DECEMBER 1, 2013



The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes Minister of the Congregation

The Rev. Dale Rose Minister of Pastoral Care

Mr. William Maddox B.Mus, FTCL Organist and Director of Music

Mrs. Cathy Newman RN BScN Parish Nurse

The Rev. Sam Lee Minister of Youth

Mrs. Miriam Little Director of Children's Ministries

The Rev. Dr. William A. Sturgess Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care

1585 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1Z9 **T:** (416) 922-1167 | www.yorkminsterpark.com







MORNING WORSHIP - DECEMBER 1, 2013 - ADVENT I

The service of worship begins with the music of the organ

Preludes Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

Johann Sebastian Bach Marcel Dupré

Ecce, Dominus venient

Processional Hymn 81 – Hark the glad sound (Richmond 255)

Responsive Call to Worship

The Rev. Sam Lee

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

People: That the King of glory may come in.

Minister: Who is the King of glory?

People: The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle.

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates!

People: And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in.

Minister: Who is this King of glory?

People: The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory

Introit - (congregation seated) Ave Maria

Franz Biebl

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ The angel of the Lord made his

et concepit de Spiritu sancto. annunciation to Mary

Ave Maria, gratia plena, and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Dominus tecum; Hail, Mary, full of grace, benedicta tu in mulieribus, the Lord is with you.

et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesus. Blessed are you among women,

Maria dixit: Ecce ancilla Domini; and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.

Mary said, "Behold the servant of the Lord. Let it be unto me according to Your Word."

et habitavit in nobis. And the Word was made flesh

Sancta Maria, mater Dei and dwelt among us.

ora pro nobis peccatoribus. Holy Mary, mother of God,

Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. prav for us sinners.

nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen. Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Minster Singers

Dawn King, director

Lighting of the Advent Candle Sanjeev and Joanne Sockalingam, Keira and Tayla

Invocation and Lord's Prayer (sung Amen)

The Rev. Sam Lee

(Please see inside front cover of the hymn book.)

Hymn *SHB 117 – When he cometh (Jewels)

Prayer with the Children & Children's Atlas The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes & Devon

Announcements

Scripture Romans 13:11-14 (NT p.169-170) Alana Walker-Carpenter

Matthew 24: 36-44 (NT p.28)

Pastoral Prayer (seated) The Rev. Dale Rose

Choral Response

S. Alec Gordon

Hear my prayer, O Lord my God. Harken to my supplication; be merciful to me, a sinner. Amen.

Offering - As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. (1 Timothy 6: 17)

Anthem – And the glory of the Lord (Messiah)

George Frederick Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Doxology Hymn 766

Sermon – READY FOR CHRISTMAS? WIDE AWAKE

Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn 601 – O Jesus Christ, grow Thou in me (St. Agnes 486)

Act of Remembrance – Rosemary Fodor, George Lowrie

The Rev. Dale Rose

Choral Preparation – Creator of the starry height

Conditor alme siderum

Creator of the starry height thy people's everlasting Light, Jesu, Redeemer of us all, hear thy servants when they call.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, Praise, honour might and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

The Rev. Dale Rose

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Distribution of the Elements

Hymn 493 – Blessed assurance (Blessed assurance)

Benediction

Choral Amen (Stanford in B flat)

Postlude (

Grand Choeur

Théodore Salomé

The Memorial Bells will peal for five minutes following the Postlude.

*SHB - Supplementary Hymn Book "Sing to God's Glory"

Soloists: Jessica Willingham, soprano; Dawn King, soprano;

Margaret Terry, mezzo soprano;

Martin Houtman, tenor; Stephen King, baritone.

Christel Wiens, Associate Musician

COMMUNION

Communion at Yorkminster Park is open to all who love Christ and seek to live in His ways.

To address the needs of some congregants whose allergies have prevented them from fully participating in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the communion bread in the centre of the plate is gluten-free.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chancel today are dedicated to the glory of God.

7pm - The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes - An Iona Liturgy

2014 offering envelopes are in the Centre Hall today. Please pick up your set.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



Doug Purdon "Christmas Eve" Christmas Cards are available from the YP Women for \$15 per box. One option is blank and the other option has a Christmas greeting inside. Please contact the Church Office if you would like more information.

LUKE iv. 18-19.

HARK the glad sound! the Saviour comes, The Saviour promised long; Let every heart prepare a throne, And every voice a song.

- 2 He comes, the prisoners to release,
 In Satan's bondage held:
 The gates of brass before Him burst,
 The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes, from thickest films of vice To clear the mental ray, And on the eyeballs of the blind To pour celestial day.
- 4 He comes, the broken heart to bind,
 The bleeding soul to cure,
 And with the treasures of His grace
 To enrich the humble poor.
- Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
 Thy welcome shall proclaim;
 And heaven's eternal arches ring
 With Thy beloved name.

Philip Doddridge, 1702-51, altd.

When He cometh

1. When He cometh, when He cometh, To make up His jewels, All His jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own,

Like the stars of the morning, His bright crown adorning, They shall shine in their beauty, Bright gems for His crown.

- 2. He will gather, He will gather
 The gems for His Kingdom,
 All the pure ones, all the bright ones,
 His loved and His own,
 Like the stars of the morning...
- 3. Little children, little children, Who love their Redeemer, Are His jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own, Like the stars of the morning...

O JESUS CHRIST, grow Thou in me, And all things else recede; My heart be daily nearer Thee, From sin be daily freed.

- 2 Each day let Thy supporting might My weakness still embrace; My darkness vanish in Thy light, Thy life my death efface.
- 3 Make this poor self grow less and less, Be Thou my life and aim; O make me daily through Thy grace, More meet to bear Thy name.
- 4 Daily more filled with Thee my heart,
 Daily from self more free;
 Thou to whom prayer did strength impart,
 Of my prayer hearer be.
- 5 Fill me with gladness from above,
 Hold me by strength divine;
 Lord, let the glow of Thy great love
 Through my whole being shine.

BLESSED assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture burst on my sight; Angels descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Saviour am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Frances van Alstyne, 1820-1915.

VISITORS

Whatever your religious background, and however you have come to be with us, we welcome you to Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. We hope that you will feel comforted and fulfilled, and that you will be strengthened to meet the challenges of your daily lives. Please fill out the Welcome card you find in the pew. Place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister.

- City Parking at Alvin Ave. (one street east of Yonge & St. Clair) provides free parking Sunday morning until 12:45 pm. Have your ticket stamped in the Narthex.
- The morning service is webcast live and archived on our website.
- All morning and evening worship services are recorded on CDs, which may be obtained from the Audio Desk in the Narthex.
- Hearing assistance available. Please speak with our volunteer at the Narthex Information table.
- A limited number of large-print Bibles and calendars are available for use in worship on the Narthex information table. If you would like one, please ask an usher.
- Please find our guarterly newsletter on the Centre Hall, Narthex and South tables.
- For children: Nursery for newborn to 2 years old from 10:50 am and classes for toddlers to grade 5 after the Children's Prayer.
- Following each morning worship service, we serve coffee and refreshments in the Narthex, reached through the Sanctuary. We invite you to participate with us.
- If you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other need we can respond to, please speak with the one of the ministers after the service or call the Church Office, 416-922-1167. And if you wish to know more about Yorkminster Park Baptist Church or to be included on our mailing list, please fill out the card you will find in the pew and give it to an usher or mail it to us.
- Downstairs in the lower level, there are bulletin boards where we hang some churchrelated and community-related events. Next time you are in the lower level, take a moment and browse all of the events that are happening in our community.

PRAYERS

Immediately following the morning worship service, **Prayers for Healing and Blessing** will be offered in the Centennial Chapel, which is located in the south transcept beneath the south balcony, for all who wish a lay leader to pray with them. If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, members of the Pastoral Care Committee are present in the Chapel to offer PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND BLESSING each Sunday, following the morning worship service. Your prayers are confidential unless you request they be shared with our Pastoral Care staff. You may also submit a request for prayer on the Welcome card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister.

Prayers in the Chapel. Each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., you are invited to join the Ministerial Staff as prayers are lifted to God for individuals, groups, ministry and mission organizations affiliated with Yorkminster Park. If you have a prayer request, please contact Rev. Dale Rose at 416-922- 1240. A printed Prayer List is provided, and available upon request. "But with prayer, that blessed medicine, we are sustained."

The Sanctuary is open for prayer and meditation on Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 3pm and Wednesday 10am to 12:30pm.

PHILIPPINES TYPHOON RELIEF

As a people we are responding to the recent disaster in the Philippines through both our prayers and our gifts. The Sharing Way, our denomination's relief and development arm, is working closely with partners in the Philippines. To give to the relief effort through the Sharing Way, please place your gifts in your church envelope and designate the amount you wish to give to the Sharing Way, or do so directly through the Canadian Baptist Ministries website https://www.cbmin.org/cbm/donate When you go to the page you will be asked to choose a category to donate to - choose emergency relief. You will then be given the option of donating to Philippines Typhoon Relief. All gifts so designated and received before December 23 will be matched by the Canadian government. For a prayer to guide you as Philippines, for the go Peter's bloa you pray to http://peter.yorkminsterpark.com/2013/11/support-prayer-for-the-philippines.php

FALL BIBLE STUDIES						
	Sunday	9:45am	Berean Bible Class in the Red Boardroom			
	Sunday	10:00am	Bible Basics in the Administrative Boardroom 502			
	Tuesday	10:00am	Women's Prayer and Bible Study in the Friendship Room			
	Thursday	7:30am	Morning Brew in the Friendship Room			

THIS WEEK

<u>Tuesday</u>	
4:30pm	Property Committee Meeting, Administrative Boardroom (502)
5:30pm	Joint Deacons/Finance Executive Meeting, Library
7:00pm	Board of Deacons, Friendship Room
7:00pm	Board of Finance and Administration, Red Boardroom
<u>Wednesday</u>	
12:30pm	Noonday Organ Recital – Giles Bryant
6:00pm	Out of the Cold Steering Committee Meeting, Red Boardroom

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7:30pm

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10:00am	YP W	omen	Execu	ıtive N	Meetin	ng, <i>F</i>	Administrative	Boardroom	(502)
40.00	~ .		_	• • •					

The Art of the Meal Art Presentation, Cameron Hall

12:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting

12:30pm Afternoon Mission Fellowship, Friendship Room

7:00pm Pulpit Supply Committee, Administrative Boardroom 502

7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal, Cameron Hall

Saturday

2:00pm City Carol Sing, Sanctuary

7:00pm College and Career Christmas Party, offsite

Next Sunday – ADVENT II – White Gift Sunday (please see page 11 for information)

11:00am The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

7:00pm The Rev. Dale Rose



"Czech" In with Esther

Join us in welcoming home our own Esther Barnes who will delight and inspire us with tales of her recent short term mission trip to teach E.S.L. in the Czech Republic. Bring a sandwich on **Thursday December 5 from 12:30 - 2:00 pm** in the Friendship Room. Tea will be provided.

YOUTH and YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY slee@yorkminsterpark.com

Sunday Morning Schedule for Youth Group

10:00am - Youth Bible Study in Youth Zone Room 508

11:00am - Youth in Service

11:15am - Youth go to Cameron Hall for Doxa after the Children's Moment

The 3rd Sunday of the month is Serve Sunday where youth are encouraged to use their gifts to serve the church. Please speak with Sam for details.

COLLEGE AND CAREER Christmas Party Saturday, December 7, 7-10pm Eva's Place

Pot Luck Dinner with gift exchange

ART GALLERY WATER + STONE - Kawartha Paintings

By Randall Speller



You are invited to the opening on TODAY from 12:30pm to 2:00pm of an exhibition of new landscape paintings by Randall Speller at the Yorkminster Park Gallery in Toronto. Focusing on his most recent work, the exhibition continues Randall's exploration of the landscape in the Kawartha region of Ontario.

The exhibition will continue until Sunday **December 22**. We look forward to seeing you.

DISCIPLESHIP AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The December 2013-February 2014
'Our Daily Bread' Devotionals are available in the Centre Hall and the Narthex.

The Art of the Meal

Paintings by the old masters on themes from Scripture.

Presented by Tom Hayes
Wednesday, December 4, 2013
7:30pm

Cameron Hall



Bells on Bay St. - An Urban Christmas • Thursday, December 5, 2013 • 7:15 AM - 8:45

AM

Guest Speaker: Michael Williams, COO, HSBC Bank of Canada Philanthropic Partner: Brett McBride. ED Urban Promise

Hilton Toronto – 145 Richmond St. W.

Tickets: \$50

Please email Nicole Paserin at intern@intriciti.ca to reserve a ticket or table. Space is limited.

RSVP by December 2.



CITY CAROL SING

In collaboration with **Citytv** In support of Food Banks across Canada

SATURDAY, DEC. 7TH - 2:00 PM

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church 1585 Yonge Street (two blocks north of St. Clair Ave.)

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

CYNTHIA DALE • R.H. THOMPSON • GORD MARTINEAU and The True North Brass

FEATURING

The Larkin Singers, The Viva Youth Singers under the direction of Carol Woodward Ratzlaff
The Yorkminster Park and Christ Church Deer Park Choirs

ADMISSION FREE A collection will be taken for the Churches-on-the-Hill Food Bank
FOR MORE INFORMATION: (416) 922-1167 | yorkminsterpark.com | christchurchdeerpark.org | 9sparrowsarts.org

Broadcast on City TV

December 24 at 8pm; December 25, 5pm and 8pm; December 26, 5pm

"In Our Own Backyard" - Christmas 2013 Children's Mission Project Make a difference to people in our own city this winter.

Each year, we have given gifts to others out of thankfulness for all God has given us. We have chosen to be involved locally by providing gifts for people 'in our own backyard'! We are collecting items to help a ministry here in the city. In partnership with Youth Unlimited, we are assisting families in the Shoreham Court and Driftwood communities. How can you help?

Pick up an empty gift bag in the Narthex or the Centre Hall, take it home and fill it. Or bring an unwrapped gift and drop it in the specially marked boxes in the Centre Hall by **December 8**. Information sheets are on the Centre Hall table.

The Christmas Cakes are coming!

The Men's Baking Group will have this year's Christmas Cakes ready for sale starting **December 8th** following the morning service. The proceeds from this year's sales will be donated to The House of Compassion.



Toronto Mendelssohn Choir presents **Festival of Carols** with special guest **Ben Heppner**, at YP Wed. Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. tickets \$25-\$120. 416-598-0522 x 221

http://www.tmchoir.org/

MEN'S LUNCH GROUP

You are invited to join us for our next **Yorkminster Park Men's Lunch** on **Thursday, December 12** at noon at the Fox and Fiddle Pub across the street from the church on the south-east corner of Yonge and Heath.

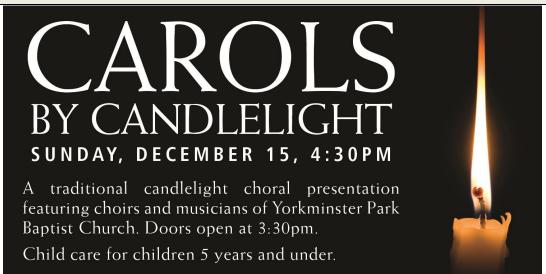
Our invited guest is **Eric Siebert**, a young man in the church who has recently returned from riding his bike across North America. Eric will be telling some wonderful stories and using a power point to show us some of his pictures and I am sure you will have lots of questions. We will also have plenty of time to catch up with each other and meet new people over lunch. Please RSVP to Denise in the office if you are able to join us – office@yorkminsterpark.com



Amadeus Choir of Toronto and the Bach Children's Chorus presents Sing With The Angels at YP Sat. Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. tickets \$20 - \$45. 416-446-0188 http://www.amadeuschoir.com/

Christmas Cookies for our elderly and homebound friends

Please bake and bring 4 dozen home-baked goodies to the Heritage Room Kitchen before the morning service of **Sunday**, **December 15**. Your sweets and treats are greatly appreciated.



Broadcast on CTS Ontario: Tuesday December 24th 11:00pm-Midnight Wednesday December 25th 2:30pm-3:30pm; Friday December 27th 11:00pm-Midnight

MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES: BEETHOVEN AND BEYOND

There is a new senior's group in the church called the **Prime Timers** which meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Friendship Room. Everyone brings their own sandwich and then there is an engaging speaker. The next meeting is **Tuesday, December 17 at 12:30** p.m. and the speaker is none other than Peter and Janet's eldest daughter, **Jessica Holmes**. Jessica will be giving an illustrated and inspiring talk on **MUSIC AND DISABILITY: Beethoven and Beyond**. This is the subject of Jessica's PhD thesis at McGill, and she speaks of it with great passion in a way that everyone can understand. Men and women of all ages are welcome. Captivating and thought provoking. With Christmas Treats and Singalong.



The Orpheus Choir of Toronto and the Hannaford Street Silver Band present Welcome Christmas with guest narration by Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes at YP, Tuesday, December 17, 7:30 p.m. tickets \$15 - \$40 416-420-9660

http://www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com/



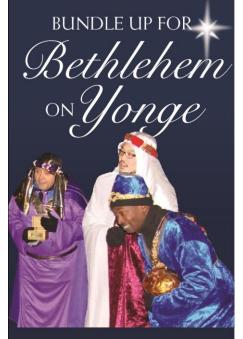
SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE - Saturday, December 21, 11:00 am

If at this Christmas season you are experiencing feelings of loss or loneliness, or you would just like a break from the upcoming stress and busyness of the holiday season, please join us for a Christmas Service of Comfort and Hope

in the Chapel. This is a quiet, contemplative service to help validate our feelings and draw us closer to God. A light lunch will follow in the Friendship Room.

Sunday, December 22, 4:30pm – Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Following the historic traditions of King's College, Cambridge. Doors open at 3:30pm. Childcare for children 5 years and under.



Bethlehem on Yonge

We are already planning for Christmas Eve's Bethlehem on Yonge event.

Did you know that last year we had over 530 people who registered at the census table? And 345 of those were visitors! Imagine having the opportunity to speak to so many about the birth of our Lord!

We need your help in making the evening a welcoming success. For more information please contact Miriam Little (<u>mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com</u>; 416-922-1361) or Sally Roy (<u>sallyroy@rogers.com</u>; 416-218-8806).

Join us for Bethlehem on Yonge – There are guided walks to Bethlehem departing from the census registration table every 5 minutes starting at 5:00 pm. The last tour leaves at 6:00 p.m. Worship the new baby king with the Minster Singers and Carol singing at 5:30 and 6:15 p.m. in Cameron Hall.

CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE NATIVITY with ANIMALS

Tuesday, December 24 - 5:00 p.m.
Outdoors in the Park at Yorkminster Park

Hot Chocolate and Carol singing indoors with the Minster Singers

Tuesday, December 24, 11pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Our community of faith gathers together to recognize the light of Christ delivered as a little baby so long ago, and to share the light of Christ with each other and then take it into the world. It is a wonderful metaphor of the Christian walk that is incredibly renewing and unifying.

Wednesday, December 25, 11am – Christmas Day Communion

A quiet service with the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 31, 11pm - Watchnight Service

A **watchnight service** is a late-night Christian church service. It is held late on New Year's Eve, and ends after midnight. This provides the opportunity for Christians to review the year that has passed and make confession, and then prepare for the year ahead by making new commitments. There is a deep sense of blessing for many that they have begun a new year with their sisters and brothers of the Christian family in God's house.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Through the ministry of the Yorkminster Park Benevolent Fund, members of the ministerial team are able to access funds for the purpose of offering practical help and support to people experiencing economic difficulties.

