

1st Advent - The Magi
November 29 @ 10am

2nd Advent - Mary & Joseph
December 6 @ 10am

3rd Advent - Mary & Elizabeth
December 13 @ 10am

4th Advent - Shepherds
December 20 @ 10am

Christmas Eve Service
December 24 @ 6pm



pachurch.ca/live



**PORTAGE
AVENUE
CHURCH**

Christmas 2020



BIBLE READING PLAN

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Sunday | Dec | 13 | 2 Chronicles 16 | Revelation 5 |
| Monday | Dec | 14 | 2 Chronicles 17 | Revelation 6 |
| Tuesday | Dec | 15 | 2 Chronicles 18 | Revelation 7 |
| Wednesday | Dec | 16 | 2 Chronicles 19-20 | Revelation 8 |
| Thursday | Dec | 17 | 2 Chronicles 21 | Revelation 9 |
| Friday | Dec | 18 | 2 Chronicles 22-23 | Revelation 10 |
| Saturday | Dec | 19 | 2 Chronicles 24 | Revelation 11 |
| Sunday | Dec | 20 | 2 Chronicles 25 | Revelation 12 |
| Monday | Dec | 21 | 2 Chronicles 26 | Revelation 13 |
| Tuesday | Dec | 22 | 2 Chronicles 27-28 | Revelation 14 |
| Wednesday | Dec | 23 | 2 Chronicles 29 | Revelation 15 |
| Thursday | Dec | 24 | 2 Chronicles 30 | Revelation 16 |
| Friday | Dec | 25 | 2 Chronicles 31 | Revelation 17 |
| Saturday | Dec | 26 | 2 Chronicles 32 | Revelation 18 |
| Sunday | Dec | 27 | 2 Chronicles 33 | Revelation 19 |
| Monday | Dec | 28 | 2 Chronicles 34 | Revelation 20 |
| Tuesday | Dec | 29 | 2 Chronicles 35 | Revelation 21 |
| Wednesday | Dec | 30 | 2 Chronicles 36 | Revelation 22 |
| Thursday | Dec | 31 | catch-up day :-) | |
| Friday | Jan | 01 | Ezra 1 | Acts 1 |
| Saturday | Jan | 02 | Ezra 2 | Acts 2 |



How To Journal

- S** Scripture - write out the key thought, phrase or word that stands out to you
- O** Observations - write down your observations
- A** Applications - write out the application to your life
- P** Prayer - write a short prayer

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Care Giver of the Week: Nadya Nezvesciuc

Christmas at Portage Avenue Church

This year we will be pre-recording our Christmas Eve service and it will be available for viewing on our website on Christmas Eve in the early evening. Please remember to set aside this time and join us in worshipping "God With Us."

Christmas Jelly Bean drive

We want to make sure our church family is connecting and reaching out this Christmas even though we can't visit in person. We encourage you to contact at least 5 people this Christmas season with a phone call or by sending an encouraging card. They can be people you know in our church family or people in your community. Please call Pastor Scott and let him know who you contacted. For each person you contact we will put a jelly bean in our jar and you can watch it fill up with joy!

Office Closed

Our office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25. The office will also be closed on Friday, January 1.

Christmas Greetings

George Petkau would like to wish a very Merry Christmas to our whole church family and God's blessing in the New Year.

The PAC Staff would also like to say Merry Christmas to everyone and we eagerly anticipate meeting again in person. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.



Christmas
Jellybean
Drive

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PAC 2020 Dry Bean Update

For many years now, PAC has been purchasing dry beans or peas in bulk, and donating them to Winnipeg Harvest to help feed Manitoba's hungry. This year, due to pandemic restrictions, Harvest Manitoba (formerly Winnipeg Harvest) is unable to accept a bulk donation of dry beans or peas. As a result, PAC will not be purchasing dry beans or peas this year, but will instead seek to raise money to be forwarded to Harvest Manitoba.

Donations for this cause will be accepted by PAC until December 31, 2020, and must be designated for 'Harvest Manitoba.' These donations may be made either physically (i.e. cheques) or electronically (i.e. e-transfer or online.) Please ensure also that your donation is above-budget.

While COVID-19 has severely restricted Manitobans' ability to help the province's needy, the need itself has not decreased. In fact, it has only increased.

Donation Receipts & Giving Statements

Mailed donations must be postmarked December 31st to be included in 2020 receipts. Normally by this time you could expect a giving statement in your mailbox - for this year please sign in and check Church Connect to see what you have given in 2020. You may also call Melanie at the church office and she can let you know. Please note Melanie will be on vacation Dec 22, 23 and 29.

