

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT CENTRAL!

- Dec. 24th **Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.**
Coffee Hour
Christmas Eve Services at 5, 7 & 10:30 p.m.
- Dec. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY!
Alanon at 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 31st **Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.**
Coffee Hour
- Jan. 1st NEW YEAR'S DAY
Alanon at 7:30 p.m.
***The church office is closed from
December 25th-January 1st.***

WELCOME AND THANK YOU...to our guest organists: John Mole on December 24th and Johan van't Hof on December 31st.



FOR THE CHILDREN...We welcome children of all ages to worship with us. We offer **Sunday School** for those aged 2 ½ through Grade 6, following Children's Time in the worship service. Although not staffed, we also have a nursery room available for parents and their younger children should they find they need to leave the service.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES...We will celebrate with three Christmas Eve "Lessons and Carols" services at 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. The early service will include a special children's feature while the two latter services will include the Sacrament of Communion and congregational candle lighting. (Special Note: the 7:00 p.m. service will include a repeat performance of the musical presentation "Sing Joy to All the World".)



JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR...after worship. All are welcome to stay for a time of fellowship and refreshments.



THANKS EVERYONE...for your support of our many Christmas outreach projects. 11 bags of food and a \$600 cash donation were given to the Markham Food Bank (plus \$1,900 was raised from the sale of gift bags in support the food bank); over 75 knitted items were given to Salvation Army from our mitten tree; 17 youth were helped through the Stuff a Duffle programme; and 116 shoe boxes were completed for Operation Christmas Child. We also continue to collect funds all year round for Sleeping Children Around the World – we expect to purchase over 130 bedkits this year! Your support of all these important projects is much appreciated.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS NEEDED...A few weeks ago Rev. Clubine spoke of our need for people to help in the Children's church ministry on Sunday mornings as of December 31st. If you could assist with this important part of our congregation's ministry please pick a date(s) and sign up on the bulletin board or speak to Rev. Clubine or Karen Coll our Council chair.



OUR CHURCH YEAR-END...Sunday, December 31st will be our last worship service in the year 2017 and thus will also be the final day to make offerings to your church to be included in this year's charitable income tax receipt. Similarly, all bills for expenses incurred in 2017 must be submitted to the church office by the 31st. (Please note that the church office will have limited hours between Christmas and year-end, however, the mailbox will be monitored.)



2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES...are now available in the narthex and are to be used as of January 1st. (At that time, it is imperative that you discard any unused envelopes from previous years so that your givings are credited correctly.) Also, be sure to read the information insert. If we have missed your name and you would like a set of envelopes, please speak to Sally and she will be pleased to look after that for you.



M & P/SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS...As most of you know by now, Sally Sandiford is retiring in early 2018. The position, Office Administrator & Communications Coordinator, will now be a part time position and is described on Central United's website. If you are aware of any qualified candidates that might be interested, they can view the position summary on our website and apply to ministrypersonnel@centralunitedchurch.com Your referrals would be appreciated.



OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING...will be held on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH**. We will have a congregational soup lunch in the Main Hall after our morning worship service and then the business meeting will follow at approximately 12:30 p.m. Please attend to enjoy some food and fellowship with your church family and to help us celebrate our accomplishments of the past year and plan ahead for 2018!



GIVE TO THE FOOD BANK...We encourage you to donate non-perishable food items throughout the year. You may deliver food to any local fire hall, many grocery stores and to our donation basket here at the church.



NAME TAGS...So that we may be a welcoming congregation we remind you to wear your name tag. For those of you who don't yet have one, just let Sally know and she will make one up for you for next Sunday. (Name tags can be found in the file boxes in the display cabinet in the narthex.)



"PAR" (PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE)...is available to help you contribute to your church on a regular basis. It also helps the church maintain a regular and dependable flow of contributions to support its ongoing commitments. If you are not already on PAR, please consider making your offering in this way. Enrollment forms are available from the literature table in the narthex. (Then simply return completed forms with a void cheque to Sally who will process on your behalf.)



HELP FILL OUR WATER JUG...Feel free to donate your loose change (including pennies!) to help purchase bedkits provided by Sleeping Children Around the World to needy children in developing countries. You can also donate via your offering envelope any time – just mark the "other" section "SCAW". Check out the narthex for more information and pictures of children who have benefitted from our support.



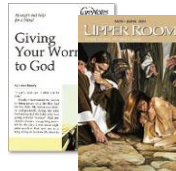
RIGHT NOW MEDIA!...We encourage everyone with computer access to enrol in this free service. Just send Sally an email at sally@centralunitedchurch.com with Right Now Media in the subject line. Within a few days you will receive an email invitation and instructions on opening a user account.





A FRIENDLY REMINDER... Please **do not park** in the church driveway – it is a fire route! Also, when parking on local streets, you will want to be aware of the parking signs and Highway Traffic Act regulations.

UPPER ROOM & CARE NOTES... Check out the shelves in the narthex for a variety of Care Notes. Also, the current issue of the Upper Room is available from the literature table – help yourselves.



CENTRAL'S PRAYER CHAIN... would like to support you, your friends and family in prayer. Please submit prayer requests to this group via Sally in the church office and/or to Rev. Karl Burden. All requests remain confidential amongst the church staff and prayer chain.



PASTORAL CARE... Should you become aware of any illness, bereavement, hospitalization, etc., among people of our church; please notify the minister and/or church office by email or phone (905-474-0183) as soon as possible so that we may respond with pastoral care, and, if desired, Sunday prayers.

