

## Announcements – December 22, 2024

Welcome to today's worship service. We are grateful that you have joined us! If you are worshipping here for the first time, please sign the **Guest Book** in the Narthex, located at the back of the Sanctuary. An Usher would be pleased to offer you directions.

Highland Group welcomes young children into **the nursery**, outside the west doors of the Sanctuary. Please join us following worship for **refreshments and fellowship** in New St. James Hall.

Women's Council has posted a list on the bulletin board in New St. James Hall where you can offer to help prepare, serve, and clean up for **coffee hours on Sunday mornings**. You will work with Karen Buchwald to help her get the refreshments ready before the start of the service.

On **Christmas Eve**, we will celebrate the Nativity of the Lord with a worship service beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please consider inviting friends, family, and neighbours to share in this joyful occasion.

The **church office** will be **closed** on Wednesday, December 25 and Thursday, December 26.

### Advent 2024 Appeal: Matching gifts!

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back" (Luke 6:38). As we strive to meet this year's budget demands, the Congregation is invited to participate in a matching gift program. Your special gifts, over-and-above your regular offering, will be matched in December. In other words, your donation will be doubled! \$16,500 has been committed to be matched. If you give \$10, in effect it will become \$20, \$100 will become \$200, and \$1000 will become \$2000. All of your contributions will help New St. James to fulfill our missions. Please consider a special donation to the church before December 31. Envelopes will be available in the Narthex. Note: due to the postal interruption, please drop off your special gift in person or contribute electronically by e-transfer. E-transfers may be sent via the following email address: [admin@newstjames.ca](mailto:admin@newstjames.ca)

### Financial Update, end of November, 2024:

	Jan – Nov 2024	Jan – Nov 2023	\$ Change	% Change
Total Income	310,038	280,322	29,716	10.6%
Total Expenses	352,676	341,465	11,210	3.1%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-42,637</b>	<b>-61,143</b>	<b>18,506</b>	<b>30.3%</b>

**Announcements** are an important way to keep the congregation informed about the ministry of NSJ. The weekly deadline for submitting a requested announcement is Wednesday at noon. Announcements are reserved for information regarding the ministry of New St. James and the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

As the church building has become a busy place again, a reminder to all NSJ groups and committees: please remember to **book your meeting space** in advance by contacting Judi Le Blanc in the Church Office.

To protect people who are sensitive or allergic to scent, we want to make New St. James scent-free. Please keep this in mind when applying perfume, cologne, or aftershave.