

## The Week at a Glance

<b>Monday</b>	Prayer & Praise – 7:30 PM Deliver Christmas Bags
<b>Tuesday</b>	Deliver Christmas Bags
<b>Wednesday</b>	Jr Highs & Sr Highs – 7:30 PM Deliver Christmas Bags
<b>Thursday</b>	Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 PM
<b>Friday</b>	Christmas Day
<b>Saturday</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	Worship Service – 10:30 AM



### Praise Report: GSCC Ministry to the Pregnancy Care Centre

A Christmas party was held for 16 mothers (and expecting mothers) at the Pregnancy Care Centre on Monday, December 14<sup>TH</sup> and it was a huge success! This party was the kick-off for a new program that will run every Monday morning in the New Year where the moms will meet for teaching and group sharing on a wide variety of topics related to pregnancy and parenting. Nancy Lahn will be leading the group, along with Linda Baartse, the director of the PCC, and several volunteers. All the ministry provided by the PCC is openly Christ-centred, so it will be a wonderful opportunity to minister to these mothers in both practical and spiritual ways. The mothers were overwhelmed by the generosity of their friends at Good Shepherd when they received their gift bags containing diapers, baby clothing, beautiful hand knitted items, toys, baby care products, pampering items for the Moms themselves, and a grocery store gift card so they can enjoy a special Christmas dinner with their families! Many, many thanks to all of you who donated so generously to this outreach!



### Calling All Visual Artists to Submit "Signs of Grace"

We are looking for visual art (paintings, sketches, photographs, etc.) to appear on the bulletin covers during the Season of Lent and on the cover of our Lenten devotional booklet. The



Lenten preaching series will be called "Signs of Grace."

Submissions must be black and white and should be submitted electronically in a resolution of at least 400 dpi to [rob@gsc.ca](mailto:rob@gsc.ca) before January 11, 2010.

# Good Shepherd Community Church

Sunday, December 20, 2009

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Greeting - *Rob Dean*

Silent Prayer

Choral Reflection: "Never a Brighter Star" - *Forrest*

Call to Worship - *Chris Platteel*

Song of Praise: "We Will Wait For You"

Prayer - *David Schuchardt*

Lighting the Candle of Joy - *The McCready Family*

Advent Hymn: "Hark, the Glad Sound!"

The Presentation of Gifts

Offertory Hymn: "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (#118)

Children's Ministry - *Nigel & Jackie Chang*

Life & Ministry of the Church

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 - *Chris Lovatsis*

Message: "Love Conquers at Christmas" - *Craig Shugart*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion - *Sharon Tam*

Communion Praise

Comissioning and Blessing

*\* Following communion, a prayer team will be present at the back of the sanctuary for those who wish to receive the ministry of prayer.*

*Encountering Christ and Thoughtfully Following Him*

# Life and Ministry of the Church

## Upcoming Events: Please Mark Your Calendars

Dec. 20-23: Distribution of Christmas Bags in the Neighbourhood

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service – 7:00 PM

Dec 27: Open House at Sharon & Henry Tam's – Between 1:00-9:00 PM

Jan 24: Christian Unity Service, Salvation Army Agincourt  
Community Church – 7:00 PM

## Volunteers to Deliver Christmas Bags TODAY!

Volunteers have stuffed 750 Christmas Bags for distribution in our neighbourhood. Now we need your help to deliver them! Each bag contains an "ESV Outreach New Testament Christmas Edition", "The Good News of Christmas" tract by Max Lucado, information about our church and programs including an invitation to our Christmas Eve service, and a free gift. Starting today, volunteers will be going out into the community to hand out the bags and invite folks to our church. If you would like to volunteer to help with the distribution, please see Murray Lahn today.



## Advent Offering

Last September, the Philippines experienced what was considered the worst disaster since the 1960s when two typhoons ripped through the region bringing strong winds and torrential rain that resulted in Manila and its neighbouring regions being submerged in 6 feet of water. For this year's Advent Offering, Good Shepherd is partnering with Compassion Canada in helping to bring relief to the area and to their Child Sponsorship projects. Please be generous when donating to our Advent Offering this year by using either the Advent Offering Envelope or by indicating "Advent Offering" on your regular Sunday envelope. All cheques should be made payable to Good Shepherd Community Church, through whom you will receive your tax receipt. The money will be forwarded by Good Shepherd to Compassion Canada for use in the Philippines in aid of our brothers and sisters in need.

