



Messenger

19 January 2003

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WEEK OF PRAYER COMMENCES

One of the most cherished weeks of our town churches begins tomorrow: the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, established world-wide. The theme this year is *We are earthen vessels carrying God's treasure.*

At 12 noon a short service will be conducted by the clergy of the host congregation and a reflection from one of the retired clergy in the area on 'Looking at the Church Today.' David Mangle will lead a series of discussions about the future of the Inter-Church Council. Everyone is invited to bring a bag lunch whilst beverages will be provided by the host church or chapel.

The Week of Prayer will conclude with our usual large ecumenical service, to be held in St. Andrew's United Church on **Sunday, 26 January at 7:30 p.m.** Members of all the churches will gather for worship (remember the lovely hymn sing we had in November?), and for the first time, the university chapel will provide the preacher.

In this case, there will be two called upon to deliver the sermon. It will be a dialogue sermon with **Tom Peace** and **Jesse Zink**, both chapel assistants at the university for the past several years. They will preach on this year's theme, applying it to their view of the Church



St. Andrew's United Church

today. Tom is from Ontario while Jesse is from Massachusetts and both are active in their local congregations of St. Andrew's and St. John's.

The Week of Prayer is dedicated to fostering the common spirit of God amongst Christians, and to give witness to the gospel of peace in a world that is becoming more and more fragmented.

Monday, 20 January St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church
Tuesday, 21 January St. John's Anglican Church
Wednesday, 22 January Manning Memorial Chapel
Thursday, 23 January Wolfville United Baptist Church
Friday, 24 January Greenwich United Church

St. John's

Prays for Peace

On the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. the people of St. John's Anglican Church gather to pray for the peace of the Holy Land. The prayers that are used are exactly the same as those used by Christians praying in the Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem. Those gathered at St. John's pray at the same time as those gathered in Jerusalem. It is a prayer partnership which brings many fruits of love and hope. The people of Jerusalem are aware that the prayers are going on here in Wolfville at the same time and they have said that this helps them to find the courage that they so desperately need to meet the challenges of living in the Holy Land today. All people of all denominations are invited to come to St. John's to pray on Wednesday, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2, May 7 and June 4 at 12:30 p.m.

Robert Burns Supper

The Wolfville United Baptist Church will honour Robbie Burns this year with a special "Burns' Night Supper." It will be held Wednesday, 22 January at 5:30 p.m. Rob Raeside will be piped in and will address the Haggis. Burns is honoured by all Scots as their premier poet. This is most appropriate for New Scotland! Everyone is welcome but reservations are required (542-5524).



Burns Portrait

On Sunday, 26 January there will be a students' luncheon following the morning service. These are held twice a term, and during exams 'Stress Packs' are delivered to the quivering scholars.

The church choir will be joined by the Novis Chamber Choir on Thursday, 10 April at 8 p.m. to present John Stainer's 'The Crucifixion.' Stay tuned to the *Messenger* for further details.

Changes at St. Andrew's

The community cannot miss the brand new roof on St. Andrew's United Church. The colour is changed to a slate, which compliments the stone structure. It was done by A&A Roofing, and cost approximately \$22,000. Along with this repointing of the stonework all adds to a beautiful building on Main Street.

The biggest change is in the retirement of much-beloved Truth Cavanaugh as church secretary. When asked what she plans to do in retirement, she replied, 'What-

ever comes to my mind!' We wish Truth well after many years of wonderful service to the congregation. There will be 'an occasion' for Truth hosted by the congregation early February.

Truth will be replaced by Paula Williams. Paula moved to Kentville from Ottawa with her husband four months ago (he was transferred by his company) and will take over completely sometime the middle of February. She was an executive assistant to a number of Members of Parliament, the latest being Peter Stoffer, a Nova Scotian MP from the Halifax area. She is also an artist, specializing in landscapes and florals, and does needlework. We heartily welcome Paula to St. Andrew's.

Port Williams

Discovery

The Port Williams United Baptist Church has been involved with a 'Discovery Programme' for the past two years, and is continuing to find it an important activity. It is a method to investigate the congregation's short and long term plans and reassessing what they have been doing.

A Baptist Convention programme, it required input from the whole congregation through survey and discussion. No level of activity is omitted and it is hoped that a realistic plan will develop for future action. One of the considerations is working on the music of the church. It is hoped that the 'gathering time' 10 minutes before

the service on Sunday might be used for congregational singing.

On 7 December the church deacons hosted a turkey dinner for the parents of children attending the play group which meets in the church once a week. This was a very successful event where people of the community were introduced to the officers of the congregation. Mixing games, introductions and an exchange of 'crazy Christmas gifts' all contributed to the value of the evening. 40 people attended in all, including the deacons.

Chapel Bible Study

'The Characters in the Bible' will be the theme of a Bible Study held at the Manning Memorial Chapel on Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. beginning 21 January. They will be



Dr. Timothy Ashley

conducted by Dr. Timothy Ashley, Professor of Biblical Studies at Acadia Divinity College. They will last for six weeks, with the Study Week break between the fourth and fifth week. Everyone is welcome to attend! The studies will be held in the chapel hall.

St. Francis host to Peacemaker

Recently, St. Francis and St. Lawrence (Canning) parishioners hosted Father Bob Holmes, a Basilian priest who works with a Christian Peacemakers Team in Hebron. He spent time at Acadia, and the next evening spoke at the parish hall on the situation in Israel and Palestine and his work as a violence reduction worker. He and his ecumenical group are truly making a difference wherever they go, following Christ's call to help the oppressed.

The district youth Alpha program continues with great enthusiasm, having just completed a successful Saturday workshop in Berwick.

And finally, plans are in the works for a special Mass and reception in honour of World Marriage Day, February 14th. It will be presided over by Father Joseph Hattie, OMI, in charge of Marriage and Family Formation with the Archdiocese of Halifax.



If we believe in the Trinity, then shouldn't we be called "Godtians" and not just "Christians"?

Wolfville Quaker Meeting

The Wolfville Quaker Meeting continues to grow slowly. We received a further grant from the national Quaker body to assist us in outreach and to help pay for rental for the Hortonville Hall on Sundays. We have a few new attenders and a new application for membership. Our webminder has worked with WAICC to create a web presence for them at <http://www.waicc.org>.

This winter we are running a bi-weekly study group after Meeting for Worship, starting January 19th. The topic is "What does the Lord Require of Thee? Hearing God's Call and Responding". People from the wider community are welcome to attend.

Jane McKay Wright, a Quaker from Toronto has just returned from a visit to Iraq with the Christian Peacemaker Teams. She will be travelling amongst Friends this winter to report on her experiences, and we hope to host her here in Wolfville. We continue to sponsor and attend the Vigil for Peace at the Wolfville Post Office at noon on Saturday.

For more information on any of these events, please see our web site at <http://wolfville.quaker.ca>

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