

DEACONS CORNER

THIS WEEKS ACTIVITIES

MONDAY: (9th) 1:30 pm = 55+ Bowling
7:00 pm = Floor hockey
7:00 pm = Deacons Meeting

TUESDAY: (10th) 7:00 pm = **NO** Youth
7:00 pm = Deacons Training

WEDNESDAY: (11th) 9:30 am = Coffee Break
10:00 am = MOPS
6:30 pm = GEMS

THURSDAY: (12th) 7:00 PM = Full Council Meet

ADVANCED NOTICES

Jan. 15 - Free Meal Deal	Feb. 5 - Food Collect Sun.
Jan. 17 - Youth resumes	Feb. 6 - Deacons Meeting
Jan. 18 - Admin. Meet	Feb. 12 - Prep Lords Supper
Jan. 19 - Consistory Meeting	Feb. 15 - Admin. Meeting
Jan. 20 - Soup Kitchen	Feb. 17 - Soup Kitchen
Jan. 27-29 - Breakforth	Feb. 20-24 - Reading Week
Jan. 29 - Cadet Sunday	Feb. 26 - 1 st Sunday of Lent

THIS WEEK'S OFFERINGS. (Jan. 8) - BUDGET: Giving is a part of our sanctification. It reflects our spiritual walk with God and just as we need to grow in our faith, our conduct, and our insight, we need to "excel in this grace of giving". ^{2 Cor. 8:7}

INTERFAITH FOOD BANK The mission of the Interfaith Food Bank is to recognize the human dignity of those in need and to provide food and access to services and resources generated from within the community. They cater to those in a variety of situations, ranging from single-parenthood, to seniors on fixed incomes, to the under or unemployed, or to those with other social or economic barriers.

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERINGS (Jan. 8th) BUDGET: &
Youth Unlimited

THIS WEEKS SERVICE (Jan. 8, 2012)

Ushers: John & Joanne D.
Greeters: Della V., Francine V. & Wendy P.
Nursery Mom: Christine O.
Nursery Volunteers: Tammy E., Trix E.k, Peggy D., Andrew M.
Sunday School: Pre S/K - Tracy L, Abby M.
Gr. 1-6 – Christine O.
Library Helpers: Mercer Family
Columbia Assisted Living: Group Five -
Lead by: Arie D.

NEXT WEEKS SERVICE (Jan. 15, 2012)

Ushers: George & Chris V.
Greeters: Ann B., Neal & Peggy D.
Nursery Mom: Christine O.
Nursery Volunteers: Lisa V., Betsy D., Darren M., Lindsay V.
Sunday School: Pre S/K – Carolyn K., Janine D.
Gr. 1-6 – Stacey D.
Library Helpers: Varga Family
Columbia Assisted Living: E free

Special Birthday Greetings this week to **Gerrit D.** who celebrates his 85th birthday on January 11th



Our Mission: Serving others as Jesus served, helping all become faithful disciples of the Lord.

Luke 13:24 (NIV)
"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to."

COFFEE HOSTS – Jan. 8

Sharon D.
Kari D.
Martin & Henny D.
Brent & Juanita D.

COFFEE HOSTS – Jan. 15

Frank & Anne D.
Herman & Carol D.
Ed & Linda D.

WELCOME to Maranatha today! We are thankful that you are here for this celebration of God's love and grace. If you would like further personal contact with us, please fill out the guest information card and drop in the offering pouch. May God be praised and may each of us be encouraged on this day.

Gathered In Grace

"Jesus Lover of My Soul"

Call to Worship
 *God's Greeting & Blessing
 United in Praise:

**"God You Reign"
 "Holiness"**

Confession
"Just as I Am without One Plea" (PH263)

Assurance
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
 (Children Dismissed from Sunday School)(Ages 3 thru grade 6)

God's Word of Grace

Prayer for Understanding
 Scripture: *Mathew 7:13-14*
 Sermon: The Wide and Narrow Ways

Gratitude for Grace

"Be the Centre"
 Congregational Prayer
 Offering: Interfaith Food Bank
"Forever Reign"

Gracious Sending out to Serve

Apostle's Creed
 God's Blessing
 Our Pledge of Praise
"Humble Thyself/Awesome God/You Are Mighty Medley"

Worship in Audio/Visual: DVD recordings of each worship service are available; please speak to a technician in the sound booth if you would like one. Also, our morning worship service (of the previous week) is televised each Sunday at 5 PM on Shaw Cable TV Channel 9. If you require a hearing aid device, they may be picked up at the sound booth.



OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Pastoral Care: Pastor Tony will be in the Netherlands (Utrecht) for professional development this week, attending a history conference on Christianity and culture. Please contact your elder or the church office if you and/or a family member are in need of pastoral care.

✚ Please keep the following members of our church family in mind as you come before the Lord daily in prayer. "The prayers of the righteous are powerful and effective." *James 5.16*

✚ Alice K. has been admitted to the Chinook Regional hospital due to severe pain in her back.

✚ We give thanks that Ed D. is gradually able to resume regular activities after his hospital stay.

✚ Please remember Les V. as he continues to recover from hip surgery.

Series on the Parables: Jesus was a master teacher. He knew that people loved stories, and that stories about everyday sorts of activities could be used to teach eternal truths about faith and life. These often very short pictures of daily life are called parables. Today we begin a series of messages on some of the parables of Jesus. Through them we will hear him explore and instruct us on matters such as walking the wide or narrow way, our attitudes, handling money, and waiting for the end to come. We're all encouraged to read the parable before we reflect on it on Sunday - in doing so, we just might 'get more' out of the sermon!

- January 08** - The Wide and Narrow Ways - *Matthew 7.13-14*
- January 22** - Humility: an Underestimated Virtue *Luke 18.9-14*
- January 29** - Watching Money *Luke 12.13-21*
- February 12** - Ready for the End *Matthew 25.1-13*

Free Meal Deal is Next Week (January 15) after the service (12:15pm) If you would like to help serve a warm home cooked meal to our young people, please contact Bette G.

Soup Kitchen– It is Maranatha's turn to serve at the Soup Kitchen on **January 20**. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Jetty P.



Thumbs UP to the Sunday school staff for a fun and inspiring Christmas program on Dec 18th. All the work and behind the scenes preparations are very much appreciated!

2) A big "Thank You" for another year of coffee service by those who tirelessly set up, organize, and cleanup refreshments for post-service fellowship. A good time to connect with friends, both old and new!


*******YOUTH*********CADETS*********GEMS*******

Youth – Resumes **January 17th**. Maranatha Youth Group welcomes all Jr. and Sr. High School students to join our youth program, every Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 at the church, commencing January 17. Our program involves bible study, snacks, games and fun, and occasionally blowing things up (if you have Lloyd or Joseph as your leaders).

For more information, please contact:
For Sr. High - Josh D. Keith A., Frank D.
For Jr. High girls- Rachel E., Betsy D.
For Jr. High boys- Joseph M.

Help us to praise you, know you, and to act in a way that brings glory to your name. Let your church grow and make your kingdom come soon. Do what you want or what needs to be done through your people. Give us all we need, letting us know that all good things come from you, so we do not put faith in anything else. Don't hold against us our sins, and help us to forgive those who do wrong against us. Make us strong enough to resist the temptation that evil brings us. Uphold us against the world and all its woes.

Cadets – Cadet will have their bottle drive on **January 14**.

Please remember to save your pop  cans / bottles and

milk  jugs.

GEMS – Resumes on **January 11th**

From the Voice of the Martyrs - Nepal - Pray that the passion of the believers, who were driven from their village, will be the light that draws others to Jesus (Matthew 5:14-16). Pray for healing for the six year old girl who was abused by one of the individuals who incited the expulsion. Please pray that hostility against Christians in Nepal will cease and that believers will be allowed to live and worship freely.

The Lethbridge Christian Men's Choir will start its practices again on Thursday, **January 12**, 2012 at Wilson Middle School. We will be preparing for our upcoming mass choir concert in April in Calgary. Men if you love to sing please come and join us.

The Lethbridge Christian Women's Choir will be starting practices once again on **January 9**, 2012 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1818 - 5th Ave. South, at 7:30 PM. We look forward to starting on a new slate of songs for our spring program. New members are always welcome to join us as we praise our God with music and song. See you there!

PRO-LIFE – On Thursday, **February 2, 2012** @ 6:00 p.m. Michael Coren will be speaking at the E-Free Church. Dinner tickets are \$25.00 adults, \$15 students. To reserve tickets for the dinner and speaker, call 403.320.5433 or e mail: lproulife@shaw.ca; if you want to hear the speaker only (8:00 pm) tickets are free with a donation of a baby food item for the Interfaith Food Bank.