

FLOCK TALK

Asbury and West United Church

3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON M6A 2A9 Office: 416-783-6503

"The Friendly Church"

December 18, 2022

Edition 165



LOOKING BACK

The Rev Douglas McKenzie
Memorial Walk brought in \$1,687.00.
Thank you for your generous support.



Rev. Douglas McKenzie

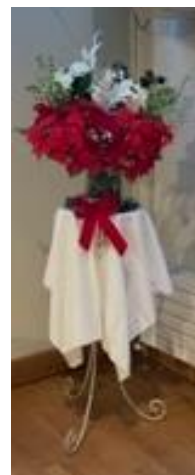


Halloween Celebration,
Sunday Oct 30th

We had a fun time and a good crowd at our **Spaghetti Lunch** on October 23. A total of \$142.00 was collected, clear of any expenses. A special thank you goes to Kyle who helped prepare the lunch, as well as to the committee and all who helped.



The **first Sunday in Advent**. Thanks to Lisa, Lola, Clayton and Melvyn for beautifying our sanctuary for the Advent season.



The **Christmas dinner** held on December 3 was enjoyed by all.



Editors' Note: Flock Talk is always grateful for any pictures you send to us. Please be sure to include names and dates of the events.



THE PASTOR'S PEN

As I sat down to write this Christmas message for Flock Talk, it occurred to me the greatest thing we need in our lives, this, and every season, is to know that God is with us. This surely is the message of Christmas and the message of our faith. I love the way one writer put it:

"What begins in the stable ends in our salvation. That's why we celebrate Christmas, and it's the best and only reason the human heart needs" (Charles J. Chaput).

God is with us! This is what young and old alike really need to know. Jesus is not only the Babe of Bethlehem, but He is also the One who was born that we might know hope, peace, joy and love.

Christ is the missing piece to life. Without Him our lives are incomplete. With Him our lives, even in their most complex or disappointing parts, make sense.

God is with us! This is the message of Christmas. This is the message that we are to carry in our hearts and into the days, weeks, months, and years after Christmas. Our journey as a church continues. And I am thankful to be on that journey with you. May the hope, peace, joy and love of this Christmas season bless you and yours.

Merry Christmas,



Rev Carol and Rick

Remembrance, like a candle, burns brightest at Christmas.

Charles Dickens

In Loving Memory of

Members and friends of Asbury and West who have passed this year.

forever remembered, forever missed.



Constance Shewalter, February 18, 2022

Sheila Anne Carmen April 6, 2022

Erlinda Torres Ho, May 25, 2022

Clarice Martin, December 10, 2022

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16



SENIOR CHOIR

Season's greetings from the Asbury and West United Church Choir!

Our small, but mighty group love the Christmas season. The readings, the decorated sanctuary, the goodwill of our congregation, and of course, the music.

As the days shorten and the nights pull in, we look to the Light of the coming Christ.

Our choir sings with joy and love to add our voices to the celebration.

Music is one of the many ways our congregation comes together and share comfort and joy at the darkest, yet Lightest time of the year.

We may be a small group, but we are enthusiastic and willing to give our all.

Anthony's beautiful music fills our hearts every Sunday. He also lovingly prepares recorded music for our 9:30am Sunday Zoom service. Our church is truly blessed with music.

Happy Christmas!

Lisa Crawford



ASBURY'S NEW OFFICE SECRETARY

Amrita Aphan has been attending Asbury and West church since 2017, and was the M&P Committee co-chair for a two-year term. In her role as co-chair, she attended both Asbury and West Council and Shining Waters Regional Council meetings regularly to stay up-to-date on policies, government guidelines and provided reports. She also volunteered on the Zoom service Committee for about two years providing technical support.



In Amrita's early years, she attended several churches, Sunday schools and Bible studies. Her dedication and contributions to her faith continues. Additionally, Amrita has been volunteering her time to several community organizations, funded by the government, in Scarborough and Toronto to assist low income families and individuals of need. Giving back and helping others were always important in Amrita's upbringing. She continues this in her daily life.

Amrita is excited to be apart of the Asbury and West team that provides excellent services to the home members as well as the public.



Editors' Note: We congratulate Amrita on her new position and wish her all the best.



Fairbank United Church

OUR FAIRBANK FRIENDS

There is news from our sister church Fairbank United located on Dufferin Street. Many of you are aware that Rev. Steven Loweth and I have been working together. We share services, zoom and in-person, and help each other with pastoral care. The relationship between Fairbank United Church and Asbury is good and growing.

Two weeks ago Rev. Steven announced to the Fairbank Community that he is leaving the community. Rev. Steven has accepted a call to a United Church in Thunder Bay, Ontario. He starts his new ministry in March of 2023.

As of now, I do not know who will be at Fairbank. However, I am hopeful that the new minister and the Fairbank Community will want to continue developing a relationship with Asbury and West.

Please join me in wishing Rev. Steven success and happiness as he moves into this new adventure in ministry.

Rev Carol



Christmas waves a magic wand over the world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

Norman Vincent Peale



UPDATED COVID PROTOCOLS AT ASBURY

Update: March 2022

We are very pleased that Asbury and West United Church re-opening for in-person Sunday Morning Services and Sunday School as of April 3rd, 2022, 10:30am. The wearing of face masks will continue, but proof of vaccination will NOT be required. We encourage anyone who has not been vaccinated to do so. Physical distancing will be up to individuals. Contact tracing will no longer be in effect; capacity limits have been lifted; use of hand sanitizer in the church will be in the church.

*Please take note that the decisions made at Council are in keeping with the Government of Ontario's reopening plan. Even though many mandates will be lifted, we can still set our own policies for the safety of everyone.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



The UCW had their Christmas Potluck on November 15. A good time was had by all with good food, games with prizes and a gift exchange. This was the final meeting of 2022.



Donations will be made to the Massey Centre, Scott Mission and Asbury and West.

The Annual Congregational Christmas Dinner was held on Saturday December 3. There was an abundance of main courses and desserts to tempt your palate. This was followed by carol singing and a challenging game involving the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas". Attendees brought donations to our "Mittens & More" tree. A special thank you goes to Jean Edwards for her donation of 25 knitted hats made by her.



Christmas Blessings to all!

Kim Davidson, Chair



WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

The tradition of White Gift Sunday has its roots in a small Methodist church in Ohio in 1904. What began as a humble way to reflect on the love and devotion of the giver and not the value of the gift has grown into today's white gift services in many churches across several denominations.

The story is told that a minister's wife initiated the idea to solve the problem of inequity of gifts given at the Sunday School Christmas party. Instead of focusing on receiving gifts, the focus shifted to bringing gifts to Jesus that could in turn be shared with people around the world who did not have much. All the gifts would come wrapped in plain white paper, so that no one would know which was an expensive gift and which was a more modest one. No one would feel ashamed of their gift and everyone would share in the joy of giving to others.



*Taken from the website of
St. Paul's United Church, Ajax*



WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Our purpose is to enhance the spiritual growth of every person in the congregation.

Advent and Christmas is a busy time of year for us. Our team is working hard to bring the congregation a meaningful and beautiful season.

Advent sees White Gift Sunday where non-perishable food items are brought to the Church and given during the service to then be sent to a food bank.

December 18th is Christmas Sunday, a Platinum Sunday, meaning an extra special service with a Profession of Faith, transfer of memberships, a luncheon, and a party for the Sunday School with an appearance by Santa Claus.

We will celebrate Christmas Eve together at 7pm with traditional readings, carols, communion, and, of course, the Nativity Story, with congregation and Sunday School participation.

Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year. Therefore, we will be having a shortened and casual service at 10:30 am with cookies and cider following worship. Come in your Pj's or your favourite ugly Christmas sweater.

This Ministry is responsible for the decorating (and un-decorating) of the Church for the holiday season (see page 2 for pictures). We are also responsible for making sure that candles and communion supplies are always on hand. We make sure that liturgical colours are correct for each church season. In short, we take care of everything that happens within the sanctuary.

The Sunday School celebrate by having a party with gifts and Santa. Confirmation is always on the agenda for anyone interested.

As in past years, the Sunday School supports a local shelter by providing boxes beneath our sanctuary Christmas tree for the "Mittens and More" campaign. Donations of mitts, hats, scarves, etc., are greatly appreciated.

We look forward with anticipation to 2023 and all that God affords us in our journey together.

Christmas Love and Blessings to all!

Lisa Crawford, Rotating Chair

Sunday School

The children finished their studies on Abraham and his family and, recently, stories leading up to Jesus' birth.

Our Hallowe'en party was exciting. The children came dressed in costume as did a few others around the church (see page 2). During the children's time they went trick or treating around the sanctuary, receiving candy donated by members of the church.

