



Welcome to Visitors and Newcomers!

If you are new to Northlea, please be sure to make yourself known to the minister and sign the visitors' book beside the centre doors of the Sanctuary.

The Nursery is on the main floor beside the Minister's Office. Nursery caregivers welcome infants and toddlers so that parents can participate in the service.

Sunday School (or "Cool Church" as the children call it) for elementary school aged children is held in the church basement and for teenagers, in the youth room on the second floor. Parents, following the service, please meet your children and youth in the Fellowship Room.

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals are available from the sound operator at the back of the Sanctuary. Audio tapes or CD's of this morning's worship service are available through the office.

Sunday Morning Ministries

Thank You for Helping with Today's Service

Greeters and Ushers – Cool Church Children and Lynne Fulcher
Candle Lighters – Wendy Atkinson, Glenda Bathgate and Elizabeth Finlay
Lay Reader – Ray Murrill
Refreshments – Rosalind and John Dekker
Sound System - Stephen Bathgate

Following this morning's service, please come to the Fellowship Room for conversation and refreshment.

If you would like to have name tags, to be put on our mailing list, or would like more information about Northlea United Church, please contact Barb in the church office.

Northlea United Church

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3Y7

(416) 425-5252 office@northleaunited.ca www.northleaunited.ca

Minister: Rev. Jim McKnight

Music Director: Marc McNamara

Church Office: Barb Ferguson

Building Manager: Robert Pringle

*Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship
Northlea United Church*

Sunday, December 18, 2011 10:30 am

Minister – Rev. Jim McKnight

Music Director – Marc McNamara



*The Fourth Sunday of Advent
A Time of Pageantry and Music
Lighting the Candle of Love*

*King Emmanuel will come to us a child.
Isaiah said, "Unto us a Child is born;
unto us a Son is given; and he will be called
Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)
(from the musical: *Where's the Newborn King?*)*

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Introit: O Come, All Ye Faithful

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn: A Candle is Burning

VU 6

Advent Candle Lighting:

Lighting the Candle of Love

Advent Prayer:

Most loving God, help us know we are loved. Help us treat ourselves and each other with love, tenderness, and compassion.

This we pray in the name of Jesus, love born among us, as we say together:

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

VU 921

The Candle is lit

Sung Response

VU 7

The Peace:

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Sung Response

VU 955

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Gracious Holy Spirit, touch with heart the words we hear and dreams we dream, so we can live your Love to all a waiting world. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

A Reading from the Good News according to Luke: Luke 2:8-14 NIV 725

One: This is the Gospel light of joy and promise.

All: May it be to us our Love-light to the world!

Invitation Carol: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (verses 1 and 2) VU 71

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Where's the Newborn King?

by Anna Laura Page and Jean Anne Shafferman

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

The Offering is received

Offertory Music

Offertory Response

VU 55

Offertory Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for your gifts of Hope, and Peace, of laughter and of singing, of Joyfulness and Spirit and of Love. Bless the gifts we give, and all the ways we give them, so we can live the Love-light of the greatest gift of all. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Morning Prayers

Closing Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1, 2 and 3)

VU 38

Commissioning & Benediction

Amen

Postlude



Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Tonight - Sunday December 18, 7 pm

Listen to the Christmas story in music and scripture, and join in congregational carols. Join us after the service to enjoy homemade Christmas goodies and exchange Christmas greetings.

Sleeping Children Around the World

This year, as in the past, the Outreach Committee will once again hold our Advent appeal for the '*Sleeping Children Around the World*' bedkits. Please see the photos we have posted on the Outreach board and get more info on their website www.scaw.org. *This season, donations can be made to this charity from November 27 to December 18, 2011. Each bedkit costs \$35.00. Please make your cheques payable to NORTHLEA UNITED CHURCH and note that it is for SLEEPING CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD.* If you are submitting cash, please use the visitor envelopes and note that the contribution is for Sleeping Children. Thank you again for your wonderful support of this Charity.

The Outreach Committee

Thank You!

Members of the Pastoral Care committee wish to thank everyone who provided goodies for the boxes of Christmas Cookies on December 4. A special thank you goes to the *Cool Church* children, who made beautiful Christmas cards to decorate the boxes. We visited and delivered 17 boxes to appreciative recipients. Everyone was so happy with their special treat!

The Social Justice Project

Thanks for all the gifts and financial donations you will collect this Advent. These items make a difference to the recipients as they provide food or clothing or the joy of a gift. The Social Justice Project is encouraging individuals and congregations to use The Two Feet of Social Ministry – the one foot of charity & service and the second foot of justice that seeks systemic change. As many of our gifts are given to those who do not receive enough income to support themselves you might want to explore a campaign focused on increasing individuals' income <http://dothemath.thestop.org/>. For more information on The Social Justice Project <http://www.torontoconference.ca/torontosoutheast/outreach-social-justice-project.php> or email Bbaskin@united-church.org

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UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tues Dec 20	Finance Committee meet at 7:30 p.m.
Wed Dec 21	<p>Morning Christmas Tea Hosted by Northlea's Staff - 10:30 am to noon</p> <p>Please join the staff to celebrate Christmas. Cookies and Christmas treats, tea and coffee will be served. <i>Jim, Marc, Robert and Barb</i></p> 
Sat Dec 24	<p>Christmas Eve 7:00 pm Family Service. A musical presentation of the Christmas story by our own <i>Cool Church Players</i>.</p> <p>11:00 pm Communion Service Quiet time to reflect on the season and prepare for Christmas Day.</p> 
Sun Dec 25	Christmas Day Service 10:30 a.m. - Come as you are for a service of joy and celebration!
Wed Dec 28	Taizé Service 7 p.m.
Sat Dec 31	New Year's Eve Watchnight Service - Pot luck supper at 6 pm, with a sing-along and watchnight service to follow. If you would like to come, there is a signup sheet for attendance, potluck and help!
Sun Jan 8	Children & Youth Committee meets at 9 a.m.
Tues Jan 10	Congregational Life meets at 7 p.m. in the Library
Tues Jan 10	Shall We Talk? 7:30 in the Fellowship Room. Topic: Lies, True Lies and Stories
Wed Jan 11	Taizé Service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Wed Jan 11	Agenda Items for the January 18 Board meeting due to the office or to Gail Lindsay.
Sun Jan 15	Worship & Music meets at 12 p.m. in the Nursery
Mon Jan 16	Ministry & Personnel meets at 7 p.m.
Wed Jan 18	Church Board meets at 7:30 p.m.

* Adult Choir practices are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

* Staff regularly meets at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays.