

ESSEX

Christian Reformed

You are welcome to attend our church on Sun. Dec. 10, the second Sunday of the Advent season at 10 a.m. with Pastor Fred Heslinga. Sunday school and nursery provided. Join us at 6 p.m. for our evening service.

A big thank you goes out to all who supported our spaghetti dinner in support of the Sylvia DeVries family.

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

Coffee Break Ladies Bible Study meet on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

For more information call 776-5071.

Essex Retirees Social Club

We will be hosting our annual Turkey Supper on Tues. Dec. 12 followed by the presentation of "A Christmas Carol" performed by Smile Theatre. Please call the office (519-776-9496) for more information.

If anyone is interested in playing shuffleboard on our new courts please call the office. It is played Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Fridays at 1 p.m.

Monday Pepper winners were Floyd Cascadden and Elaine Taylor, most Peppers Mary Lou Chibi and booby was won by Jean Pepper.

Tuesday Pepper winners were first Regina Garrod, second Jean Altenhoff, most Peppers Cecilia St. Denis and Lois Tapping tied and booby was won by Maxine Weller.

Wednesday Pepper winners were first John Simpson, booby Regina Garrod, most Peppers Cecilia St. Denis, Cecilia Edwards and Bob Ford tied.

Thursday Bridge winners were Eunice Henderson and Euta Johnson.

Holy Name

We are looking toward to mass Sun. Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. The Life night will follow mass for high school aged teens. We will also be having a mass on Sun. Dec. 17 with a Christmas social to follow.

Tickets will be available for our Almost New Year's Eve Semi-Formal party on Fri. Dec. 29.

K of C Fish Fry on Fri. Dec. 8 from 4:30-7 p.m. in our parish hall. Takeout is available.

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. Please bring an unwrapped baby items to be donated to the Sunparlor Resource Centre.

C.W.L. is collecting cancelled postage stamps. Please place them in the container available in the Gathering Space. Proceeds help with various charities.

Don't forget to drop off your grocery tapes in the boxes placed in the Gathering Space.

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

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

Salvation Army

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

A chair lift is available for anyone who cannot climb the stairs.

Kettles - help needed.

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

Advent Service on Dec. 13 is at Christian Reformed in Essex.

Candlelight Service at 6 p.m. on Sun. Dec. 24. The Sunday school are doing a special pageant. Everyone is welcome.

Essex United

Advent Services will be held in the lower hall on Sun. Dec. 10 at 10:15 a.m. Favourite carols before the worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Thurs. Dec. 7 there will be a communion service at Iler Lodge at 10:30 a.m. At 7 p.m. Advent Bible Study in the parlour titled, "Who Is Christmas?" with Rev. Doreen.

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church, please place your order by Dec. 10 (776-5121).

From the Outreach Committee A Mitten Tree is to be decorated starting now. Bring a pair of mittens all sizes, scarves or canned goods for under the tree. Donations will be accepted Mon-Fri at the church office.

Sun. Dec. 17 Favourite Carols before the worship service which will include the Sunday school presentation. Lunch follows.

St. Paul's Anglican

Altar Guild meeting on Tues. Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

Midweek BCP morning and evening prayer services Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. at St. Paul's. All are welcome.

The December Pasta Dinner has been cancelled. In its place you are invited to attend a Christmas Potluck Supper on Fri. Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Thank you Bank contributions for December will be given to the Essex Food Bank.

Advent Food Drive for the Essex Food Bank: Sun. Dec. 10 Advent II Canned Goods, Sun. Dec. 17 Advent III Hot/Cold Cereals, Sun. Dec. 24 Advent IV Pasta and Sauce. Please leave your donations at the back of the church.

Contribution envelopes for 2007 will be available shortly. If you do not already have envelopes and would like them for 2007, please sign the sheet at the back of the church or contact the church office. If you had envelopes for 2006 but did not use them, you will not be receiving envelopes for 2007 unless you specifically ask for them.

A gentle reminder, if you know of someone who should be added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the office. With your help we can keep this list up to date.

Sun. Dec. 24 Advent IV and Christmas Eve, 8 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP), 11:10 a.m. Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion. Please come and join us to celebrate the season of Christmas.

