

South Winds

Windsor Park United Church

November 2012

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From the study ...

I have been preparing for Advent since July! I know that will make some of you cringe but it's when I have time to be creative. We have planned what I hope you will discover is an Advent season full of meaning and fellowship.



Anyone who knows me well will understand the picture of the Grinch on this page. Yes, this is the story that makes Christmas for me. As a child, I would bring the book home from the library to read over and over again. I think what has always entranced me was the power of good and love against seemingly insurmountable odds. What could be better than someone as miserable as the Grinch discovering the true meaning of Christmas?

Make plans to join us at WPUC for an evening of family fun and silliness over gallons of chili, a blazing fire and secret visitors! Discover the peace and comfort of worship that invites you to remember the losses and disappointments that can't be wiped away in this season of jolliness. Be captivated anew by the journey through the Sundays of Advent as we travel step by step to Bethlehem and the birth of our faith. Uncover the unique blessing of filling and delivering a Christmas hamper. Be part of the crowd who gathers to sing and celebrate with our three musical groups in a magical concert. We do all of this to acknowledge and celebrate our faith in Jesus and how it has transformed our lives.

This congregation listens carefully and serves the community with tremendous energy and vision. Look in this newsletter for details of the Alzheimer's workshop on January 19th. Caring for those with cognitive challenges makes many of us feel we have become part of the 'sandwich generation'.

We are planning two special days for children in the New Year: Music Discovery Day and Craft Discovery Day. These will offer your children a chance to explore music and crafts in a fun learning environment.

Watch for the date of our winter walk on the Seine River with an interpreter from Save our Seine. We'll learn about this bountiful natural habitat just steps from our homes.

You don't have to go all the way to New Orleans for Mardi Gras! You just need to get to WPUC on February 12th with some food for our potluck supper and enthusiasm for an evening of amateur talent. The stage is ready for you to sing, dance, tell jokes, recite poems or whatever talent you might possess and be willing to share in public!

As the malls fill with the sounds of Christmas, let us take a deep breath and remember what this time is about. There is a place for you in the family of Jesus right here at WPUC. Let us be thankful for the gift of faith, family, friends and community.

Blessings,

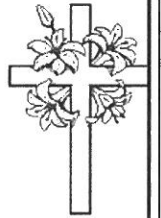
Sharon



Our Church Family

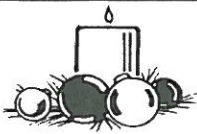
We extend our sympathy to

The Manning Family on the passing of Norma (mother of Bill & Colleen)
The Cleve Family on the passing of Dennis (partner of Myrna, father of Tara)
The Smith Family on the passing of Ed (husband of Mary)



We congratulate on their marriage, the following

Alain Gendreau & Michelle Spencer on September 22, 2012
Ian Meilleur & Amber Van Roose on September 29, 2012
Stuart Attwood & Michele Dupuis on October 20, 2012



Christmas can be a hard time...when you miss someone you love, when you're facing illness or uncertainty, or when you have to be far away from family and friends. Sometimes it helps to have a quiet time to remember.



Blue Christmas Service
Sunday December 9, 2012
7:00 pm
Windsor Park United Church

Come for a service of song, prayers, candles and hope.
Refreshments and fellowship to follow.



IT'S A COOKIE WALK

SATURDAY, December 1st
10 – 11:30 am
at

Windsor Park United Church
1062 Autumnwood Dr.

\$8.00 FOR A CONTAINER OF COOKIES
\$8.00 FOR A CHRISTMAS PUDDING

Worship Council

The Advent Season is just about here and we look forward to Christmas with joy and anticipation. Come and join us for the journey through Advent.

Advent Services will take place on December 2, December 9, December 16 and December 23. While each service can be taken individually, the four Sundays will follow a theme that will culminate on Christmas Eve so we encourage everyone to attend all of the services.

We will be offering three Christmas Eve services, each with their own special message. Our 5:00 p.m. service will be geared towards families with young children. A youth focussed service will take place at 7:00 p.m. At 11:00 p.m. we will offer a traditional service to take us into Christmas Day. Each service will offer something different and we invite you to attend any or all of them.

For those who have suffered a loss or who are far from family at Christmas we are offering a Blue Christmas Service on December 9 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We look forward to seeing you this Advent Season!!!!

