

Calendar

Sunday, December 13

Pop Can Sunday!

- 10:00 a.m. Office open
10:30 a.m. Worship Service ~ Advent III
Celtic Christmas
11:40 a.m. Fellowship in Banquet Hall
11:40 a.m. Office Open
11:45 a.m. Youth Choir
1:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant
Rehearsal

Monday, December 14

- 8:00 a.m. Fire Inspection of building
3:30 p.m. Jubilee House
7:30 p.m. NA Support Group
7:30 p.m. Prayer & Meditation Sm Grp*
8:00 p.m. House Band

Tuesday, December 15

- 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. Mother Care
10 - 11 a.m. Social Services
10:30 p.m. Gentle Yoga Small Group
1:30 p.m. UCW #1
6:30 p.m. Beavers & Cubs
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Journal Sm Grp
7:00 p.m. Bereaved Mothers Support
Small Group

Wednesday, December 16

- 10:30 p.m. Learning Circle: *The First Christmas*
11:45 a.m. MS Adaptive Tai Chi
5:00 p.m. Chick-Chat Library Book Club
6:30 p.m. Brownies & Sparks
7:30 p.m. Wisdom Circle
~The Birth of Hope Drama

Thursday, December 17

- 10 - 11 a.m. Social Services
10:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga Small Group
11 - noon Monica's Drop-In*
noon Call Church office for ride to
Church
2:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Small Group
6:00 p.m. Orff Instrumental Ensemble
6:30 p.m. Carol Choir
6:45 p.m. Cherub Choir

- 7:30 p.m. NA Support Group
8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, December 18

- Office Closed
9:30 a.m. Mother Care
1:00 p.m. Women's Circle Small Group
7:30 p.m. Living an Inspired Life
Workshop

Saturday, December 19

- 9:30 a.m. Living an Inspired Life
Workshop
6:00 p.m. Couples Club Potluck

Sunday, December 20

- 10:00 a.m. Office open
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
~ Christmas Sunday
11:40 a.m. Fellowship in Banquet Hall
11:40 a.m. Office Open
11:45 a.m. Youth Choir
1:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant Dress
Rehearsal
3:30 p.m. 3:30 Live! ~ Christmas Joy
~ Alex the Folk Band

(* off site)

OTHER GROUPS WE PARTNER WITH BY PROVIDING SPACE: Monday: Canadian Hard of Hearing Assoc.; Wednesday: Suzuki Baby Group, Historical Society, Terry Cowan Drumming; Friday: Nadine Harper student piano recital.

WELCOME CENTRE ~ In the Greeting Area! Pick up a yellow duotang full of information about St. Paul's.

CHECK OUT the papers hanging on the hook on the pew – you'll find information on how to get hearing assistive devices for the service, how to let yourself be known to us if you are new, how to let us know if you have any pastoral care needs ... and much more!

A REMINDER PLEASE ~ Many people have sensitivities to scents. It would be appreciated if we could all keep St. Paul's a scent-free building.

"Ringing our Bells for Climate Justice Now! ... Canada: Make a Real Deal in Copenhagen!"

The World Council of Churches is calling on all churches around the world to ring their bells 350 times on Dec 13 at 3 pm to coincide with an ecumenical service they are organizing in Copenhagen at the height of the meetings on climate change. This request has also come to us from the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, who will be in attendance at the service in Copenhagen. If churches around the world ring their bells at 3:00 pm local time on Sunday December 13th, we'll have a 24-hour chain of bells around the world! Why church bells? Because for thousands of years, they've been used to warn people of imminent danger ... and also to call people to action. Why 350 times? Because according to climate experts, 350 parts per million (ppm) is the upper limit for carbon dioxide (CO2) concentration in our atmosphere. Right now, the concentration stands at 390 ppm. Unless we are able to rapidly reduce, we risk irreversible impacts on all of Creation. Kathie Joblin is the contact person for St. Paul's United Church. She is looking for an intergenerational team of 20 or more people to assist with the ringing of St. Paul's bells on Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Please call at 326-7873 or just come to the Men's Choir Room this Sunday – we will gather at 2:45 p.m. and begin ringing at 3:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ~ Once again you are invited to place a poinsettia in the Sanctuary in memory of a loved one. Evans Flowers is offering a 20% donation back to the church on Christmas plants for the church along with free delivery to St. Paul's. So you can shop locally and support St. Paul's! Call Evans Flowers, 325-2719 or stop in at 47 West St. N. for your Church flowers! Orders need to be placed prior to December 16. As always, you are welcome to purchase and place your

own plant at your convenience and call in the name of your loved one to the office by noon on December 17 for inclusion in the bulletin.

THE BIRTH OF HOPE ~ WISDOM CIRCLE ~ This week, Wednesday, Dec. 16 in the Sanctuary ~ A Christmas Celebration with United Church Women Unit Two presenting Peggy Eberhard's musical drama, The Birth of Hope. All are welcome.

SOCIAL SERVICES POTLUCK LUNCH ~ DECEMBER 24 ~ from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Social Services is offering a pot-luck lunch for their clients and volunteers. Come and join in & bring a dish to share. With thanks for the help from Katimavik volunteers.

CAROLLING ~ The Youth Group is hosting an evening of carolling on Thursday, December 17, followed by a movie. Meet at the Church at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

COUPLES CLUB CHRISTMAS POT-LUCK CELEBRATION ~ will be held on Saturday, December 19, at 6:00 p.m. in the Banquet Hall. Please feel free to bring a guest. Enjoy fellowship, food and fun, followed by a Christmas program. Please bring your own cutlery, plates and cups as well as a donation for the local Food Bank.

2009 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS ~ St. Paul's fiscal year end is December 31, 2009. Please bring ALL 2009 financial contributions & any expenses in by this date. Cheques dated December 31, 2009 and received in the mail delivered to the office by noon on January 4, 2010 will be honoured. Visa & debit card donations must be made by December 31. Any contributions or expenses after the above dates will be included in 2010 records. Thank you, *Dave Austin ~ Treasurer, St. Paul's.*

2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the Narthex.

THE CHURCH BUILDING AND OFFICE will be closed Dec. 28 - 31. No use of the building has been booked and we feel this is the best way to accommodate the Statutory holidays for the staff. ~*Ministry & Personnel Committee*

The 'Memory Tree' is again a part of the Christmas decorating of our Narthex. If you would like to mark the memory of a loved one as a decoration on the tree, please record the name on the list provided in the Greeting Area at the Welcome Centre.

ADULT ENQUIRY ~ A time for discussion and reflection as together we enquire into our faith and it's impact on how we live day to day. Karen will lead this group for 10 sessions starting in January (specific start date yet to be determined) on Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. If there are enough people interested there is the possibility of running an evening class on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. If interested, please contact the Church office at 326-7351.

GODSEND ~ wants YOU! to step up to the plate and score our goal (how's that for a mixed metaphor?) of 600 lbs. of food and/or personal care items, for the month of December. Considering the past generosity of St. Paul's members, this goal should not be difficult. Some of the "most wanted" items are: powdered & canned milk, breakfast cereal, peanut butter, dry pasta & pasta sauce, canned vegetables & fruit, meal in a can (e.g. chilli, ravioli, spaghetti, pork & beans), soup, tinned tomato products, tinned meat, salmon, tuna, sardines, baby products (e.g. diapers, wipes, food, formula, biscuits), toiletries including toothpaste, facial tissue, shampoo & conditioner. On behalf of the Godsend program, I thank you. ~*Vern Ashton*

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF ORILLIA ~ is providing two days of programming for children in

grades 1 – 6, on Monday, December 21 and Tuesday, December 22 at St. Paul's, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Register for a day, both days or just part of a day. A fabulous opportunity for parents to get ready for Christmas! Starting on January 4, 2010 the Boys & Girls Club will be holding an After-School Club at the Orillia Public Library. If interested in either of these opportunities, please call 323-3422.

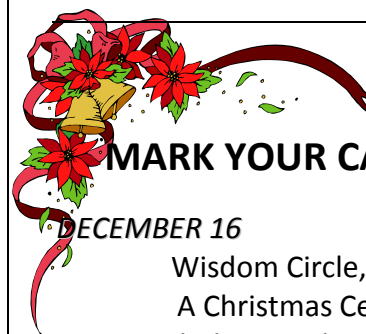
THROUGH THE SALES of 2010 Church calendars, we raised \$76 for the Mission & Service Fund. Thank you!

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS ~ November 30/09

Revenue:		
Local	\$33,786.67	\$373,544.86
M & S	\$ 3,569.50	\$ 45,475.25
Expenses:		
Local	\$34,102.50	\$397,523.71
M & S	\$ 3,569.50	\$ 45,475.25
Financial Position:		
Local	-\$ 315.83	-\$23,978.85
M & S	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Bank: General:		-\$35,438.37
Investment account:		\$25,000.00
Petty Cash:		\$ 150.00
Bank Total:		-\$10,288.37

AS WE PRAY ❖ United Church Moderator, Mardi Tindal encourages us to hold our political leaders in our prayers at this time of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, as we hope and wait as Advent people to see signs of courage that will tell us they are prepared to take bold action. ❖ We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for the life of Charles Esson who died on December 1 and keep in our prayers his family and friends. ❖ We keep in our prayers by sending light and love to Betty Earle, Tom Page, Dick Contos (Edie McDonald's nephew), Sarah King (Shirley & Harvie Johnson's niece), Don Lander, Doris King, Rick Byrne, Bunny Kusey, Harry Hughes, Jann Merrick, Nora

Robert (Bonnie Sugden's mother), Garth Griffiths (Bonnie Sugden's nephew), Bruce Johnston, Scott Lepard, Letty Eastcott, and others connected to our St. Paul's family who are in hospital, recovering at home, in treatment, or preparing for surgery, as well as their families. *Anyone named in our prayer list (or a close relative of theirs) has agreed that they be included. The ministry of prayer is a powerful one. May God's blessings be with us as we continue sharing this ministry. Please let the church office know if you or a loved one is in the hospital as we are not able to check the whole hospital list but want to be of support. The portion of the list we can check is the United Church section – but you will need to make sure that you tell the registration person to put you on that list every time you go or your name will not show up.* ☞



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

DECEMBER 16

Wisdom Circle, 7:30 p.m.
A Christmas Celebration
with drama, *The Birth of Hope*

DECEMBER 20

3:30 Live! – Music: Alex the Folk Band
followed by Christmas Pot Luck

DECEMBER 21

7:30 p.m. The Longest Night Service
& Candles of Remembrance & Love

DECEMBER 23

6:30 p.m. Dress Rehearsal for
Christmas Pageant. Preview Night
if you can't be here on the 24th!

DECEMBER 24

4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant
7:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

**ST. PAUL'S
UNITED CHURCH**

*... an inclusive, energized and
life-giving community
which lives the message of love for all.*

**LIFE & WORK
OF THE CHURCH**

DECEMBER 13, 2009



**CHURCH OFFICE
(705) 326-7351**

stpaulsorillia@bellnet.ca

www.stpaulsunitedchurch.org

Please let the office know if you would appreciate contact for pastoral care. With a community this large it is difficult to ensure that everyone is receiving the support they need unless they let us know. Purple pastoral care sheets are provided on the hook in the pews to share pastoral care needs for you or another.