



# **The Harcourt Herald**

*The life and work of the Harcourt Memorial United Church*

*November 2016*



**Remembering  
Remembrance Day**

# Harcourt Memorial United Church

*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

We are a people of God called together and sent forth by Christ to

*Seek | Connect | Act*

## **Our Mission:**

Inspired by the Spirit, we participate in Christian practices that strengthen us in the building of just, compassionate, and non-violent relationships

## **Our Vision Statement:**

To be an authentic community of spiritual growth and service

## **Our Core Values:**

Risk...Respect...Responsibility...Vulnerability...Trust

## **Our Purpose:**

To welcome and strengthen in community all who wish to serve God and follow the way of Jesus

## **Harcourt Memorial United Church**

87 Dean Avenue, Guelph, Ontario N1G 1L3

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Monday to Friday, 9am-noon; 1pm-4pm

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**Technical and Office Support:**

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## **The Harcourt Herald**

*Published 10 times each year*

*by the*

*Communications Committee*

**Your contributions are welcome!**

**Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> of each month  
Sept-June**

Editor: Gillian Joseph

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Printer: Anne Purkis



# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## **November 27 Advent I Hope**

The Celebration of Communion

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary for all ages

10:30 a.m. "MANNA", an all-ages experiential worship opportunity in the Friendship Room

Nursery care available at the 10:30 services

## **December 4 Advent II Peace Readings**

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary for all ages

10:30 a.m. "MANNA", an all-ages experiential worship opportunity in the Friendship Room

Nursery care available at the 10:30 services

## **December 11 Advent III Joy**

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary for all ages

10:30 a.m. "MANNA", an all-ages experiential worship opportunity in the Friendship Room

Nursery care available at the 10:30 services

## **December 18 Advent IV Love**

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary for all ages

Nursery care available.

## **December 24 Christmas Eve**

4:00 p.m. Family Service. Come Celebrate the Christmas Story

10:00 p.m. Candlelight, Carols and Communion

## **December 25 Christmas I**

No Service

## **January 1 Christmas II**

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary for all ages

Nursery care available

by Lorraine Holding, Chair of Council

Oh, where do I begin? I write on October 22 following our Saturday morning workshop that focused on our Congregational Joint Needs Assessment process. Sixty-one Harcourt people worked together jointly with Waterloo Presbytery representatives (Rev. Paul Miller, Susan Leuty and Andrew Hyde) to carry us forward on our Harcourt 20/20 journey! This shows tremendous commitment, energy and desire to help create our future as a vibrant congregation. We were not alone; God was with us.

In her opening worship, Miriam guided each of us to post one hope and one concern that we carried into the workshop. As I looked at the collection later, one word that jumped out from both perspectives was **clarity**. There were other overlapping themes, too.

We really appreciated the new sound baffles in the gym when the rest of our morning created lots of buzz from table group discussions. We focused on Harcourt's identity as described through our three narratives and these words about the 'glue' that holds us together: the love of Christ; commitment to progressive theology; affirmation of diversity; shared values; strong internal communications. Our other significant focus was to work on five profiles that we must describe before any ministerial staff vacancy is declared: the **community** in which we are located; our **congregation** (pastoral charge); our **resources**; the **ministry team position(s)** that we require to meet our needs; and the **skills** of ministerial staff that we require. A sixth profile is also required: the hiring **terms** to be offered to anyone who will fill a declared vacancy. Deciding on our priorities as a Congregation has been named as another key step.

Much input was shared and gathered. Our Writing Team (Peter Jackson, Jean Julian and Melissa Kwaitkowski) has the important task to pull together all the information that we contributed into a draft Joint Needs Assessment Report. They will bring this document to Council for approval and/or changes on November 16. We plan to have a Congregational Meeting on November 27. Before then, stay tuned for information updates. The Steering Team and Ministry & Personnel Committee will be actively involved as we progress.

Most of Council's October meeting focused on this journey, too. We reflected on what we've been hearing and observing, and what implications are beginning to surface about Harcourt's identity and ministries. On another topic, Lindsay Lennox and I agreed to attend Presbytery's Remit Day on November 19, when we will learn more about the wider United Church's discernment of five remits (proposals from

the 2015 General Council) that we must vote on in 2017. Lastly, we briefly started a conversation about how we could better use our Greeting Area. If anyone is interested in joining this discussion, please let me know. Sunday Greeters are still encouraged to take action.

As many have said often, we are blessed by the wisdom, gifts and talents of many people within our Harcourt community of faith. Individually and collectively, we are guided by the Spirit to *Seek – Connect – Act*.

With faith and hope...



# New to Harcourt? Welcome!

You may want to know that there are three Sunday services:

## *Chapel service (9 am)*

The Chapel service features prayers, readings, singing, and a message. It is quiet and meditative. There is no choir or special children's program. Tea and coffee are served following the service, and some participants gather for additional guided reflection.

## *Sanctuary service (10:30 am)*

The Sanctuary service closely follows the Chapel service, but also includes the Harcourt choir with piano and guitar accompaniment, and occasionally the handbell choir and flutes. Crayon tables are at the back of the room.

**Nursery support is provided in the nursery from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.** Tea and coffee are served in the gym after the service.

## *MANNA (10:30 am)*

Is a new, friendly, all-ages, interactive, alternative worship experience that involves hands-on activities and sharing. It takes place in the Friendship Room, also at 10:30 a.m.

## *Special schedules*

**Special events:** There are also some special Sundays during the year, such as Easter Sunday, when the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services are held together at 10 a.m.

**Midweek services:** There are other times and opportunities to come together in worship at Harcourt. These events take place seasonally. Visit our webpage at [www.harcourtuc.ca](http://www.harcourtuc.ca) or call the Church office at 519-824-4177



# People are Talking About...



- **Memorial vandalized at local church.**

A memorial at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph has recently been vandalized. The message “condoms not condemn” and “pro-choice” was spray-painted on the church’s stone walkway over a memorial that was unveiled earlier that week.

