

ESSEX

Holy Name

If you wish to become a Pre Authorized Remittance donor please fill out a PAR form (at each entrance) and drop off with a void cheque to our office. Also if you wish to increase your PAR donation for 2007 please contact our office.

If you do not already have offertory envelopes and wish to obtain them please fill out 'new parishioner' card (available at each entrance) and drop in either collection basket or mailbox.

If you know of families or individuals who could benefit with a food basket and or gifts at Christmas please contact our parish office with their info.

C.W.L. Christmas Potluck Dinner will be on Tues. Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. in our parish hall. Please bring a dish and dessert. Also please bring unwrapped baby items to be donated to the Sunparlor Resource Centre.

K of C Fish Fry will be on Fri. Dec. 8 from 4:30-7 p.m. Takeout is available.

If you are interested in singing or playing for the Children's Christmas Eve Liturgy Mass please come to an info/rehearsal on Sat. Dec. 2 following the 5 p.m. mass or call 776-7708.

Communal Penance will be on Tues. Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. with six priests available.

Christian Reformed

You are welcome to attend our church on Sun. Dec. 3, the first Advent Sunday of the season, beginning at 10 a.m. with Pastor Fred Heslinga. Sunday school for ages 3-11. Nursery is provided. Evening service at 6 p.m.

GEMS and Cadets meet on Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m.

Coffee Break Ladies Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Nursery is provided.

For more information call 776-5071.

Essex Retirees Social Club

We wish to thank all who helped make our open house held on Nov. 21 a success. We appreciated the donations from businesses in Essex and Leamington. Winners of the door prizes are listed in our December Newsletter. If you would like to receive the newsletter give us a call or drop in and pick one up.

We invite the public to our annual Christmas Bazaar and Lunch to be held on Sat. Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gently used items for the White Elephant are still being accepted as well as "like new" clothing and handmade crafts.

Our exercise class led by Lil Hundey is very well attended. Classes are held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-9:30 a.m.

The winners for the Monday night Pepper were Eileen Ames and Helen Slavik and most Peppers

going to Anna Simpson. The Booby was won by Bob Matthew.

The Tuesday afternoon Pepper was cancelled because of the Open House.

Salvation Army

Transportation is available, call for a ride to Sunday school (519-776-4628).

Home League Christmas Supper will be on Tues. Dec. 5 at 6 p.m.

Kettles help needed.

Advent Services, all at noon, Dec. 6 at Cottam United, Dec. 13 at Christian Reformed in Essex.

Sunday school Breakfast With Santa on Sat. Dec. 9 at 9:30 a.m. Corps Christmas Banquet at 6:30 p.m.

WOODSLEE

Since 2006 was declared "The Year of the War Bride" the Woodslee Friendship Club would like to honour these local courageous ladies at their annual Christmas Dinner Banquet held on Fri. Dec. 8

at 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Hall. Please submit any of these ladies names (living or deceased) to Joanne McMurren at 519-975-2409 as soon as possible. Anyone else wishing to attend this banquet should also contact Joanne, because we have to submit a final count of dinners by Dec. 1. Also bring a canned good for donation to a local food bank. Cost of the dinner is \$15.00, payable at the door that night.

Golden Links card game winners on Fri. Nov. 24 were JoAnne Diesbourg, Mary Demars, George Diesbourg, Thomas Allison, Garent Galloway and Ethel Allison. Door prizes to Madeline Diesbourg and R. Mogyorodi. The next card party is on Fri. Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Woodslee United

Thank you to everyone who helped at and supported the spaghetti dinner.

Essex Ministerial Advent Services: Wed. Dec. 6 at Cottam United with Rev. Fred Heslinga; Wed. Dec. 13 at Christian Reformed with Claire Bondy.

White Gift season is Sun. Dec. 3 to Sun. Dec. 17. Donations of unwrapped new toys may be brought in starting on the first Sunday. At Belle River the donations will be given to the Belle River Goodfellows for distribution. At Woodslee the donations of toys will be given to the Salvation Army in Essex and the canned goods or non-perishable food items will be given to the Downtown Mission for distribution.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at both churches on Sun. Dec. 3 with Rev. Don Mannell.

The Leamington District Hospital Foundation presents its 12th Annual Lights of Life Tree Lighting Ceremony on Sun. Dec. 3 at 7 p.m.