On December 18 we had our Christmas Party that was integrated into the church service. Santa Claus came with gifts and candy for the children, youth and teachers. Special music was enjoyed. And we had a delicious lunch prepared by Nancy Sison in memory of her mother, Lydia, and desserts added by the Filipino families. It was a great celebration for everyone.

Classes have now ended for 2022 and will resume on January 8, 2023.

Submitted by Cheryl Holliday, Superintendent of Sunday School



Gracie singing "Jesus Loves Me" with help from big brother Gabriel.



WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY (continued)

Youth Class

It is unfortunate that the Youth Class attendance went way down in September and continued that way for the remainder of the year. Confirmation will not take place.

But the good news is that Kyle is joining the church on December 18 by Profession of Faith. He took most classes with Rev Carol and a couple with Cheryl Holliday. Welcome Kyle into full membership of Asbury and West and the United Church of Canada.

A new year is just around the corner and we anticipate good things and many blessings for the children and youth of this church.

*Submitted by Cheryl Holliday, Superintendent
of Sunday School*



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

In order to reduce printing costs, Flock Talk is available in a limited supply for those who do NOT have email. Be sure you (and anyone else you know who would like to receive a copy) are on the email list to receive an copy electronically. Kindly contact Sylvia at rsm56@sympatico.ca to be added.



YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS

No report. If you would like any information, please speak to Melvyn or Shirley Beckles, Group Contacts.

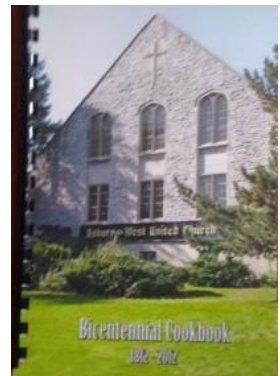


JAZZ UP YOUR LEFTOVER TURKEY

Spiced Cranberry Salad (Glenda McBroom)

2 (small) raspberry Jelllo	2 cups whole cranberry sauce
1/4 tsp salt	2 Tbsp grated orange rind (optional)
1/4 tsp cinnamon	1 cup diced orange sections
Dash cloves	1 cup chopped apple
2 cups boiling water	

Dissolve Jello, salt, cinnamon and cloves in boiling water. Add cranberry sauce and orange rind. Chill till thickened. Fold in orange and apple. Chill until firm.



Editors' Note: For Glenda's salad and many more delicious recipes, check out the Asbury and West United Church Bicentennial Cookbook 1812-2012. It was published when we celebrated our 200th Anniversary. Copies still available for \$5.00.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



The United Church of Canada is committed to responding to the crisis in Ukraine and is working with Mission & Service partners ACT Alliance and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Donations can be made in the following three (3) ways:

Online [secure donation page](https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/ukraine-crisis) at <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/ukraine-crisis>

Phone 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order (marked "Emergency Response—Ukraine") to:

The United Church of Canada

Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response

3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Note: As part of the United Church's Emergency Response Fund, 100% of your donation goes directly to emergency relief, with 85% of your donation responding to this designated emergency and 15% responding to future emergencies that do not receive intense media coverage. Donations to Mission & Service enable the United Church to cover all of the costs of emergency response work without deducting any fees from your donation.

Asbury and West is still supporting two local programs within our immediate community - Baycrest Public School Breakfast Program and the North York Harvest Food Bank (NYHFB).

Simply make your cheque payable to Asbury and West United Church or you can donate through e-transfer and PayPal. Kindly indicate on your giving envelope & cheque or on the electronic form which program you are assisting and the amount you wish to donate. This will be added to your year-end tax receipt.

Thank you for your support to all these worthy causes.

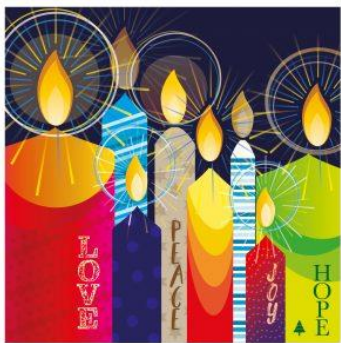


Asbury and West Website continues to be updated. For the most current information about events, go to our web page at asburyandwest.org and click on the blog link (just below the scrolling pictures).

MERRY CHRISTMAS GAME

While you are waiting for the turkey to cook, test your language skills. Match the MERRY CHRISTMAS Greeting in the left-hand column with the LANGUAGE in the right-hand column. We'll get you started.....

Merry Christmas	Letter	Language
1. Joyeux Noel	K	A. Danish
2. Feliz Navidad		B. Croatian
3. Buon Natale		C. Finnish
4. Frohliche Weihnacten		D. Tagalog
5. God Jul		E. Greek
6. Boze Narodznie		F. Mandarin
7. Sretan Bozic		G. Indonesian
8. Shèngdàn Jié Kuàilè		H. Swedish
9. Kala Christou'yenna		I. Spanish
10. Houska Joulua		J. Italian
11. Glaedelig Jul		K. French
12. Meri Kurisumasu		L. German
13. Maligayang Pasko		M. Japanese
14. Hari Natal		N. Polish
15. Hindi		O. Krisamas Kee badhaee



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK



The Christmas issue of Flock Talk always reflects the busy time of year for our congregation and the special events and activities taking place.

It has been our pleasure to bring you the issues of Flock Talk we have published this year. THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed.

We wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a healthy, Happy New Year.

Jocelyn & Sylvia

NEXT DEADLINE – Sunday, March 26, 2023

Next Edition – Sunday, April 9, 2023

Material accepted ANYTIME (the earlier the better). Please email the editors at:

jocelynshevalter@gmail.com and rsm56@sympatico.ca

(Articles are subject to editing for length & clarity.)



MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

The members of Membership and Pastoral Care are Janiss Johnson (Secretary), Lisa Crawford, Shirley Beckles, Melvin Beckles, Nancy Sisson, Rev. Carol, Ianthe Spencer (Chair) and Lucille Hunte.

We continue to make calls as necessary and send greeting cards as needed. We will be sending Christmas cards to every member.

Our next Meeting will be in the Spring.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas, and continued Blessings in the coming year.

Ianthe Spencer, Chair



MINISTRIES and COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Vacancy

HOSPITALITY

Chair: Vacancy

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

Chair: Ianthe Spencer

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL (M&P)

Chair: Vacancy

PROPERTY

Co-Chairs: Clayton Johnson & Yvonne Wright

STEWARDSHIP

Chair: Vacant

Secretary: Cheryl Holliday

WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rotating Chair: Lisa Crawford, Cheryl Holliday, Rev Carol

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Chair: Kim Davidson

MEMORIAL Committee

Cheryl Holliday, David Tuck

SHINING WATER REGION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Vacancy

CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

You are welcome to attend any meeting.

COUNCIL

Chair: Melvyne Beckles



"Sharing the Gifts We
Have Been Given"

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Your Stewardship Ministry Group thanks you for your generous support over the year, whether it was through offerings, donations or contributing your time. We are now in the midst of the 2023 Annual Giving Campaign and looking forward to your continuing support in the year ahead.

If you would like to give your weekly or monthly offering through the Pre Authorized Remittance plan, or increase it, please complete the PAR section on the Annual Giving form or speak to Cheryl Holliday (647-999-2258).

The 2023 offering envelopes will be ready to pick up before the end of the year. If you do not have envelopes and would like a package, please speak to Clay Johnson.

We are looking for more members. Clay, Janiss, Rosalyn and Cheryl invite you to help with the church finances and stewardship ministry. Please speak to any one of us.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Cheryl Holliday, Secretary

OUR CHURCH IS BLESSED

We are most fortunate to have recently received word of a bequest made to Asbury and West. The late Jean MacDonald was a member of our church and participated in the UCW (United Church Women) group. Her picture is from the first picture book published in November 1980.

Jean's last will and testament indicated that her daughter, Donna, should always be looked after. With the passing of Donna in a nursing home, the balance of Jean's estate is being given to charity. Asbury and West will receive \$29,174.05.

Asbury and West was fortunate to have Jean as a member of the congregation who served faithfully with her time and talent. We thank God for the life of Jean and Donna. We are grateful for this bequest.



MRS. JEAN MacDONALD

Submitted by Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson



ARE YOU ON P.A.R.?

Have you thought about making your church donation by P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance)? Through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals are made from your bank account. PAR is easy to set up and can be adjusted at any time should your circumstances change. If you are already on PAR, don't forget that you can increase your donation anytime. Simply speak to Cheryl Holliday, in confidence, about the process.

Thank you for your support!

