

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION:

- **MCC is appealing for donations** to scale up its humanitarian assistance to displaced and vulnerable families in **eastern Ukraine**. MCC's support includes cash, blankets, kits and canned meat. To donate please visit donate.mcccanada.ca/Ukraine or call (204)261-6381.
- **Sam's Place Film Night** – Mon., Dec. 8, at 7pm: *Little Town of Bethlehem*. This 2010 documentary looks at three men (a Christian, a Muslim and a Jew) who grew up together in Bethlehem and are willing to risk everything to bring an end to violence in their lifetimes. 75 minutes long, rated 14A.
- **Fri. Dec. 12, 7:30 pm – The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra** hosts a **Messiah Sing-Along**. See www.wso.ca for details.
- **Thurs., Dec. 18 – Community Christmas Party**. ICYA is serving a holiday dinner to 600 people and giving hampers to 70 families. Contact Dorian Funk 204 582 8779 for details or see the poster on the bulletin board.
- **Sun., Dec. 21, 7:30 pm** – CMU Vespers
- **Christmas Giving** - Un-frustrate your Christmas giving this year! Give a gift of hope with **MCC's Christmas giving program**. Visit <http://donate.mcccanada.ca> or call our office at (204)261-6381.

Aberdeen Evangelical Mennonite Church
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Sunnie Friesen, Pastor

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Office Hours:

Tues. - Fri. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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Office Hours:

Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Wed. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mo Klippenstein, Secretary

204 - 221-3000 (office)

Office Hours:

Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Second Advent December 7, 2014

Oh, that you would reveal your peace.

In a disturbed and noisy world we hear God say, "Comfort, comfort my people."

Inviting the Mystery

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting the Advent Candle STS 15 Hope is a candle

Congregational Singing STJ 2 Come walk with us

STJ 13 My soul is filled with joy

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Engaging the Mystery

Advent Poetry

Confession and Words of Assurance

Passing the Peace

Congregational Singing HWB 206 Infant holy, infant lowly

STS 7 Come, come Emmanuel

Setting the Creche Herb

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Celebrating the Mystery

New Testament Reading Mark 1:1-8

Sermon Esther

Offering

Communion Sunnie

Congregational Song STS 16 Peace before us

Worship Leader: Joan
Song Leaders: Sol with Everett

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Aberdeen Food Bank** - Next meets on Dec. 13 and Jan. 10
- **Thurs., Dec. 11** - Prayer Group meets at 10 am at the church. We invite you to join us as we share prayer concerns for our congregation and community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Today** we will celebrate this Advent season with Communion.
- **Next Sunday, Dec. 14** the youth will be leading the morning service. They will be taking an **additional offering** of socks and mitts for Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry and Secret Place. Please remember to pick up some socks and mitts for this offering as you do your shopping in the coming week.
- **Sun., Dec. 4** – please bring goodies to share for coffee after the service.
- **FINANCIAL UPDATE:** For 2014 the congregation approved a donation budget of \$90,000. To date, we're at 87.5% of that goal. We require \$11,200 by year end to reach our goal.

Advent Services:

Today Advent 2 *Peace* Communion
 Dec. 14 Advent 3 *Joy* Youth Sunday and Coffee Time
 Dec. 21 Advent 4 *Love*
 Dec. 28 Christmas 1 *Beauty*
 Jan. 4 Epiphany *Mystery*



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for Melinda who is celebrating her 90th birthday this month!
- Remember Garry who continues to deal with health issues.
- Remember our young adults: Judith working up north, Holly preparing to go to New Zealand in the new year, and all of the students who are finishing classes and writing exams.
- Pray for peace in our neighbourhoods, in the North End and in our city. Remember the ministries of those working in this community, Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry, Secret Place, and Aberdeen Food Bank.



Coffee for next week Dec. 14 – Peter and Marlene
Upcoming coffee for Dec. 21 – John and Kathy

Advent

“On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.” -Isaiah 11:1

I wait
with quickened hope
for crooked paths
to straighten,

with tough-soul'd
anguish,
while blinded
keepers of the keys
shut out
God's own.

(If such a thing
were possible.)

I wait,
and will not be
dismayed.

For tiny shoot
of Jesse tree
took root in me
to love
transform,
give sight
set free.

~ by Sr. Christine Schenk, CSJ

Source: National Catholic Reporter, December 12, 2003.

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship in faith the God who is here
and desires our worship (pause).

Redeeming God, work in our hearts so that we,
your people, would share in your peace.

All: Oh, that you would reveal your peace to us, O Lord.

Leader: The paths of our world are not straight;
the ditches are littered with our friends.

**People: Still, we listen for the voice in the wilderness,
“Prepare a way for the Lord”**

Leader: Behold, our God is coming.

People: God speaks peace into our noisy world.

All: “Comfort, comfort, my people”, says our God.

Confession

Leader: Today, in this safe but dark and holy place we become aware of your presence, God. We look inward at wrongs we have done against others in our family, our neighborhood, our school, our workplace and our church. Sometimes we were paying back, sometimes just being mean and sometimes we didn't realize the wrong we were doing.

People: We desire John's baptism of repentance, confessing our sins.

Leader: We ask you, Lord, to take our sin, including our inward secrets, and make us new.

People: Forgive us our trespasses.

All: Restore our peace, O God, let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Assurance

Leader: God speaks peace to us, his people. In peace, we proclaim God's comfort to each other; reassuring one another of God's forgiveness.

All: God is patient with us; God walks with us, helps us deal with the sin that bogs us down, and gives us the gift of peace.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."