



Spotlight



December 2015

Inside This Issue

- 2 Upcoming Events
- 2 Birthdays
- 2 Christmas Fair
- 2 Photos
- 3 Facilities Team
- 3 Refugee Response
- 4 Did You Know
- 4 Music Notes
- 4 Prayers of the People
- 4 Sign Language

Pastoral Search Update

Now that we have engaged Andrea Cambridge as our Interim Pastor, the Pastoral Search Team has entered the second phase of the search process. The data from various surveys have been aggregated, and that data has been used to develop a job posting for a permanent, part-time pastor. The posting was reviewed by the Mission Team on November 24th, and was subsequently submitted to CBOQ in order to be made available to pastors seeking placement. This concludes step five of an 18 step process. Below shows the target timeline that the team has developed. Achieving the timeline will depend largely on the candidates who are seeking a placement, and therefore dates could vary.



End of November	Posting with CBOQ; posting open to mid-January
Late January	Posting closes; review resumes of candidates
February	1 st interview of candidates; narrow down to first choice
March	2 nd interview of candidate
Late March/early April	Congregation votes on recommended candidate
April	Offer to candidate
May-July	Permanent pastor joins Calvary

Thanks to the volunteers who have helped with Calvary's 905 Star Santa Claus Boxes. There are still many to deliver so please take time this week to help.

The Pastoral Search Team will continue to provide monthly updates throughout the pastoral search process. The prayers and guidance of all congregation members are most appreciated.

Tina Timmermans, Pastoral Search Team Chair

Community Christmas Dinner



December 25th at 3 p.m.

Volunteers & Contributions Needed for Christmas Dinner

Our church makes a much-needed contribution to the season by hosting a Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day. We prepare for approximately 100 people, under the direction of head chef Marlene Ronson (416.699.7515), to feed body, soul, and heart.

Contributions of money are much appreciated. Please see Rita Deverell (416.434.0710), who will do your shopping for you! Contributions of heavy socks, gloves, mitts, basic toiletries for men and women also appreciated. Please take to the office. Some members of the congregation have already spoken up and we are thankful.

Cooking volunteers are needed a couple of days before the dinner and hosts/servers on Dec. 25th. Gift packing volunteers are needed in the week before the December. Please see Rita or Marlene if you can volunteer.

Calvary lives to seek, know & worship God representing the redeeming love of Jesus

Upcoming Events

Sun. Dec. 6th – Pre Service Christmas Carols 10:15 a.m.

Sun. Dec. 13th – *Candlelight Carol Service* 7:30 p.m.

Tues. Dec. 15th – *Mission Team* 7:15 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 20th – Pre Service Christmas Carols 10:15 p.m.

Thurs. Dec. 24th – *Candlelight Christmas Communion Service* 11:00 p.m. **NOTE NEW TIME**

Fri. Dec. 25th – *Christmas Community Dinner* 3 p.m.

Thursday, December 31st – *New Year's at Ganaraska*

Remember you can use the alphabetical cubbies in the foyer to send Christmas cards to friends* at Calvary.



December Birthdays

Dec. 1	Sharon Mole
Dec. 3	Rob Farrant, Rick Moore
Dec. 15	Ann Moore, Henry Condie
Dec. 18	Mary Kozak
Dec. 23	Amanda Kelley
Dec. 24	Carol Carney
Dec. 28	Bill Petrie



Our Christmas Fair

The Fair was successful again this year. Our famous Baketable was the department that earned the largest return. After all the tallies are in, we expect that the total overall will be about \$2,500.

Thanks to all who helped by organizing, baking, donating items, setting up, and by working at the sale. And oh yes, those who did some shopping. A special thanks to Eileen Kelly, Carol Carney, Cynthia Sneyd, Victoria Drysdale, and our custodian Jim. *Rick Moore, Coordinator*



The group from the Women's retreat at Ganaraska the first weekend in November. Many thanks to input leaders Wendy Dunits and Marlene Barnett. A big thanks to the men in the kitchen who took care of us so well.



The meat pie brigade in action. Get your delicious pies before they run out. Contact Cynthia after the service to pick up a couple of pies.

Facilities Report



Not long ago, while tending to the plants and trees at the front of the church, an elderly neighbour exited the Main Street bus and stopped to talk.

"Hi Pearl, how have you been keeping?" I asked. "Hello darling just fine." she replied.

Pearl walks slowly with a cane, wears an old-fashioned straw hat, and, I truly believe, is psychic. She stood for a while, leaned on her cane, intently observed the church front, up and down, then said "This is God's house. Bless you for looking after God's house." We spoke a bit about the challenge of church attendance these days. "We all have our choices" she said quietly, and shortly repeated the statement. Then she went her way.

The expression 'God's house' was 'a propos', and brings to mind a hymn we sing occasionally, "All Things Bright and Beautiful." From a faith and facilities perspective, I feel we should be inspired to maintain this house of worship and welcome in a state of brightness and beauty.

Therefore, in 2016, a Facilities team comprised of members capable of doing maintenance and repair work will be formed to pursue this goal.

