

DECEMBER 21, 2014

ADVENT IV



Yorkminster Park

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

The Rev. Dale Rose
Minister of Pastoral Care

The Rev. Deborah Ban
Minister of Discipleship

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

Mrs. Miriam Little
Director of Children's Ministries

Mr. Brennan Rabbets
Interim Director of Youth

Mrs. Cathy Newman RN BScN
Parish Nurse

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

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MORNING WORSHIP

DECEMBER 21, 2014

ADVENT IV

The service of worship begins with the music of the organ

Prelude Grand Jeu et Duo *Louis Claude D'Aquin*

Played by Christel Wiens

Processional Hymn 104 – O Come all ye faithful (Adeste fideles)

Call to Worship **The Rev. Dale Rose**

Introit – (congregation seated) **Shepherd's Pipe Carol** *John Rutter*
Choristers

Jessica Willingham, director; **Christel Wiens**, piano

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love **Grace, Samuel, & Melvyn**

The Lord's Prayer (*sung Amen*) **The Rev. Dale Rose**

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

Children's Presentation – 'O Holy Night' Stick Drama *Recorded by Point of Grace*
Mary Edward and Julia Yacoub, directors

Congregational Hymn 734 – Away in a manger (Cradle Song)

THE CHRISTMAS STORY presented by the children

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-16 (NT p.59-60) **The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**

Hymn *SHB 8 – Angels we have heard on high (vs 1 & 2 – please remain seated) (Gloria)

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11 (NT p.2) **The Rev. Dale Rose**

Hymn *SHB 8 – Angels we have heard on high (vs 3 & 4 – please stand) (Gloria)

(During the singing of the carol,

Preschool and Kindergarten children move to the aisle to line up to move to the Chancel.)

Children's Song – Bells are Ringing *Frere Jacque*

Preschool and Kindergarten Class

Kelly Dixon, director; **Christel Wiens**, piano

Prayer with the Children **The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**

Wonderfully Made **Abbie**

Announcements

Hymn 100 – Infant holy (Infant holy)

Pastoral Prayer (*seated*) **The Rev. Deborah Ban**

Choral Response *C. M. Palmer*

Grant us wisdom; grant us courage for the living of our days.

Offering – *So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come peasant, King to own Him. The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.*

Anthem – Child in a manger

John Rutter

Child in a manger, Jesus our Saviour, Born of a virgin holy and mild; Sent from the highest,
Come down in glory; Tell the glad story, Welcome the child.
Shepherds, arise now, Go to the manger; find where the infant Jesus is laid. Offer your
homage, Kneel down before him; Praise and adore him, be not afraid.
Wise men, come seek him – Christ, our Redeemer; Journey to Bethlem, led by a star. Offer
your treasures: Gold, myrrh, and incense, Precious oblations Brought from afar.
Praise to the Christ-child; Praise to his mother; Glory to God our Father above. Angels are
singing songs of rejoicing, Greeting the infant Born of God's love.

Christel Wiens, organ

Doxology Hymn 766

Sermon – QUESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS:

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Recessional Hymn *SHB 52 – Joy to the world (Antioch)

Benediction

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Choral Amen (Maddox in the Dorian mode)

Postlude O nata lux de lumine

Flor Peeters

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*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The poinsettias in the Chancel today are placed to the glory of God by the

YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN

To celebrate the advent of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

The poinsettias will be available for distribution after the New Year's Eve Watchnight Service.

Please bring something in which to carry the plant.

Stick Drama:

Cameron, Daniela, Hazel, Jack, Luke, Rachel, Renée, Rhiannon

Nativity:

Ewan – Joseph; Hannah – Mary; Cynthia – Star; Andrew, Calen, Vaughn- Magi; Ava, Devon,
Ella, Lauryn, Leah, Liam, Marcus, Zachary -Angels; Hilary, Liam, Nina, Sophia – Shepherds

Bells are Ringing:

Abbie, Cruz, Hugh, Jack, Kiva, Liam, Logan, Madeline, Marcus, Rachel, Ryan, Samuel, Sophie

Choristers:

Anthony, Carter, Daniela, Hanna, Hazel, Kenny, Liam, Luke, Madeline, Melvyn, Michael,
Renée, Rhiannon, Stefan, Sydney, Zachary

Nine Lessons and Carols – Today at 4:30pm

Please note that there will be no 7pm service this evening.

104

LUKE ii. 15.

O COME, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

- 2 True God of true God,
Light of light eternal,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Son of the Father,
Begotten not created:
- 3 See how the shepherds,
Summoned to His cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
- 4 Lo, star-led chieftains,
Wise men, Christ adoring,
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
We to the Christ-child
Bring our hearts' oblations:
- 5 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
"Glory to God,
Glory in the highest":
- 6 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:

734

AWAY in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He
lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus ! look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus ; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Anon.

Angels we have heard on high

8

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains.
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be,
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria....

3. Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria....

4. See within a manger laid,
Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.
Gloria....

100

INFANT holy,
Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing,
Little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging
Angels singing,
Nowells ringing,
Tidings bringing,
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

2 Flocks were sleeping,
Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory,
Heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing,
Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing,
Greet the morrow,
Christ the babe was born for you !

Joy to the world

52

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King,
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrow grow;
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love.

PRAYERS

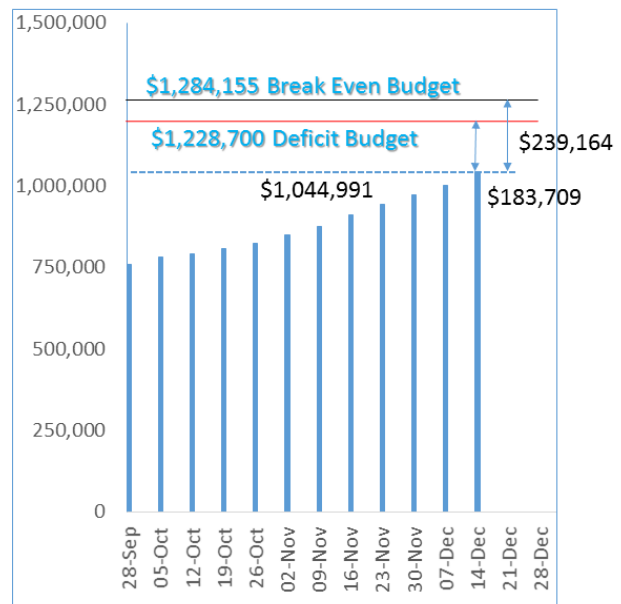
Yorkminster Park endeavors to be a people of Prayer. We believe that personal intimacy with God our Saviour in prayer is the privilege and responsibility of every believer. We must live our lives through prayer and trusting God! If you wish to submit a request to the ministry team, please email prayer@yorkminsterpark.com. Prayers for healing and blessing are offered each Sunday after the morning worship service in the Chapel.

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

An Update on 2014 Offerings

This chart shows, in weekly increments from September 28th, the progress toward accomplishing the level of general offerings and contributions needed in 2014 to meet the Budget (leaving a deficit of \$55,455) or better still, to break even. Last year we were able to break even. Similarly generous commitments are needed again in 2014.

As of Dec 14, the general offerings year-to-date were 81% of the amount needed for the church to break even for the year.



Thank you for your support so far. We only have two more Sundays including today. In these weekly updates we have been focusing on the big numbers, but sometimes it is the small numbers that make the big difference. A few hundred dollars can provide the support needed to run a devotional program. The annual budget for devotional materials for all of the adult programs that we run is \$3000. We are way under budget on that this year because most of it comes back from donations that people make to cover the costs. The Kid Zone library has a budget of \$300. This isn't a lot but it provides a wonderful resource.

The Board of Finance and Administration

BOARD OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 2015 general offering envelopes are in the Centre Hall today. Please pick up your set.
- The 2015 YP Women's Envelopes are also in the Centre Hall
- All donations to be receipted for 2014 must be received by December 31, 2014. This means that they must be either on the offering plate on December 29 or hand-delivered to the church/finance office or postmarked on or before December 31, 2014 and received in the Finance Office (Room 112) no later than January 7, 2015.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Each week in this space we will let you know what our kids are learning so you can pray for them and encourage them!