This ministry is always exercised in a confidential fashion, but the congregation is informed when the fund is running low in order that people might be given opportunity to respond to the need. The fund is now running low. If you wish to contribute, please write a cheque to Yorkminster Park and designate it for the Benevolent Fund. Thank you for helping us to help others.

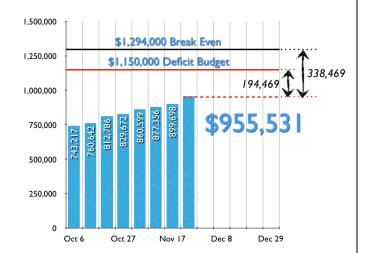
The Ministerial Team

An Update on 2013 Offerings

This chart shows, in weekly increments from October 6, the progress toward accomplishing the level of general offerings and contributions needed in 2013 to meet the Budget (leaving a deficit of \$144,000) or better still, to break even.

Historically, offerings during the last few months of the year have contributed significantly to the financing of the ministries of the church. Similarly generous commitments are needed again in 2013.

As of November 24th, the general offerings year-to-date were 74% of the amount needed for the church to break even for the year.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Parish Nurse is available in the Church or by phone, 9:30am to 3:30pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, and some evenings by appointment.

Grief and Bereavement

The Grief and Bereavement Support series is being planned to begin early in the New Year. Please speak to the Rev. Dale Rose 416-922-1167 x227 or drose@yorkminsterpark.com or Cathy Newman, Parish Nurse at 416-922-1167 x245 or parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com if interested.

Health and Wellness information is available in the Narthex, Centre Hall, South tables and website. For more information or to discuss any personal or family health matters, please contact Parish Nurse, Cathy Newman RN at 416 922-1428; or mobile 416 358-6453 or by email at parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com. All communications are confidential.



White Gift Sunday 11:00 a.m. - December 8th

White Gift Sunday has been a long standing tradition here at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. On this special Sunday before Christmas, we collect gifts that are given to a mission right here in the city. This year it is Yonge Street Mission. You may bring a gift of non-perishable food to be presented by you to the service in the sanctuary at 11:00am.

This year, because Christmas falls on the day that we have our **OUT of the COLD** program at YPBC, we would like to bless our guests with small gifts. For example: small toiletries, cough lozenges, socks, mitts, bandages, tooth brushes and lip balm are all welcome gifts.

At a specially designed time, children will collect your gifts and place them under the tree. You may also bring your gifts for "In Our Own Backyard" Mission project to place under the tree.

Thank you for your generosity!

Yonge Street Mission Christmas Wish List 2013

Food for the Christmas season & to stock our Food Bank during the depths of the winter:

Canned Food:

- Chick peas & other beans
- Vegetables & fruit
- Tuna & salmon
- Soups & stews
- Fruit juice
- Spaghetti sauce

For the Christmas Season:

- Christmas cake
- Oranges
- Cookies & biscuits
- Condiments & seasonings

Packaged Food:

- Peanut butter
- Pasta & kraft dinner
- Rice & cereal
- Gluten free pasta & cereal
- Cooking oil

- Tea & coffee
- Powdered milk
- Candy & chocolate
- Jars of jam
- Power bars & meal replacements
- Baby cereal & jarred food
- Baby formula liquid or powdered
- Other infant items bottles, soothers, diapers

Do you know the History of White Gift Sunday?

White Gift Sunday dates back to 1904 in Ohio. The wife of a Methodist minister and her two daughters came up with the idea of giving gifts wrapped in white paper at Christmas time to people in need. Gifts are wrapped in white so that they will be anonymous. There is a Chinese tradition where all the people gave their king a gift wrapped in plain white paper so that every gift would look the same. Each person gave the king what they were able, and the king welcomed them all. The White Gift shares in the spirit of Christ and the God of love at Christmas. We give gifts of love to people in need.