<http://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/police-investigating-pro-choice-vandalism-at-guelph-church-1.3109311>

- **United Church of Canada joins others in urging the Cleveland Indians baseball team to change its name.**

Douglas Cardinal, an officer of the Order of Canada, has filed an application to the Ontario Superior Court and complaints to the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario and Canadian Human Rights Commission. He’s arguing that the Cleveland Indians’ team name and their team mascot – Chief Wahoo, are offensive and discriminatory. This legal step is just the latest in an effort to encourage the team to change its name, including the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ that have recently made a joint statement on the issue. <http://www.citynews.ca/2016/10/16/activist-seeks-injunction-use-cleveland-indians-name-logo/>

- **KAIROS launches online info-ub to aid inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.**

On October 4 – a day when Indigenous and non-Indigenous people gather to remember missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) – KAIROS Canada launched the MMIWG Information Hub on [kairoscanada.org](http://kairoscanada.org), offering resources and updates related to the National Inquiry into MMIWG in Canada.

<http://kairoscanada.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=fea30f3893d409c9fd74ebf82&id=e51b0410e6&e=afa14b7ca7>

- **A Prayer for Americans who will vote on November 8<sup>th</sup> for a new President.**

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayer-before-an-election.cfm>

# COMMITTEE & GROUP CATCH-UP



## The Caroline Harcourt Women's Fellowship

by Jan Grottentheler

The November meeting of the Caroline Harcourt Fellowship Group will take place on **Monday the 14th** in the Fellowship Room at 11:45 a.m. Please bring your bag lunch, cookies and tea will be provided. Dave Mowat will be our guest speaker whose current hobby is writing with the aid of his computer. Dave is the lead author of a memoir "A TRIBUTE TO OUR RAF BLENHEIM CREW" and we are delighted he will share this with us. We extend a welcome to anyone who is interested to please join us.

## Men's Group Hearing About Change

by Ross McKenzie

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be **Wednesday, November 9th**. Dave Mowat will be leading this meeting. Miriam Flynn will speak about "CHANGING CAREERS". All men are welcome to attend and we invite you to bring a friend or a neighbour who would enjoy this meeting. Coffee will be ready at 7:45 a.m., the meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m.

## Memorial Poinsettias – A Beauty With an Interesting History

Ann Middleton, Chair, Chancel Committee

This lovely plant is a common sight at Christmas time – but did you know it has an interesting connection to Mexico? The Poinsettia is actually indigenous to Mexico. It derives its common English name "Poinsettia" from the first United States Minister to Mexico, Joel Roberts Poinsett, who introduced the plant to the United States in 1825. However, the plant's association with Christmas decoration began way back in Mexico in the 16th-century. The legend tells of a girl named Maria who was too poor to provide a gift for the celebration of Jesus' birthday. Inspired by an angel who told her to gather weeds from the roadside and place them in front of the



church altar, crimson blossoms began to sprout from the weeds which in time turned into beautiful poinsettias.

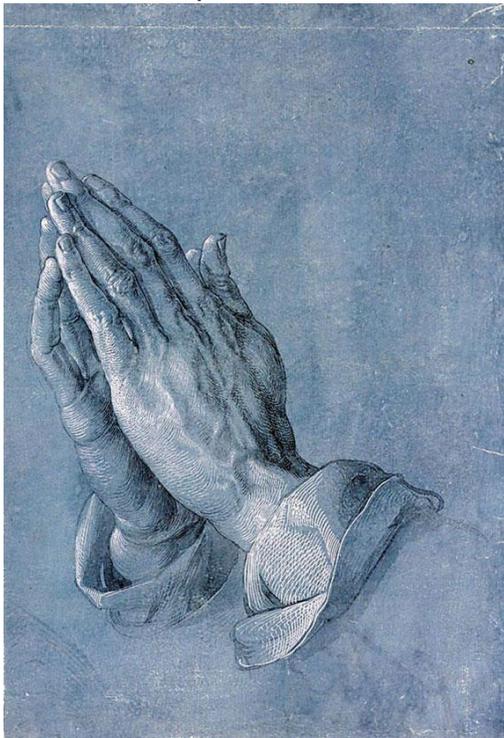
It is not an easy plant to grow as it requires a daily period of uninterrupted long, dark nights followed by bright sunny days for around two months in autumn to encourage it to develop its lovely “flowers”. Some people place them in a dark cupboard to grow during this time.

You will have an opportunity to contribute to the Christmas decorations at Harcourt with memorial poinsettias this year on the **Sunday before Christmas, Dec. 18**. If you would like to remember a loved one or commemorate a special event, please contact Ann Middleton at [famiddleton@gmail.com](mailto:famiddleton@gmail.com) or call 519-836-3033.

## Food for the Journey

by Andre Auger, Spiritual Life Committee

Imagine! 29 people from Harcourt spent two nights and two days with each other at Loyola House Retreat Centre! It was a time for prayer, meditation, intimate sharing in small groups, as well as singing and worship. While the focus was not predominantly on Harcourt 20/20, we did have a chance to reflect prayerfully on each of the three narratives



*Praying Hands by Albrecht Dürer.*  
Public Domain

– the “slow death,” the “revitalization,” and the “radical change” narratives – and to discern to which narrative we had energy to contribute. Many of us came to see the three narratives not as competing scenarios but as three strands of strong twine, inextricably interwoven. We also got a chance to practice basic meditative practices such as Lectio Divina, Gospel Contemplation, and the Awareness Examen.

Someone commented that it had been a privilege to spend a weekend with people of strong faith and commitment. Each person’s perspective was respected. The group shared laughter, tears, concerns, appreciation, stories, reflections and music. There was opportunity for rich conversation, shared meals, quiet time. Some of us commented on the meditative power of Taize chants. People who regularly attend their preferred service on Sundays took advantage of the opportunity to meet others from different services. The small groups helped us to participate more fully and to benefit from the diversity of those contributing. Someone else noted that they had come home rested and refreshed with plenty of food for thought. Someone else mentioned that the retreat was

also an opportunity to have some time to renew and restore their inner being. After a hectic summer this was a good way to spend time in contemplation and enjoy the beauty of the surroundings at Loyola House.

Now, take out your 2017 Calendars. Pencil in the dates for the Third Congregational Retreat: Sept 29-Oct 1, 2017. You really don't want to miss out.

