

Edition: 75, November 2019

VALOIS UNITED



Minister
Rev. Dr. Scott Hunter

Music Director:
Dr. Judy Hung

Sunday School Coordinator:
Catharine Calderone

NOTES FROM THE PEWS:

The Night the Lights Went Out: A lot of work goes into organizing Valois United Church's largest Country Fair fundraiser, but this year, a storm knocked out power to a large area that included our church. There was a lot of stress to go around, and finally, the Friday night portion of the Fair and Lasagne Supper was cancelled. Happily, our wonderful community came out in large numbers on Saturday and showed us their support—we are blessed to have so many thoughtful friends! (We are also blessed with a few extra lasagnes and gingerbread cakes in the freezer...)

If you didn't get a chance to join us then, you are in luck—we have our **Artisan Fair coming up Saturday, December 7th** from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Baked goods, local artisans, coffee, tea and muffins will be served from 9:30 to 11:30 am, and a **deliciously tempting Soup Lunch** begins at 11:30 am to 1 pm. Hope to see you there!

White Gift, Children's Pageant, Lessons & Carols

*Valois United Traditions for Us All
Sunday Dec 8, Dec 15 and Dec 22*

Advent is here! Sunday December 8th we are collecting **gifts of food, toys and money** that will go towards serving local community needs. Donations are welcome and will be distributed between St. Columba House, Montreal City Mission, Christian Action Committee and C.O.C.L.A. **On December 15** our Choir bring holiday spirit to the fore with a wonderful collection of **Lessons & Carols** for the season, and our **Sunday School is getting ready for their pageant on Sunday December 22nd**. Mark your calendars in December and come help us celebrate the loving, giving, joyful spirit of the season.

Our Remembrance Tree is going up next to our sign this year—every single light is in memory of someone who will be absent this Christmas season, and all who pass by this beautiful tree will know that true Christmas love is lighting up the darkness in the hearts of so many who are missed.

If you would like to contribute to our newsletter, if you would like to be added to our distribution list, or if you would like to stop receiving our news, please contact us at: deborahdixon@mac.com

Roof Fundraising Status: December 31st is our next loan payment due date—we are close to our target and hope a few more December donations will help us reach our goal. The final section of roof replacement over the gymnasium, completed this last October, required a second loan, and a new fundraising campaign to raise \$70,000 in 2020 has begun. We are deeply grateful to our community groups, neighbourhood families and members near and far who have helped us out so far. We continue to welcome all fundraising ideas on how we can achieve our 2020 Roof Fund goal!



VUC Choir at St. Anne's Veterans' Hospital

25 members of our church brought their musical talents and an eclectic selection of songs to a very appreciative group of seniors' in November, and if you visit our facebook page, you might even get to hear a sample of what they did! The joy of music continues into December when our choir will perform Christmas favourites on Sunday, December 15 (Service of Carols and Readings).

Have You met Jacob?

Jacob is quiet and shy, loving and playful. He loves to go on walks with our members and always brings a smile to all he meets.

This gentle greyhound can occasionally be spotted quietly lying next to Rev. Scott Hunter. He has joined Rev. Scott on home visits, and occasionally at worship services held in The Wellesley seniors residence. We can't guarantee he'll always show up, but if you join us after services for coffee, you just might get a chance to meet this wonderful fellow!



December 2019

1st (Sun) 1st Advent 10 am
Communion (Candle of HOPE)

7th (Sat) ARTISAN FAIR
Shopping 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Coffee & Tea 9:30 - 11:30 am
Lunch Service: 11:30 am -1:00 pm

8th (Sun) 2nd Advent 10 am
Baptism
WHITE GIFT SUNDAY
(Candle of PEACE)

15th (Sun) 3rd Advent 10 am
CAROLS & READINGS
(Candle of LOVE)

22nd (Sun) 4th Advent 10 am
SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT
(Candle of JOY)

24th (Sun) Christmas Eve
7 pm Family Service
9 pm Communion Candle lighting

29th (Sun) Shared Services at
Dorval-Strathmore
United Church 10:30 am

All are welcome. We offer a quiet space at the back of the church for young ones to relax during service and Sunday school downstairs for older children, who leave halfway through service. We all meet up after for coffee and fellowship. Welcome!

ROOF FUND DONATION TRACKER

RAISED IN 2018: \$33,138.56
RAISED to Nov 1 2019: \$28,566.68

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