

FORT MASSEY CHURCH

*A Congregation of The United Church of Canada
'A city upon a hill' ~ watching over Halifax since 1871*

The Sunday Gathering

10:30 a.m., 16th December 2012

A D V E N T I I I

ORDER of SERVICE

* indicates standing for those who are able

THE FORT MASSEY CHIMES Advent Hymns

SOUNDING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

*CHOIR PROCESSIONAL Angels We Have Heard on High VU 38
(Les anges dans nos campagnes)
vs. 1 & 2 in French followed by v. 1 & 2 in English

*CALL TO GATHER

*ADVENT SONG Joy is a Song, v. 3 VU 7

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE II – PEACE (Bulletin Back Cover)
Grandparents, *Tim & Linda Dean, Doug & Helen MacDonald*

*CANDLE-LIGHTING SONG A Candle Is Burning, v. 3 VU 6

*THE PEACE *Peace be with you. And also with you.*

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

MINUTE FOR MISSION – *Jean Cudmore*

OFFERINGS

Offertory:
* Response: All Poor Ones and Humble, v. 1 VU 68

CHILDREN'S TIME "What is a White Gift?"

PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

The Notices, Fort Massey Church, Halifax, Dec 16, 2012

Thank You to *Peter Coulthard and his elves* for decorating the sanctuary.

Congratulations to *Ray Hunt* who will be receiving the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal this afternoon from the Lt. Gov. of NS.

Our sympathy to the family of *Connie Lynch*. Connie died at home on Dec 14. A Memorial Service will be held at Snow's on Lacewood, Wed, Dec 19, 11 am.

2013 Offering Envelopes are available in the Tobin St. lobby. Please contact the Church Office or *Ruth MacKenzie* if you'd like envelopes or PAR.

Newsletter, *The Star*, is available today. Many thanks to our contributors and to our editor, *Holly MacIntosh Benninger*. Attached to the newsletter is a 2013 FMC Calendar. Please detach and save. Thank you to the *Membership Development Committee*.

2013 FMC Calendar is available in the Tobin St. lobby.

With regret, the Kirk Session has accepted our Director of Music's resignation effective Dec 30, 2012. Please join us after the service in the lower hall as we express our appreciation to *Prof. Pierre Perron* for his 12 years of service to Fort Massey.

Mission to Seafarers. Thank you to all those who filled a shoebox or bag.

Christmas Stockings. This Tuesday at 7 pm our *Out-of-the-cold Shelter Group* will be putting together Christmas Stockings for those living on the street. Sign-up in The Tobin St. lobby for the following needed items: 20 oranges, a large box of Ganong chocolates, 20 candy canes, and 20 gingerbread people.

A Minute for Local Mission from the Outreach Committee of Fort Massey. With the cold days and nights closing in on us, many on the streets are experiencing the bitterness of winter's reality. The committee is looking at our latest project, "Cozy Hands", which will truly enhance our already active involvement with the less fortunate in our city - projects such as the Out of the Cold Shelter and the Brunswick Street Mission. However, we need your help in making the project come to life. In January we will be making mittens from recycled wool sweaters and ask that you check your closets, your neighbours closets, drawers or other storage spots to see if you can give up your 100% wool sweaters for our outreach endeavour. We will also be looking for volunteers to meet weekly to cut out and/or sew these treasures. A presentation will be made to the congregation in early January when we launch this special event. All sweaters can be brought to the church and given to an Outreach Committee Member. As usual, thank you so much for helping us out.

Evening Carol Service will be held at the Presbyterian Church of Saint David, Brunswick & Grafton Streets, Halifax, on Mon, Dec 17, 7 pm, featuring the St. David's Church Choir under the direction of *Tristan Cleveland-Thompson*.

An ADVENT Reflection:

'The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.' *Zephaniah 3:15b*

Jesus' radical love brought joy of being alive to children, women, the sick, and many considered of no value in those times. In today's world of rapid change and challenge, how do our children learn confidence and joy for life?

Recently, a young boy requested prayers for his 12-year-old classmate who died from a serious illness. We prayed the Lord's Prayer. The words remind us that faith is a daily journey we make together. Prayer preceded discussion on ways to help local children grieve. When children ask questions, adults are tested to respond with faithful guidance to help children grow and grieve well. We must tell the faith stories of those who receive blessings beyond chaos, sadness, anger, and loss to find new joy. Even better, we can tell children our own faith stories of growing through disaster to joy.

At the Kirk...

Today	2013 <i>Canadian Church Calendars</i> are for sale - \$10 (UCW fundraiser)			
Tue	10 am	<u>Jan 8/13</u>	Isabel Robertosn's	Next Women's Coffee Gp.
Thu	10:30 am	<u>Jan 10</u>	Berkeley	Next Spirit Connectors
Fri	9:30 am	<u>Jan 4</u>	Cousin's Restaurant	Next Men's Breakfast
Sun	10:30 am		Sanctuary	The Sunday Gathering
				White Gift Service
Sun	10:30 am		Church Hall	Church School & Nursery
Sun	11:30 am		Lower Hall	Lunch

Coming up @ the fort:

Dec 23, 10:30 am, White Gift Sunday with the Church School. Bring a non-perishable food item wrapped in white tissue paper.

Dec 24, 7 pm, Christmas Eve with *Erin Lesser*, flute & *Greg Beyer*, percussion

Dec 30, 10:30 am, Christmas One "*On the 6th Day of Christmas there were two Baptisms*"

Jan 6, 10 am, Kirk Session will meet in the Minister's Study prior to the **New Year's Communion Service** at 10:30 am

Leadership in our Community

Trent D. Cleveland-Thompson, Pastor
 Robert Bossler, Student Minister
 Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons
 Kathy Cochrane, Office Administrator
 Sancia Knorr, Church School
 Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
 Alasdair Sinclair, OFM, Clerk Emeritus
 Alan G. Hayman, OFM, Senior Trustee
 Irene Parks, UCW President
 Colleen Estabrooks, M&S Enthusiast
 Linda Dean, Nominating Chair

Pierre Perron, Organist & Sr. Choir Director
 John Walter, Assistant Organist
 Kevin Roberts, Flutist
 Leah Collins Lipsett, Pianist & Jr. Choir Director
 Elaine Janson, Nursery
 John Gillis, Board Chair
 Ruth MacKenzie, Chief Steward
 Leslie Pezzack, Treasurer
 Ian MacDonald & Elliott Prouty, Presbytery Reps
 H. Douglas Ritcey, OFM, Honorary Elder
 Elliott Prouty, Head Usher

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