Presently, my thanks to:

- ✓ Tom Crosby and Jim Yoleveski for replacing the south-side, flat roof downspout, thus preventing further rainwater leakage.
- ✓ Colin Bartlett for priming and painting so neatly and brightly the Clarke Hall washroom.
- ✓ Bruce McCrone for getting our parking lot lights working. Bruce will provide us with an estimate for upgrading the lighting in this area.
- ✓ Also the ladders have been removed from the front entranceway of the church.
- ✓ The old, deteriorated carpets have been disposed of from the Resource Room. This room is scheduled for further improvements.
- ✓ And our furnace is operating smoothly and efficiently due to the installation of new burners.

Looking forward to 2016.

Frank Carney, Chair Facilities

Refugee Response in the Beaches

My friend Marlene Barnett (an elder at Beaches) provided this time line of the work they're doing with refugees so that we understand the commitment they have to this ministry. Please consider including this performance in your celebration of Christmas.

Marlene Ronson

Friday Dec 11 at 8 p.m. at Beaches Presbyterian

"A Child's Christmas in Wales" with celebrity readers Tom Allen & Tom Power

Tickets are \$25 and proceeds go to support the Refugee Ministry of BPC

For more info call 416.699.5871 or office@beacheschurch.org

Two years ago we brought in two men – a couple – from Iran. They escaped execution in Iran by fleeing to Turkey. They lived there for many months but were still under threat. They arrived in Toronto during our ice storm and one of our members took them home until they could easily move into the apartment we had rented for them. So they were with him and his family for two days around Christmas. Since then, they've settled in quite well and are self supporting.

Prior to that we brought a mother and her five sons from Columbia. Their story is horrendous. We rented a house for them and over the next 18 months they all settled quite well. The boys all took ESL lessons and began to do well at school. Our Presbyterian Magazine did an article about them but could not use photos or their real names!

Our first refugee experience was a single man originally from the Congo. He had been in a refugee camp for two years in Kenya. He speaks several languages. Since his arrival in Canada, he got a job, and after quite a long time, got married to a girl from back home, got a degree at York U. They live in the Beach and have two children.

So now, we are planning toward bringing another family. There is a very long list of people who have been living in camps plus all the Syrian refugees.

All the money from this production will go to helping us meet the financial demands. Any money that Calvary could offer would be very welcome AND it is a great afternoon.

Did You Know ...



A Very Special Sunday

- ⇒ Sunday, November 22nd was a very special day in the lives of Michaela Leadingham and Chanel Chai when they gave their testimony and were baptized by Rev. Rex Deverell. We welcome Michaela and Chanel into our church family.

Congratulations

- ⇒ Congratulations to Diane Tisdall, daughter of Barry Tisdall, on receiving her Master's degree in International Affairs from Carleton University, Ottawa. Diane is in Development Projects and Planning, Foreign Affairs.
- ⇒ Congratulations to Jay and Karly Roberts, on the birth of their second daughter Audrey, 2 weeks early weighing 8 lbs 4 oz. Rev. Al and Dianne are happy grandparents again.

A New Address

- ⇒ Peggy Reiser has now moved to the Vida Lin Residence, 14 Cardell Avenue, Toronto, M9N 1S5 (401 and Weston Road area). The telephone number for the residence is 416.245.0033



Music Notes

Christmas Choir

Christmas choir practices are forging ahead on Wednesday evenings as we prepare special music for the four Advent Sunday morning services.

We are pleased to welcome our newest Christmas choir members this year: Andrea and John Cambridge, and Greg Frank.

The highlight of our musical preparation happens at the Candlelight service on the evening of Sunday, December 13th. It will be a really special evening of wonderful Christmas music with the choir, instrumentalists and other singers! Please come as we celebrate the birth of our dear Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Praise Team

Please note that there is no praise team practice in the busy month of December. We will return to our regular monthly schedule in January. *Music Director Sheelah Saunders*

Prayers of the People

The segment of our Sunday worship service reserved for the Prayers of the People is an important part of our collective praise, as well as our shared concerns. Various members of our congregation volunteer to undertake leadership on a rotating basis.

If you feel a calling to this mission, or wish to renew your commitment, I would urge you to sign the list posted, and pick up a copy of "Calvary Baptist Church Prayers of the People" as your guidelines. The current rotation will stand until the end of the year.

We all have the opportunity to serve our Lord with the talents He has given us as He blesses us all as His family.

Thank you Tina Timmermans

God has given prayer
With its wonderful power
To lighten hearts
In our troublesome hour.
He has given us blessings
To brighten our way
And the gift of His presence
At the dawn of each day.



Most of last month it was used for promoting the Christmas Fair.

Last week it said –

"It's never too late to be happy.
But it's all up to you."



The Main Thing • Calvary Baptist Church

Interim Minister: Andrea Cambridge • GPCC Director: Kathie Collins-Williams

• Director of Music: Sheelah Saunders • Administrator: Daphne L. Hunt • Building Manager: Jim Yolevski
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