prayer
Tenor: Steve O'Neil

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 40:1-11** (pgs. 775-r, 700-w, 581-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm: **85**

***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.
Amen.*

2 Peter 3:8-15a (pgs. 1313-r, 1182-w, 988-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Mark 1:1-8 (pgs. 1073-r, 968-w, 812-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **O holy Father, God most dear**

Sermon

Anthem: E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

We Respond in Faith and Service

*The Apostles' Creed (see front cover of the Book of Praise)

Prayers of Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy

P: Hear our prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus, Mystery of Faith (sung, see back cover of the Book of Praise)

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

Breaking of the Bread & Elevation of the Cup

Lamb of God (sung, see back cover of the Book of Praise)

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Music: Advent Meditations

Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

752

Alan Pote

529

Paul Manz

564

Charles Callahan

*Hymn: **There's a voice in the wilderness crying**

128

*Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude: Sleepers Wake!

Arr. Karl Karow



Please note: No photos or filming permitted without the express permission of the participants involved. Thank you.



The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Cross by Mary Cross and family.



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 refreshments. You may wish to visit us on the web at 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



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Sacrament of Holy Communion - Please sign in. All those baptized into Christ's Church are invited to the Lord's Table. We ask that you sign the attendance cards located in the pews. Session relies on these cards to maintain accurate records. Thank you. **Communion Wine:** Wine is available in the inner rings of the trays. Grape juice is the outer ring.

Sunday, December 17 Is Food Bank Sunday – The need is great. Donations are very much appreciated! Donation basket located in the Narthex.

Please Check Your Mailbox (Fleck Hall) – The 2024 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, contact Karen in the Church Office.

Annual Report time is fast approaching. The 2023 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 14, 2024....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!