## **Property Committee Makes Kicking The Bucket A Thing of the Past!**

by Ben Fear, Property Committee

The emergency is over! Several weeks ago, the post-service coffee drinkers where witness to a demonstration of a well-known slogan "GOOD TO THE LAST DROP" as it was collected in a bucket on the gym floor. The caulking at the edge of the roof had dried during the intense summer heat leaving a gap through which the last drop and several preceding drops had dripped down to the gym floor during a shower. Fresh caulking has been applied and we are now percolating fine.

During the summer the lines on the parking lot were refreshed in such a manner that all spaces are now clearly delineated with Buttercup Yellow. With the proper parking technique you should be able to exit from both sides of your vehicle.

One chilly Sunday morning they fired up the boilers. So naturally... we have a warm spell. However we're now ready for the -C weather at any time.

We are having our Fall Garden Cleanup on **October 29<sup>th</sup>** - so watch for photos on the Web page. Again this year we are mulching the leaves on the lawn weekly as they fall. This was so successful last year that we intend to make it an annual event. The grass looks much better for it early in the year. There are other tasks to be done as usual - and as we all know, *many hands make light work*. Come and join the fun!

## **Make a Date to Refresh Your Spirit**

by Andre Auger

On November 28, Spiritual Life Committee will be hosting a discussion evening from 7 to 9 PM in the Friendship Room. This is a follow-up to the successful 'Walrus Talks Spirituality' session held this past spring. It will also be a kickoff to your Advent observance.

The focus on November 28 will be on the Jesus movement. We will watch a short (45 minute) video ("Portrait Of a Radical" by Richard Rohr) and then discuss it. The video uses

powerful images and music to move us out of the intellect and into a space where the dynamic nature of Jesus can be experienced. It features three engaging scholars - Huston Smith, Richard Rohr and Allen Dwight Callahan - and a variety of paintings, mosaics and scenes shot in Palestine.

If that whets your appetite for more, join us for 3 Wednesday mornings (Dec 7, 14, 21, 10:30 to noon) during Advent, and explore one face of this emerging Jesus, using the recent work of Bruce Sanguin, well-known United Church writer. We will explore Jesus the evolutionary provocateur, Jesus the model of “Humanity 2.0,” and Jesus the nomad.

Get excited once more about being a follower of Jesus! Come and get some fresh insights.

## **Let Your Fingers Do the Walking Through the Bookshelves!**

by Mary-Lou Funston

My submission this time was chosen as “A Blind Taste Test”, in that I shut my eyes and ran my fingers over the books, stopping at whatever seemed to attract my fingers. These are ‘the chosen’:

\* **A HIDDEN WHOLENESS** The Journey Toward an Undivided Life  
Parker J Palmer      248 PAL

“At a time when many of us seek ways of working and living that are more resonant with our souls, ‘A Hidden Wholeness’ offers insight into our condition and guidance for finding what we seek – within ourselves and with each other.”

\* **WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE**  
Harold S. Kushner    296.3 KUS

This is a classic that bears rereading, offering ‘clear thinking and consolation in times of sorrow.’



\* THE OWL AND THE STEREO An Introduction to Radical Christianity  
David Osborne 241 OSB

“It takes a challenging look at issues which affect all of us today and relates them to the teaching of Jesus.” A quick leaf-through of this little book from the Iona Community has certainly piqued my interest! It is now on my reading list.

\* JACK A Life of C.S. Lewis  
George Sayer BIO SAY  
“...Sayer gives a warm and enlightening insider’s look at the man whom God used to bring many back to the faith.”

\* HANA’S SUITCASE A True Story  
Karen Levine 940 LEV

A Holocaust remembrance book for young readers.

If any of these titles capture your interest, you will find them on the stands on the library shelves. Please come in and browse – and borrow!

## **You Can Count On Us... and Maybe FOR US too!**

by Kent Hoag, Finance (with a tiny bit of embellishment from the editor!)

Numbers aren’t so scary. There are speed limits and TV channels. You use numbers to write a cheque, buy clothes and to make sure everyone’s home for supper. These numbers are all about us and we deal with numbers every day. In 2007 Jeremy Harper, of Birmingham, Alabama, verbally counted every number up to a million in a series of live internet broadcasts over four months starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June. Indeed, Jeremy counted for approximately 16 hours a day, finally reaching one million on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September that year – a total duration of 89 days and averaging just over 11,200 numbers per day. He’s in the Guinness World Book of Records for the highest number ever counted out loud. Learning to count is something we do well at a very early age. Help us put your counting skills to good use. Effective January 1, 2017 we will need a new Treasurer because Brian Magee, our current Treasurer, is stepping down after an incredibly long time in the position. Yes, seriously, Brian had so much fun that he did this as a volunteer for many, many years. Now we need YOU!



What does a treasurer do, you ask??? A treasurer keeps track of how much money comes in to the church and how much goes out. Simple as that. No accounting degree required and Brian will train! All you need is an abacas, a canister of counting beans, a calculator and a sharp pencil. Just kidding...you don't need anything but your counting skills! Best of all, we won't ask you to beat Jeremy Harper's world record. Please contact Kent at hoeg@rogers.com for all the exciting details. Your gift of time will make a difference.

## **New Washroom Plans - Stalled**

by Dave Hume, Chair of the Washroom Building Committee

The request to City Hall for a Building Permit has been submitted, but today (October, 20<sup>th</sup>) it has still not been approved. The submission was followed by a directive saying that one of the washrooms has to be a "Universal Washroom". Universal washrooms are enclosed washrooms providing a barrier-free toilet and sink and a turning space to accommodate a wheeled mobility device. A power door operator must be provided at the entrance door. Universal washrooms can provide privacy and dignity for people of all abilities, including people with disabilities who may need the assistance of an attendant. Universal washrooms can also benefit families with small children and are not required to be designated for people with disabilities only. Mr. Kihlanki, the architect on the project, has written back asking what part of the plan does not meet the City's definition of a Universal washroom, but so far there has been no response. Hopefully this will get resolved before freeze-up. There will still need to be a Call for Tenders after the building Permit is obtained.



## **The TCOW Trip Needs Your Support**

Two Countries One World (TCOW) participants Kaitlyn Lew and Lillian Carvalho are going on this year's trip to learn more about social justice. The two are headed for Colombia and will be travelling over the student March Break (between March 10-19). However, they need your help. If you are interested in/able to make a donation to help fund their experience, cheques can be made out to Harcourt with "TCOW" written in the

memo line. This makes you eligible to receive a charitable tax receipt for your donation. Thank you for your generosity!