WOODSLEE

Golden Links card game winners on Fri. Dec. 1 were Patty Sylvester, Mary Demars, Thomas Allison, George Diesbourg, Madeline Diesbourg, Joanne Diesbourg and Don McMurren. Door prizes to Garnet Galloway and Vera McMurren. The next card party will be on Fri. Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Woodslee United

Essex Ministerial Advent Services on 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.

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.

On Sun. Dec. 24 at the 11:15 service at Woodslee both the Belle River and Woodslee United Choirs will be performing the cantata "A Celebration of Christmas".

BROOKER

Bob and Doreen Taylor are back home after spending the American Thanksgiving with their children Ron and Cathy

Bondy and boys at Kansas City. While there they toured around the area visiting six Mammoth Caves. They had a great time.

Bev Kerr and Mary Brennan decorated the sanctuary of the church last week for the Christmas season. Thank you ladies you did an outstanding job.

Al and Margaret Robinson and Marsh and Ruth Newman are pleased to announce the birth of their great grandson, Emerson James Ketelaar. This little blessing was born at Milton General Hospital on Nov. 28, 2006 weighing 8 lbs. 2 ozs. The very proud parents are Chrysty and Ed. Zander loves his little brother. His grandparents Betty Newman and Garry and Jules Newman are thrilled with his arrival.

The Essex Ministerial Advent Service will be on Wed. Dec. 13 at the Christian Reformed Church in Essex at 12 noon. Claire Bondy will lead the service. Lunch follows. Everyone welcome.

Annual church family dinner and Sunday school concert will be on Sat. Dec. 16.

RUTHVEN OLINDA

On Sun. Dec. 10 there will be an open house for Charles Dalton for his 75th birthday at Woodslee United Church, 2616 Belle River Road from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Best wishes only. All are welcome.

On Wed. Dec. 13 Trinity U.C.W. will have a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please call 519-733-8199 or 519-733-2590 if you are planning to attend. All are welcome.

MAIDSTONE CROSS

Congratulations to Fr. Dave Boutette of St. Mary's and St. John's who collected over \$7,000 in pledges for the Polar Bear Splash last weekend in Belle River. Mary Bastien, a brave young lady, joined Father in the plunge to aid the Essex

Food Bank. After the masses on Sunday, Eileen Clifford the director of the food bank, thanked Father and Mary and all who sponsored them.

St. Mary's Mission Group is again collecting presents under the Giving Tree for refugee children and children whose names were submitted by the Essex Food Bank. Please bring the wrapped gifts with the tag by Dec. 10.

Congratulations to Calvin James Weston, son of Jack and Amanda (Rounding) who was baptized at St. Mary's last weekend.

Don't forget to help decorate St. Mary's for Christmas on Mon. Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. The senior choir will practice after the 9 a.m. mass on Sun. Dec. 10.

PAQUETTE

This year both churches will be supporting the Essex Salvation Army for Christmas gifts for children. Don't forget to get a star from the giving tree at the front of both churches with details of a child (age, sex) and put that star on the gift. Donations are to be in by Dec. 17.

There will be a service at Epiphany Church in Kingsville on Thurs. Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. with Right Rev. Jim Njegovan who is the Bishop of Brandon which has been paired with the Deanery of Essex.

Dessert Card Party at St. Stephen's on Thurs. Dec. 14 at 1 p.m.

Remember our men and women in Afghanistan with donations (they were listed in the bulletin and the newsletter and there is a list on door at St. Stephen's).

Non-perishable food items for December will go to the Unemployed Help Centre help is needed this year more than ever.

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

Rev. Jane and Michael will be away from Dec. 9-15. For emergencies call 737-6619.

A&W ROOFING
FREE ESTIMATES
Call Abe 919-0157 or 325-0733

Goodfellows Christmas Food Baskets
Oldcastle - Maidstone Hamlet
Wendy & Bob: 519-776-5759

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

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

CHRISTMAS IS COMING.....

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. Please help us support the community. *The need this year is greater then ever!!!*

GIFT CERTIFICATES - are available for the Foot Care Clinic and the Care-A-Van Transportation program provided by Essex Community Services. The Foot Care Clinic is offered to seniors aged 55 and up, and also to those who are unable to care for their own feet. Our clinic is staffed by two Registered Nurses. The Care-A-Van provides door-to-door transportation for seniors and physically disabled persons. *Call or stop in our office for more information.*