

## Dates To Remember


Dec. 15	Food Bank Sunday
24	Lessons & Carols – 7 p.m.
25	Merry Christmas! – worship service 10:30 a.m.
<b>Church office will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 5, 2025</b>	
<i>Dew Drop In</i> - coffee/tea and conversation every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in Fleck Hall. Join us!	


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


**Choral Connection** would like to invite you to our performance of *Handel's Messiah* on **Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** This concert will take place at Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas. Tickets can be purchased at [www.choralconnection.ca](http://www.choralconnection.ca) or by calling Heather at 519-633-7288



**MISSION** 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!

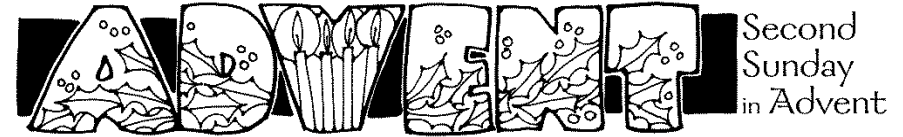
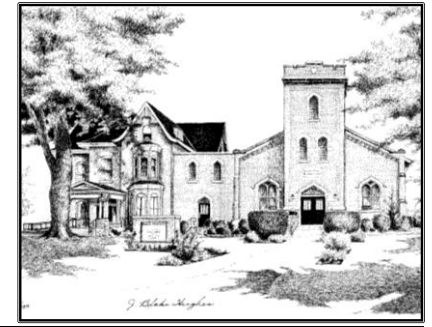
 In Ghana, 12-year-old Abigail Awini became physically challenged shortly after birth, which left her unable to walk. Abigail's father died when she was just four years old, and shortly thereafter, her mother left. Abigail's grandmother, a poor farmer, became her caregiver. During a community survey, Abigail was registered for support from PWS&D's partner, the Garu Centre. With their advice, her grandmother enrolled her in school. Unable to move independently, Abigail's grandmother carried her on her back daily until Abigail got too big and had to drop out of school. However, the project supported Abigail with a tricycle to enhance her mobility. "The life of my granddaughter has changed," shares her grandmother. Abigail found independence and was able to resume her schooling.

 **PCC Daily Prayer – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent** We pray for those who grieve the death of someone they love - whose presence they miss with an ache too deep for words. Help us not to fear our grief, for it is a sign of how much we loved the one who now rejoices with the saints in God's presence.

 **Stewardship Moment:** It's not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful. *David Steindl-Rast*



Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday  
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**December 8, 2024**

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: Prepare the Royal Highway  
Song of Hope  
An Advent Prayer for Peace

*arr. Wilbur Held  
Quentin Thomas  
Andrew Moore*

Words of Welcome and Announcements

## **We Gather To Worship God**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

\*Call to Worship

Choral Introit

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

# 113

### Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: **Malachi 3:1-4**

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

Responsive Psalm: **126**

**\*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: **Philippians 1:3-11**

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Lesson: **St. Luke 3:1-6**

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

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

\*Hymn: **Let all mortal flesh keep silence**

# 542

Sermon

Anthem: Hymn for Advent

*Winnagene Hatch*

### 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

# 564

**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

Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

# 128

\*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Hark, the Glad Sound!

*setting by Paul Manz*

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



**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](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)



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.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION



**First event of our 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration!** Presented by the Anniversary Committee, there will be a **Rabbie Burn's luncheon at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025** (his actual birthday), with full sit down, served roast beef luncheon, complete with haggis and oatcakes! Afternoon entertainment with the Royal Country Scottish Dancers and singing! **Tickets are only \$30/person and will be on sale at coffee hour.** Please invite your neighbours and friends! Any questions, contact Darlene tenHaaf 548-688-1115 or [tenhaaf3743@rogers.com](mailto:tenhaaf3743@rogers.com).

**GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE – Education Event via zoom on Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** Guest presenter The Rev. Beverly Brazier. No cost. To register, email Jim Patterson soon! [mungo1948@gmail.com](mailto:mungo1948@gmail.com). For more information, see poster on board outside the church office.

***A Future and a Hope*** - 2025 Presbyterian Church wall calendars Celebrate The Presbyterian Church in Canada's 150th anniversary with the 2025 Wall Calendar: The calendar is filled with photos and descriptions of the PCC's mission and ministry over the years. Only a few left. Please contact Ann Fitchett or the church office.

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS** that helped make *Christmas in the Village* a smashing success! *Yours in Christ, Andrew McClenaghan*