## **Give a Gift that Makes A Difference: Chalmers Community Services (CCCS) Christmas Gift Bag Campaign**

by Anne Purkis

We hope you will consider supporting this valuable program. Each year we hear that CCSC guests are grateful they are to receive this gift and that, for many, it is the ONLY gift they receive. For this reason we ask that you include new, good quality items in their original packages. Please note that there is no need for the items to be gift wrapped. Christmas Gift Bags can be delivered in new, reusable shopping bags. This program is run through Chalmers Community Services Centre. For more information:

[www.chalmerscentre.ca](http://www.chalmerscentre.ca)

- One pair of warm gloves
- One pair of thick socks
- Regular size shampoo (not conditioner)
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste and/or dental floss
- Shaving cream for men
- Box of tampons or pads for women
- Shower gel, body wash, or soap
- Antiperspirant/deodorant
- Package of 5-10 disposable razors
- Boxed candy or boxed chocolate (not homemade)
- Small jar of instant coffee, box of tea bags, or tin/box of hot chocolate

Please contact Anne Purkis, [office@harcourtuc.ca](mailto:office@harcourtuc.ca) / 519.824.4177 if you wish to participate in this year's Christmas Gift Bag Campaign and let her know how many Christmas bags you can provide. Please return the completed gift bags to the Harcourt office by Monday, December 5. Many thanks for your generosity this Christmas season.

CANADIAN ECUMENICAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES



# Winds of Change:

KAIROS Justice Activities  
Today and in the Next Year

## Sunday Nov. 20, 2016

Dublin St. United Church, 68 Suffolk St. W. Guelph

10:30am

### GUELPH UNITED MINISTRIES WORSHIP

with Jennifer Henry,  
Executive Director of KAIROS



12:00pm

### REFRESHMENTS

12:30pm  
to 2:00pm

### KAIROS PROGRAM 2016-2017

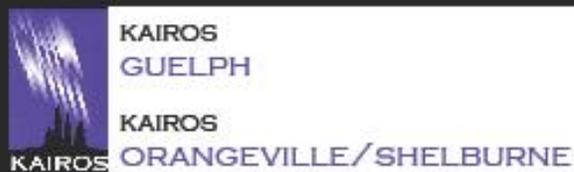
Issues, Campaigns, Actions, Resources  
with Shannon Neufeldt, KAIROS  
Network & Young Adult Coordinator.  
Closing reflection by Andrew Hyde,  
Ecumenical Campus Minister, U of Guelph.

JOIN US. LEARN. BE INSPIRED! MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS... CLIMATE ACTION... MIGRANT RIGHTS... AND MORE

Sponsored by:

For more info: Jim Lindsay 519.942.2952 or Elizabeth Snell [esnell@sentex.net]



# All Things Christmas

by Janet Webster

Planning for "All Things Christmas" is well under way and we know that you are wondering what you can do to be involved. The sale takes place **November 26th** in the Harcourt gym from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. We need people to help set up on



Friday, November 25th and to assist with sales or in the lunch room on that day. However, there are many other necessary tasks needed to be done before that day as well. Here are some things we are asking for your assistance:

1. **SAVE** 1 & 2 gallon plastic pots to use for arrangements,
2. Set aside **LEFTOVER POTTING SOIL** to use in outdoor pots
3. **DONATE ORNAMENTS** and decorations and please place them in the box in the cloak room
4. join the group **GATHERING GREENS** in Puslinch the week before the sale
5. help **BUILD BIRCH LOG REINDEER** (watch for the date!)
6. offer to **BUNCH GREENERY AND TWIGS** for sale to those who like to craft their own design
7. donate baking, candy preserves to the **BAKE TABLE**
8. volunteer to **MAKE SOUP** and serve in the lunchroom
9. do any **TRIMMING PINE TREES**, etc. the week before the November 26 and donate the pieces!
10. offer to **PREPARE THE GYM** on the 25<sup>th</sup>
11. **HELP WITH SALES**
12. **SPREAD THE WORD**, by advertising, distributing posters and flyers
13. help restore the gym , kitchen and Friendship room at **CLEANUP** after 1:30 on November 26

There are sure to be more positions open as we approach the date. Please watch the weekly bulletins and e-weekly news mailings for more information. You will be able to add your name using Sign-Up genius soon. If you have questions or suggestions please call or email Janet Webster 519 821-0953 OR fwebst0953@rogers.com.

## Harcourt Communal Garden Update

by Jill Gill

This week's harvest in the communal garden takes us just over the 200 kilogram mark for this year (1,720 kgs over the past 6 years) with a small amount of produce still to be picked this season. We have grown herbs, lettuce, zucchini, cucumber, tomatoes, peppers, kale, spinach, rhubarb and garlic this year. We also harvested our first crop of asparagus this year. Bean seeds were planted (twice) but the young seedlings were eaten by some hungry groundhogs in the neighbourhood!

In order to lengthen the growing season, we will be adding hoop houses to the far raised bed (closest to the composting system). We have planted

winter hardy spinach and kale in that bed which will lay dormant during the cold weather. The fact that we have the hoop houses (like mini greenhouses) covering the plants will allow for a very early spring crop of greens to go to Chalmers Community Services Centre (CCSC).



A few weeks ago we had nine volunteers from the University of Guelph's Project Serve program here to work with our garden volunteers (in the rain) to fully weed and

spread straw throughout the vegetable garden area to discourage more weeds from growing.

We are very thankful to the Manna community who helped us plant seeds and seedlings back in the spring to get us started. None of this amazing work would have happened without the dedication and faithful service of our crew of garden volunteers. We have provided healthful, fresh, organic vegetables and herbs to the guests at CCSC's food pantry, who are among Guelph's most food-insecure.

By the time you read this, we will have put the garden 'to bed' for the winter, but if this sounds like an activity you would like to take part in next spring/summer/fall, all are welcome to volunteer. No expertise in vegetable growing is required as we have many volunteers who are willing to share their knowledge. Stay tuned to the Harcourt Herald in early 2017 for more information on how you can get involved.