First Look (Preschool and Kindergarten) – The monthly theme for December is “Jesus is God’s Son.” and the memory verse is: “God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son.” John 3:16, GNT. The Bible story this week is from LUKE 2:6-18 telling the story of how God sends angels to tell the shepherds about Jesus, and they run to worship Him.



252Basics (Grades 1 to 5) – The monthly theme is ‘GENEROSITY, Making someone’s day by giving something away.’ The memory verse is “Be rich in good deeds ... be generous and willing to share.” from 1 Timothy 6:18, NIV. This week’s lesson is about Jesus’ birth, taken from John 3:16-17 and Luke 2:1-18.

If you have questions about Children’s Ministries and how you can be involved, speak to Miriam Little 416-922-1361.

YOUTH MINISTRY • brabbets@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 Brennan for details.

BOARD OF MISSION

In need of Christmas gift ideas? Here are some hope-full opportunities...



THE EMAS CHRISTMAS
CATALOGUE AT

www.emascanada.org/giftsofhope.htm

(Education, Medical Aid and Service)

EXPLORE THE CBM CATALOGUE
"HOPEFUL GIFTS FOR
CHANGE"



on the Centre Hall table
and in the Narthex

SEND A LEBANESE CHILD TO CAMP



Each year the Baptist Children and Youth in Lebanon run several camps. As part of our STEP partnership we would like to suggest donations be made to this ministry at Christmas. Cheques may be made out to Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, clearly designating funds for the Baptist Children/Youth Ministry, Lebanon, CBM and placed on the offering plate. The cost to send a child to camp is \$100 but any amount is appreciated.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Doug Purdon “Christmas Eve” Christmas Cards are available from the YP Women for \$10 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.

OUT OF THE COLD

Once again, we are asking you to help us bring Christmas joy to others less fortunate by providing some nut-free goodies for the Out of the Cold Christmas Dinner planned for **December 24**. Please bring your baked goods to the Heritage Room Kitchen between **December 21 and 24**. Please mark the baked goods 'Out of the Cold'. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

BUNDLE UP FOR BETHLEHEM ON YONGE • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5PM CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE NATIVITY WITH ANIMALS

Christmas Eve is just 3 days away! We will celebrate with our 'Bethlehem on Yonge' event. Did you know that last year in spite of the ice storm we had over 380 people who registered at the census table? And 220 of those were visitors! Imagine having the opportunity to speak to so many about the birth of our Lord! Thank you to the many who have volunteered to help this year to make the evening a welcoming success.

There are just a couple more spots that need filling:

- Sign up to be one of our characters: one of two soldiers, or one of two guides.

Please contact Miriam Little at 416-922-1361 mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com if you can participate.

Wednesday, December 24, 11pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service R.H. Thomson will be with us offering narration as we remember the Christmas Truce of 1914 through the lens of Bethlehem.

A 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 to the world. It is a wonderful metaphor of the Christian walk that is incredibly renewing and unifying.

Thursday, December 25, 11am – Christmas Day Communion

A quiet service with the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Christmas Holiday Hours of Church Offices

December 25 and 26, 2014 – Closed

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 – 8:30am to 12 noon

Next Sunday, December 28 – Christmas I

11am - The Rev. Dale Rose; No 7pm worship service

Wednesday, 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.

CHURCHES ON THE HILL FOODBANK

December's Food of the Month suggested donation is **Peanut Butter**. Please support your Churches On-The-Hill Foodbank to help those in need. Donations can be left in the donation box in the Centre Hall just outside the Sanctuary (north-east exit), near the doors to the Friendship Room.

On behalf of the clients and volunteers at the COTH Foodbank, thank you for your support.

COME JOIN US

Helpers are needed to take down the Christmas trees in the Sanctuary at 8:00am on **Tuesday, January 6, 2015**. We will remove the lights, disassemble the branches, and pack everything away until next year.

LUNCHTIME CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES (9sparrowsarts.org)

Resume Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 12:10pm

WHAT DOES EVE HAVE TO DO WITH TRAUMATIZED WOMEN?