## Sharon & Henry Tam – New Address Labels

Please see the Welcome table for new address labels for your Called to Care directories.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Ministry in Focus: Being a Contagious Christian

Do you enjoy going out to lunch, for coffee, maybe out to a game, a concert or even hiking – really any activity with your friends? Have you ever been in a situation where you wanted to share your faith in Jesus Christ but weren't certain how? Does it make you feel guilty that you have never led another person to Christ? Are you struggling with feeling as if you've lost your spark for the Christian life? If you answered yes to even one of these questions then "Being a Contagious Christian" is a course with you in mind. Five of us took this course together this past fall, on Sunday afternoons after church. More than sharing lunch and laughter together, we also encouraged one another to be praying for "the Sought" in our circle of influence (those with whom God is seeking a personal relationship). We learned about our unique evangelistic style, the idea of being a link in the chain that leads "the Sought" to Christ, how to share our spiritual journey with others, and most importantly, how to share the gospel naturally. One person for whom we were praying even became a Christian during this time! Don't miss the next opportunity to be part of this exciting ministry.

### Eye on Outreach: Yonge Street Mission

Yonge Street Mission is called to demonstrate God's love, peace and justice to people living in economic, social and spiritual poverty in Toronto. Since 1896, we have been making a positive difference in the lives of families, seniors, socially isolated adults, homeless street youth and children. Services include employment and computer training, a food bank, meals, counselling, homework clubs, supportive housing, daycare, summer camps, a health centre and a Christmas assistance program serving 5,000 children and adults.

Our staff of 100, along with about 3,400 volunteers, welcomes people in need in over 185,000 visits a year. In addition to serving Regent Park, over the next few years the Mission plans to move into new areas of poverty by opening satellite operations in several communities outside the downtown core.



*Good Shepherd Community Church*

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## Prayer

- ♦ **MONDAY: Ross England**, Ev England's son, who has begun seven weeks of aggressive chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Pray for peace for the family and complete healing.
- ♦ **TUESDAY: Delivering Christmas Bags**. Pray that we be able to reach our neighbours and community through this initiative and that God would call people to the church. As we seek to be 'fishers of people,' pray that the Lord would bless the work of our hands.
- ♦ **WEDNESDAY: Tim & Renata Constable**, as they plant a church in the prison where Renata serves, seek out people to minister to the homeless and prepare for their third child in March.
- ♦ **THURSDAY: Jessie Geddes**, one of our beloved members, who is unable to attend regularly due to health issues. Thank the Lord for the blessed promise to be with us through difficult times and that thousands of saints stand as proof he will never leave us or forsake us.
- ♦ **FRIDAY: Christmas**. Pray for those who find this to be a difficult season. Pray for friends and family to be a source of peace and joy in the midst of grief and sadness. Pray that at this time of the year, God would work in the hearts of people and they would hear His gentle voice calling them to Himself.
- ♦ **SATURDAY: Praise God** that we were able to donate so generously to the Pregnancy Care Centre this year. Pray that the Lord blesses each mother with a rich and joyful Christmas.
- ♦ **SUNDAY: Heavenly Father**, you make us glad with the yearly festival of the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. May we experience the joy of knowing the revelation of that light here on earth.



Please notify the church office (office@gsc.ca) if you have a prayer request.



### Our Families in Prayer This Week

*Ron, Pauline, Jack, Noah & Claire Peneycad  
Sara Philipose  
Chris, Henny & Damina Platteel*

# Financial Update

## Financial update to end of November

General fund offerings	July 1-November 30	104,402	Budget	125,000
Other income	(Rentals, Day Camp)	34,582		
<b>Total income</b>		<b>138,984</b>		

Total expenses	July 1-November 30	(159,591)
Amount income exceeds expenses		(20,607)

Special offerings	48,550	
Renovation expenditures	(22,870)	
Projector	(11,033)	14,647
<b>Total income over expenditures</b>	<b>(5,960)</b>	

## General fund offerings for December

Our monthly budget requirement for 2009 /2010	\$25,000
Offerings to December 13, 2009	\$14,973

## Sanctuary Flowers

*Many thanks to those listed below who donated the beautiful Christmas Poinsettias in the sanctuary in memory of loved ones.*



### Donated By

Evelyn England  
 Gord & Kaye MacGilchrist  
 Vi Lucas  
 Sarah Normore  
 Dorothy White  
 Ruta D'Hondt  
 Marina Lee  
 Les Howell  
 Anne Jack  
 The Dressekie-Robinson Family  
 Sanober Firth & Neeta Solanki

### In Memory Of

Irene Buttrey & Lori England  
 Lost friends  
 Alberta Woolridge  
 George Normore  
 Norman J. White  
 Lucija Alberts  
 Lee Tang Shuk Yee  
 Norm Marlow  
 Roderick & Robina Jack  
 Nehemiah Robinson &  
 Joseph Stobbs  
 Francis Solanki &  
 Shantilal Prajapati