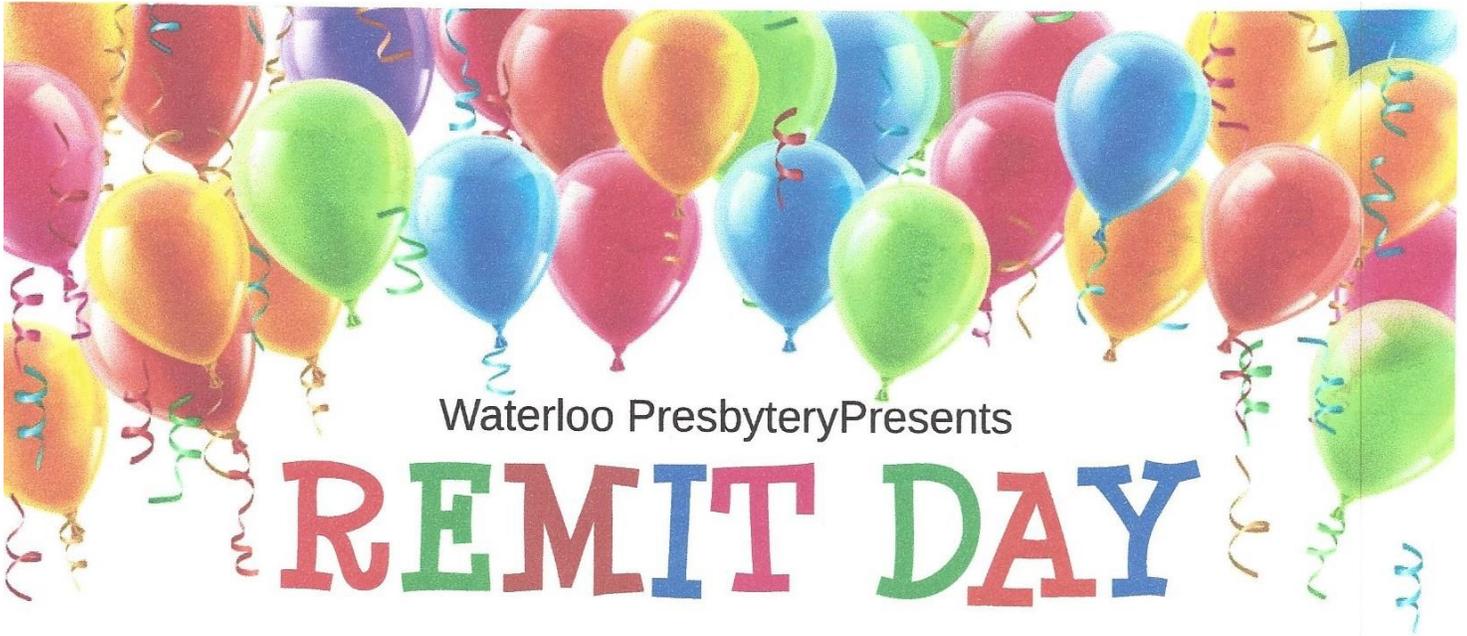
## **Saturday Night Supper Rings the Gong Again!**

by Jill Gill

It's that time again! What time, you ask? Suppertime – Saturday Night Supper to be exact. And it's Harcourt's opportunity to host SNS at Royal City Church, 50 Quebec Street for the last time this year on **Saturday, December 3, 2016**. We will need 12 volunteer servers on the night as well as many volunteers to provide the food for our menu of Pasta Casserole (recipe available on the Harcourt website or on the table in the Greeting Place), Caesar Salad, cheese, pickles, milk, juice, assorted fruit pies and vanilla ice cream. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Greeting Place or you can volunteer online via Sign Up Genius and indicate where you would like to help. To sign up online, simply go to the Harcourt website, click on 'Connect with the Community' and scroll down and click on 'Saturday Night Supper', then scroll down to 'sign-up online'. Make your selection from the comfort of your own home.



Volunteers and food are need at Royal City Church (via backdoor off Baker Street) by 5 p.m. Volunteers will be fully occupied until 8 p.m. Cash donations for food purchase will also be gratefully received. Harcourt's continued support of this worthwhile outreach event, which serves a nutritious meal to some of Guelph's most food-insecure, is very much appreciated. For further details, contact Jill Gill at [peter.gill@sympatico.ca](mailto:peter.gill@sympatico.ca).



Waterloo Presbytery Presents

# REMIT DAY

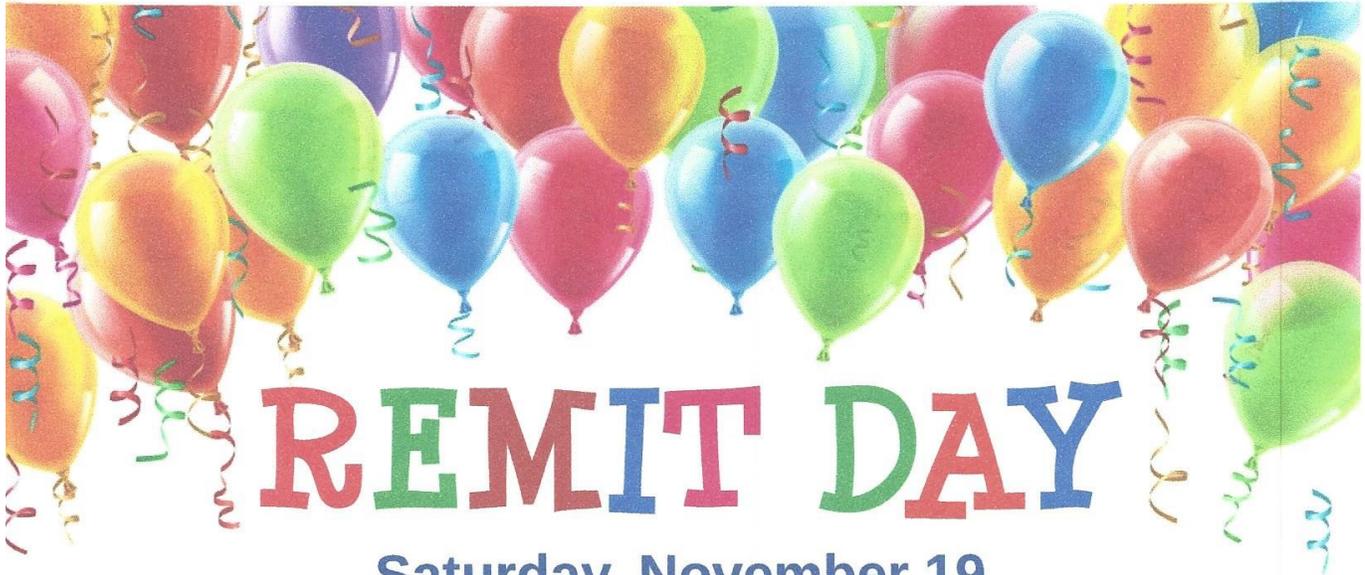
for Presbytery members  
for congregational Board, Council and Session members  
for Anyone Who is Interested

