

December 9, 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Take your Family Christmas Photo Today

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What's Inside!



Think, Pray, Invite

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Tribute Flowers

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Think, Pray, Invite

Know someone who could use some Hope this Christmas? Invite them to a Christmas Service!



It's a known fact that the Christmas season is the time of year when people are most open to thinking about God. Even those who have never been to church, find themselves thinking about the Christmas story and wondering about God's love. The only thing missing is a personal invitation. Inviting people to church requires some courage, but at Christmas people actually expect to be invited to church.

At St. Paul's we are using all sorts of ways to let people know about the HOPE of Christmas: social media, websites, signage... but still, nothing beats a personal invitation. So we want to equip you to share HOPE this Christmas by inviting someone to church.

First, Think: Think of someone you know who needs hope this Christmas. (A friend, family member, neighbour, colleague)

Second, Pray: Ask God to prepare their hearts and to open their hearts to His love.

Third, Invite: Give them the invitation and personally invite them to a Christmas service this year. Maybe you can offer to come with them or to sit with them.

Think. Pray. Invite. This Christmas let's all be God's messengers of HOPE.

Lessons and Carols | December 16 at *9:30 & 11 a.m.*

Christmas Eve Services | December 24

12 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service

4 p.m. - Service for Families & Children

7 & 10 p.m. - Christmas Music

7:30 & 10:30 p.m. - Classic Christmas Service

Christmas Day Service | December 25 at *11 a.m.*

Advent Ask - Give Back Locally



Give back using our Reverse Advent Calendar. We partner with Yonge Street Mission, Youth Unlimited T.O. and Sanctuary Toronto to provide much-needed necessities, as well as prayers and acts of kindness during Advent.

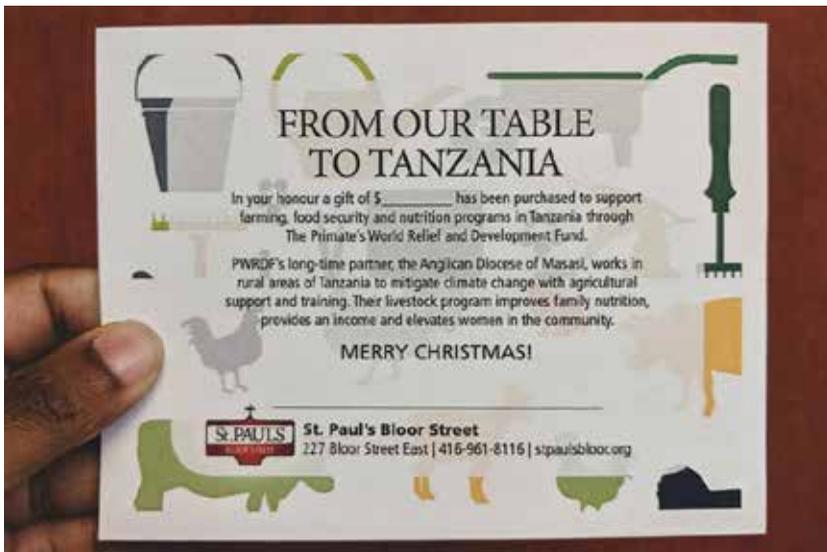
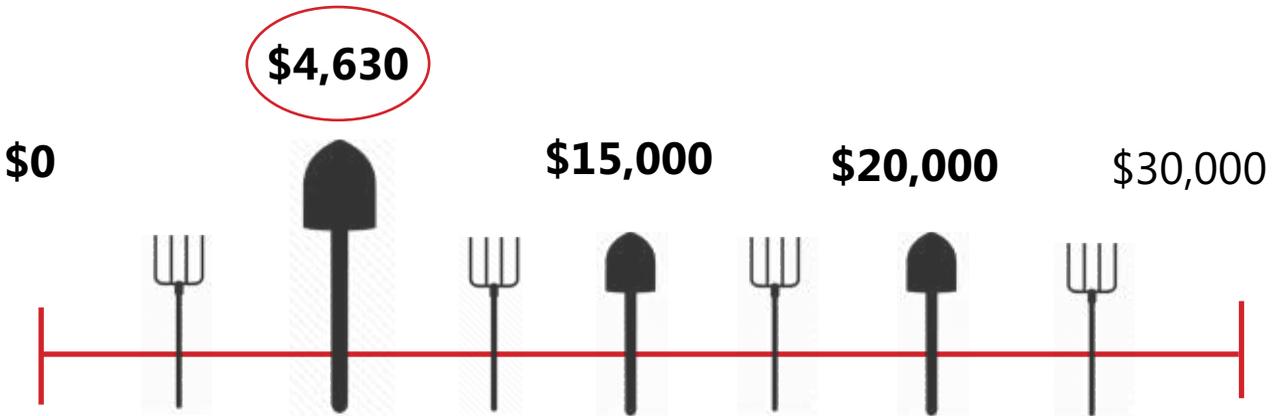
Calendars can be picked up in the Atrium or you can download a Reverse Advent Calendar at stpaulsbloor.org/AdventAsk



Advent Ask - Give Back Globally

We are partnering with PWRDF to support sustainable farming, food security and nutrition programs with the Anglican Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania. It will improve the livelihood of farmers and mitigate climate change with agricultural education. To learn more about the work PWRDF is doing in Tanzania, visit pwrdf.org/our-work/tanzania

Here's how much we have raised to date:



Help us reach our goal of \$30,000. Donate online at stpaulsbloor.org or through our app, text **"stpaulsbloor"** to **77977**, or pick up an Advent Ask offering envelope in the Atrium. In your honour donation cards are available by contacting the office.

