

## Announcements

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.

Rev. David will be on **Study Leave** March 10-16 (inclusive). Should a pastoral need arise during this time, please reach out first to your district elder. You may also contact The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton, who is providing pastoral coverage. Dr. Fullerton may be reached at 519.438.3492.

The Highland ladies will meet on Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the lower hall to have their **Annual Dutch Auction**. Bring your treasures to auction off! These treasures could include jewellery, clothes, books, household items, baking (yum!), and any other things you can part with. There will be worship and refreshments. For any further information, please contact Karen Buchwald (519.641.6742 or karenbuchwald@hotmail.com).

From the Mission and Social Action Committee: As **"Back to Basics"** time draws near (a Lenten project we do each year), it's hygiene products and new socks we need, and new underwear, too, would help out indeed! This outreach mission will run from March 15 to April 20 (Easter Sunday), after which donations will be distributed to various agencies in London.

The Lenten season presents us with an opportunity to practice sacrificial giving, aligning our hearts with Christ's sacrifice. We thank you for your generous support of the chili supper, our first fundraising event of 2025! We are looking forward to many more opportunities to share in fellowship and fundraising. For the next eight weeks we have the opportunity to support our church with the **Envelope Challenge**. If you choose to participate, you will receive 8 envelopes numbered 2 to 16. The numbers correspond to the amount to be placed in the envelopes (\$2 to \$16). At the end of the eight weeks we will collect the envelopes and tally our support. Please write your givings envelope number or name on the first envelope so that a tax receipt can be issued for 2025. Please contact Sharon Mercier, Dennis Mercier, or Rob McGugan for envelopes or further information.

Mark your calendars! Karen Plater, from the Presbyterian Church in Canada will be presenting on **Legacy Givings**, following the service on March 23. Everyone is welcome. Learn about special tax benefits; how stocks, bonds, mutual funds and real property can be used to support NSJ now; and how a gift in a will, life insurance, or a charitable gift annuity can support future ministry at NSJ. A freewill offering lunch will be served. Please RSVP by March 17 by contacting the Church Office (519.434.1127 or admin@newstjames.ca).

Our **mission trip** is fast approaching! If you are interested in joining us on our trip to Malawi or just want more information, please contact Cathy Reid (reidc@rogers.com). The dates are May 7-28.

**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.

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