We are also collecting Canadian Tire money to assist with future purchases.
Please consider this form of donation to your church.





The only real blind person at Christmas is he who has not Christmas in his heart.

Helen Keller

Christmas Gift Suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness,
To an opponent, tolerance,
To a friend, your heart,
To a customer, service,
To all, charity,
To every child, a good example,
To yourself, respect.

Anonymous



COUNCIL

Asbury and West Council is under the leadership of Melvyn Beckles with Cheryl Holliday serving as secretary. Council meets once a month and the members consist of the Chairs of each ministry of the church. These ministries include Worship and Christian Education, Property, Trustees, Communication, Stewardship and Hospitality. Members of the congregation are welcome to attend any meeting.

The Council of Asbury and West works diligently to do the work of the church that the people of Asbury and West have entrusted them to do. For instance, recently Council approved the following items:

The purchase of a new sign located on the Saranac Avenue side made possible by the generous gift from the Joy Bullock estate. (See page 17 for details)

Meeting with TUCC (Toronto United Church Council) to discuss the possibility of TUCC supporting Asbury and West with the management of renting church property.

The hiring of Amrita Aphan as church secretary. (See page 5 for details)

Each member of the Council is committed to the life and work of Asbury and West. Please contact Melvyn, Cheryl, Rev. Carol, or any member of the council. All ideas are welcome!

Merry Christmas!

Rev. Carol



TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

As we continue on the journey for truth and reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours, I turn once again to the book of poems LIVING IN THE TALL GRASS by Chief R. Stacey Laforme. This poem seems so appropriate considering all the hurt and suffering throughout our world.

Peace

A river flowing slowly along, caressing the shore
 A beautiful sunrise, as the birds welcome a new day
 Trees whispering to each other, as the
 wind moves among them
 The beautiful face of grandmother moon, as she
 rises majestically over the forest
 The sparkle, as the young discover true love
 for the first time
 A smile that crosses the face of the newly wed
 A good night kiss for a child, that speaks of
 unconditional love
 The connection between two who have spent a
 lifetime in the company of each other
 Peace is a calmness that radiates out from the soul
 Lasting for many of us mere moments
 for the lucky few a life time, and for some
 seemingly unattainable
 Yet, even if stolen in seconds or measured
 in moments, it is a treasure
 A warm caress from the creator, that promises
 love and eternity
 A gift we would share, a gift with no cost
 and no reward
 A gift from the heart, a gift of peace
 A gift, from the creator
 to be shared among all
 Peace.



*Submitted by
 Jocelyn Shewalter-Patterson*

coffee hour

Tuesday evenings at 7pm

Grab your coffee or tea and join us via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82872466186>

Meeting ID: 828 7246 6186

OR

Join us via phone:

647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 828 7246 6186



Our **CONVERSATIONS** group continues to enjoy the Bible Study Wednesdays on Zoom.

Last month the study was on the book of James. Now during Advent, we are reading from Luke, leading up to the birth of Jesus. As we read different passages in the bible, Rev. Carol asks us as to our understanding about what is being read. It is an interesting and challenging experience.

Anyone wishing to join us would be very welcome.

Submitted by Dorothy Ostrom



CONVERSATIONS

Join us Wednesdays at 11:00am

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81176580663?pwd=Y2ZTSkRNMWlNbDAwOTRlQVBZUytZz09>

Meeting ID: 811 7658 0663

Passcode: 995219

OR

Join us via phone:

647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 811 7658 0663

Passcode: 995219



PROPERTY REPORT

Since our last report, the committee have two projects to be completed in 2023. It is having the counter tops in the Upper/Fellowship Room done as well as re-sanding the floor of the hall. We are still in the process of gathering estimates for the work.

At the moment, the Lift is out of operation and we are awaiting some parts to have it repaired.

Cool-Aid Mechanical was in for the winter maintenance and they discovered that the Roll-Out Switch for the Furnace was faulty, resulting in them not able to operate properly. Approval have been given to carry out the work at a cost of \$370 plus HST.

Finally, we have installed a lawn sign on the Saranac side of the church building. This is a double-sided sign as attached, and we thank the late Joyce Bullock for the bequest she had left to the church. A dedication of both signs will be done sometimes in the late Spring along with a plaque in memory of Joyce.

We have lost a bit of revenue which usually comes from rental of the Upper Room as a result of the pandemic.

