



Love All



"When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him..." – 1:24

Joseph never speaks. There is no record in the New Testament of Mary's husband ever saying a single word. What we're told about him, however, is that he was "a righteous man," and that he was ready to act without complaint or delay in response to God's messages to him - messages which must have been difficult for Joseph to hear and even more difficult to follow.

He's told to take Mary as his wife despite her mysterious pregnancy, and he does. In that time and place his friends and neighbours, not to mention his relatives, would not have been impressed with this decision and wouldn't have changed their opinion just because of some dream Joseph had. Some have wondered if maybe the reason Mary and Joseph had nowhere to stay in his hometown of Bethlehem was that his family disapproved of his decision to stick with Mary.

Later, when Joseph is told by God to take his little family and flee Judea to become refugees in Egypt, again he responds without delay, though again that would have been a very difficult decision to make, trusting only in God's word. Joseph himself never says a word, at least not in the biblical record, but his actions ring loud and clear. He was ready to listen to God even at great personal cost. More specifically he was ready to love and protect his wife and adopted son, no matter the cost, just because God told him to.

Years later, that adopted son of Joseph's would go on to say to his followers, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another." And he said to them "love your neighbor," and "love your enemies."

Simple obedience to God's command to love is central to the story of Jesus' birth, and is also central to the life and teaching of Jesus. There is no better way to celebrate Christmas, therefore, than to simply love. To love not just a few people, but to Love All – not just the families God has given us, not just one another, and not just our neighbors, but even our enemies. There is no truer representation of the of the real story of Christmas than to Love All.



St Paul's Prayer Corner

† Gale A † Jackie Bettle † Don Buchanan † Della
Durelle † Loretta Derrah † Barb Glauser † Glenn
Hopey † Pat Keirstead † Donald Lamb † Dawn
Lent † Paul Robichaud † Sue Scribner † Erika Wisted

Parish Financial Report

January - November 2016

\$128,059.77 Offerings

\$136,600.99 Expenses

\$8,541.22 Deficit

- 1) Offerings are behind
- 2) New Investment in our Children & Youth Ministry
- 3) New Investment in Mission to our area through the ministry of Deacon Dan McMullen

Youth Update

Christmas Pageant is this Sunday at 10:30am.

All are welcome to be apart of it. Our practice is Saturday at 3:30pm. Looking forward to Sunday.

This upcoming Sunday, December 18th at 4:30 pm, there will be no youth alpha at St Paul's as all of our youth and their families are invited to a Christmas potluck dinner party hosted by and at the Bloomfield Anglican church! There will be singing, eating, and Santa is even suppose to make an appearance! What more could one want!

IMPORTANT:

Please contact [Jessie](#) TODAY (Thursday) if you plan on going with your children. Amy Hoyt wants names of all the children going so Santa can be prepared.

Middle School Youth Group- Monday in Bloomfield at 7:30

Thanks!

Christmas Choir

At 7:00 pm Dec 20 there will be choir practice for the late Christmas Eve 10:00 pm service.

Winter Duty Schedule

We are looking for volunteers for all ministries during the winter Season Jan-Mar. There is a sign-up chart of the back of the church, sign up online, or contact the church office to sign up.

Annual Reports

The Annual meeting is scheduled for 5 Feb 2017.
Annual Reports are due in to the office no later than Jan 15.

Upcoming Events & Schedules

Mission of the Month - Toonie Tin

Hampton Food Basket

18 Dec - 9:00 & 10:30 am service - Christmas Pageant 10:30 am

- 18 Dec – 4:30 pm Christmas Potluck Dinner party (Bloomfield)
- 19 Dec– 6:00 pm Youth K-5 (Bloomfield)
- 19 Dec - 7:30 pm Youth Gr 6-8 (Bloomfield)
- 20 Dec - 10:00 am Bible Study
- 20 Dec - 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 21 Dec - 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal
- 22 Dec – HMS baking (Myra & Dan)

24 Dec - 5:30 pm service

24 Dec - 10:00 pm service

25 Dec - 10:00 am service

1 Jan - 10:00 am service Lessons & Carols

- 6 Jan - Epiphany of our Lord
- 7 Jan – 8:30 am Holy Joes

8 Jan - 9:00 & 10:30 am service - Baptism 10:30 am

- 8 Jan - 12:30 pm Mothers's Union
- 8 Jan – 6:30 pm Youth Group Gr 9-12
- 9 Jan – 6:00 pm Youth K-5 (Bloomfield)
- 9 Jan - 7:30 pm Youth Gr 6-8 (Bloomfield)
- 10 Jan – 10:00 am Bible Study
- 11 Jan - 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal
- 12 Jan – HMS baking (Heather & David)

18 DEC

9:00 am HC – BAS

Layreader: Heather (Isa. 7: 10-16, Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19)

Reader: Pat (Rom. 1:1-7)

Greeters: Pat & Peggy

10:30 am HC – BAS

Layreader: Myra

Greeters: Stephen & Barb

A/V: Elaine / Kevin

Sunday School: Raegan / Karla

Youth Sunday School: Betty

Nursery: Jenny

Chancel: Pat / Barb

Counters: Pat / Clarence

24 DEC

5:30 pm HC Christmas Eve

Layreader: Rod (Is. 9: 2-6)

Greeters: Janice / Liam A/V: ---

10:00 pm HC Christmas Eve

Layreader: Rod (Is.52: 7-10, Ps. 98)

Reader: Lorraine (Heb. 1:1-14)

Greeters: Kevin & Nicky

A/V: Kevin

Chancel: Shirley / Betty

Counters: Pat / Clarence

25 DEC

10:00 am HC Christmas Day

Layreader: Betty

(Is. 63: 7-9, Ps. 148, Matt 2: 1-12)

Greeters: ---

Chancel: Shirley

Counters: Pat / Clarence

Youth SS: Betty

Nursery: Tim

Chancel: Donna

Counters: - - -

1 JAN

10:00 am HC Carols & Lessons

Layreader: - - - (Is. 63: 7-9, Ps. 148)

Reader: Stephen (Heb. 2:10-18)

Greeters: Stephen & Barb

A/V: - - -

Sunday School: Shari / Kate