Jennifer Rentz-Wright
Worship Council Chair



Finance Council

At the time of this writing, our General Fund deficit is around \$29,200 despite the fact that PAR and Envelope are \$1,873 higher than last year at this time. If we manage expenses and our generous congregation follows the giving patterns of the past we are projecting a deficit of \$27,000. The deficit started in January of this year as givings were unexpectedly lower and never really recovered until Easter.

One theory is 'snow birds', our answer is 'PAR'. If you are planning to be in warmer climes this winter (lucky bird) please consider PAR or Pre-Arranged Remittance. PAR allows your budgeted monthly givings to WPUC to be transferred from your chequing account while you work on making par on the golf course. There are around 110 folks in the congregation who use PAR. It is easy; submit a voided cheque and the PAR form to Lucy at the Church office. You can make amendments at any time.

The Barrier Free Project repayments are below budget, we should have less than \$39,000 to repay by the start of 2013. M&S givings are \$19,448.70 as of October 31st.



Please remember only donations accepted by December 31, 2012 will be part of your 2012 tax receipt.

Councils should now be setting their 2013 budget. We are hoping that the budgeting/planning exercise will result in a 2013 budget that will embody our Mission Statement and empower the Councils to move forward with their plans. We will take into serious consideration our current givings levels. As in past years, we are selling Safeway gift cards as our painless fundraiser. We are also selling Poinsettia plants for \$20 each. Orders need to be placed by November 30 with the plants to be delivered on December 9. Signup sheets in the office or at the Safeway Gift Card purchase table.

We can always use a few more counters to assist with the Sunday offering. Training is available and the coffee is free. Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

As with other Councils, we are also in need of new members. Please contact me if you wish to assist. In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support of WPUC. I am constantly surprised and grateful for the gratitude you show towards the congregation.

Doug Waldron

Ramblings from the "Other Office"

Here we are again, just about to begin another Advent season and I find it hard to believe it has already been a year since I first joined you all here at Windsor Park United. What a year it has been. This community has embraced me from the beginning and for that I am grateful. I have also been given the opportunity to stretch myself and bring new ideas to fruition within a community of support. As we move into Advent, I am filled with a sense of anticipation, wonder and just a bit of trepidation. I am excited about the future of this community, the youth who are willing to engage in and be a part of community, the openness of the people to new forms of worship and new ideas of being. I am full of wonder at the work and commitment of the people to help those who are less fortunate and during this holiday season, that need is never greater. I know that these next few years will be instrumental in the formation of my faith as I begin that journey towards ordination and I feel blessed to be taking this journey with the people of Windsor Park United.

I continue to be energized by the youth of this church, their sense of faith, community and self. They have challenged me and helped me to grow in ministry and I look forward to the future with them all. We have some great ideas for the youth this year including; archery, paintball, congregational ski night, bowling, baking, congregational caroling, Adrenaline Adventures and others. We are also seeing new youth join us and with the creation of a youth space in the church, we hope to continue to grow in community and continue to be involved in all aspects of the life and work of Windsor Park United.

We are in the process of looking at our Young Adults group and discerning the direction of this group and looking at the need and scope of adult programming at Windsor Park United. This is an ever evolving process and change can bring about refreshed energy and engagement and so the work continues.

As we journey through Advent, I wish to offer my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to be among you as we grow in faith together.

May the peace and blessings of this sacred time be with you all,

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Woodbeck

Brownies

The 232nd Brownies are up and running again this year! We have 17 active and enthusiastic girls who participate every Monday night.

This year we are learning about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) as well as "Our Community".

On that note...we have challenged the Monday night Sparks unit to a "Tuna Challenge". During the month of November we are collecting cans of tuna to donate to Winnipeg Harvest...stay tuned to see which group has the tallest tower at the end of the month (donations would be gratefully appreciated)!

Sharon

232nd Brownies

WPUC Garden Club,

We are already thinking of gardening yet the snow has just arrived. This past summer, many comments were received about how well the flowers were blooming. Thanks to the volunteers who looked after the weeding and watering.

What are our plans for next spring? If the garden club is to continue we need more members. At least 10 new members are needed. If not then the club will have to disband. We need new ideas and possibly guest speakers in order to attract new members. Anyone who has ideas as to how we can interest new members, please contact myself, George Baker or Ken Craig.

