

harcourt

Life and Work at Harcourt Memorial United Church

Sunday, December 8, 2019 – Advent 2

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

Head Usher: Joan Barham

Ushers: Esther and Keith Devolin, Heather and Kent Hoeg

AV Tech: Petr Vales and Mark Sears

- ▶ **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:** Southampton and Mount Hope Pastoral Charge
- ▶ **Weekly Scripture at Home:** Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7,18-19, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12
- ▶ **Readings Next Week:** Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

Chalmers Community Services Centre: Food items for December: high fibre cereal and instant oatmeal and peanut butter. CCSC received 178.3 pounds of food from Harcourt in November.

Weekly Opportunities

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

Handbell Ringers Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Music Room

Tai Chi Wednesdays, 1:30pm, Friendship Room

MindStretch Thursdays, 8:45am, Chapel

Park 'n Dance Thursdays, 1:00pm, Gym

The Choir Thursdays, 7:30pm, Music Room

Stewardship Seconds

We are all branches rooted in Christ. Let us offer a portion of what God has provided us to bring glory and praise to God.

Today at Harcourt

Fundscrip Grocery Cards Available in the Greeting Area.

Flowers The flowers today have been place by Karyn Davies and family in loving memory of Betty-Anne Stammers, dear mother and grandmother.

7pm: High School Youth Group Our final youth group of 2019 is this weekend. Please bring a \$5 gift for a gift exchange! And if anyone has any Christmas baking they would like to share, we would love that! Hope to see you all there!

Coming up at Harcourt

Dec 9, 11:30am: Caroline Harcourt Fellowship The Caroline Harcourt Fellowship Circle will be having our Christmas gathering on Monday, Dec. 9. Punch and appetizers will be served at 11:30. At 12 noon we will eat our bag lunch followed by a special program of music and stories and a devotional and then the tasty treats with tea! If you wish to add some of your traditional baking, that would be greatly appreciated. Bring a favourite apron and share its story with us. All women are welcome. You do not have to be a member nor will we pounce on you to become one. Just come and enjoy some great fellowship.

Dec 11, 7:45am: Men's Group Meeting Our speaker this month will be John Buttars, who was minister of Harcourt Church until his retirement in 2006. Come and hear the story of John's and Barbara's trip to British Columbia to explore a part of Canada--the unceded land of the Haida peoples. John has been moved by the actions of The United Church in issuing its first apology to indigenous peoples in the 1980's. Since then we have had the reports of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. His talk will explore the experiences of the trip and the challenge of our attitudes to aboriginal land claims and treaties. All men and women are welcome and encouraged to attend. Coffee and tea will be ready at 7:45am, the meeting will begin at 8.

Dec 14, 10am: Darko Cikovic Memorial Service A memorial service for Darko will be held at 10am on Saturday, Dec 14. A reception will follow in the gym. More information can be found at <http://www.wallcustance.com/notices2.aspx?notice=22170>.

Opportunities in the Community

Dec 14, 10am: Repair Cafe Bring your broken items to the Guelph Tool Library Repair Café and get them fixed with the help of our expert volunteers, and learn how its done! At The Church of The Apostles - St James & St Matthias, 86 Glasgow St. N.

Dec 15, 3pm: A Celebration of Carols Featuring choirs, jazz, storytelling, dance. At Dublin Street United Church. Freewill offering. Reception and Christmas market following.

Dec 19, 7pm: Longest Night Service At Trinity United Church. We are surrounded in this season by the sounds and sights of joy – family gatherings, parties, and laughter. Some of it is real, some is forced, and some is a cover-up for various kinds of pain and disappointment. And so we have come together this evening seeking comfort and strength from each other and from God. All are welcome to this place where we can honestly be ourselves.

Dec 21, 7pm: Longest Night Service At Dublin Street United Church. A peaceful, candlelight service in the sanctuary with soft music, prayer and candle lighting. This service is to help those who are experiencing loss or those for whom Christmas is a difficult time. Refreshments to follow. All welcome.

Opportunities to Support

Dec 21: Saturday Night Supper Harcourt will have the opportunity to prepare and serve our next Saturday Night Supper on December 21. See our website for more information or sign-up at www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d44adab29abfc1-saturday14.

Office and Committee News

Thank You Thank you very much for your continued support of the gift card program for the Adopt-a-Family program with the Children's Foundation. The cards were dropped off on Tuesday, December 3rd. Our donation was \$1170 in gift cards for the teens and young adults that are recognized as needing some support and would not likely be getting anything else for Christmas. The Children's Foundation is most appreciative of our church's participation and generosity. This year they are short on donors, so were very happy with our contributions! Tax receipts will be issued in the new year.

Offering Envelopes Offering Envelopes for 2020 are available in the Greeting Area. If you are on PAR and wish to have a few extra envelopes for additional givings, please notify Heather Hoeg at 519.265.5956 or hoeg@rogers.com.

Festive Flowers We will once again be continuing our tradition of placing poinsettias in the chapel and sanctuary for the Dec 15 and 22 services. If you would like to place flowers in remembrance of a loved one or to honour a special occasion, please contact Barb Friend by Dec 9. Home # 519.763.5032; Cell # 519.803.5032: email: barfriend52@gmail.com. You are welcome to take your poinsettia home after the 10:30 service on Dec 22.

Emergency Communication Test Just a reminder that an emergency communication test was sent out on December 4. If you did not receive this but would like to in the event of a future emergency or cancellation, please contact the office at office@harcourtuc.ca or 519.824.4177.

ATC Update A number of you have asked about the "guesstimate" of last week that All Things Christmas earned over \$8500. We now know that it brought in \$8740.08. Many thanks to Judi Morris of Meadowrock Farms, Doug Steele of Full Circle Tree Care, Wintersingers Christmas Tree Farm and Harcourt folk.

Annual Report Submissions Harcourt Team Leaders, Committee Chairs and Coordinators of Groups at Harcourt: the end of the year is rapidly approaching and with it comes the task of assembling Harcourt's Annual Report. Please submit a brief report including some of the highlights of 2019 to Wendy at office@harcourtuc.ca before Jan 13, 2020. Beat the rush and submit your report early!

Harcourt Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

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