



*A spiritual hub for  
creativity,  
discovery and growth*

**WELCOME TO  
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**

**MINISTER**

Rev. Gerald A. Kerr  
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613-390-1820

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Joanne Lucas  
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613-267-2973

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Brad Mills  
[millham@sympatico.ca](mailto:millham@sympatico.ca)  
613-812-0871

**CUSTODIAN**

Denis Boulet  
613-267-2973

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday  
8:30am - 3:00pm

**MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays 1:00pm - 3:00pm  
Tuesdays 9:30am - 12:00pm  
Thursdays 9:30am - 12:00pm

With Heartfelt  
*Sympathy*

Condolences to  
Elizabeth & Annie McKinnon  
on the passing of  
**Milton "Bud" Thomas**  
(brother in-law & uncle)

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**

25 Gore Street W. Perth, Ontario K7H 2L9

Phone: 613-267-2973

Website: [www.stpaulsperth.ca](http://www.stpaulsperth.ca)

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018*

*First Sunday of Advent*

**LECTIONARY READINGS**

Sunday, December 2: First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

Sunday, December 9: Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

**MEETINGS & EVENTS THIS WEEK: December 2 to 9**

Sunday 2	10:00am Worship - Rev Gerry (Advent 1)
	11:00am Fellowship Time
Monday 3	9:00am Knitters (Gathering Room)
	9:00am Chicken Pies (Kitchen)
Tuesday 4	9:30am Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00pm Shuffleboard (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00pm Handbells (Gathering Room)
	7:00pm CY Team (Chapel)
Wednesday 5	7:00pm "Blue Christmas" Service (Sanctuary)
Thursday 6	9:30am Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)
	4:00pm Dance Classes (Gathering Room)
	6:30pm Junior Choir (Music Room/Sanctuary)
	7:30pm Senior Choir (Music Room/Sanctuary)
Friday 7	10:00am Yuletide Fair Evaluation/Executive meeting (Chapel)
Saturday 8	10:00am Tai Chi (Gathering Room)
Sunday 9	10:00am Worship - Rev Gerry (Advent 2 - White Gift)

**FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Our host this Sunday: Volunteers needed. Pop into the kitchen and lend a hand!  
Next week: UCW Unit 2

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 2:** Advent 1 - we light the candle of *Hope*

St. Paul's Handbell Choir will join us with seasonal music

**Wednesday, December 5:** A Time of Remembrance & Reflection - 7pm

A quiet service of contemplation and music to prepare for the Christmas season

**Sunday, December 9:** Advent 2 - we light the candle of *Peace*. White Gift Sunday

We will be inspired by the Sunday School children's pageant. Gifts collected for the Christmas Basket Program in Lanark County.

**Sunday, December 16:** Advent 3 - we light the candle of *Joy*.

Nine Lessons & Carols with the combined choirs of St. James and St. Paul's at St. James Anglican Church - 7pm

**Sunday, December 23:** Advent 4 - we light the candle of *Love*.

**Monday, December 24:** Christmas Eve Family Service at 7pm

We light the Christ candle!

**Sunday, December 31:** First Sunday After Christmas.

**Sunday, January 6:** Epiphany Sunday marking the end of the Christmas season

**WHITE GIFT SUNDAY**

**Opportunities for Generosity in Advent:** Select an Angel from the tree in the Narthex, purchase the gift and bring it to church on December 9<sup>th</sup> in a white bag - please do not wrap or fasten the angel to the gift. If you choose a "turkey" Angel please make your cheque payable to the "Lanark Highlands Food Pantry" and indicate on the cheque that it is designated for the "Christmas Baskets" and mail to: Lanark and District Ministerial, 77 York St. P.O. Box 60, Lanark, Ontario K0G 1K0. You will receive a tax receipt.

**MEMORIAL STARS & HONOUR ANGELS**

**Opportunities for Generosity in Advent:** Once again this year we will be offering Memorial Stars for loved ones who have passed away and Honour Angels for special people in our lives to hang on the tree in the sanctuary. Names will be printed in the bulletin leading up to Christmas. Complete and return a blue slip (located at the back of the church) to make a dedication.

**POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY**

**Opportunities for Generosity in Advent:** Purchase a poinsettia for \$18 by December 16<sup>th</sup> to help decorate the sanctuary. Your plant will be on display for the Christmas Sunday and Christmas Eve services. After the Christmas Eve service, it is yours to take home or give as a gift. Any surplus funds will be donated to the church. See Lynne Evans in the Fellowship Hall after church to arrange your purchase.

## CHRISTMAS TREES FOR THE SANCTUARY

The two new Christmas trees you (will soon) see in the Sanctuary are the result of a generous donation by members of the congregation. Thank-you!