Christmas Bake & Knitted Goods Sale



The annual Christmas Bake and Knitted Goods Sale will take place after each service next **Sunday, December 16** in Cody Hall. You can help by purchasing but also by donating. Baked goods are gratefully accepted, as well as preserves, breads, muffins and other homemade goodies. Proceeds go to the Pikangikum First Nations fresh water initiative and the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please wrap and label all goods so they are ready for sale. Drop off times and locations:

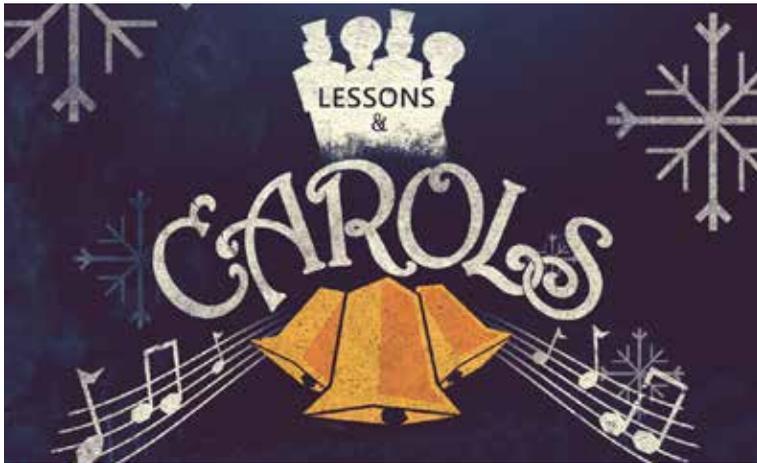
- **Friday, December 14** at the office from 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, December 15** in Cody Hall from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Sunday, December 16** in Cody Hall before any of the services.

Christmas Tribute Flowers are Due Next Sunday

Paying tribute to or remembering someone with a donation is a wonderful way to share in decorating the church for Christmas. If you would like to contribute, complete the information on the memorial flower envelope in the pew or at St. Paul's Central. Place it on the offering plate, or in the office mailbox.

Donations can also be completed through our app or online at **stpaulsbloor.org**. Simply click on the "Donate" button at the top right corner. Be sure to include the names you wish to pay tribute to or remember. Tributes begin at \$20 per entry and must be submitted no later than **next Sunday, December 16**.

Who Will You Invite to Lessons & Carols Next Week?



If you've been looking for an opportunity to invite a friend to a service at St. Paul's, why not invite them to Lessons & Carols next **Sunday, December 16?**

Lessons & Carols is a lively retelling of the Christmas story through short Bible readings and well-known Christmas carols. It's a joyful experience that people of all spiritual backgrounds can enjoy.

9:30 a.m. - Contemporary Service of Lessons & Carols

11 a.m. - Classic Service of Lessons & Carols (featuring the St. Paul's Choir)

Find our Lessons & Carols event on Facebook, click on "Going" and invite your Facebook friends to join you.

Ways to Give

For more information, visit
stpaulsbloor.org/give



In Person



Pre-Authorized Giving



Online



Through our App

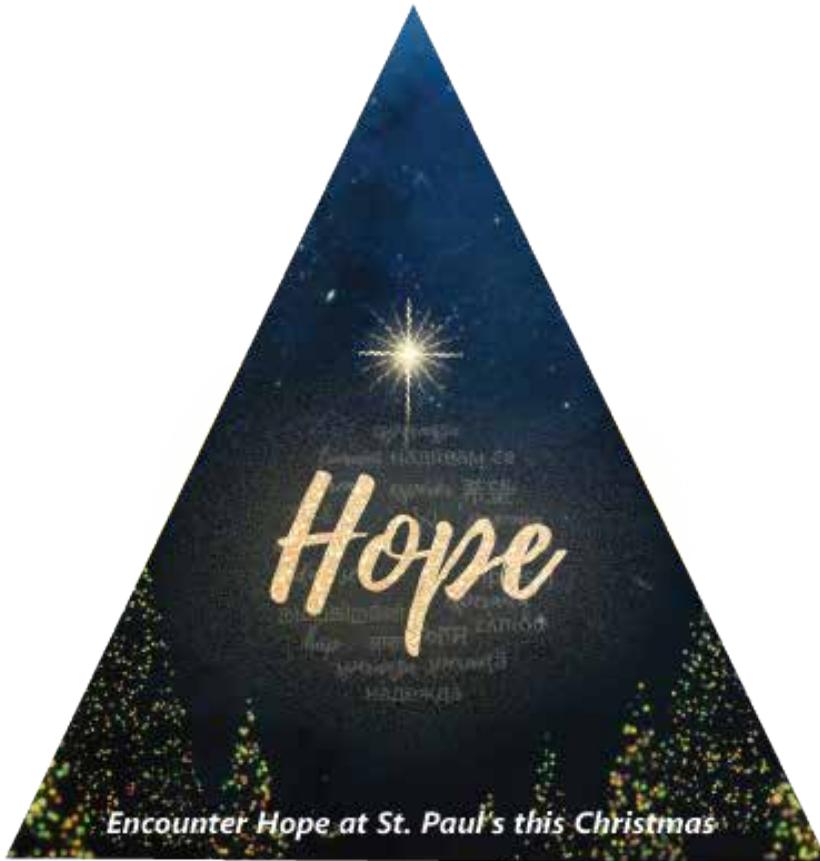


Next Sunday's Preaching Passage

Luke 3:1-6

Theme:
"Hope for Salvation"

Christmas at St. Paul's



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