Dedicate a bulb in honour of or in memory of a loved one. Copies of the forms are available at both churches.

Annual Turkey Dinner at Rose's Kitchen on Mon. Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. Please signup if you wish to attend.

Children's White Gift Service on Dec. 10.

There will be an open house birthday gathering for Charlie Dalton in the church hall on Dec. 10 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Essex Area Food Bank has sent a letter to our church requesting donations to help feed the hungry in our community. Anyone interested in donating any items to this cause please call 776-5607.

From now until Dec. 10, if you wish to make a money donation through your church envelope please mark it "Essex Area Food Bank".

Dedication of the new piano on Sun. Dec. 17.

Trinity U.C. would like to invite anyone who needs good used clothing to the church on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call 519-945-8022.

Gesstwood Camp has sent us \$10 in "seed money" to multiply in some way. This money will support the camp. Please let Bill know if you would like to be involved.

PAQUETTE

Our sympathies to the Jessop family in the loss of a dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Gertie.

Christmas cards are available from The Primates World Relief and Development Fund. Info on the bulletin board at the back of St. Stephen's.

The Deanery of Essex has paired with the Diocese of Brandon and the Bishop of Brandon, The Right Rev. Jim Njegovan will be the preacher and celebrant at a service of worship at Epiphany Anglican Church, Kingsville on Thurs. Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. Reception to follow.

Please note change of date: Dessert Card Party at St. Stephen's will be on Thurs. Dec. 14 at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

The Youth Group will be sponsoring their first coffee hour following the 11 a.m. service on Dec. 17. There will be a donation basket to help in their goal of raising money for World Vision Canada.

Rev. Jane and Bev Timpson need your input and insights at an important meeting to discuss a way to reorganize the prayer chain on Sat. Dec. 2 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Stephen's. Please call 969-7058 if you can not come.

Henry Mergl would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and visits over the past several months. It was greatly appreciated.

We welcomed into God's

Family through baptism Rachel Kristine Das, daughter of Katherine and Joseph Das, sister of Emily and Owen and Ethan Louis Trottier, son of Kerry and Brian Trottier.

This year both churches will be supporting the Essex Salvation Army for Christmas gifts for children. Beginning this Sunday you may pick a star (or more) from the Giving Trees at church with the details of the child (sex, age) and put that on the package. Donations to be in by Dec. 17.

We will be going caroling to our parishioners and friends who are seldom able to get out socially. If you would like to joins be at Church of the Redeemer between 12:30 and 1 p.m. on Sun. Dec. 3 and we will practise a bit and plan our visiting schedule. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit please call 726-5126 as we will be contacting those we call on ahead of time.

MAIDSTONE CROSS

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. With only four weeks until Christmas it's time to deck the halls. St. Mary's Altar Society will decorate the church on Mon. Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. Please come and help and enjoy refreshments afterwards.

Congratulations to newly baptized members of St. Mary's parish: Julia Ann Halford, daughter of Matt and Anna (Valeri), Ava Isabella Powney, daughter of Glen and Mary Lou (Fenos) and Haley May Elizabeth Soulliere and Nicholas Arthur Paul Soulliere, children of Arthur and Carolyn (Spooner).

On Sun. Dec. 3 the grade four students of St. Mary's will celebrate their First Reconciliation at 2:30 p.m. in the church. Congratulations to them on this step in their faith journey.

Belated birthday greetings to Heather Collins who celebrated on Nov. 27, Harry Fraser Nov. 12 and Judy Doherty Nov. 3. Best wishes to Mary McCarthy on Dec. 8 and Katrina Johnson on the 9th.

Get well wishes to Blanche Knuckle and Gerry Van Hoorne.

BAKERVILLE

Weather in our area this past week has been gorgeous except for a few foggy days. Temperatures got up to the 60 degree mark.

Happy anniversary wishes to Al and Jane Fox of Desert Hot Springs in California who are celebrating #30 on Monday.

Happy birthday wishes on Tuesday to Katie Nantais as she celebrates #9 and also on this day to Shirley Baker; on Wednesday to John Mulder the Wonder Bread Man. Best of wishes to all of you and many more healthy happy years.