Submitted by *Bill Belsham*

DECEMBER SERVICES

at Windsor Park U. C.

- December 2nd ~ Advent 1
December 9th ~ Advent 2
~ White Gift Sunday
~ Blue Christmas Service at 7 pm
December 16th ~ Advent 3
~ Choir Christmas Concert at 2:30 pm
December 22nd ~ Christmas Hampers (packing & delivering)
December 23rd ~ Advent 4

Congregational Caroling to be announced!



Please join us for
"A Christmas Celebration 2012"
Featuring the choirs of
Windsor Park United Church
on Sunday
December 16th at 2:30 pm



December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

- 5 pm ~ "The Uproar in Bethlehem"
7 pm ~ "Christmas Reflections"
11 pm ~ Candlelight Communion

Outreach Council

We are into the season for **Christmas Hampers**.

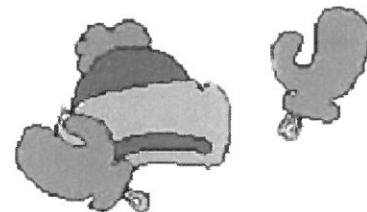
Windsor Park United Church has volunteered to prepare and deliver 25 hampers on behalf of the Christmas Cheer Board and we need your help to be successful with this task. The hampers we prepare include a combination of non perishable food and perishable items such as turkeys, milk and vegetables plus some presents to help these 25 families have a Merry Christmas.

1. This year your Outreach Council has followed the pattern we started a few years ago in an effort to stretch the Christmas dollars as far as possible. For the past four or five months, members of the Outreach Council have been taking advantage of sale opportunities at all the grocery stores. Through the diligent work of some very careful shoppers, we are pleased to advise you that all of the non perishable food items have been purchased. The purchases to date have been paid from funds borrowed from our church. The perishable food items will be purchased on the day that the hampers are delivered which is December 22nd..
2. This is where we respectfully ask for your financial assistance to provide us with the funds to make the Christmas Hamper program a success. Enclosed with your copy of Southwinds is an envelope for Christmas Hamper donations. For a couple of Sundays, members of the Outreach Council will also be handing out "hamper donation" envelopes for those who receive their copy of Southwinds electronically. If you are inclined toward helping in this manner, please return your contribution in this envelope and drop it in the collection plate. Please ensure that your contribution for the hamper program is clearly marked for that purpose. The need for your monetary donations is even greater this year, as we are doing more hampers than last year. In addition, we have to repay the money we have borrowed from our church for the non perishable food, as well as provide for the purchase of perishable items.

(As an aside, for the past several years we have been delivering spring hampers to needy people in our area. We want you to be aware that the spring hamper program is funded from your surplus monetary donations collected during the Christmas season. **This is definitely a gift that goes on giving.**)

3. As in past years, the Sunday School children will be provided with specific people from our hamper list to buy a gift for. These gifts can be brought to the church and presented on Sunday December 9th which is White Gift Sunday.

4. We require driver volunteers to deliver the Christmas Hampers on Saturday, December 22nd. Check for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex at church.



5. We will once again have the **Mitten Tree** set up at the back of the sanctuary until the end of December. Anyone wishing to donate mitts, gloves, hats, socks, etc. please just hang them on the tree. These are donated to some schools in our area.

As you can see, we have some wonderful opportunities for you to help make a difference in the lives of people who are less fortunate than us. Every year at Christmas, this congregation amazes us with its generosity and we know this year will be no exception. On behalf of the needy families and children, thank you in advance, because we know your support will be terrific.

Gwen Polak
& Derek Read
Co-Chairs, Outreach Council

UCW

As we shovel out from the first snowfall of the season, it brings to mind how close we are getting to the Advent season. This reminds us of the many activities that are coming up in the life of the United Church women.



On Sunday October 28th we celebrated 50 years in the United Church with a special candle light service. We recognized 13 charter women in our church and those 4 ladies who were able to

partake in the service were presented with a yellow rose. A light lunch was served after by the AOTS (and some recruits).

On Saturday, December 1st the UCW is holding a **COOKIE WALK** from 10-11:30 A.M.

Please support us by baking cookies (six dozen or so), volunteering to help set up, serve or clean up. Sign up sheet in the Narthex. Come and get your Christmas baking. Tell your friends too!