Financial Position **projected** to December 31, 2020

\$489,938 **\$490,658** **\$500,445**



Surplus
\$720

YTD
Expenses

YTD
Income

YTD
Budgeted
Income

This includes \$98,819 received from CEWS federal government subsidy plus \$5000 from Manitoba government Bridge grant. Additional \$20,000 transferred to Major Repair Fund.

MISSION UPDATE - Matt & Cheryl Peters (Equip Canada)

Merry Christmas family & friends,

It's been a long while since we've updated our ministry community and I want to apologize for that! Typically having more "time" equals more ability to write, but I've personally been struggling because I haven't felt I had much to write about since the summer months.

This whole pandemic has created a wait and see mentality from month to month, but we are excited about the days ahead.

Please find attached our latest newsletter to give a bit more detailed report of the fall and what we're currently up to.

If you feel led to financially support us this coming year, here is an easy online giving option to our ministry the Youth Outdoors Project:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/52186>

In the newsletter you will find some information about our latest fundraiser as well information about our small business at this link:

<https://www.wilderland.ca/adventure-kits>

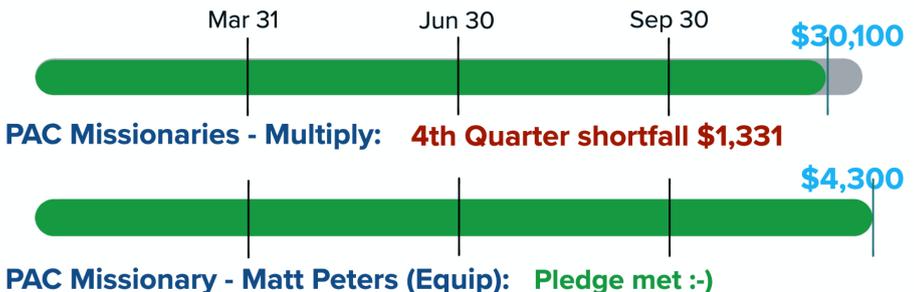
Thank you for your prayers, financial support, and genuine interest in who we are and what the Lord is doing through us.

Blessings,

Matt, Cheryl & Eleah Peters

Note: Please contact the church office if you would like a copy of the newsletter. It has also been posted on our Missionary Board.

Missionary Support As at December 15, 2020



NB: Quarterly support payments are sent only once pledge has been met.

Total Mission Income Received \$156,689

PRAYER ALERT

Pray for those who are in the hospital

Anne Kroeker - Victoria Hospital

Pray for those who are shut-in

At home - Peter Brown, Erna Friesen, Rudy & Susanne Thiessen

Bethania - Jake & Betty Suderman

Bethel Place - Agnes Pauls

Concordia Place - John E. Friesen

Concordia Village - Margaret Pospishell, Martha Tielmann

Deer Lodge Centre - Charlotte Liebig

Donwood Personal Care - Louise (Lois) Peters, Martha Reimer,
Helen Wiens

Donwood Manor Apartments - George Petkau

Pembina Place - Helen Doerksen

Riverwood Square - John W. Sawatzky

Riverwood Square (Harmony Court) - Mary Bergen

Sturgeon Creek Retirement Residence - Bertha Toews

Pray for UGM Students

This year, we as a church family are sponsoring two students from the inner-city to attend UGM's Faith Academy. Please pray that God continues to work in the lives of these students, and their families. Pray that parents would make responsible decisions in family matters. If you have questions about our students please call Gilbert Plante, the Family Ministries Manager at UGM at 204.586.7790 ext 306.

Sara - grade 12, birthday: May 27, 2003

- Pray for my Grandma. She isn't doing the greatest at the moment. Pray that she gets better. Pray that God would help provide money for Bible College. Pray for a good last school year!

Hannah - grade 6, birthday: November 1, 2009

- Pray for the school year that we will be cheerful and we will stay safe.

Prayer Night via Zoom

Please join us! You can call in to 204.272.7920 and enter the meeting ID 859 5515 4680, then wait and you will be connected.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85955154680>

SERMON NOTES

For Further Reflection

Use these questions for personal reflection or with your small group.

- 1.) How do you nurture your relationship with Jesus so that when the time comes you will drop everything to find Him as the shepherds did in the Christmas story?
- 2.) Christmas 2020 is looking so different for all of us. How do you share the birth of Jesus with others while we are in lockdown?
- 3.) What is different about the Christmas story in the Biblical text compared to what we watch, read and hear about the story in the culture we are living in?
- 4.) How can you correct mis-perceptions of the Christmas story found within our culture?
- 5.) What step forward can you take today in sharing the radical nature of the birth of Jesus and step away from feeding into the cultural traditions that tend to pacify the story?



Register for events, mark attendance,
give online, access the church
directory online and much more at
www.pachurch.ca/connect