The Pleasant Valley Community Club held a Pepper party last Tuesday and the winners were Charles Chevalier, Nina Towle, Barb Booker, Shirley Wilkinson, Cecilia Edwards and Gus Legault. Come and join the fun on Tuesday for 7:30 p.m.

The regular euchre winners on Saturday were Cecile St. Denis, John Simpson, Stan Jackson, Irene Dorowski, JoAnne Diesbourg, Norma Beacom, Herald Ferguson and Ruth Ferguson. Door prizes went to Vera McMurren and Betty O'Neill. Everyone is welcome to join in at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday for an enjoyable evening with friends.

The Christmas Potluck Supper is on Sat. Dec. 9 at 5 p.m. Bring a dish and join in as following this is the card party.

COTTAM

Christmas trees are now on sale by the Rotary Club next to the Cottam Pond.

Cottam U.C. would like to say thank you to everyone who helped out or attended their annual turkey dinner.

Cottam U.C. cookbooks are now ready. Just in time for your Christmas gift giving.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony is on Sat. Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Cottam Rotary Park by the pond. Bring your family and friends.

Cottam United

Sun. Dec. 3 is the first Sunday of Advent. At 10:15 a.m. our Sunday school children will be presenting their Christmas Concert. Following the concert there will be a pot blessing lunch. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a main dish, salad or a dessert to share.

Help for Advent Luncheon is needed on Wed. Dec. 6 at 12 noon. Call 839-4270 if you can help.

If you would like to make a donation towards the purchase of poinsettias for our sanctuary in memory of a loved one see Ruthanne or Rosemary.

The Property Committee is looking for someone who will be able to shovel snow from the walks and porches around the church. Call 839-4165.

Please keep Ross Levy and Pastor Ken Bauman in your prayers.

Trinity Anglican

Mark your calendars Dec. 4 A.C.W. Christmas Dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity.

Readers workshop on Wed. Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. after evening prayer at St. Paul's.

The Essex Food Bank is still in need of donations.

Christmas gifts are due on Sun. Dec. 3.

Church calendars are still available.

Happy birthday this week to Sue Beaulé and Shawn Davidson.

GESTO

Sun. Dec. 3 Communion Service at 9 a.m. Sunday school and nursery available.

Tues. Dec. 5 chapel service at Iler Lodge.

Thurs. Dec. 7 U.C.W. luncheon at Colasanti's at 12:30 p.m.

BROOKER

Souled-Out Christian Books in Essex are having a Christmas Sale this weekend Dec. 1-2 with a lot of good prices. Once again 10% of sales will be tithed back to participating churches. Take this opportunity to support our library.

The Worship Committee will meet on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Erin Jones of London spent the weekend with her parents Steve and Kim.

The Essex Ministerial Noon Hour Advent Service will be held on Wed. Dec. 6 at Cottam United. Rev. Fred Heslinga will lead the service. A lunch will be served following the service. Everyone welcome.

Our annual Church Family Dinner and Sunday School Concert will be held on Sat. Dec. 16.



ESSEX COMMUNITY SERVICES

Helping, Sharing And Caring For The Community

35 Victoria Avenue, Unit #7, Essex, Ontario
Phone: (519) 776-4231 • Email: ecs@essexcs.on.ca

FOOD DRIVE FOR SALVATION ARMY- Essex Community Services is proud to assist the Salvation Army Food Bank during this holiday season commencing November 20th. We will be collecting non perishable food items and please help us decorate our tree with mittens, hats and scarves.

THE COATS FOR KIDS program has wrapped up for another year. With the help of 9 dedicated volunteers working from 2 sites, we distributed 213 winter coats, leggings, hats and mittens to children and families in need this year. Thank you also to all of those who donated items to the program especially Holy Name Grade School, Essex District High School and the Harrow Dry Cleaners for their assistance!!

YMCA NEWS - Our Winter Program schedule is out! Session 2 classes begin January 8 and go until March 9. Look for Babysitting, Home Alone and Safe, and First Aid classes along with our Karate, Fun N Games, Indoor Soccer, Basketball and Adult Badminton classes in Essex. We are always accepting resumes for Program Instructor Positions. Please fax to (519) 776-6852 or mail to 35 Victoria Ave. Essex, ON N8M 1M4