

November 25, 2018

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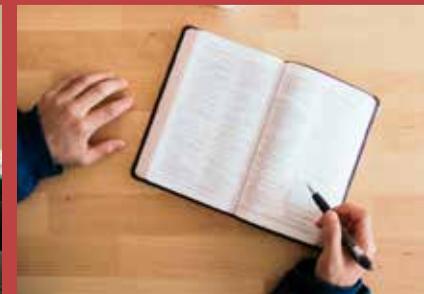


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## WHAT'S HAPPENING!

### St. Paul's Bloor Street

227 Bloor Street East  
Toronto, ON M4W 1C8

Phone: 416-961-8116

Email: [mail@stpaulsbloor.org](mailto:mail@stpaulsbloor.org)

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Sanctuary Hours

Sundays: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### Parking

Parking is free on Sunday mornings at the Manulife building located on the north side of Bloor Street at the top of Ted Rogers Way. To gain access to Manulife's parking, press the intercom button and inform the security attendant you are attending a service at St. Paul's.

Charitable Number  
119194942RR0001

[www.stpaulsbloor.org](http://www.stpaulsbloor.org)

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## Today is Baptism & Membership Sunday



Today, through Baptism and Membership, we come together as a church family to support each other's spiritual journey. Congratulations to the following:

Ryan Wills  
Elizabeth So  
Alexander Mulligan  
Sloan Collingwood  
Mila Soltanpour  
Adelina Thorning  
Rotimi Kester  
Finlay Bisiker  
Dane Mullings  
Tina Chiasson  
Freda Coulter  
Mo Coulter

### Prayer for Baptism & Membership Sunday:

*Lord Jesus, you know our hearts. Help us, by your Holy Spirit, to examine our hearts, to hear you and to follow you. As we gather today to witness and celebrate the steps of faith people are making, help us all to be transformed into your likeness. We give you thanks and praise that we have the opportunity to follow you by faith and in life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

## Advent Ask - Support Food Security in Tanzania

This Christmas season we are challenging everyone to participate in our Advent Ask in one of two ways – give locally or give globally.



**Give 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.

Help us reach our goal of \$30,000. Donate online, text "**stpaulsbloor**" to **77977**, or pick up an Advent Ask offering envelope in the Atrium.

Here's how your generosity is changing lives:



Your gift of \$30 provides a pair of piglets to a farmer



Your gift of \$40 supplies a farmer with 40 young chickens



Your gift of \$50 provides a flock of five sheep to a farmer



Your gift of \$200 provides a family with one cow

*"Before the project I had a very difficult life. I worked as a labourer in others' farms to earn income that would help my family to get basic needs. The dairy cow is my life, my family is changed through selling and consumption of fresh milk. My daughter is happier day after day because of milk and we are now able to support our relatives."*

- Bibie Yakubu





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

**Service of Light** | December 18  
*7:00 p.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  
*11 a.m. Christmas Service*

[stpaulsbloor.org/christmas](http://stpaulsbloor.org/christmas)

**Who will you share hope with this Christmas?**

Take a Christmas Ornament Invite and give it to someone who may need some hope this Christmas season. Hang one on your tree, on your door, or in your car!



## Have your Family Christmas Photo taken on December 9

On December 9, following all three services, have your photo taken with friends and family at our photo booth. Photos will be shared on our Facebook and Flickr account.



## Christmas Pageant is on December 9



Share in the joy of Christmas at our annual Christmas Pageant and Family Supper. Make this a holiday tradition for your family. If you have children, encourage them to invite a friend, or invite another family to see and hear the true meaning of Christmas from children.

The Pageant will take place on **Sunday, December 9** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost for the dinner is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. To sign up for the dinner, RSVP to Janet Earle at **ext. 241 or [children@stpaulsbloor.org](mailto:children@stpaulsbloor.org)**

## A Small Groups Update



As our sermon series “Better Together: Big Faith in Small Groups” comes to an end, I’d like to share an update on small group ministry at St. Paul’s. Approximately 40 people expressed interest in small groups over the past several weeks. Some of this came through connection cards, some through direct invitation from small group leaders and members, and some through the Small Group Social on November 3. At that event, 80 people learned about the vision of small group ministry at St. Paul’s. But more importantly, everyone who came had the opportunity to connect with new people, as well as build community with other Small Groups.

The New Year will be another opportunity for new beginnings. New groups will be starting up, so there’s plenty of space to try this transformative way of building relationships with one another and with God. In 2019, we will be offering engaging ways for small groups to join together in serving our city – and following the success of our Small Group Social, continue building community across groups.

- Mark Regis, Director of Discipleship

Interested in joining a small group? Get involved in a Small Group and start 2019 by growing in faith and friendship. Sign up for a Small Group online at [stpaulsbloor.org/small-groups](http://stpaulsbloor.org/small-groups).

Better Together: Big Faith in small groups



Want to learn more? Re-listen to our entire sermon series online at [stpaulsbloor.org/sermons](http://stpaulsbloor.org/sermons) or on Google Podcasts, Spotify, or Apple Podcasts.



## Other Upcoming Events



**Christmas Card Making for Parents** - If you're a parent, join us this **Wednesday, November 28 at 7 p.m.** in the Library to make Christmas cards. It's a casual and friendly opportunity to connect with other parents of children who attend Wednesday Night Youth. No artistic skill is required, as designs will be provided. If you have any questions, contact Sandra Seaborn at [sseaborn@stpaulsbloor.org](mailto:sseaborn@stpaulsbloor.org).

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**Young Professionals Night** - Bring a friend to the next Young Professional's gathering and come learn about Effective Communication Skills this **Thursday, November 29 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.** in the Leadership Lounge.

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### **Reading the Bible: How to Read the Old Testament** -

What's the point of reading the Jewish Bible (also known as the Old Testament)? One simple answer is – it was Jesus' Bible. He read it, so we should read it too. But how do we read it and understand it? Next Sunday we'll look at how the New Testament contains guides for reading the Old Testament and helps us understand the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in their Jewish context. Join us **next Sunday at 10:45 a.m. or 12:30 p.m** in Cody Hall.

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**Christmas Bake & Knitted Goods Sale** - The annual Christmas Bake and Knitted Goods Sale will take place after each service on **Sunday, December 16** in Cody Hall.

You can help by purchasing but also by donating baked goods. All proceeds go to the Rector's Discretionary Fund and the Pikangikum First Nations Water Initiative. Please wrap and label all baked goods so they are ready for sale. They can be dropped off on:

**Friday, Dec. 14** at the office from from 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 15** in Cody Hall from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 16** in Cody Hall before any of the services.



## Lost and Found

If you have lost or misplaced a personal belonging in the past few months, please stop by our Lost and Found at the north-east corner of the Sanctuary, **before December 9**. After December 9, we will donate anything left in our Lost and Found to charity.

## Christmas Tribute Flowers

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](http://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 **December 16**.



## Toronto Star Concert Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters at the 3 p.m. Toronto Star Concert on **Saturday, December 8**. If you are able to help, sign up at St. Paul's Central or contact the office.