Learn about and Discuss  
**The Three Council Model**  
**Eliminating Transfer & Settlement**  
**The Office of Vocation**  
**Funding a New Model**  
and  
**One Order of Ministry**

**Saturday, November 19**  
**9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Three Willows United Church**  
**577 Willow Rd, Guelph**

**Cost: \$12 for Lunch**  
**Please RSVP by November 5**  
**[waterloopresbytery@gmail.com](mailto:waterloopresbytery@gmail.com)**



This is an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and have conversation about the 5 remits that the Presbytery and each Pastoral Charge's governing body are being asked to consider.

- #1: Changing to a **Three-Council** model (National, Regional, Local)
- #2: Ending the **Transfer/Settlement** process
- #3: Setting up a national **Office of Vocation**
- #4: **Funding** for the new model
- #6: Moving to **One Order of Ministry**

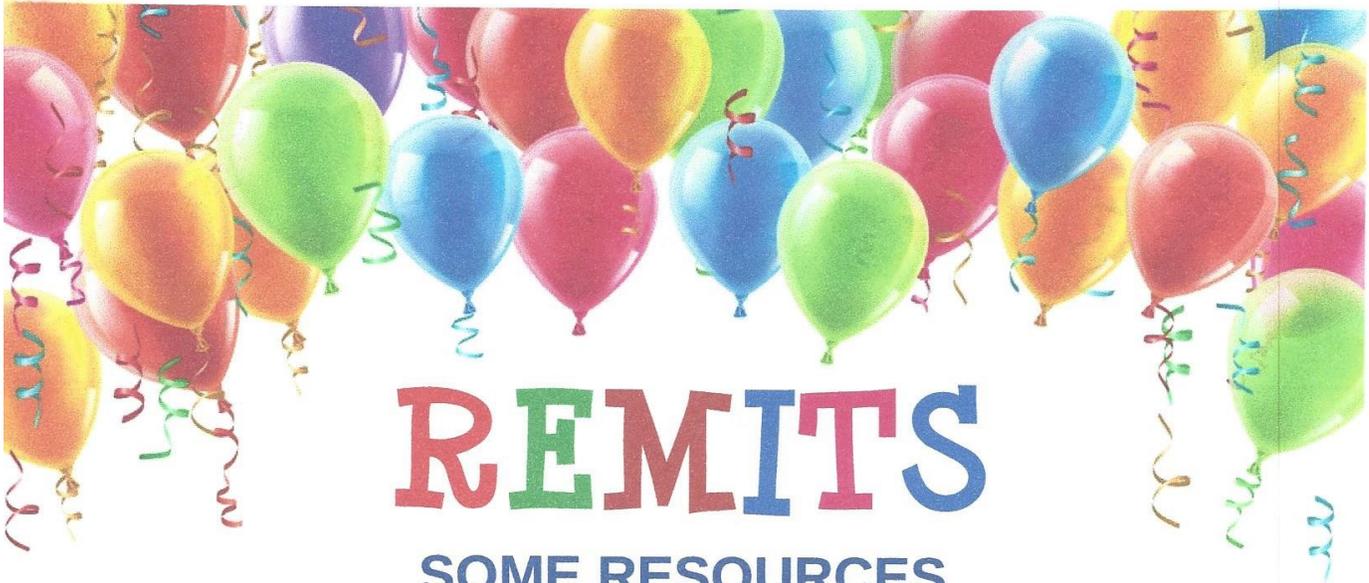
*(There are 3 other remits, concerning ministry partners, a candidacy pathway, and rules for adherents voting. These are for presbytery consideration only, and won't be "on the agenda" for the remit day.)*

**What is a remit?** It is a proposed change to the United Church's foundational policies ("Basis of Union"). The General Council agrees to the change, and then every presbytery (and for really important changes, each pastoral charge) gets to vote on the change

**We will not be making decisions today.** The Presbytery will be setting aside time at future meetings for debate and decision-making about its vote on each remit. Each pastoral charge's governing body (session, council, board) will decide its own process.

We hope this Remit Day will help you as you prepare to vote. For each remit, after a brief presentation we will be able to ask questions, talk in small groups, and hear the wisdom of each other.

**Before you come, please have a look at the Remit documents. The next page of this announcement includes links to resources.**



### **Remits 1-4**

Brad Morrison, who serves with Grace UC in Sarnia, has prepared summary pages for the 4 remits about restructuring the United Church.

For each, you'll find (if available) the study guide, intro video, a recording of a webinar on that remit, questions/answers, and frequently asked questions.

You can download the summary pages by clicking on the following links. Each will open a pdf file, which you can save and/or print

Remit 1: The Three Council Model

Remit 2: Eliminate Transfer & Settlement

Remit 3: Office of Vocation

Remit 4: Funding New Model

### **Remit 6**

Touchstone Journal has been posting reflections on the One Order of Ministry proposal. They come from a variety of perspectives. You can find these on Touchstone's blog here: <http://touchstonecanada.ca/blog/>

(The link will open you to the most recent reflection. There are 30 of them (so far)! To go to earlier ones, use the "Older Posts" button at the bottom of the page, and keep going back. The first one is by Harold Wells.)

