

The Gathering @ Fort Massey

A Congregation of The United Church of Canada

Watching over Halifax Harbour since 1871

~ transforming God to a verb ~

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 am, December 15, 2013

Trent D. Cleveland-Thompson, Pastor
Simon Abbott, Organist & Music Director
Leah Collins Lipsett, Pianist & Jr. Choir Director
Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons
Colleen Estabrooks, M&S Enthusiast
Sancia Knorr, Church School
Kathy Cochrane, Office Administrator
Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
Alasdair Sinclair, OFM, Clerk Emeritus
Alan G. Hayman, OFM, Senior Trustee
H. Douglas Ritcey, OFM, Honorary Elder
Irene Parks, OFM, UCW President

Heather Ferrier, Student Minister
John Walter, Assistant Organist
Kevin Roberts, Flutist
Ian MacDonald, Tech Support
Elliott Prouty, OFM, Head Usher
Janna Janson, Nursery
Maddy Spicer, Assistant Administrator
John Gillis, Board Chair
Ruth MacKenzie, OFM, Chief Steward
Leslie Pezzack, Treasurer
Ian MacDonald & Elliott Prouty, Presbytery
Martina Sommer, Facilities Rental Manager

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ORDER *of* SERVICE

* indicates standing for those who are able

- PRELUDE** Christmas Time Is Here — Vince Guaraldi
- ***PROCESSIONAL** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VU 1
The Trinity Bell is rung and the Community Candle lit.
- ADVENT READING** “Joy” by Gretta Vosper
- CHORAL RESPONSE** ‘Joy’ Shines as the Solitary Star MV 220
- THE PEACE** *Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.*
- WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**
- MINUTE FOR MISSION** “Prairie Sanctuary” – Bill Hale

OFFERINGS	I Wonder as I Wander — John Jacob Niles Kevin Robarts, flute; Valerie Bellamy, harp	
* <u>Offertory Response:</u>	‘Joy’ Is a Song Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Saviour is born. When God is a child there’s joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.	v. 3, VU 7
CHILDREN’S TIME	“A Parents’ Joy”	
ADVENT WREATH	Lighting of the Candle of Joy – <i>the Gillis family</i>	
ADVENT CAROL	A Candle Is Burning	v. 3, VU 6
PASTORAL PRAYER		
ANTHEM	The Angel Gabriel — Archer	
READINGS	“Orange” by Robert Fulghum; Matthew 2: 9-12 <i>Offered as wisdom for the journey.</i> May we walk in its light.	
* ADVENT CAROL	Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness	VU 28
SERMON	<u>A Christmas Orange</u>	
* CLOSING HYMN	Hail to God’s Own Anointed Alt. tune: Ellacombe, VU 123	VU 30
*PARTING WORDS		
POSTLUDE	Silent Night - Franz Xaver Gruber, arranged by David Nevue Valerie Bellamy, harp	

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Welcome to Fort Massey. A special welcome to our visitors. We are delighted to have you joining us at our Sunday Gathering . You are invited to sign our Guest Book; if you’re looking for a church home, please fill out a Welcome Card at the left of the main doors upon exiting the nave, leaving it with the guest book. Join us for Coffee & Conversation in the lower hall; hosts are – *the MacDougall family*. Coffee & Conversation sign-up sheet is on the easel in the Tobin St. lobby.

Our appreciation to our music makers today – *Valerie Bellamy, Kevin Robarts, Leah Collins-Lipsett, the Chancel Choir*, under the direction of *Simon Abbott*.

Thank you to *Peter & Stephanie Coulthard, Gwen Smith-Dockrill, & Alan Parker* for decorating the sanctuary yesterday; to *Bill Smith’s Christmas Tree Lot* in Harmony (outside Truro) for the evergreen; to *Doug MacDonald & Richard Robinson* for the new chair carts that were designed and built by these gentlemen to ease the setting up and dismantling of hall functions.

Available TODAY: 2014 Canadian Church Calendars are For Sale from the UCW. **Jan-Feb-Mar 2014 Devotionals** "These Days" is available in the Tobin St. lobby. \$4 optional in the offering plate. **2014 Offering Envelopes** are available TODAY in the Tobin St. lobby. **Newsletter** "The Star". Thank you to all those who contribute-ed articles, and to our editor, *Holly MacIntosh Benninger*.

Fort Massey United Church, Halifax ~ December 15, 2013

Mission to Seafarers shoe boxes/bags are due today. Thank you to all those who helped with this outreach project, and to convener, *Kathy Evans*.

White Gift Bags are available today in the Queen & Tobin St. lobbies to be used for non-perishable food goods for White Gift Sunday, Dec 22nd. Goods will go to the Brunswick Street Mission Food Pantry.

Thank you so much for your support with the sale of the bracelets for SOAR (Sending Orphans of AIDS Relief). Special thanks to *Sally deWolf* for taking the lead in helping to sell the SOAR bracelets at Fort Massey - our Fort Massey total was \$680! Please know that your generous efforts contributed significantly to the overall success of this fundraiser for SOAR and for that we are deeply grateful.

With sincere appreciation, *Leslie McLean*, on behalf of the women of SOAR.

NEW: Accessible Parking on Tobin St, next to church, Sundays.

Handel's MESSIAH with Symphony NS & Chorus, *Jeff Joudrey* - Conductor, Dec 19&20, Cohn Auditorium, 7:30 PM.

The Choir of Saint David's presents: "No Small Wonder: an evening of Lessons and Carols", Sunday December 22nd, 7pm. Join us for an evening of music on pizza corner at the Presbyterian Church of Saint David's with music by Howells, Rutter, Chilcott, Clebury and more. The free will offering will be donated to the church music fund. The Presbyterian Church of Saint David, 1544 Grafton St.

Onelight Theatre presents "Tell It On The Mountain" featuring the gospel music of The Sanctified Brothers, Dec 26-31, at Alderney Landing, Dartmouth. Tickets 1.888.311.9090.

@ FORT MASSEY CHURCH this week...

- *Next Women's Coffee Group*, Tue, Jan 7, 10 AM, TBA
- *Shelter Cooking*, Tue, 7 PM, Church Kitchen
- *Chicken Alfredo Lasagna Noel - ingredients posted on easel board*
- *YOGA with Jenny*, Tue, 7 PM, Lower Hall
- *Spirit Connectors*, resumes Jan 9, 2014, Thursday, 10:30 AM
- *Choir Practice*, Thu, 7:30-9 PM, Sanctuary
- *Next Men's Breakfast*, Fri, Jan 10, 2014, 9:30 AM, Athens Restaurant
- *Modern Grass* (bluegrass) Annual Christmas Concert, Sat, 7 PM, Sanctuary

Coming up @ the fort...

- Dec 22, 10:30 AM, Annual White Gift Service led by the Church School, and Sacrament of Baptism
- Dec 24, 7 PM, Christmas Eve Family Service
- Dec 29, 10:30 AM, Readings & Carols Service