

All Things Christmas: Update Last Sunday the congregation heard that the All Things Christmas sales totalled just over \$5400. After the service and on Monday, people found arrangements in the gym to add colour to their space, reindeer to adopt and greens to use at home, with the result that the total has blossomed to \$6124.15. Good job everyone involved.

And a big thanks to every Harcourt Baker and jam maker for contributing to the sale. The bake table was a huge success. Everyone was so generous with their donations. Your faithfulness to this is so much appreciated! *Janet Webster & Heather Hoeg*

Opportunities in the Wider Community

Dec 3, 2:30pm: Guelph Chamber Choir *Carols for Christmas Concert* With special guests Bells Ablaze bell choir. St George's Anglican Church. Tickets: River Run Center, 519.763.3000. More info at www.guelphchamberchoir.ca
We invite you to bring gently-used winter coats to donate to Chalmers Community Services Centre.

Dec 3, 7:30 pm: A Celtic Christmas Concert Guelph Male Choir will be performing under the direction of new conductor Gordon Burnett at Trinity United Church. Tickets are \$15 from choir members, including Henk Dykman and Larry Smith or \$20 at the door.

Advent Worship Schedule

December 10 Advent 2 Peace *Miracle on 34th Street*
December 17 Advent 3 Joy *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
December 24 Advent 4 Love *A Charlie Brown Christmas*

Harcourt Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm
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Rev. Miriam Flynn: miriam@harcourtuc.ca, 519.824.4177 x222



Our Life and Work at Harcourt Memorial United Church

Sunday, December 3 Advent 1

Hope

Nursery care available at the 10:30am services

For the latest news, check our Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube!

HEAD USHER: Bernhard Vanderkamp

USHERS: Barb Shaw, Murray Woods, Malcolm Coutts and June Crewson

AV TECH: Mark Sears and Elizabeth Bone

- ▶ **Hearing assists** are available, please ask the ushers.
- ▶ **Do the pews feel hard?** Cushions are available by the door.
- ▶ **Large Print Hymn books** are at the back of the Sanctuary
- ▶ **Pray For:** Emmanuel United Church, Hamilton
- ▶ **Weekly Scripture at Home:** Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; 1Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 24-37
- ▶ **Readings Next Week:** Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Chalmers Community Services Centre Food items for December: High fibre cereal, instant oatmeal & peanut butter. Skim milk powder & toilet paper are always needed.

Weekly Opportunities

Prayer Shawl Circle Mondays 1:30pm, Rm 202/203

Handbell Ringers Tuesdays 7pm, Choir Room

Tai Chi Wednesdays, 1:30pm, Friendship Room


Mindstretch Thursdays, 8:45am, Chapel

Park'n Dance Thursdays, 1:30pm, Gym

The Choir Thursdays, 7:30pm, Choir Room

Today's Opportunities

Fundscrip Grocery Cards Available in the Greeting Area

 **Congratulations!** *The rose on the communion table today marks the birth of Elliott Ioannis Courtenay Bain who is the son of Rachelle Ganesh and Jermaine Bain and a new grandchild for Dan and Brenda Ganesh.*

Coming up at Harcourt

Dec 6, 10am: Vocal Meditation for Advent Take a break each week during Advent and join in vocal meditation. The group will be led by Jane Lewis, a local musician, singer/songwriter. Spend some time tuning up and tuning in. Join each week or come on a drop-in basis - free will donation. In the Chapel. *Continues Dec 13, 20.*

For more information, please call Elizabeth Bone, 519.821.0682 or dambonee1@sympatico.ca.

Dec 11, 11:30am: Caroline Harcourt Women's Fellowship We will start with punch and appetizers and an opportunity to visit at 11:30am. Joan Charlesbois will sing and play Christmas music with a Cape Breton flair. All women are very welcome. Bring your own brown bag lunch. Christmas goodies, tea and friendship will be supplied. In the Friendship Room.

Christmas Flowers: It's time to think about beautifying the church with Christmas poinsettias and azaleas. We will have flowers in the church Dec 17 and 24. If you will be away for Christmas, you can take your flowers home after the Dec 17 service or we can arrange to have them delivered to a retirement home. Remember a loved one or celebrate a special event with flowers for Harcourt. Contact Ann Middleton before Dec 12.

2018 Offering envelopes: Now ready for pick-up in the Greeting area. If you could deliver one to a friend as well, that would be appreciated! If you are on PAR and would like a few additional envelopes, please let Heather Hoeg know. Any

questions, contact Heather Hoeg at 519.265.5956 or hoeg@rogers.com.

Opportunities to Support

Advent Appeal Justice and Outreach has decided that this year's Advent Appeal will go to the northern Ontario Indigenous community of Attawapiskat. Along with others, we are collecting money to buy much needed basketball equipment for the youth of this isolated community. The project was suggested by Rosie, an Attawapiskat leader who is also a coach. The Advent Appeal encourages us to continue our journey with Indigenous peoples. Miigwetch. *A big thank you!*

Coffee time after the 10:30am service: It's not about the coffee ... or even the cookies. Coffee after church is about the fellowship. If you can do coffee (lessons available), please call the office. There are no volunteers lined up for the coming Sundays. *Thank you to Nancy Ryan and Ann Estill who will be making our coffee today.*

Adopt-a-Family Gift Cards: Each year Harcourt has supported the Children's Foundation Adopt-a-Family program. For the past few years they have appreciated our donations of gift cards for the teens and young adults on their list. We are once again participating in this program. The gift cards are \$25 values for Stone Road Mall, Shoppers Drug Mart, Cineplex, and Chapters. As well \$ 10 gift cards from Tim Horton's are wanted. You can sign up to purchase these cards yourselves, or donate the money and I will buy the cards for you. All cards are due Sunday, December 10. Income tax receipts are issued for these donations. If you buy the gift cards yourselves, please keep the receipt as it is necessary to get the tax receipt. Any questions? Contact Merrill Pierce at smpierce@sympatico.ca, or 519.836.8867. Thanks for your continued support that helps people receive a gift when they would not have otherwise.