

#### GRACE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH DECEMBER 2022



Welcome to Advent as we move towards the celebration of Jesus' birth. This year our theme for Advent is Behold the Child as we take time to pay attention to the one who was born to reconcile us with God and see Him in both familiar and new ways. We are also excited to have a couple of the messages bring brought by lay leaders from Grace and to have the Grace Senior Choir and the Harding Smith Memorial Handbell Choir bring a special presentation on the Sunday before Christmas. With Christmas being on a Sunday, we will also have the privilege of joining in worship not only on Christmas Eve, but also on Jesus' birthday celebration.

We look forward to a variety of music over the coming month for services and special music from Grace Winds & Strings, Erma Hawkes, the Grace Senior Choir, Julie Probert, the Harding Smith Memorial Handbell Choir, and the Worship Team.

Messages	
November 27	Behold the Child (Pastor Peter)
December 4	Behold the Child (Ruth Sherwin)
December 11	Behold the Child (Afolabi Sanni)
December 18	Behold the Child (Pastor Peter) Special Musical Presentation & Child/Parent Dedication
December 24	Behold the Child Christmas Eve Family Celebration Service (Pastor Peter) at 5 PM
	Behold the Child Christmas Eve Traditional Candle Lighting Service (Pastor Peter) at 7 PM
December 25	Behold the Child Christmas Day Worship at 10:30 AM
January 1	New Years Day Worship & Communion (Pastor Peter)

## GRACE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

536 Northumberland St, Fredericton, NB E3B 3K8 Telephone: 458-8527 Email: office@gracememorial.ca Web: gracememorial.ca FB: @gracememorialbaptist

YouTube: Grace Memorial Baptist Church

Julie Probert

Erma Hawkes

**Emily Colpitts** 

Lisa Melanson

Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Peter Lohnes Pastor of Seniors Visitation Rev. Dr. Scott Dunham Organist/Accompanist Choir Director **Emerging Generations Coordinator** Church Office Administrator

New to Grace? If this is your first or second time coming to Grace, welcome! We would love to meet you and get to know you. The pew in front of you should have a yellow Connection Card. Please fill it out and drop it in the one of the offering boxes as you exiting the sanctuary. Check out our website **gracememorial.ca** for updates, services and much more.

## **Worship Ministry Team**

Our Worship Ministry Team continues to work to maintain and develop worship experiences at Grace. Our role and mission is to Facilitate Heartfelt Community Worship of God with a blending of traditional and contemporary music. Our team has been working to continue to provide leadership to worship at Grace and update our technology allowing us to connect to those joining us in worship from home.

We are now seeking a new Worship Ministry Team Coordinator as Kevin Beattie's two three year term maximum has been reached. The remaining lead roles on our team include:

Choir Director - Erma Hawkes	Organist - Julie Probert		
Communion/Scheduler - Kate Thompson	Worship Team (band) Leader - Kevin Beattie		
Senior Pastor - Peter Lohnes			

Multimedia/Streaming-Emilio Ancheta, Kate Thompson, Robin Schriver, Yixiang Shuai, Andrew Crisp

**2023 Worship Ministry Team Coordinator** - open for nominations

We continue to invest in updated equipment for the sound and media experience within the sanctuary and the streaming experience wherever you happen to be. We have 160 subscribers on our YouTube channel with services being live streamed weekly. Past content including special services and music can be viewed as well.

We continue to welcome new and returning volunteers; please reach out to a member of our team if you're interested in helping out.

The choir continues to practice and sing regularly and welcome new members; please reach out to Erma. Handbells and our strings and winds group are active and prepare for special selections.

Organ fundraising continues and restoration is expected to begin soon.

And just as a reminder, we welcome song requests, both contemporary and traditional; please email Kevin at **kevin.beattie@gmail.com** and Julie at **julie probert@yahoo.ca**. If you are interested in sharing during worship (e.g., a testimony, story, music, arts, etc.), please contact Pastor Peter at **pglohnes@yahoo.ca**.

Respectfully Submitted, Kevin Beattie

Worship Ministry Team Coordinator (2017-2022)



### THE PASTORAL SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

The Pastor Search Team met twice in November to review some applications. Part of the team met with one candidate to gain further information and determine if he might be suitable to meet with the rest of the team, but it was felt he was not the right person at this time. The Team is currently contacting references for two new applicants to discern if one might be suitable to interview. The team is very appreciative of your prayers as they continue the search process.

**PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM** Looking for someone to pray with confidentially with you? A member of the Prayer Ministry Team will be available after worship each Sunday at the front of the sanctuary. You will then be accompanied to the Prayer Room for privacy. (available after in person services)

# LOOKING AHEAD January 2023

	The second secon				1.00
Jan 3	Maiah Benigno	Jan 18	Bianca Cruz	W.	Eileen Wallace
Jan 5	Faye Jeffery		Ed Evans	1.NW	Claire Randall
Jan 7	Nina Cruz	Jan 21	Marisel Benigno	Jan 29	Joey Niles
Jan 9	A-Afolabi Sanni &	SM IN	Scott Dunham	Jan 31	Janet Spurrell
ANN A	Adebola Afolabi Sanni	Jan 25	Anita Sergeant		
Jan 13	Carol Jarvis		Brian Randall	If you do	not see your celebration
100.00	Victoria Murray	Jan 27	Michael Clarke	date and	would like it to be added,
Jan 15	Camille Zhu		Wayne Ross	please co	ntact the office.

# FESTIVITES AT GRACE DECEMBER 2022

# ADVENT PAUSE (4 WEEK GRACE GROUP FOR ADVENT)

Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22 at Noon on Zoom or 6:30 PM In-Person & Zoom

Advent means "coming" and is the season when we anticipate the coming of the Christ Child. This year during the season of advent why not pause for a moment each week to meet with others as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the gift of Jesus. Each gathering will last only 30 minutes and include a short devotional based on our theme **Behold the Child**, along with some time to talk and pray together. Options for participation are one group will meet only on Zoom at 12:00 PM and the other group will meet at 6:30 PM with a choice of in-person (parlour) and/or via zoom. You will find the Zoom links each week in the Wednesday Mid-Week Update in the congregational emails.

## **DECK THE HALLS**



Join us Saturday to deck out our beautiful church building for Christmas. We'll play some Christmas music, decorate the trees, hang the wreathes and transform the sanctuary and a few other spaces for Advent and Christmas celebrations. Afterwards, we'll enjoy a lunch, some eggnog and other treats. Everyone of every age welcome, the more the merrier!



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18** service will include a **Child & Parent Dedication** service. For Christian parents this service involves three things: 1. Parents seek God's help as they commit to raise their child(ren) in the faith, anticipating the child will grow to love and trust God; 2. the congregation commits to assisting the parents to the best

of their ability; 3. a prayer of blessing offered over the child. If you are interested in participating in this opportunity please speak with **Pastor Peter before December 11**.

#### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Harding Smith Memorial Handbell Choir & Grace Memorial String Ensemble

Christmas Concert: Ring Christmas Bells Sunday, December 18th @ 3:00 PM

Invite all of your friends, family, and neighbors to join us at Grace and enjoy a delightful variety of Christmas music from well-loved string melodies to Brazilian and Filipino Christmas carols. Christmas sweets and tea/coffee will be served afterwards. If you would like to help out with serving, please contact Julie at <a href="mailto:julie probert@yahoo.ca">julie probert@yahoo.ca</a> or the church office. All donations go to our **Organ Restoration** fund, and we're really close to our half-way target! Hope to see you there!

Julie Probert



#### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP - TWO TO CHOOSE FROM



# **December 24th, 5pm Family Celebration Service**

This service will include music from the worship team, elements designed particularly for kids, and a fun but meaningful way to begin the holiday celebrations all packed into about 45 minutes, so you still have time to get the little ones home to bed at an early hour. After the service, stay for some birthday cake & hot chocolate.



# **December 24th, 7pm Traditional Candle Lighting Service**

This service will feature, carols and readings as we light the last candle of the Advent Wreathe and conclude the service in candle light with Silent Night. A meaningful way to begin the holiday celebrations as we Behold the Child born to be our Savoir.

# DECEMBER 25TH, CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER AT GRACE

After being cancelled for COVID in 2020 and 2021, this year we are excited to see the return of Christmas Day Dinner at Grace! We know most people have plans for Christmas, but if you are looking for an option for dinner on the day, Grace will be hosting a free traditional turkey dinner at noon following morning worship. Anyone and everyone is welcome. We just need to know you are coming. **Reservations** can be made by signing up in the Welcome Centre or calling the church office. We also need 6-8 people on the morning of December 24 to help set tables and peel vegetables; and 6-8 people on December 25 to help with cooking and serving the food. No experience necessary, just a heart to bless others. If you would like to help, just sign-up in the Welcome Center, connect with Pastor Peter or contact the office. Donations of homemade desserts are also welcome.