## CONNECTING WITH THE CONGREGATION

**What are the children learning this week?** This week we begin the season of Advent, a time of waiting, longing, promise and preparing for Christmas Day and Jesus' birth. The children will have fun going through the White Gift play during their time together and then there will be a practice after church.

## Y&R CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Y&R Christmas party is planned for Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. It is a Potluck beginning at 6:00pm at Perthshire (corner of Lambert & Lally, off of Rogers Rd.) Bring your own dishes, beverages, potluck and serving utensil. Please RSVP to Mary at [mkilgour@superaje.com](mailto:mkilgour@superaje.com)

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Finance Team thanks everyone in the congregation for their generous contributions of money and time. The following information is in regard of our normal operations and does not include amounts associated with the renovation project. Unfortunately, at October 31, our offerings at \$131,110 are \$35,557 lower than our planned offerings of \$166,667. Our expenses at \$227,747 are \$8,253 lower than the planned expenses of \$236,000. Our deficit at \$71,130 is \$27,547 higher than the planned deficit of \$43,583. We thank you for your generosity so far this year but ask that you consider St Paul's as you plan your Christmas season givings.

## THE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

St. Paul's Fall/Winter *Spirit* Newsletter was circulated last week. Those on the congregational email list received the newsletter in full colour with the Friday "What's Happening at St. Paul's" weekly update. Contact the office if you would like to be added to the congregation email list. View it on the website at: [www.stpaulsperth.ca](http://www.stpaulsperth.ca) Paper copies are available at the back of the church again this Sunday if you need one. If you are delivering, pick up bundles from the office throughout the week or in the chapel after church.

## UCW ~ KEEPING IN TOUCH

**Unit 5** members will meet at Ute's house on 4 Taggart Cres. on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am for our Christmas Potluck and gift exchange. Word for roll call is "Angel".

**Yuletide Fair Evaluation:** Friday, December 7 at 10:00AM. The Executive, Unit leaders and anyone who is in charge of tables should attend with suggestions. Please bring your calling lists.

**Distribution of Funds meeting:** Friday, December 7 at 11:00 (after the Yuletide Fair evaluation meeting) The Executive and Past presidents should attend this meeting.

## AV & SOUND SYSTEM UPDATE

We have had the opportunity to test drive our new AV and Sound Systems in the renovated sanctuary for both worship and recent community events. We welcome your feedback about what you have seen and heard to date and we are open to suggestions on how to make things better! In the near future, it is our intention to hold an open house for all those interested in learning more about these systems in a relaxed casual atmosphere. We are also looking for anyone interested in a little more formal (hands on) training session. Hoping to hear from you! Kirk Lidbetter, AV & Sound HUB Helpline (613) 264-6360 or email [34gore@sympatico.ca](mailto:34gore@sympatico.ca)

## LABYRINTH - BEGINNING DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>



Come and walk the floor labyrinth. The physical process of walking the configuration benefits one's mind, body and spirit. Rev Arlyce and Vanessa Compton will provide introductory information. This is a "come and go" activity. The labyrinth will be available on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00pm.

## AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE

December 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30pm at Community Home Support Lanark County, 40 Sunset Blvd., Perth Refreshments will be served. During this time of many festivities and celebrations across cultures, religions and traditions we will create a sacred space for those who wish to spend time calling to mind their loved ones who have died. Come share our evening of support, words, light, music, symbols and sharing to honour the sorrow felt in that empty space of our lives. Patti Koeslag, Certified Life-Cycle Celebrant, will facilitate an inter-denominational, inclusive gathering of all who long for a space to touch their sorrow, to speak their loved one's name, and where there are no expectations of participation other than presence if they so choose. Please R.S.V.P. to Rebecca Bowie at 613-267-6400 or [rebeccab@chslc.ca](mailto:rebeccab@chslc.ca)

## STEWARDSHIP LETTERS

Stewardship letters are available again this Sunday for pick up at the back of the church. Due to the postal strike and resulting delays with mail service we are encouraging you to consider making donations online. It is easy and secure. Visit the church website [www.stpaulsperth.ca](http://www.stpaulsperth.ca) and click on the green "Donate Now" button at the top left corner of the home screen. If you would like more information about the PAR program and how to sign up contact the Office Administrator or complete and return the PAR form included with your Stewardship letter.

## BULLETIN BLOG

This week many of us attended a memorial service for a neighbor and friend who was a good man. He was kind, gentle, compassionate, strong, determined, joyful and loving. In the silence and peacefulness of that service; as we listened to the music of Hallelujah, I think we all thought we were receiving a gift of creativity and love. It was as though our friend was still with us sharing his spirit. I wondered what links us across the great distance of time and space and was reminded of the words spoken by the priest "time is important." Maybe the gulf that separates us is not as wide as we think ...whether we live...or whether we die we still belong to God.