

# Norfolk News

Issue # 69 December 2005

## Norfolk Street United Church Annual Community Pageant...

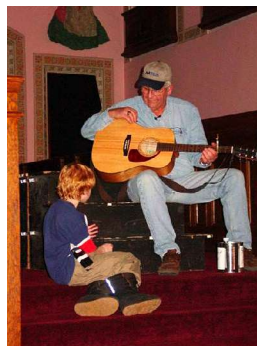


at Norfolk Street United Church

**Sunday, December 11, 2005**

**Doors Open at 7:00 p.m.; Program starts at 7:30 p.m.**

*Directed by Ken Budd, Music Director John Zadro, Written by Denise Gismondi*



## **BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

As Christmas is often a difficult time of year for many people, we will be having a “**Blue Christmas Service**,” sponsored by the pastoral care committee. The service, also known as a “Longest Night Service,” will be held **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21** in the sanctuary at Norfolk St. at 7:00 p.m. In the midst of a season of celebrating and spending, this quieter service, less than an hour in length, will provide a time for those who might be missing a loved one, or who find the season lonely. **John Zadro** will be playing at the service, and everyone is welcome. Hot cider in the narthex, to follow.

### *Handling the Holidays*

*Handling the Holidays* will take place at the Cutten Club on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:30 p.m. Our focus for planning this evening is to provide support and valuable information to those experiencing grief due to loss. Our firm works closely throughout the year with Hospice Wellington, and it is our pleasure once again to provide families with an opportunity to adorn a special angel bearing their loved ones’ name on the “*Hospice Angel Tree Of Remembrance*”.

Our guest speaker for the evening is Mr. Kelly Walker, a former priest and therapist. Through his own profound loss, Kelly began conducting educational seminars for various individuals throughout North America. One of Canada’s leading experts on the questions and concerns surrounding transition and change, he has guided many individuals through their own personal journey’s. Kelly comes with a wealth of personal experience and knowledge and will be providing some suggestions for managing and coping with the holiday season. His notable experience allows him to communicate to those who are grieving with genuine compassion and insight.

We are also pleased to have Chaplain Ram Kalap from the Homewood Health Centre with us this evening. He will address the importance of our faith and spirituality, and the role they can play in providing inspiration, hope and comfort. We will also have an opportunity to listen to some heartfelt music performed by Rachel Guthrie.

For those wishing to take home some valuable reading material, information brochures on “*Handling The Holidays*” will be available. If you are aware of anyone who may be unable to attend our seminar, we would be happy to forward some pamphlets to them.

Doug Gilchrist Owner/Director  
**GILCHRIST CHAPEL**

McIntyre & Wilkie Funeral Home Limited  
One Delhi Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 4J3  
519-824-0031 phone  
519-824-1840 fax  
[admin@gilchristchapel.com](mailto:admin@gilchristchapel.com) email  
[www.gilchristchapel.com](http://www.gilchristchapel.com) website

## **Worship Committee**

(Submitted by: Alta Greenway)

---

At this wonderful time of the year, the Worship Committee would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the members of our congregation for making our church the warm and friendly place it is.

Special thanks to all the ushers and counters who gave so freely of their time during the year.

To John and Alice Wink, thank you for preparing the communion this past year.

To John and the choir, your music is up-lifting and joyous. Thank you for your musical talents.

To Jill Calvert, our thanks for being a leader in so many ways.

To John and Shirley Burrows and Lois and Chuck Henderson, thank you for the beautiful decorations for the holidays. Also for making sure we have the right appendia on the right Sundays.

To Andrew and Roxie, our thanks to you both for keeping our “home” so neat and tidy.

To Harvey, who for so many years has made our coffee after the service on Sundays, our deep appreciation and thanks.

To Sharon, our church administrator, without whom none of this would run smoothly, our sincere thanks.

To Rev. Mary Savage, our Pastoral Care minister, thank you for the kindness you show to all our shut-ins.

And last but not least, to Rev. Tim Graham, for your leadership and words of guidance, we thank you.

Please join us for Christmas services to be held:

December 24th, Christmas Eve Family Communion 7 p.m.

December 25th, Christmas Day Communion 10:30 a.m.

*“God Bless Us Everyone”*

## **Christian Education Report**

---

(Submitted by Sylvia Grant, Sunday School Superintendent)

The Sunday School has had a busy fall. The Senior Class, still under the direction of Tim Crouch has had a series of guest speakers from the congregation. Under the heading Christians in Society speakers covered a range of topics including Living Wills, Responsible Drive, Celtic Spirituality and Morals & Ethics in the Business World. Both speakers and students have been very positive about the experience. We hope to line up more speakers in the new year. If you would be willing to speak to the Senior Class around this topic, please speak to Sylvia Grant (823-5045).

The Primary, Junior and Intermediate Classes have used their curriculum to study such Old Testament stories such as creation and the flood.

In addition, Ivor Wright and Tim Graham have been taking one Sunday a month to do music with our students.

Gymfest, has continued on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. Under the direction of Ruth Friendship-Keller, those who attend have had an enjoyable time and would like to see more youth join them on December 4<sup>th</sup> and in the new year when we will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Sunday School has had a couple of social events this fall. In October, we visited a reconstructed Iroquois Village at Crawford Lake Conservation Area. The entrance fee for students was paid for from the Joe Keller fund.

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, Sylvia Grant and Tony Zamojc held a Hallowe'en Party for the Sunday School students, parents and teachers. The party was very well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time.

The Sunday School is now in the midst of a fundraiser. We are taking orders for MacMillan's Cookie Dough and Muffin Batter. The money raised will be donated back to the church.

Previous fundraisers have been for outreach. The final \$2000 cheque has been given to the Rotary Club of Guelph for their project in Upendo, a leper colony in Tanzania. The money we donated will be used to buy books for a new library there which has been named in memory of Douglas Bennett. The Sunday School's total contribution to this project is over \$6,000 to date.

This money helped the Rotary Club bring the leper colony from an impoverished group of scavengers to a self-sufficient community with educational opportunities for the children. In the new year we will have a representative from the Rotary give a report on the work in Upendo. Since the Rotary Club has got Upendo on its feet, the club will now be looking for a new project, so involvement with Upendo will also cease. We thank all

those who helped support the Sunday School fundraisers which made our donation possible.

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday School students will participate in the White Gift Service. On December 18<sup>th</sup> Christian Education will host a Christmas luncheon and Santa Party. Everyone is invited to attend – just make sure you register for the event.

\*\*\*\*\*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
(Submitted by Wynne Wright)

The general financial situation has improved slightly since the last newsletter, with expenses running at or below budget levels and income slightly improved from earlier in the year (still below budget, however). Something that helped the cash flow greatly during the lean summer months, was PAR (pre approved remittances) whereby members make their donations monthly directly from their bank accounts. We now have 9 members using this system with monthly electronic donations totalling almost \$1,700. We encourage you to consider this method for the 2006 year, and if you are interested, please contact the church office or any member of the finance committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Friendship Guild**  
(Submitted by Lynn Hunter)

At our October meeting, Allan Knapp and Ivor Wright spoke to us about the organization for Change Now.

For November we were busy discussing and preparing for Christmasfest. We catered Matilda Keleher's funeral reception.

Mary Lou Britton and Gerry Everett are in our thoughts and we hope for their speedy recovery.

At our Christmas meeting we will have John Zadro accompany us in carol singing followed by the usual gift exchange.

For further information President Audrey Robinson @ 822-1393.

## **Rental committee**

November was a very busy month for this committee, and especially for our church administrator, who deals with 98% of the rental matters, including leases, scheduling and negotiating terms. We are pleased to announce that we will have 3 new tenants starting in December, providing over \$1,000 per month in income. With every bright side, however, there may be a less favourable result. In this case, with these new tenants combined with the other usages of the building, there will inevitably be some inconveniences. Sharon and the rental committee do their best to make sure that these inconveniences are kept to a minimum, and that church functions and groups have priority. When problems arise, we would appreciate it if you could voice your concerns with the church office, or any member of the committee and we will do our best to solve the problem to everyone's satisfaction.

## **A Step in The Right Direction.....**

(submitted by Allan Knapp)

You may have noticed on the Cork St. side of the church that the one picnic table has now grown to four.

We held a meeting recently with Bell Canada, our next door neighbour, regarding youth on the sidewalk. As well as our Cork St. steps, youth also congregate in the window wells and door of Bell Canada.

We decided to give the youth an alternative by providing more seating space and hopefully attracting them to the picnic tables and we both have seen improvement.

You may not be aware that one of the most common consequences at Change Now for misbehavior is to be banned from Change Now for a day, a week, a month or lifetime. This means no help, no food, no bed and they are not allowed on the property.

Some of these 'banned' youth will congregate on the sidewalk since it is public property because they still want to see their friends. These are often the youth that we see near our door.

We wish to thank Bell Canada for donating the three picnic tables to Change Now and hope for continuous improvement.

## **Generous Donation.....**

We wish to thank John Wood for the generous donation to Norfolk St. United Church of a new freezer and two new refrigerators for our kitchen. They will keep our food much colder as well as provide more space.

Special thanks also to Alta and Phil who facilitated the donation. You continue to help in so many ways!

## CHATTY CRAFTERS

The ladies were busy preparing crafts for the Christmasfest bazaar. We hope that everyone took advantage of this opportunity to pick up some Christmas gifts. Our crafts are available for purchase and can be seen in our display in the Christian Education Auditorium.

The ladies will gather for a Christmas Luncheon at the home of Joyce Auger, 54 Vanier Drive on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. We will resume our weekly craft sessions on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. For more information, please call Eleanor James at 824-7747.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 28 Chatty Crafters Christmas Luncheon  
MacMillan Order Deadline
- Nov. 29 Bible Study
- Dec. 1 Friendship Guild Christmas Meeting
- Dec. 4 White Gift Service  
Communion Service
- Dec. 8 Church Council Meeting
- Dec. 11 MacMillan Order Pickup  
The Hope of Christmas Pageant
- Dec. 18 Service of Lessons & Carols  
Christmas Luncheon & Santa Party
- Dec. 21 Blue Christmas Service
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Family Communion Service
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day Communion Service  
Hymnspiration
- Dec. 30 Deadline for 2005 Receipted Givings
- Jan. 5 Friendship Guild Meeting
- Jan. 8 Sunday School resumes  
Annual Reports due
- Jan. 9 Chatty Crafters resume
- Jan. 12 Church Council Meeting

*Please be sure to submit your upcoming events in writing if  
you wish to have them included in the Calendar of Events.  
Thank you...*

