

Dates To Remember

Jan.12	Session 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Campbell Room)
Jan.14	Holy Communion
21	Food Bank Sunday

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



When the Rev. Lora Nafziger visited her sister in Nepal in 2022, she never imagined that she would return as Staff Care and Counselling Advisor with United Mission to Nepal (UMN). A faith-based international NGO, UMN strives to help all Nepalis achieve a fuller life through medical and community development programs. Responding to God's call, Lora departed for Kathmandu in early January 2024 with her spouse Mitch Rhodes and their two youngest children. Lora, who is also a clinical social worker, will provide spiritual and emotional support to expatriate UMN staff and Nepali staff. She is jointly supported by the PCC through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and Mennonite Mission Network.



PWS&D works with churches and organizations seeking to transform their communities by promoting justice, peace and the integrity of creation. PWS&D supports people and communities, according to their need and regardless of faith.

With the generous support of Presbyterians in Canada we are working with local partners around the world to address the root causes of poverty and create new futures of hope and opportunity through programs in our three area of focus: sustainable development, emergency relief and refugee sponsorship.

Food Security - Communities are learning innovative and sustainable agriculture practices to increase crop yields, improve nutrition, and build resilience to environmental changes.

Livelihoods - Families are empowered to meet their basic needs through education, skills training and small business development. When one person becomes self-reliant, they improve their quality of life and future, and lift up others in their community.

Health - By ensuring mothers and children receive the medical care they need, caring for people affected by HIV and AIDS, and providing access to water and sanitation programs, families and communities are growing healthier and stronger.

Human Rights - Injustices are addressed through a shared commitment to human rights, with a special focus on promoting and protecting rights for women, children, subsistence farmers, persons with disabilities, and refugees.



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



the
Epiphany
of our Lord

January 7, 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: Judean Pastorale

F.D. Ashdown

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness**
(tune #86 Was Lebet)

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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: **What child is this**

161

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 60:1-6** (pgs. 800-r, 723-w, 602-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm: **72:1-14**

***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.*

Ephesians 3:1-12 (pgs. 1254-r, 1134-w, 950-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Matthew 2:1-12 (pgs. 1036-r, 934-w, 783-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **As with gladness men of old**

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Sermon

Anthem: Brightest and best

Malcolm Archer

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: **The first nowell**

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*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: How brightly beams the morning star *arr Michael Burkhardt*



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



PCC Daily Prayer – Guide us, Source of Wisdom and Creator of the heavens who led the Magi to worship the Christ child, so that we may find our calling and journey's end in Jesus Christ.



Stewardship Moment: On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
Matthew 2:11



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



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!



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 March 2024 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.

Ark Aid Mission Top Winter Needs: underwear (long, thermal, regular), razors, chapstick, hand warmers, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, hats, mitts, scarves, flashlights & batteries, tarps, winter boots, backpacks, reusable bags, deodorant. For more information including specific needs and volunteer opportunities follow @Ark Aid London on Facebook. Donate: donate@arkaidmission.com or at www.arkaidmission.com

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.

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.