Note: Cookie donations should be brought to the church November 30, Friday afternoon 1-3 p.m. Or Friday evening at the Chili, Bonfire, Carol sing.

THANK YOU!!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!!

Also Unit 2 UCW are making Christmas puddings. A limit of 50 will be made. There is a pre order list up at church in the Narthex.

YAHs will be selling their Yum Yum Cookbook for \$7 at the cookie walk as well.

May the season of Advent and the holiday season be especially joyful to each and every one!

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Saindon

Chairperson UCW Executive

15th Annual Bonfire, Chili Supper & Carol Sing



It's almost time for
Advent to begin!
There's no better way
to get ready than a
good old-fashioned
**bonfire and
carol sing.**

Bring the whole family to the
church on

**Friday November 30th
5:30-8:00 pm**

for a "divinely" good **chili
supper** prepared by Chef
Sharon and lots of fun
activities for the whole
family.

Freewill offering at the door.

WPUC Art Group

We started up mid September and have been meeting regularly every Tuesday from 1- 3:30 p.m. We have 14 members and welcome any one who would like to paint. The fee is \$45 annually.

We have had one guest artist in so far to give us instruction. We plan to invite a couple more.

Diane (Reid) Segger who was in our art group and now lives in Ontario, has joined an art group there. She entered some of her works in a fall art show in Mississauga and did well. Good luck in your endeavors, Diane and to all of our artists who enter art shows.

Come join us. We are a friendly group.

Submitted by *Carol Belfham*

Bible Adventures

Bible Adventures is in full swing and many of our youth participated in a very moving Remembrance service with the wee little ones singing the song, Magic Penny.

The older children are going to sing for the White Gift Service on December 9.

On November 18. Bible Adventures will hold a book sale of overstocked items in our library. This sale will help to bring in new books and resources to our library. Please remember that books can be signed out by the parents for their children.

AOTS will once again be providing the items for a Christmas party to be held on December 23.

There will be no formal Bible Adventures on December 30 and January 6.

Respectfully submitted,

Bible Adventures Coordinating Committee

Refugee Settlement Committee

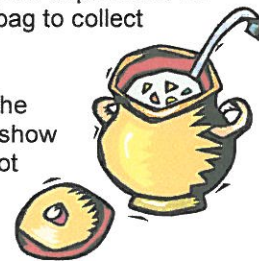
Our Afghan family of 5 have been living in Welcome Place on Bannatyne for over 3 months now. They were only supposed to be there for 21 days. This has proved to be a challenge for Hanifa as their apartment is extremely small. She has done very well keeping the 4 children occupied by taking them to the park and lately going to the main library where the children love the computer.

They will be moving into Ircom (a subsidized apartment on Isabel Street for refugees with disabilities) before November 20th. Apparently they are extremely lucky to have been accepted into Ircom which provides a lot of support and they will be allowed to live there for 3 years.

The children seem to love their school and are progressing nicely with their English. Rahilia is bussed to a different school (Lord Roberts) as it is wheelchair accessible. Everyday she is so excited to get to school she wakes up earlier than she has to asking Hanifa to go to school. She seems to be speaking more now and always has a big smile when she sees us.

The children were very excited for Halloween - a new experience for them. We had brought them some masks and a bag to collect their treats and their faces just lit up.

We would like to thank Margo Baldwin for taking the time to go to Welcome Place with Derek Read to show Hanifa how to cook a couple of meals in a crockpot she brought. They also took her shopping as she was having a bit of trouble figuring out what was healthy food and what was not.



Also, we would like to thank the congregation who donated clothing and household items and those of you who are storing items for us as we have run out of room.

We have delivered some of the warmer clothing as needed as there is no storage in their apartment. Hanifa and the children are always so grateful for everything we have taken to them.

After they move into their new apartment there will be more opportunity to help with family management, shopping, cooking, etc. At that time if there are other items needed we will request them in the Sunday bulletin.



If anyone is getting rid of a microwave or toaster oven please call Marlene at 204-254-5866 or email marlene.mckay@me.com.

We thank you for all your generosity and support.

Refugee Settlement Committee

Moms 'n Tots

The Moms 'n Tots program began a new season on October 10th. We have 12 moms, 5 babies upstairs and 10 children downstairs. Thank you to Carol Nichol for looking after the upstairs program and also to all of the ladies that come out to help with the babies.