#### BEHOLD THE CHILD - THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING AT GRACE

One of the key causes at the heart of **Canadian Baptist Ministries** is kids at risk. Whether it kids struggling with despair induced by poverty suffering the trauma of war, or being denied a basic education, CBM works with local ministries to provide hope and opportunities for kids to safely grow through childhood into healthy and whole adults. One of those programs is Jireh in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Poverty, unemployment, and violence runs high throughout the region. Children struggle with malnutrition, desertion from school, overcrowding, and dysfunctional families. Jireh works with children and adolescents who have been victims of violence and aims to provide a safe place for them to find restoration physically, emotionally, and spiritually. The centre helps provide support, counselling, and teaches valuable life skills. Jireh is one of the sites our own Grace mission teams have visited and served at in the past.

If you did not receive one, please let the office know. Along with helping to fund our own Grace ministries, including our own children's and youth programs, a portion of our Christmas offering this year will towards the life-changing ministries of Jireh. You can learn more about Jireh ministries at <a href="mailto:cbmin.org/jireh/">cbmin.org/jireh/</a>. Christmas letters have been put in the Welcome Centre this Sunday for those who attend in person regularly. For everyone else, they have been put in the mail and if you do not receive one by **Dec. 8th**, please contact the office. Thank you!



#### PRAYER MINISTRY DECEMBER 2022

# GRACE WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE NOV 27-JAN 1, 2023

**Oromocto Hospital:** Faye Jeffery

At Home: Heather Fletcher-Switzer, Maureen Arp, Lisa Lohnes, Teddy & Claire Randall,

Rose Marie Patterson, Shirley Pierpoint, Sheila Martin, Edgar & Dorothy Barrieau,

Stephanie & Marg Pollock, Helen Currie, Ron & Sherrie Evans, Erma Hawkes,

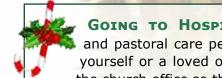
James Rankine, Lawrence Steeves

Shannex: Velma MacDonald, Gregory Nickerson, David Ridley

Pine Grove: Enide Smith

Windsor Court: Eileen Wallace York Manor: Ruth Steeves Farraline Place: Phyllis Betts





GOING TO HOSPITAL? Even though limited visiting is now open in Horizon Health facilities, clergy and pastoral care people no longer know whether a particular person is in hospital or not. If you find yourself or a loved one in the hospital and desire a pastoral visit, please let family or a friend contact the church office so that we can be an encouragement and support.



# **GRACE YOUTH Please pray for:**

- Youth and adults will be open to safe relationships across our congregation. Pray that YOU will be able to build one of these relationships and that these relationships will build the church.
- Youth Group volunteers thank you God for those who seek to shine his light into the lives of youth and children in our midst. Pray that where they have been spiritually parched that they will be refilled.

# Thank you for praying for our youth as they grow in CHRIST



# **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Please pray for:**

- Teachers and staff as they get closer to the Christmas break, that they continue to take strength from God and not from themselves. And that they are able to enjoy the joy and excitement that comes with this season.
- Children will find JOY in doing their work over the next few weeks. Especially with the excitement of Christmas just around the corner. Pray that they see that the **JOY** of the Lord is their strength as they work on more difficult schoolwork and projects (Philippians 4:4)

**PRAYER MINISTRY** is always available and welcomes your prayer requests. Please send them by email to Kathleen Brewer at kbrewer168@gmail.com or by phone 449-0848. New members are always welcome.



CHRISTMAS BLESSING CARDS Drop your addressed cards (they don't need stamps) to the office or put them in the designated card basket in the Welcome Centre. These card will bless our folks who are not able to attend regular services due to being shut in. This can be a lonely and depressing time over the holiday season. Please refer to our Weekly Prayer Guide section for names, located in Grace Notes and the Bulletin. Cards are due by Dec. 13th. Thank you for blessing those who are not able to attend regularly.







































# SCHEDULE FOR GRACE FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

The state of the s					
Sunday, Nov 27 ~ 1st Advent Hope ~					
Worship service, Sa	10:30 AM				
Chat About the Sermon, GG, Sa	11:30 AM				
HSMH Choir, Sa	12:00 PM				
Wed Nov 30					
Graceland, FC & Gym	12:00 PM				
Thurs Dec 1					
Advent Pause, GG, 12:00 PM Zoom, 6:30 PM, Par					
Grace Senior Choir, Choir Room	7:00 PM				
Fri Dec 2					
Grace Youth, Gym	7:00 PM				
Sat Dec 3					
Grace Winds & Strings, Choir Room	10:30 AM				
Deck the Halls Party, Sa & FC	1:00 PM				
Sun Dec 4 ~ Communion & Food Bank ~ ~ 2nd Advent Peace ~					
Worship service, Sa	10:30 AM				
Chat About the Sermon, GG, Sa	11:30 AM				
HSMH Choir, Sa	12:00 PM				
Wed Dec 7					
Graceland, FC & Gym	12:00 PM				
Roger & Marilyn Crisp, GG, private home	6:00 PM				
Mel & Dale Sproull, GG, Par	7:00 PM				
Worship Team, Sa	7:00 PM				
Thurs Dec 8					
Advent Pause, GG, 12:00 PM Zoom, 6:30 PM, Par					
Grace Senior Choir, Choir Room	7:00 PM				
Fri Dec 9					
Grace Youth, Gym	7:00 PM				
Sat Dec 10					
Grace Winds & Strings, Choir Room	10:30 AM				
Contin	ue to poyt page				

# Continue to next page.

Rooms: Sanctuary; Sa, Parlour; Par, Welcome Centre; WC,

Family Centre; FC

Grace Groups; GG

# THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR MOVEMBER MEN!



Together the team was able to raise over **\$2000** for men's health, provide about 600 muffins to the Fredericton High School Breakfast program and grow some pretty handsome mustaches. Thank you to team members Kevin Beattie, Phil Clark, Ed, Corey, Roger Crisp, and Peter Lohnes for helping to raise awareness on men's health issues.

## **Serving Schedule**

## Sun, November 27

**Ushers:** 1 Eric Smith 2 Ed Stairs

WC Greeter: Carolyn Power Media: Kate Thompson Prayer Team: Evan Schriver

3 Roger Crisp

#### Sun, December 4

Ushers: 1 Eric Morehouse 2 Gerry Taylor 3 Mel Sproull WC Greeter: Dale Sproull Media: Kate Thompson

**Praver Team:** Lisa Lohnes

### Sun, December 11

Ushers: 1 Frances Hanson
2 Afolabi Sanni
3 Lisa Melanson
WC Greeter: Carolyn Lovely

Media: Robin Mohle

Prayer Team: Scott Dunham

#### Sun, December 18

Ushers: 1 Ragnar Oborn
2 Pat Campbell
3 Nathan Yuan
WC Greeter: Janet Howland

**Media:** Kate Thompson

Prayer Team: Betty Ann Taylor

### Sat, December 24 @ 5PM

Ushers: 1 Eric Smith
2 Ed Stairs
3 Afolabi Sanni
WC Greeter: Carolyn Power
Media: Emilio Ancheta

#### Sat, December 24 @ 7PM

**Ushers:** 1 Lisa Melanson 2 Roger Crisp

3 TBA **WC Greeter:** TBA

Media: Emilio Ancheta

#### Sun, December 25

**Ushers:** 1 Eric Morehouse 2 Gerry Taylor 3 Mel Sproull

WC Greeter: Dale Sproull Media: Emilio Ancheta

#### Mon, January 1

**Ushers:** 1 Frances Hanson

2 Roger Crisp

3 TBA

WC Greeter: TBA

# CONT. SCHEDULE FOR GRACE FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

Sun Dec 11 ~ 3rd Advent Joy ~	
Worship service, Sa	10:30 AM
HSMH Choir, Sa	12:00 PM
Mon Dec 12	
Ferne Sewell WMS, Par	1:15 PM
Tues Dec 13	
Brunswick Hall & Thomas Hall, Shannex services	2:00 PM
Wed Dec 14	
Graceland, FC & Gym	12:00 PM
Thurs Dec 15	
Advent Pause, GG, 12:00 PM Zoom, 6:30 PM, Par	
Grace Senior Choir, Choir Room	7:00 PM
Fri Dec 16	
Grace Youth, Gym	7:00 PM
Sat Dec 17	
Grace Winds & Strings, Choir Room	10:30 AM
Sun Dec 18 ~ 4th Advent Love ~	
Worship Cantata service, Sa	10:30 AM
Chat About the Sermon, GG, Sa	11:30 AM
Christmas Concert, Sa	3:00 PM
Thurs Dec 22	
Advent Pause, GG, 12:00 PM Zoom, 6:30 PM, Par	
Sat Dec 24	
Family Worship service, Sa	5:00 PM
Traditional Candle Lighting Worship service, Sa	7:00 PM
Sun Dec 25 ~Merry Christmas ~	
Christmas Worship service, Sa	10:30 AM
Christmas Turkey Dinner, Gym	12:00 PM
Sun Jan 1 ~ Happy New Year ~ Communion & Food Bank	
Worship service, Sa	10:30 AM
Rooms: Sanctuary: Sa. Parlour: Par. Welcome	e Centre: WC

