

Dates To Remember

Wednesdays , Dew Drop In – 10 a.m. to noon (Fleck Hall)	
24	Christmas Eve, <i>Lessons & Carols</i> – 4 p.m. (note time change)
25	CHRISTMAS worship service, 10:30 a.m.
Church office will be closed Dec. 19 through Jan. 4, 2026	

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 in advance for your generous givings!

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! *Juel Howse-McLean*, Mission Committee



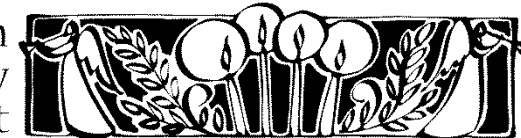
Pakistan is listed among the world's worst-performing countries in education indicators. Poverty, child labour, gender discrimination and harmful norms within a highly patriarchal society impede equal access to education, particularly for girls. In response, PWS&D is implementing a school feeding project with its partner in Pakistan to encourage girls' school attendance in marginalized communities in Umerkot. Meena, a participant in the program, shares that receiving a goat as part of the School Feeding Project has become about much more than just an animal—it is a symbol of her family's commitment to education and community well-being. "Providing milk to the school is my responsibility, and I take pride in doing it because I know it benefits not just my daughter but all the children in our village. Their health and future matter to me," she shares. Please mark your offering envelopes PWS&D.

Unceasing Prayer: Prayers for a More Sustainable, Compassionate and Just World - A follow-up to the well-loved *Overflowing* prayer guide, released for PWS&D's 75th anniversary, PWS&D has launched a new resource *Unceasing Prayer: Prayers for a More Sustainable, Compassionate and Just World*. In this guide, you'll find prayers for specific PWS&D programs and emergency responses, prayers from PWS&D's global partners and ecumenical coalitions, prayers written by PWS&D Champions and committee members, and prayers taken from the Bible or the Book of Praise. *Unceasing Prayer* is well-suited for times of worship. *Unceasing Prayer* is available to order or for download. <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/unceasingprayer/>

Office Hours: 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
Website: www.elmwoodchurch.ca



Fourth
Sunday
in Advent



December 21, 2025

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton
Music Director: Bonnie Neaves
Today's Organist: Paul Merritt
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.*

Organ Prelude: Quem Pastores
Variations on "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"
Lo, How A Rose

*H. Willan
J. Pachelbel
M. Burkhardt*

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

Choral Introit

*Hymn: **Comfort, comfort you my people**

113

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: **My soul gives glory to my God**

123

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament: **Isaiah 7:10-16**

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.

Epistle Lesson: **Romans 1:1-7**

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson: **St. Matthew 1:18-25**

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **Lo, how a rose e'er blooming**

151

Sermon

Choir Anthem: Keep Your Lamps

Arr. A. Thomas

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: **Hail to the Lord's anointed**

115

*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

H. Willan

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



Our thanks to Organist, Paul Merritt and percussionist, Jan Wallace for their assistance with our worship service this morning.



Fourth Sunday of Advent – 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.



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



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 (1981 -), novelist

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Today is Food Bank Sunday – The need is great. Donations are very much appreciated! Donation basket located in the Narthex. Thank you!

DEW DROP IN - Join us the mornings of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for coffee/tea and fellowship!

Annual Report time is fast approaching. The 2025 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 18, 2026....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!

Please Check Your Mailbox (Fleck Hall) – The 2026 offering envelopes have been distributed. Please advise Karen Russo (Office Admin.) if there are any errors or omissions.

Give a gift with meaning! - The **2025-26 Gifts of Change** - catalogue supports marginalized communities across Canada and around the world. Giving a gift from this catalogue, 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 acknowledging the donation will be sent to them on your behalf. Complete your online donation and fill out the 'In Tribute' section. <https://presbyterian.ca/gifts-of-change>. Together we are making a difference. Thank you!