**This Week at St George’s**

Sun Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 / Venturers 7

Mon Fitness 10 / Maycourt 6:30 / Soul Sauce 7 / Scout Leaders 7

Tues Tues Hangout 1:30 / Sparks 6

Wed Piano Lessons 5 / Brownies 6:30 / Advent Bible Study 7 /

Optimists 7

Thurs Chair Yoga 9:15 am/ Bible Study 1:30 / Jr Choir 7:15 / Choir 8

Fri Piano Lessons 4 pm

Sun Memorial Service 7

**Poinsettias**

The Youth Group has started their Poinsettia Fundraiser. All profits will go towards the Youth's 2018 CLAY trip to Thunder Bay. Plants range from $15.00 to $25.00. Orders can be placed with any of the youth until **December 4th**. Plants will be available for pickup at the church any time after 4 p.m. on December 13th.

**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!**

This is a wonderful way to welcome new parishioners or visitors to St. George’s. Our chart on the kitchen door has a number of blank spaces. Please consider this gift of service. Everything is provided. Please speak with Valerie Cuthbert if you need more information or call 519-578-8671.

**Christmas Market**

Do you have suggestions for items for the next Christmas Market? The planning group has had a post-Market meeting and are wondering if our parishioners have suggestions for items for the next Market. There is a box by the sign-up lists in the Narthex for any ideas. Thank you.

**Piano Lessons**

If you are interested in piano lessons with Rob, please contact him at 519-500-0769 or randsaszmies@hotmail.com

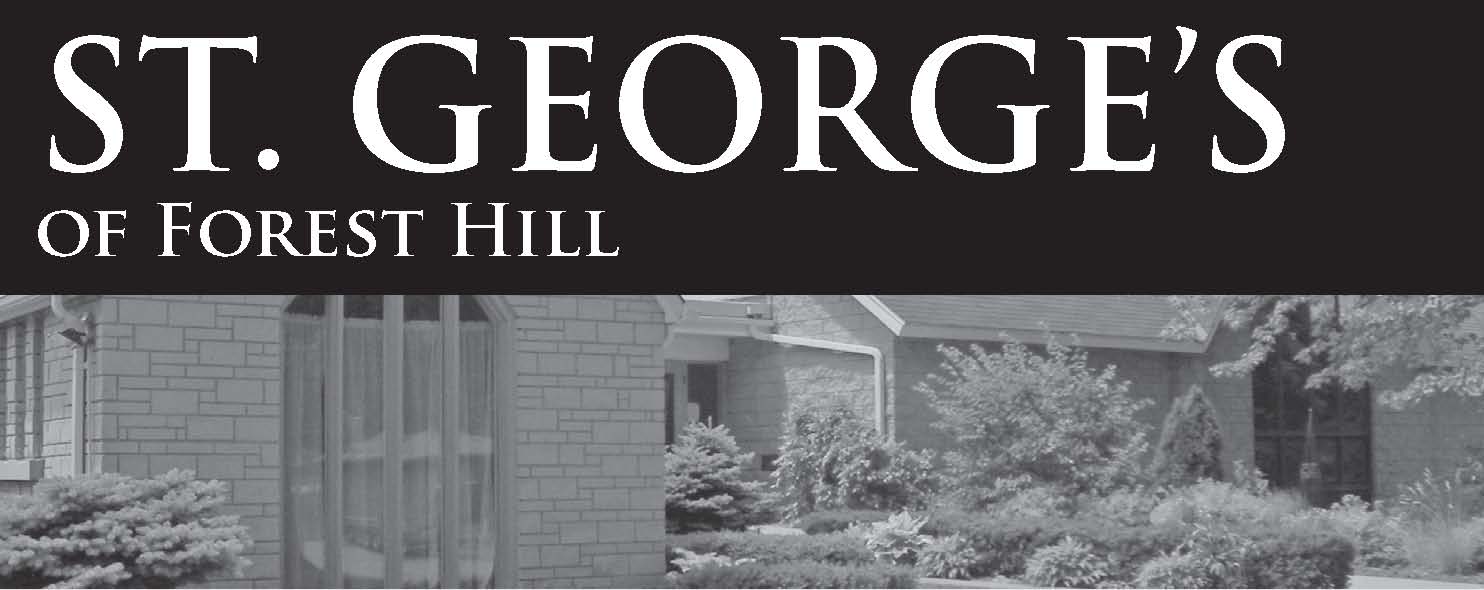
**Men’s Breakfast**

Saturday, December 9th is the next Men’s Breakfast at Angel’s Diner.

**December 17 services**

10am Jesse Tree presented by the Sunday School and Youth Group

7pm Service of Lessons and Carols



321 Fischer Hallman Road, Kitchener, ON,

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stgeorgefh@golden.net

[www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com](http://www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com)

<https://livestream.com/accounts/4258512>

Priest Rev Dr Stephen Hendry 519-603-7448

stevehendry@execulink.com

Parish Deacon Rev MaryLynn Forrest 519-404-2434

Deacon Emeritus Rev Brother Mark O.S.A 519-622-2982

Director of Music Robert Aszmies 519-500-0769

Honorary Assistant Rev Dr James Horne 519-744-4751

Honorary Assistant Rev Elizabeth Appleyard 519-744-4751

Honorary Assistant Canon David Morris 519-744-4751

December 3, 2017

Inspired by Christ, we dedicate ourselves to grow together in faith through active stewardship and ministry to one another and our communities.