**PLEASE NOTE** — the church office will be closed from Dec 24th to Jan 2. If you have pastoral concerns please contact Pastor Peter by phone or email. Check the directory for current contact information.

The Nursery is currently available during services for families with adult supervision. In the main space, services are Livestreamed so parents can still watch the service. This quiet space provides toys, books, and a rocking chair. A semi-private room is set up for all newborn needs.

The **Library** is open half an hour before regular services and again after services. This is a wonderful resource for everything from books, music, bible studies, movies, resource bible books and much more! Everyone from toddlers to adults can enjoy this outreach. If you are interested in joining the Library crew to help out, please contact Danielle

schriver.danielle@gmail.com or contact the office.

**Rooms:** Sanctuary; Sa, Parlour; Par, Welcome Centre; WC, Family Centre; FC

**Grace Groups; GG** 

# Office closed from Dec 24 to Jan 1st Office open regular hours Jan 2nd

Please Note Holiday Hours if you need to drop off offerings or items before Dec. 31st, 2022. Please be sure to plan for the office being closed on the 24th. If you need to drop off your offering for the 2022 year, you may drop it off before the 23rd to the office or in services at the back of the Sanctuary before December 31st. Thank you.



**JANUARY'S BULLETIN** will be released on January 6th and Annual Reports are due January 30th.



**WAYS TO GIVE** – Thank you for your faithful giving during this period when many find it difficult. It is a blessing to our Grace Community of Faith.

We currently have four methods of giving:

**AT WORSHIP** — At each of the three doors to the sanctuary, there are offering boxes just inside the room. You can drop your offering into one of those boxes at any worship service.

**PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT** – You can set up an automatic withdrawal from your account to Grace. If you wish to start, contact the office.

**DROP-OFF** – You can bring your offering to the Church Office. Use the Northumberland Street door during office hours (Tuesday to Friday 8:30am-4:30pm).

**E-TRANSFER** – Please clearly note in the message section of the e-transfer how much you are directing to particular funds (For example: Current, Missions, Building, Easter). Funds that are not designated will be directed to Current expenses. Send e-transfers to our **Financial Treasurer**, at **treasureratgrace536@gmail.com**.

**CANADA HELPS** - Canada Helps is a registered charity that collects online donations, then passes them on to the charity. Go to canadahelps.org, search for Grace Memorial Baptist. Then follow the instructions to make a donation.

Building A Community of Grace; A Christ Centered Mosaic

Many Peoples—One Community

ı	AND COMMON STREET	7.4
	Update to October	31st
	Current Account	
		\$186,785.60
	Regular Offerings	
	Loose	\$ 456.00
	Easter	\$ 5,471.00
	Thanksgiving	\$ 4,552.00
	Christmas	\$ 100.00
ì	Other	\$ 22,736.88
	Total Revenue	\$220,101.48
į	Less Net Expenses	\$253,409.45
Į	Deficit	(\$33,307.97)
	Surplus from 2021	\$ 38,193.00
	Ending Surplus	\$ 4,885.03
1	Missions Account	
	Target for Year (Regular)	\$48,000.00
	Offerings (Regular)	\$29,939.72
	Less Expenses (Regular)	\$18,485.00
	Target for Year (Thanksgiving)	\$ 2,000.00
	Actual Offerings (Thanksgiving)	\$ 2,531.00
	Shortfall from Target	(\$17,529.28)
		1
	Building Account	
ì	Offerings	\$ 6,598.22
	Less Expenses	\$ 5,321.63
	Surplus from 2021	\$20,073.00
	Ending Surplus	\$21,349.59
	Other Revenue includes rental	s and camp &

Other Revenue includes rentals and camp & registrations

Organ Restoration Fund to Oct. 31st: \$20,055.90

Thank you!

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !