



WESTSIDE'S STORY

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!



WESTSIDE'S UGLY SWEATER CONTEST & CAROL SING!

Join us this coming Sun. Dec 18th right after the 10 am service for Westside's Annual Ugly Sweater Contest! We will sing carols and enjoy warm fellowship and hot coffee! See you there!



Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, December 18

Ugly Sweater Contest & Carol Sing
after 10 am service

Saturday, December 24 at 7 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25 - No Service

(Service from Dec. 26/21 will be reposted on Westside's YouTube channel)

January 15 - **Written annual reports due**

January 23 - **Financial annual reports due**

Sunday, February 19

Annual Meeting after 10 am service

Carols - Scripture Readings

Candlelight Service

Sat. Dec. 24
7:00 pm



Westside Pulpit Supply

Sun. Dec. 18 - Rev. Angus Sutherland

Sat. Dec. 24 - Candlelight Service

Sun. Dec. 25 - No Service

Sun. Jan. 1 - Rev. Karen Kovats

Sun. Jan. 8 - Rev. Karen Kovats

Sun. Jan. 15 - Rev. Angus Sutherland

Westside Prayer Requests

Please pray for Glen and Jane Christensen, Shawn Hass, Nadine Mahaffy, Eva Buchaupt, Dale O'Connor, Sandy Allen and Jean Andrews. Please forward prayer requests to Mardie Crosby at 519-219-0783 or at rcmk@rogers.com.



Jan. 7 - Tara Gaskin

Jan. 13 - Jason Teakle

Jan. 27 - Sandra Ridsdale

Jan. 27 - Vicky McKenna





Westside's Prayers Have Been Answered!

Update on Search Process

As you know, on Sunday, November 6 the congregation of Westside voted in favour of calling Brian Jung to become your next minister. On Tuesday, December 6 the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington agreed that the call to Brian Jung was a true gospel call and sustained it. The call was then sent to the Presbytery of West Toronto. At their meeting on December 13, the Presbytery of West Toronto also agreed that the call to Brian Jung by Westside was a true gospel call and sustained it. This means that all approvals have been received and we are free to move forward with plans for Brian to begin serving as your minister.

Plans have begun for a joint ordination and induction service to be held at Westside and for Brian to begin serving as your minister by the end of February. Thank you for your continued prayers and patience as we work through the various steps of the process. The end of this time of transition is in sight and the beginning of your new phase of life and ministry together with Brian and his family is almost here. Praise the Lord!

Stewardship Moment

*We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give.*

Winston Churchill

However, these transactions have reduced the need to service a very large debt to do the needed renovations, thus we are MILES AHEAD!! While there is not a formal campaign in place at this time, the Follow-Up Committee will be formulating a plan going forward now that construction has begun. Those of you that were waiting for when actual construction started the time is now, before the year end for all those tax benefits.

These are not the only changes we see. Our congregation now consists of our in church congregation, our virtual congregation with the live stream when it isn't possible or practical to attend in person and of course our shut-ins. We hope each one of you will prayerfully consider your support of our ministry no matter which way you contribute; offering in the plate, E-Transfer or by PAR – it all goes to the word of the Lord! **Exciting times ahead!!!** Thank you.

Bert Perriman, Treasurer



Construction finally begins on the new Westside addition!! The building will be fully accessible and refurbished inside. This includes a main floor nursery, new kitchen, offices, accessible washrooms and additional paved parking.

Stewardship Note

First of all, thank you for your continued support which currently has us at a breakeven point. As we move forward, there are some changes happening.

We have whole heartedly committed to the remuneration package supporting our new minister as we venture into a new ministry with him and his family as our first priority.

Our cash flow has changed with the sale of 28 Stephen St. and demolition of 172 Forest Rd. to be sold off as two building lots. These will help finance our much needed renovations to provide better accessibility and use of the church. Net cash flow on these properties after rental income minus maintenance expense and property taxes will leave a reduced income of approximately \$18,000 annually toward our operating expenses, which we will need to prayerfully consider what each of us can do to make that up.



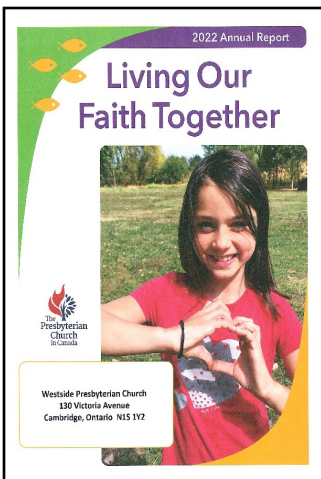
Christmas Greetings from Rev. Megan Penfold, Interim Moderator

Each year I enjoy watching the various Christmas movies that are on offer; It's a Wonderful Life, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, and the original The Grinch Who Stole Christmas are 3 of my favourites. Last year I determined that I was going to watch at least one new Christmas or holiday movie. I settled on a short little film on Netflix called "Angela's Christmas." If you haven't seen it, I highly recommend that you do. In it a little girl takes home the baby Jesus from her local church so that he doesn't catch a cold.

What I like most about this story is the sincerity and purity of heart that drive Angela's actions. As the story unfolds with innocence and some humour it is clear that while young, she has understood the love and grace Jesus calls us to show to one another. We can become so concerned about saying and doing enough, when often what is needed is a simple act of kindness at the right moment. Christmas is a season for celebrating all that God has done through the birth of Jesus. In Jesus we find hope that sin and death do not have the final word. In Jesus we find peace with God and with each other. In Jesus we can experience the joy of life together as his people. In Jesus we see firsthand the depths of God's love, laying down his life for us. This Christmas let us respond to this **hope, peace, joy, and love** by giving all that we can back to God in thankfulness. Most of all, let us give him our hearts. **Merry Christmas!**



Westside Needs Nursery Volunteers to help look after children ages 0-4yrs old during the service (with 2 adults per week being the goal). If you can help, please contact the church office and we will add you to the Nursery schedule. Thank you!



Westside's Annual Meeting Sunday, February 19, 2023 after the 10 am service

Please submit your written reports via e-mail to Jan in the church office **by Jan. 15th.** Please submit financial reports via e-mail **by Jan. 23.** Copies of the Annual Report will be available one week before the Annual Meeting.



- A big "Westside Thank You" to:
- ◆ Those who decorated the sanctuary so beautifully
 - ◆ Those who knitted items for the Foodbank and Firefighters Assoc. Christmas Drive
 - ◆ Those who delivered packages to our shut-ins last Sunday



Congratulations to Mike McLay & Jenny Bowman who received their 7 pound 6 oz. bundle of joy on Dec. 14th - **Nelleka Sophia Grace McLay** - a sister for Gregory and Gabriel!