*All are welcome here.*

Bagel Sunday – 1st Sunday of each month

8:15 and 10:00 am Sunday Holy Eucharist – Church

10:00 am Wednesday Healing Service – Chapel

Valerie’s Office Hours are:

Mon, Tues 1-5pm and Wed, Thurs, Fri 8:30am -12:30pm

**Readings for Next Week**

Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2,8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

**Book Club**

The next meeting will be Wednesday December 13 at 6:30 at June Matheson’s home (phone 519 746 2881) The book selection is any Joanna Trollope book.

**St John’s Kitchen Meal**

Sign-up lists are on bulletin board. Please remember to drop off your food donations in the electrical room, by Sunday, December 24 or Thursday morning Dec 28. The boxes are labeled and the refrigerator and small freezer in the electrical room should be used.

**Teachers’ Choir Concert**

Come “Celebrate the Season” at St Matthew’s Lutheran Church on December 6 at 7:30pm. Tickets are $15. See the poster in the Narthex.

**Lectors (Lesson Readers)**

You should find in your mailbox the 2017 December – 2018 January schedule as well as an appeal to sign up for our special Christmas services ... please help out if you can ... early sign-ups help to less the stress on our clergy and Valerie our Office Administrator during this busy parish season.

Questions – ask Cheryl Fox

**Winter is Coming! – Winter is Coming!**

Ah, yes! Those winter blahs! Don’t despair - help is on its way!  Mark your calendar for an Adult Euchre Party on January 19th (more details to follow) and a Family Games Night in early March. Both of these social events brought to you by your Atmosphere Committee (not responsible for the air and other gasses which surround our planet but for the MOOD or how you feel as part of our St. George’s parish family).

**Christmas Flower Sign-Up**

The sign-up sheet for Christmas flowers is in the Narthex. The suggested donation is $10.00

**Calendars**

2018 Calendars are for sale in the office for $5.00

**MaryLynn Away**

MaryLynn is taking 2 weeks holiday so she won’t be here Dec 3 or Dec 10.

**PWRDF Christmas Purchases**

The proceeds from the Soup Luncheon and the St Patrick’s Luncheon are being used to purchase items through the World of Gifts project.

**Tote Bags**

The Atmosphere Committee has worked with Fr. Stephen to create a Welcome to Newcomers "Package".  The first element is a fabric red tote-bag which has the St. George's logo and website. It bears the inscription *Let Faith Carry You*.  This tote bag will be filled with items for Fr Stephen to take to the newcomers' homes and extend an invitation to worship with our faith family.  We have set aside a number of the totes for newcomers, but due to popular request we will also sell a limited number of the totes to people who wish to have one.  Cost is $10.  They will be available for sale after the 8:15 and the 10:00 services in the narthex.  See Catherine Carlson for more details or reserve yours by emailing her at [c.louisecarlson@gmail.com](mailto:c.louisecarlson@gmail.com).

**A Financial Update from the Wardens and Treasurer**

We are fortunate that many parishioners are able to celebrate their abundant blessings by making an extra donation to St. George’s at Christmas. When setting an annual budget, we rely on these Christmas donations to meet our operating costs. At the beginning of 2017 we budgeted for donations in December 2017 to be $40,000, which is almost 2.5 times our regular monthly budget of $17,500. During the year we have faced additional financial pressure resulting from donations falling $6,000 below budget for the first six months of the year. As well, we have recently undertaken approximately $25,000 of repairs to the church, including necessary plumbing repairs and upgrades, a new water softener, a new heating & cooling system, and repairs to the sacristy windows. Some of these repairs are being paid for using the accumulated surplus we have built up over the last three years. However, we now have no savings to fall back on, and we really hope that donations over the next few weeks are even more than budget, to help offset the shortfall we had earlier in the year. As you plan for your year-end expenses and donations, please consider whether you are able to make an additional gift to St. George’s this year. All donations received go into church funds. If you wish to make a special gift to Fr Stephen, please give it to him personally.

2017 has been a wonderful year of renewal and revitalization as we have welcomed Fr Stephen and Joyce, repaired and decorated the rectory, and completed some necessary church repairs. Let us all pray that we can end the year on a sound financial footing in order to face the challenges and excitement of the new year and of welcoming all into God’s family.

**From your Atmosphere Committee**

The Atmosphere Committee invites everyone to come down to Thompson Hall and check out the White Board that Shares the **Good News of our Parish Life** here at St. Georges.  We have many photos of those who come out and organize or participate--or both!--in the events and initiatives of St. George's!!  While you are in the hall, have a cup of coffee and share a conversation with others.  Fun! Food! Fellowship!!  That is St. George's...

**Canadian Tire Money**

The Property Committee would appreciate donations of Canadian Tire money. It will be used to purchase maintenance items

**Grocery Vouchers**

Grocery Vouchers for Sobeys, Food Basics and President’s Choice are on sale in the Narthex after services. The church receives 4% of all sales. It is an easy way to support our Church.

**Toonies for Turbans**

To pay for the material needed to make the Cancer Turbans, the Outreach Committee would appreciate your help. Please donate toonies by leaving them in the jar in the Narthex

**Food Bank**

Remember the food bank when you are doing your grocery shopping. There is a blue box in the Narthex to collect items.

**Meat Pie Sales**

Turkey, Chicken and Beef pies are available for $3 each. Proceeds go to PWRDF and World Vision. See Charlotte for more information.

**Save Used Stamps**

Please save your used stamps for the Bible Society. Cut them off the envelope leaving ¼ inch border. Put your stamps in the marked container outside the chapel. Thank You for your ongoing assistance.