Yvonne Wright and Clayton Johnson, Co-Chairs



Our first stained glass window was installed during December 1983 and dedicated on Sunday, August 24, 1984 during a Mulholland family reunion in Toronto. The "Nativity" was donated in memory of Elsie Mulholland by many members of the Mulholland family. The land on which Asbury and West is build was originally donated by Henry and Jane for Wesleyan Methodist Church in the 1830's.



GAMES PLUS MORE

Word Search

A T K F A V S G M R L L Z G N J B T E R
N Q O V R G F W U H E S V J O Z D A Y B
G T M Y F B I O L W X W V T E L I F B A
E B W H A Z C R I U F W Y I O S D J C Y
L D I D I L V S P R D O N K E Y U P H B
W N W R A H S H E P H E R D S D L S R A
J A B I T S P I W D V I R G I N V G I C
E Z Y R S H U P K N N S C Y Q L I B S P
C A E K T E R D I M H E R O D W Z E T R
T R N I E P M S R A X A T D Z T B T M Y
N E I N Y M V E V N Y O S F W Z Z H A A
Z T M G K A E M N G P E A C E A S L S U
G H Z H A R Y E D E E P G C J O S E P H
S D O A E Y B M I R K G Q A S D R H I F
W T C E L Y S D J Y S M Y R R H J E C U
F R A N K I N C E N S E K W E D X M Z B
Y I H R T M C J W I J M E S S I A H J R
V D G S T A B L E R W B U I L Z J W D H

Words

- Bethlehem
Nazareth
Donkey
Virgin
Messiah
King
Gold
Wise men
Myrrh
Manger
Shepherds
Peace
- Star
Christmas
Frankincense
Angel
Jesus
Worship
Joseph
Birth
Herod
Mary
Stable
Baby



Nativity Word Scramble



All these words come from the Christmas story. Can you unscramble them?

1. ASRT
2. HSERHSEDP
3. YKENDO
4. MAYR
5. GLEAN
6. SGKIN
7. SJESU
8. ERANMG
9. HJSEPO
10. TEBLAS
- ---



Kids

Korner

1. What do Santa Elves drive?
2. What are Christmas tress favourite candy?
3. Why does everyone love Frosty?
4. What do snowmen eat for breakfast?
5. Why does Santa go down the chimney?
6. What did Mrs Clause say when she looked up into the sky?
7. What kind of photos do elves take?
8. What do road crews use at the North Pole?

1. Minivans; 2. Orna-mints; 3. He's cool; 4. Frosted Flakes; 5. Because it soots him; 6. It looks like rain, dear; 7. Elfies; 8. Snow cones



December 2022

- Sat Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm, the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the Nativity Presentation
- Sun Dec 25 - Service at 10:30 am. Come as you are (ugly Christmas sweaters or your PJ's). Serving hot apple cider & cookies. If you would like to share some of your Christmas baking it would be most enjoyed!

January 2023

- Sun Jan 1 - Happy New Year! Epiphany Sunday
- Sun Jan 8 - The Baptism of Jesus

February

- Tues Feb 2 - Groundhog Day
- Tues Feb 14 - Valentine's Day
- Mon Feb 20 - Family Day
- Wed Feb 22 - Ash Wednesday

March

- Mar 12 - Daylight Savings Time, put clocks ahead 1 hour
- Fri Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- Sun Mar 26 - Flock Deadline for Easter Edition

April

- Sun Apr 2 - Palm Sunday
- Thurs Apr 6 - Maundy Thursday
- Fri Apr 7 - Good Friday
- Sun Apr 9 - Easter Sunday....Hallelujah!

May

- Sun May 14 - Mother's Day
- Thurs May 18 - Ascension of Jesus
- Mon May 22 - Victoria Day
- Sun May 28 - Pentecost



Coffee Hour is every Tuesday evening, Conversations is every Wednesday morning.
(See page 16 for more details on both.)



ASBURY AND WEST UNITED CHURCH

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Toronto, ON M6A 2A9
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Organist & Choir Leader:
Editors:

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Sylvia Shewalter-Nielsen rsm56@sympatico.ca



www.asburyandwest.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Asbury and West, acknowledges the sacred land on which our church stands. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory. We are also mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations. The original nations continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation.

Our Mission Statement: *We are a diverse community of Christians, called by God, who seek to make a positive difference in the lives of those who live in the Bathurst and Lawrence Community and beyond.*



POWERFUL

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DESIGN
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