

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

The children from Willow Grove Primary School pose for a group shot as they prepare for their Christmas concert at Wideman Mennonite Church on Thursday evening. They performed the Christmas alphabet from A to Z.



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Shum Choi Mui Chin Tsang gets a gift from Maggie Wong, program co-ordinator at the seniors half day program at Armadale Community Centre Thursday.

The Markham Merry Makers have been entertaining friends for more than 10 years. This year, however, the singers decided to raise their voices at a couple of seniors homes as well, and performed at Sheppard Terrace Home for the Aged in Scarborough and Seneca Towers in North York. The Merry Makers are: Evelyno Braganza, Sarta Fernandes, Cressy D'Cunha, Johnny Fernandes, Jean Andrade, Valentine Fernandes, Vivian D'Costa, Vicki and Francis D'Souza, Trevyn and Coralie Fernandes, Audrey and Hubert Pereira.

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH
 34 Church St. N. 640-1163
 Worship Minister: Rev. Robert Nightingale
 Education Minister: Nancy Monteith

**SUNDAY,
 DECEMBER 20TH, 1998**

10:30 am - Worship Service
 7:00 pm - Community Carol Night

Sunday School from Baby Fold to the Grade 8 Level

Everyone Welcome

FOCUS ON FAITH

It's no wonder Christmas is a joyous season

One Sunday morning in December, the church school teacher though she heard something irreg-

ular as her students recited the Lord's Prayer. She asked them to say it again, and listening carefully discovered that one of the students was saying, "...and forgive us our Christ-mases."

Perhaps playfully, or without thinking, the child actually had a point. It's easy for the real

meaning of Christmas to get lost in the rush and commercialism that surrounds modern Christmas.

Christ Jesus the way He is presented in the Bible, would not condemn the happiness of the season, especially as it involves family and friends. But He probably would want

us to be sure to get the mes-sage of Christmas.

The message is that God so loved the world of people whom He had created, the He Himself in the person of the Babe in the manger came into our world. And the purpose of His coming was to provide the means whereby we, sinful

though we are, could be brought into a right relationship with the hold God. By His sinlessness, eternal, infinite life He was able to provide the price of redemption for every-one and make forgiveness possible.

No wonder Christmas is such a joyous season.

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
 131 Main St., Unionville
 (905) 474-0183

Christmas Sunday
 December 20th
 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. ~ Worship Services

Christmas Eve
 December 24th
 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. ~ Family Worship Services
 10:30 p.m. ~ Communion Service

Sunday ~ December 27th
 11:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service

Sunday ~ January 3rd
 11:00 a.m. ~ Worship Service

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 14 Highgate Drive, Markham
 (Two blocks north of Steeles or two blocks south of Denison on Birchmount Rd.)
 Phone (905) 474-1224

Christmas Schedule
Confessions (Reconciliation)
 Before all daily Masses and by appointment

Thursday, December 24
 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Masses
Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24
 The Family Mass at 8:00 p.m. (Music at 7:30 p.m.)
 Mass at 12:00 Midnight (Music at 11:20 p.m.)

Christmas Day
 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon, 2:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve
 Thursday, December 31 - 5:00 p.m.
 Vigil of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day
 Friday, January 1, 1999
 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon and 3:30 p.m.

*A Happy and Holy Christmas to all from
 St. Thomas the Apostle Parish*

Come share the spirit of Christmas with us at
Unionville Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 20th
 11:00 a.m. ~ Service or Worship
 7:00 p.m. ~ Comfort Service - this is a Christmas service for those who find this time of year may bring a sense of sadness and of loss.

Thursday, December 24th
 6:30 p.m. ~ Family Candlelight Service
 8:00 p.m. ~ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

UNIONVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 600 Village Parkway, Unionville (905) 475-6233
 Check out our website at Home: iStar.CA/UPC

MARKHAM MISSIONARY CHURCH
 Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada

SUNDAY
 Bible Discovery Hour - 9:30 to 10:30 am
 Morning Worship - 10:50 am
 Evening Fellowship - 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY
 7:00 pm AWANA (ages 3 to 12),
 Junior High Adult Study & Prayer

THURSDAY
 7:00 pm Senior High Youth

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
 (please note times)

Sunday, December 20th - 10:30 am
 Family Christmas Service - Pastor Lougheed
 Sunday, December 20th - 6:30 pm
 Christmas "Sundae" Carol Service
 Thursday, December 24th - 6:30 pm
 Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service
 Sunday, December 27th - 10:30 am
 Family Worship Service - Pastor Lougheed

5438 Major MacKenzie Dr. East
 Markham, Ontario, L3P 3J3
 (905) 294-5081 (905) 294-5383 (fax)

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
 A FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

O Come Let Us Adore Him

Sunday, December 20th
 10:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant & Worship
God's Peace Child
 Pastor Mark Lowrie

6:30 p.m. Evening Fellowship

Thursday, December 24th
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve By Candlelight

8176 McCowan Road (just south of Hwy. 7)
 Markham, ON Tel. 905-475-7695

St. Philip's on-the-hill Anglican Church
 9400 Kennedy Road, Unionville
 (1/4 mile north of 16th Avenue)
 (905) 477-1991

Christmas Eve
 6:30 p.m.
 Carol Singing
 7:00 p.m.
 Candlelight Eucharist especially for families
 10:30 p.m.
 Carol Singing
 11:00 p.m.
 Choral Eucharist by Candlelight

Christmas Day
 10:30 a.m.
 Holy Communion

May you and your loved ones know just how much Christ loves you at Christmas and every day.