Lillian Aird is preparing the crafts for the children downstairs and Chris Smith sets up the toys and prepares the room each week.

The Moms spent the first couple of weeks enjoying coffee and conversation. Kerri Nelson volunteered to give leadership to the group and Lara Johnson will work on the programming.

October 24th, the Moms made a lovely potluck breakfast and invited the caregivers to feast also. Thank you so much ladies.

October 31st, the moms made bracelets and brought cupcakes for the children to decorate. The children had a great time showing off their costumes for Halloween.

November will bring such activities as Belly Dancing, a guest from Assiniboine Park to talk about Kids' camps and family programming within the park and McNally Robinson will join the group to talk about the latest and greatest books for everyone's Christmas lists.

December 5th will be a breakfast out for the Moms and December 12, Santa will visit and we will have a pot luck breakfast.

Thank you to all of our caregivers who come out to play and care for the children.

We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas season and look forward to beginning a New Year with the group on January 9th, 2013.

Anyone wishing to become a part of the Moms 'n Tots program, either as a caregiver or as a Mom please call Ruth Klein at (204) 256- 6390 or the Church office at (204) 256-8792.

Ruth Klein & Maxine Pattle



Thursday Morning Study Group

Do you enjoy lively discussions? Are you inquisitive? Do you sometimes think out loud? If you answered "yes" to any of the above - well - we have a chair waiting for you!!

You will be welcomed by a small caring group of people who are like minded, sometimes, but always have interesting insights.

We are using a book about evangelism called "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren. There is an outline for discussion at the end of each chapter that we use to ponder our beliefs and broaden our horizons.

There is always coffee, lively conversation and fellowship waiting for you every Thursday morning at 9:15. Come out and join us.

Congregational Involvement and Communications Council

September is always a very busy month for us, we served coffee and goodies after church with the exception of our Welcome Back Lunch day (9th) when we had almost 100 guests for Manitoba Pork on a bun.

We also host our annual Golf Tournament in September (16th). There were 30 golfers & guests who enjoyed a particularly warm fall day on the links and a lovely lasagna dinner made by our hardworking team. They are enjoying a much needed break until we settle into winter with our Curling night and Sleigh ride. We are also planning some surprise events to warm our spirits through the cold months ahead so watch for info in the church bulletin!

In faith,

Judi Olson Chiswell

Membership and Pastoral Care Council

On Nov. 4 our annual visitors' session and luncheon took place. Patrick led us in a discussion of "stories" as a technique to use when visiting the ill/elderly/shut-ins. We are still looking for more visitors, phoners and drivers. If you can help please let Lucy or Wilma know (wilmap@shaw.ca or 204-256-4665.) Thanks!

Upcoming Events:

1. **Blue Christmas** – Sunday, Dec. 9, 7:00 PM. Come for the beautiful music, Sharon's message, light candles for loved ones who have passed, and enjoy refreshments after the service. Bring a friend!
2. **Thinking of You baskets** – Dec. 22. We need items such as: baking/candy, homemade jam/jelly, packaged tea bags/hot chocolate, small toiletries, and other miscellaneous items (e.g.: gently used Christmas coffee mugs, mini flashlight, deck of cards, memo pad, Christmas napkins etc.). WE WILL NEED DRIVERS TO DELIVER THE BASKETS ON SATURDAY, DEC. 22.

You can sign up for driving on our list in the church narthex.

Any non-perishable contributions for the baskets must be given to Lucy by Sunday Dec. 16. BAKING SHOULD BE BROUGHT ON FRIDAY, DEC. 21 TO ENSURE FRESHNESS.

3. **Alzheimer's Workshop** Saturday, Jan. 19 at WPUC. Watch for the poster!

Wilma Hunnie

Manitoba Metis Federation Inc, Metis Community Liaison Department

Time sure flies when you're having fun...the summer has come and gone far too quickly. The Little Moccasins group met regularly throughout the summer months with the exception of one session in August as we were a little short staffed.

We have been fortunate enough to have some guest presenters out to the site to do various

presentations to our participants including Infant First Aid, Winnipeg Public Library and the Child Care Coordinator for the St. Boniface area.

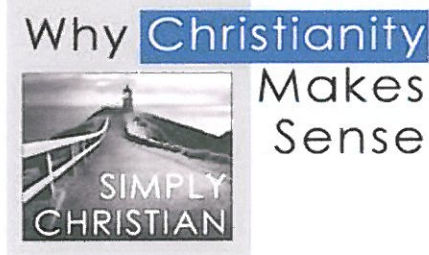
With the holiday season fast approaching, it's a good time to share that we will be having a site closure on both Thursday, December 27th, 2012 and Thursday, January 3rd, 2013 to allow for staff and participants to have some family time.

As always I am available in the Winnipeg Regional Office Monday to Wednesday and Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Thursdays I am available from 9:30 am to 11:00 am at the Home Office, and then off to facilitate Little Moccasins for the remainder of the day.

My contact information is as follows:

Vicky Allard

Metis Community Liaison Worker
Winnipeg Region
Winnipeg Metis Association
412 McGregor Street
Winnipeg MB R2W 4X5
Ph: (204) 589-4327 ext. 234
Fax: (204) 582-2711
vicky.allard@mmf.mb.ca



Want to learn more about our Christian faith? This 10-part DVD series features best-selling author, N.T. Wright. Each week will offer thought-provoking discussion and insight for those who want to wrestle with what it means to believe in our 21st century world.

[The last session of the first five, begins on Wednesday @ 7 pm until 8:30 pm.](#)

November 21, 2012

[The last five sessions begin on Wednesday @7 pm until 8:30 pm.](#)

January 16, 23, 30, 2013

February 6, 20, 2013

Community Session by Alzheimer Society of Manitoba Family education for those experiencing dementia

*Please join us
for the following
presentations:*



Alzheimer's
Disease and
Other Dementia's:
What is the difference,
What are the Warning
Signs & What is the
Impact in our
Society?



Communication:
The Right Approach!
Understanding the
Communication Needs
of People with
Dementia

**Saturday, January 19, 2013
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

Windsor Park United Church

1062 Autumnwood Drive, Winnipeg, MB

Sponsored by High Steppers Seniors Club,
Seine River Seniors, Archwood 55 Plus
and Prendergast Seniors

Presented by Maria Mathews
Manager of Client Support
Alzheimer Society of Manitoba

2 Easy Ways to Register:

- 1 - Online at alzheimer.mb.ca
or scan code
- 2 - Contact Maria Mathews at
1-800-378-6699 or
mmathews@alzheimer.mb.ca



www.alzheimer.mb.ca

THE
THOMAS SILL
FOUNDATION
INC.

Thank you to the Thomas Sill Foundation
for its commitment to community
education for care providers in Manitoba.

Alzheimer Society

MANITOBA

Dementia Care & Brain Health

December 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Reign of Christ	26 6:15 PM Sparks & Brownies 6:30 PM AOTS Dinner Mtg.	27 1:00 PM Art Group 7:00 PM Executive Team Mtg. 7:00 PM M & PCC Mtg.	28 9:30 AM Moms 'n' Tots 11:30 AM Soup & Sandwich	29 9:15 AM Study Group 1:30 PM Little Moccasins	30 9:00 AM The Cookie Walk Set-up 15th Annual Chili Supper & Bonfire	1 9:00 AM The Cookie Walk
2 Advent 1	3 6:15 PM Sparks & Brownies 7:00 PM UCW Executive Mtg.	4 9:30 AM Fr. Healthy Babies 1:00 PM Art Group	5 9:30 AM Moms 'n' Tots	6 9:15 AM Study Group 1:30 PM Little Moccasins	7	8
9 White Gift Sunday Communion Advent 2 7:00 PM Blue Christmas	10 6:15 PM Sparks & Brownies	11 1:00 PM Art Group 7:30 PM UCW Unit 2 Meeting	12 9:30 AM Moms 'n' Tots	13 9:15 AM Study Group 1:30 PM Little Moccasins	14 7:30 PM UCW (YAH) Mtg.	15
16 2:30 PM Christmas Choral Concert Advent 3	17 1:00 PM UCW Unit 5 Mtg. 6:15 PM Sparks & Brownies	18 9:30 AM Fr. Healthy Babies	19	20	21 Thinking of You baskets	22 Christmas Hampers Thinking of You baskets
23 Baptism Advent 4	24 5:00 PM "The Uproar in Bethlehem" 7:00 PM "Christmas Reflections" 11:00 PM Candlelight Communion	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5