The Yorkminster Park Afternoon Mission Fellowship invites you to start your year by joining Baptist women across Canada in the annual Great Canadian Bible Study and mission project. Explore the Legacy of Eve with Bible study leader Carol Belford. Then give your toonies to help women in the Democratic Republic of Congo who have been traumatized by rape and sexual violence.

Since 2012, this project has raised more than \$24,000 for medical assistance, trauma counselling, workshops to reduce discrimination against victims and their children, and microcredit programs to get survivors started on a new life. Come to the Friendship Room at **12:30 on Thursday, January 8**. Bring a sandwich.

ART GALLERY

Last days to see Maurice Snelgrove "Watercolours"

JANUARY SHOW • Ila Kellermann – *Remark*

Reception – Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 12:30pm

Kellermann's work celebrates and documents the tenacity and timelessness of nature. Her "mark making" explores the iconography and stewardship of landscapes and their inhabitants, while her ever-expanding membrane of colour and contemporary approach articulate her passions for our environment.

WEDNESDAY NOONDAY ORGAN RECITALS resume January 14, 2015.

YPBC WOMEN'S RETREAT - JUST AS I AM: BODY AND SOUL

An exploration of self-acceptance

SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2015 - 9 AM to 3:30 PM

at NOVOTEL, North York, 3 Park Home Ave., Gibson Ballroom

FACILITATOR: Cindy Mosey. Cindy has capably led two of our previous retreats and is a committed Christian and a Social Worker by profession.

FEE: \$45 - Cheques payable to YPBC Women - **January 10, 2015 cut-off date**.

Please see DETAILS on Registration Form.

Light refreshments and a full hot lunch will be served with vegetarian and gluten free options available.

Registration Forms are available on the Centre Hall bulletin board beside our poster and on a table in the Narthex.

All women are warmly invited to this soul-nurturing day-apart. And remember, this would make a lovely Christmas present for a special woman in your life.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Coming Soon - The Parish Nurse's office will be "The Health and Wellness Resource Centre located in Room 403 beside Cameron Hall.

The Parish Nurse is available Sundays 9am-3pm; Tuesdays 9am-3pm; Wednesdays 3pm-6pm and Thursdays by appointment.

Please see the latest Health Bulletin in the Narthex and Center Hall. This week's topic: Head Injuries in Children.

If you would like more information or to discuss any health matter, please contact Parish Nurse Cathy Newman RN at 416-922-1428 or mobile 416 358-6453 by email: parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com. All communications are strictly confidential.

BOARD OF DEACONS ANNOUNCEMENT RE: EVENING SERVICES IN WINTER

At the December meeting of the Board of Deacons it was decided that for the months of January and February of 2015, the evening service will be held at 4:30 p.m. rather than 7 p.m. This decision was made because three of the services need to be held at 4:30 (Paula Willis' Ordination on January 11; Week of Prayer Ecumenical Service on January 25; and the Induction of Deborah Ban on February 8), and it will be less confusing if all the services are moved to 4:30. We also hope that some may be more willing to venture out at the earlier hour in the winter. Before the decision was made, a poll was taken of the ushers, choir and evening congregation and 90% of those who voted expressed a desire or at least a willingness to participate in the service at the earlier hour. This change of the worship hour from 7 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. applies only to Sundays in January and February of 2015.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND • May 11 to 23, 2015 - 13 Days

This special journey will be led by Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes and Corey Keeble, Curator Emeritus of the Royal Ontario Museum, and will include time in Galilee, Nazareth, Mount Hermon, Golan, Nimrod, Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Tiberias, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Jericho, the Dead Sea, Masada, and other Biblical sites. We will have an overnight by the sea outside Tel Aviv, four nights in Tiberias, in the heart of the Galilee region and six nights in Jerusalem. Visiting these sites with a pilgrim's heart can bring the Biblical stories to life and transform one's faith. Travel arrangements will be made through Craig Travel of Toronto. Full details will be available in a couple of months. To have your name on the list of those interested in receiving more information, please speak with Mary Stevens.