***If you have trouble downloading these documents, please contact Greg Smith-Young (revgreg@bellnet.ca) and he'll try to help you.***

# All Things Christmas Sale

Saturday November 26, 2016

9:30 am to 1:30 pm at

Harcourt Memorial United Church

87 Dean Avenue, Guelph

*Get into the Christmas Spirit with*

*Seasonal Items for Your Holiday Decorating*

Exotic Branches, Centre Pieces, Fresh Greens, Ribbons  
& Bows, Decorations, Outdoor Arrangements, Wreaths,  
Homemade Baked Goods, New and Nearly New Gifts

Tea Room – Lunch and Refreshments

*Join us in celebrating this joyful time of year*

For more information visit our website at [www.harcourtuc.ca](http://www.harcourtuc.ca)

Like us on Facebook at Harcourt Memorial United Church

Guelph Ontario

# Announcements

## Passing:



**TROUGHTON**, Douglas William passed away on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Son of Robert and Bertha Troughton (nee Hoyles), beloved husband of Teresa Pauline Troughton and loving father of Howard Douglas Troughton, Ivan Lawrence Troughton, Lisa Nichole Phillips (nee Troughton), and Cheryl Jennifer Pridham and grandchildren. Cremation was September 26<sup>th</sup> and will be followed by a memorial service at Harcourt United Church at 2 p.m. Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made in his memory to the Grand River Regional Cancer Center in Kitchener, or to Hospice Wellington (in Guelph). A tree will be planted in memory of Douglas Troughton in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest, University of Guelph Arboretum. Dedication service Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.



**CLARKSON**, Marianne Sandra passed away peacefully at Hospice Wellington on October 20<sup>th</sup> in her 81<sup>st</sup> year with family members present. Loving wife of 54 years of Ross Clarkson. Loving mother of Steven, and Stuart and many nieces, nephews and grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Hospice Wellington, Harcourt Memorial United Church or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. A tree will be planted in memory of Sandra Clarkson in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest, University of Guelph Arboretum. Dedication service Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 2:30 pm

- **From Finance:** September Financial Results. It's getting a little concerning. At the end of September we find ourselves in a \$25,000 shortfall. We have not seen such a negative position since 2010. We know the great work that happens at Harcourt – please help these programs alive!



*"A house of prayer  
for all peoples"*

—Isaiah 56:7



Canadian Church Calendar | Calendrier des Églises canadiennes **2017**

*A house  
of prayer for  
all peoples*  
—Isaiah 56:7

*Maison  
de prière pour  
tous les peuples*  
—Ésaïe 56,7

**Order  
your copies  
today!**



Photo: Richard Lamoureux, Sheffield United Church, Sheffield, NB



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# Behind the Scenes

This month we have two poems submitted by Joan Charlebois that her father brought back from war. Both poems were written in RCAF pilots' log books during WWII - hence the unusual paper. The first poem is attributed to Alfred J. Miles from North Sydney, Nova Scotia. I did a quick search on the internet and found that F/L Alfred J. Miles DFC died in North Sydney in 1991. The DFC signifies that Alfred was awarded the special *Distinguished Flying Cross* medal for bravery. The second poem does not have an author and is not published, so it was likely written by Joan's father, a kind man also from North Sydney, whose generosity toward the homeless was revealed to Joan by a thankful recipient at her father's funeral. In both cases these poems reflect the incredible stress of war that shaped the lives of Airmen and their families, and the deep faith and trust that these men felt as they placed their lives in the hands of God. Indeed, these two men survived and went on to see their families grow. However, between the lines of these poems one can also feel a profound respect for those who did not come home.

SINGLE-ENGINE AIRCRAFT				MULTI-ENGINE AIRCRAFT						PASS- ENGER	INSTR/CLOUD FLYING (incl. in cols. (1) to (10))	LINK TRAINER	
DAY		NIGHT		DAY			NIGHT						
DUAL (1)	PILOT (2)	DUAL (3)	PILOT (4)	DUAL (5)	1ST PILOT (6)	2ND PILOT (7)	DUAL (8)	1ST PILOT (9)	2ND PILOT (10)	(11)	DUAL (12)	PILOT (13)	(14)
<u>ON LEAVING HOME</u>													
<p>Just like millions gone before me, I'm going off to war            To fight for King and Country, for a peace that will endure            I'm leaving home and loved ones, but, with God's grace, I'll return            When this bloody war is over and the powers of evil burn.</p> <p>I will not fear the battle, for God is on my side            Fighting the battle with me, He is my shield and guide.            I will not fear the battle though the odds be ten to one            For the things for which I'm fighting are the things that must be won.</p> <p>Yes, I'm going off to war folks, but I'm strong and full of fight            For you and all those left behind I'll fight with all my might.            And when the war is over and I come back once more            May the peace of God be with us to stay for evermore.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Copied from the R.C.A.F.            Pilot's Flying Log Book            of            F/L Alfred J. Miles            of            North Sydney, N.S.</p>													

YEAR		AIRCRAFT		PILOT, OR 1ST PILOT	2ND PILOT, PUPIL OR PASSENGER	DUTY (INCLUDING RESULTS AND REMARKS)
MONTH	DATE	Type	No.			
—	—	—	—	—	—	TOTALS BROUGHT FORWARD

A MOTHER TO HER SON

Now you are gone, the house is strange and drear  
 The rooms are silent chill and desolate  
 And everything stands listening to hear  
 Your voice and step, as you come through the gate.

I cannot settle to my daily task  
 I wander aimlessly about the place  
 And touch your things; then kneel a while to ask  
 That God will guard and keep you in His grace.

It is so still and quiet, and my heart  
 Feels so alone all through the long long day  
 Sometimes, as I sit thinking, with a start  
 I seem to hear you calling, far away.

They say I must be brave, and Oh! I try  
 Because I know that you would have it so,  
 But sometimes in the night I wake and cry  
 Although I know 'twas right for you to go.  
 But you'll come back, some lovely shining day  
 I'll hear your step upon the porch, and ~~my~~ rush  
 To take you in my arms once more and say  
 "Thank God" and "Welcome home again my son."

# Minutes for Mission



## Engaged Citizenship

What do you care about? What matters most in your community and our world?

Many of us participated in Canada's federal election in October 2015. This was a time of hope and decision. General Council staff created a 2015 Federal Election Kit to help United Church people learn more about issues that concern our church and our global and Canadian partners. Aboriginal justice, climate justice, refugee rights, and the elimination of child poverty were some of the topics included. The kit also offered instructions for planning and participating in an all-candidates meeting.

