



ST. JAMES CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

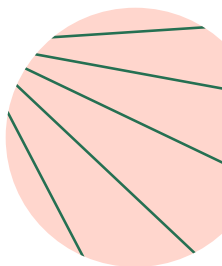
DECEMBER
2023

*Giving God, once again, the circle has turned;
the seasons have completed their tasks
of nourishing the earth.*

*Now, in the time of rest and recovery,
we are given a very special gift,
the baby who will change everything
for all of us, for all time.*

*We welcome this child,
who bring the gifts of hope, love, and joy,
as we join with the angels
who sing once more of peace on earth.*

Emily Perry, Gathering – Advent 2018 (adapted)



Advent & Christmas greetings, St. James Family.

It is hard to believe that another year has passed on the liturgical Christian calendar, and that we are welcoming Advent and its call to eagerly anticipate the birth of Jesus once again, in our hearts and lives.

This past year has been a remarkable one for us as we marked and celebrated our 115th anniversary in so many life-giving and meaningful ways. Thank you to each of you for your creative ideas, enthusiasm, dedication, and participation.

We've had a lot fun, our faith has stretched and grown, we've welcomed new people to the family and we remain open to the Spirit's nudging and guidance as we move into a new year and a vibrant future.

Please take a few minutes to read through this newsletter. Mark your calendar for the various special events and worship services and learn from our Treasurer how we are doing financially - and how you may be able to help out in a variety of ways.

This Advent, I pray that you have time for rest and quiet reflection, in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the season. Look for Jesus' gifts of hope, love, joy and peace everywhere you go, and in everyone you meet.

On behalf of your St. James staff, Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024.

REVEREND JULIE VAN HAAFTEN





A NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER

As we near the end of 2023, we have a lot to celebrate at St. James.

There were inflationary increases to our costs this year as well as some major repairs which were both expensive and, to some extent, unexpected. The Stewardship Committee asked for you to consider extra donations through **Giving Sundays**, the **Matching Donor Campaign**, and the **Anniversary Campaign**. Each campaign was successful, and the donations resulted in an additional **\$39,000** in receipts for the church.

*Thank you to all of you and to the
organizations who contributed to these
campaigns.*

Without your help, we would not be here.

*We are also very thankful for the efforts of
the fundraising committee,
Jim Lowes and the gift card program
and for Brian MacDonald and his friend's
production of Brian's Broadway.*

*We all benefit from their generosity of time
and talent. Please continue to support all
fundraising efforts during the coming year.*

The last date to donate to the church in order for it to appear on your 2023 tax receipt will be December 28. Donations can be made by cheque, cash, e-transfer at stjuc221@gmail.com, or by PayPal, or you can send it to 221 Romaine St., Peterborough, ON, K9J 2C3.

The 2023 tax receipts will be mailed during the first two weeks of February. Thank you so much for your continued financial support.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season.

MARILYN PERRIN



Upcoming Worship Services



Hope

December 3
Communion
Advent

St. James United Church
10:30 AM
Online or in-person

Hope Abides

A Multicultural, Multi-faith, Gathering
for Those Who Have Experienced Any Type of Loss

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY DECEMBER 3, 2023
12:00PM

Sponsored by: The Oasis,
Abraham Festival
and St. James United Church



Peace

December 10

Food Bank
Guest Musician: Albert Moher
Advent

St. James United Church
10:30 AM



JOIN US
IN THE SANCTUARY

christmas

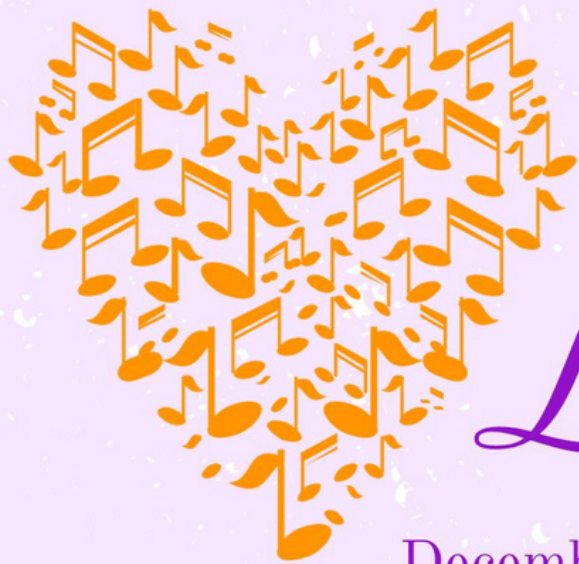
pageant sunday

DECEMBER 17
10:30 AM

WEAR YOUR UGLY
CHRISTMAS SWEATERS!

UGLY SWEATER

Upcoming Worship Services



Love

December 24

Christmas Carols and a Christmas Story - 10.30am

Family Christmas Eve Service - 7pm



family christmas eve service

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24, 7:00PM

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH

IN-PERSON & ONLINE AT [HTTPS://WWW.TWITCH.TV/STJAMESUNITED](https://www.twitch.tv/stjamesunited)



Please Note

No Worship
on New Year's
Eve

Church Office
will be closed
Dec. 25th -
Jan. 1



Events

The Kidventure Youth Program Presents

Parents Day Off Kids & Teen Holiday Movie "Night"

\$10.00 Per Child
Cash at drop off

We wanted to give local parents a Day Off to do Holiday shopping, take a nap, or run errands! Here at Kidventure, we provide safe, accessible and affordable youth programming! Kids and Teens (Ages 4-17) can join us for cookie decorating, crafts, snacks and a movie!




The GRINCH

Sunday December 17th
1:00- 4:00 pm
221 Romaine Street,
PTBO


Register now by scanning the QR code or going to Kidventure.ca

Limited Spots available!


 **age-friendly peterborough**
action for aging well
www.peterborough.ca/aging

We can't predict the future, but we can prepare for it.


Be Prepared Workshop 2nd edition



Have you thought about emergency and personal safety planning?



Have you considered your future options or arranged an advanced care plan?



Do you have your life documents and emergency contacts in order?

Having a plan for the future allows for the enjoyment of today!


Preparation provides us with clarity, peace of mind, and organization if an emergency were to arise. That's why AFP has developed the **Be Prepared Workbook**, a tool with checklists, prompting questions and resources to help you take control in the chaos of life's uncertainties.

We invite older adults to attend a *free* Be Prepared Workshop where you will:

- Receive your own Be Prepared Workbook
- Learn how to use the workbook
- Discover and discuss preparation strategies

Workshop Host: St James Church
Location: 221 Romaine St. Peterborough
Date: January 25, 2024
1:30-3:00
Call 705-748-4590 to register

Thank you to United Way Peterborough & District for funding the Be Prepared project



United Way
Peterborough & District

Nov-Dec 2023

PEACE BEGINS WITH A SMILE - MOTHER TERESA

LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL STOCKING STUFFER?

YOUR AFFIRM TEAM IS SELLING PEACE PINS FOR \$2

PEACE



WORLD PEACE

Peace!

WORLD PEACE

Peace!

Sock Collection

November & December 2023

Your Affirm Team invites you to bring in cozy socks for One City

Our Goal is 115 pairs for our 115th anniversary

We can do it!!!

For more information contact the Church Office 705-742-2222