

St. James United Church Life and Work, December 11, 2016

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Rev. Bobby Fillier, who served as the Minister of St. James throughout the 1990s. Rev. Fillier died peacefully at his home in Lakefield, Ontario, as were his wishes, early on Monday, November 28. Here some words from his son, Rev. Matthew Fillier:

“Several of your amazing folks have been wonderfully supportive of my Dad and his partner Peggy during the last three months. As you are probably aware, he was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. He died early on November 28, peacefully at home as were his wishes. We are blessed with the legacy he leaves us, and that his family were able to be with him during this painful journey. There is sadness for us this morning, but appropriately as we pass the first Sunday of advent - there is also great hope. In my dad's words "I'm not just going to die. I'm going home." Funeral details and his obituary will follow, but we don't anticipate a funeral until January. Thank you so much for your prayers and kindness.”

We acknowledge a donation to the Roof Fund in loving memory of Don Jones from June, Jim and Brad.

The new poinsettia adorning the Sanctuary today is in memory of William & Nellie Bishop from their daughters Beverley and Karen, son Keith, granddaughter and her family, Kara Sheppard, Stephen, Joshua and Juliana.

Your White Gift may be placed in the wagon at the church entrance.

Take a pause from your busyness to give yourself a treat! Please join us on this coming Tuesday, December 13, to spread some Christmas joy to the folks in Pleasant View Towers, from 2-3:15 pm. We meet in the chapel by the playground at 1.15 and will be singing everyone's favourite carols. Everyone welcome!

Join the students of Prince of Wales Collegiate music programmes for their Christmas concert here at St. James on Monday, December 19 at 7.30pm with performances by the Concert Band, Jazz Band, Concert Choir and Chamber Choir. Admission is just \$5 at the door.

New Year's Day Worship: Please join Rev. Pamela on January 1 at 11 am to celebrate the New Year with a collection of favorite carols and stories of their origin, as well as a time of healing prayer and special New Year's Blessing.

Survey from CE: Please keep your eyes open for a programme survey that is coming out from the Christian Education Committee. We are looking to collect some information so we can best offer adult programming to fit the desires of the congregation.

Minute for Mission: 12 students at Emmanuel College had a rare opportunity to delve deeper into the polity of the UC and to experience polity in action at the 42nd General Council in Corner Brook, NL in August 2015. The course was created after the *“awakened opportunity for learning that came out of the 41st General Council in Ottawa”*. The students and their professor began their study through a series of webinars with each student taking a portion of the 1100 page General Council Workbook; they researched the background and wrote a paper on what it means for the national church moving forward. In Corner Brook they discussed, questioned and listened intently to the discussion on the floor. As a result of this experience, students came away with a better understanding of the polity in the church and how we as a national body make decisions. A partnership between M&S and Emmanuel College resulted in a grant covering staff costs and helping to defray student costs to attend the General Council meetings. M&S at work in our church!

WaterWerks Communications are collecting diapers for their Annual Christmas DiaperDrop again this year. All donations can be dropped off at 96 LeMarchant Road. For more information, please speak with our Sunday School teacher Sarah or visit diaperdrop.ca

The St. John's Choir will be presenting their annual Christmas Concert, *“Noel, Noel,”* in our Sanctuary this evening at 7:30. The Choir is conducted by Stephen Candow and accompanied by Philip Roberts. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

Wesley Church will hold its annual Christmas Communion on Saturday, December 17, starting at 2pm.

Cantus Vocum Chamber Choir presents *Night Before Christmas* next Sunday, 18 December at 4pm at Wesley UC. Tickets \$20/15 at the door.

Christmas 2015 Memory Tree deadline is December 19. Please ensure that the office receives the wording for your dedication. For a donation of \$5, a coloured bulb will be changed to a white one in loving memory or celebration of someone.

Memory Tree Form

Name of person donating: _____

In Memory of: _____

Env #: _____ Address if no Env. #: _____