Some United Church people are shocked that the church deliberately makes the connection between faith and politics. Yet, our United Church witness is not to a particular person or party but to God's mission of justice and love lived out through policies that promote sustainable communities, build peace, and defend human rights.

The United Church has been active in the public arena, including elections, since its earliest days. The founders of our church believed that ours is a living faith and a witness to the ministry of Jesus Christ that is expressed in active, thoughtful involvement in society.

We are called to be the light that brings God-colours of justice, peace, and healing into the democratic process.

Our gifts for Mission & Service make resources like the 2015 Federal Election Kit possible. Thank you!

Please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith.

*Loving God, we are called to be your colours in the world, to walk with each other,  
to share in love through our gifts for Mission & Service.*

*Guide us to shine brightly in the world. Amen*



Kent



## Harcourt Calendar – November 2016

Updated October 18, 2016—[www.harcourtuc.ca](http://www.harcourtuc.ca) for most up-to-date information

### **Tuesday November 1**

11:30am Staff & Admin Meetings  
6:45 Cubs [G]  
7:00pm Creative Intentions [F]  
7:00pm Handbell Choir [M]

### **Wednesday November 2**

9:30am Lightshine Singers [F]  
12:00pm Ministry and Personnel Lunch [F]  
1:30pm Tai Chi [F]  
6:30pm Guides [F]  
6:45pm Beavers [G]  
7:00pm Steering Team Meeting [L]  
7:30pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]

### **Thursday November 3**

8:45am Mindstretch [C]  
9:30am Stroke Recovery Executive [F]  
10:30am Aging as a Spiritual Practice [C]  
1:30pm Park'nDance [G/F]  
7:00pm Sharing Evenings [F]  
7:30pm Choir Practice [M]

### **Friday November 4**

7:00pm Junior Youth Group Sleepover [G/F]

### **Saturday November 5**

10:00am Explorations in Progressive Christianity [202]  
11:00am Scouts/Cubs/Beavers Popcorn Pickup [G]

### **Sunday November 6**

9:00am Worship [C]  
10:30am Worship [S]  
10:30am "Manna" Service [G/F]  
7:30pm High School Youth Group [G/F]

### **Monday November 7**

1:30pm Prayer Shawl Group [202]  
6:50pm Communications Committee [L]  
7:00pm Scouts [G]

### **Tuesday November 8**

11:30am Staff & Admin Meetings  
6:45 Cubs [G]  
7:00pm Handbell Choir [M]

### **Wednesday November 9**

7:00am Men's Group [F]  
9:30am Lightshine Singers [F]  
1:30pm Tai Chi [F]  
6:30pm Guides [F]  
6:45pm Beavers [G]  
7:00pm Ministry & Personnel Committee [L]  
7:00pm Property Committee [C]  
7:30pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]

### **Thursday November 10**

8:45am Mindstretch [C]  
10:30am Aging as a Spiritual Practice [C]  
1:30pm Park'nDance [G/F]  
7:30pm Choir Practice [M]

### **Friday November 11**

8:00pm Kitchener Waterloo Symphony [S]

### **Saturday November 12**

8:30am Guides/Brownies/Sparks Day [G/F]

### **Sunday November 13**

9:00am Worship [C]  
10:30am Worship [S]  
10:30am "Manna" Service [G/F]

### **Monday November 14**

11:45am Carolyn Harcourt Women's Fellowship [F]  
1:30pm Prayer Shawl Group [202]  
5:30pm Pride and Prejudice [202]  
7:00pm Scouts [G]

### **Tuesday November 15**

11:30am Staff & Admin Meetings  
11:30am Stroke Recovery Lunch [F]  
6:45pm Cubs [G]  
7:00pm Handbell Choir [M]

### **Wednesday November 16**

9:30am Lightshine Singers [F]  
1:30pm Tai Chi [F]  
6:30pm Guides [F]  
6:45pm Beavers [G]  
7:00pm Council Meeting [C]  
7:30pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]

**Thursday November 17**

8:45am Mindstretch [C]  
 10:30am Aging as a Spiritual Practice [C]  
 1:30pm Park'nDance [G/F]  
 7:30pm Choir Practice [M]

**Friday November 18**

7:00pm Junior Youth Group [G/F]

**Saturday November 19**

8:00am Empowerment Day [G/F]  
 1:00pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]  
 5:30pm Potluck and Games Night [F]  
 7:30pm High School Youth Group [G/F]

**Sunday November 20****No Service at Harcourt**

10:30am 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint GUM Worship Service  
 at Dublin Street United Church

**Monday November 21**

1:30pm Prayer Shawl Group [202]  
 7:00pm Women's Spirituality [C]  
 7:00pm Scouts [G]

**Tuesday November 22**

11:30am Staff & Admin Meetings  
 6:45pm Cubs [G]  
 6:45pm RCCP First General Meeting [F]  
 7:00pm Handbell Choir [M]

**Wednesday November 23**

9:30am Lightshine Singers [F]  
 1:30pm Tai Chi [F]  
 6:30pm Guides [F]  
 6:45pm Beavers [G]  
 7:00pm Discernment Committee [C]  
 7:30pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]

**Thursday November 24****Wreath Making for All Things Christmas**

8:45am Mindstretch [C]  
 7:30pm Choir Practice [M]

**Friday November 25****All Things Christmas Sale Setup**

9:30am Chancel Committee [S]

**Saturday November 26****All Things Christmas Sale****Sunday November 27**

9:00am Worship [C]  
 10:30am Worship [S]  
 10:30am "Manna" Service [G/F]  
 12:00pm Congregational Meeting [S]

**Monday November 28**

1:30pm Prayer Shawl Group [202]  
 6:00pm ARCH Men's Group [202]  
 6:00pm Spiritual Life Committee [F]  
 7:00pm Scouts [G]

**Tuesday November 29**

11:30am Staff & Admin Meetings  
 6:45 Cubs [G]  
 7:00pm Handbell Choir [M]

**Wednesday November 30**

9:30am Lightshine Singers [F]  
 1:30pm Tai Chi [F]  
 6:30pm Guides [F]  
 6:45pm Beavers [G]  
 7:30pm Rainbow Chorus Rehearsal [S]