

# The Weekly Update

**December 14, 2025  
3rd of Advent**

**Highland Hills Faith Community  
A Shared Ministry of  
the United and Presbyterian Churches**



[Link for the live-stream on December 14, 2025](#)

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## The Special Services and Events of the Advent, Christmas and New Year's

The services during Advent will begin  
with a

**Carol Sing at 10:20 am.  
followed by worship at 10:30**

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**Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday December 24th at 7:00 pm.**

Come and hear the story,  
engage the story  
and become a part of the story!

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Say this with me....

**Ukiortaami Pilluaritsi**

Yep, your right...I can't say it...but I hope you can.

because Ukiortaami Pilluaritsi  
is how to say  
Happy New Year in  
Kalaallisut, the language of Greenland.

Youtube link for the proper pronunciation of Ukiortaami  
Pilluaritsi?

But really why do we care about how to say  
Happy New Year's in Kalaallisut?

Because...  
Highland Hills is having a New Year's Eve party  
**on December 31, 2025**  
**from 7-10**

Bring your favourite game, your favourite people and your favourite  
snack to share.

There will be a special countdown to mark the New Year  
**at 9 pm.** which is midnight in

Nuuk, Greenland.

This is a family friendly event.  
We are hoping that some of your special people include your kids,  
grandkids and neighbours!

**If you plan on attending,  
please sign on the form in the narthex  
or email/ call the office.**

**A close approximation of the number planning to attend will help us  
decide which space to use for this event.**

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Explore our website for more information about our faith community and events

**[Visit our website](#)**

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**[Dream Team Approved Minutes October 26, 2025](#)**

**Office:**

Jennifer  
[office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca)

In office this week:  
Tuesday & Thursday

Peg  
905-577-3348  
[revpegtturner@gmail.com](mailto:revpegtturner@gmail.com)

Ian  
(905) 973-2367  
[imcphee@sympatico.ca](mailto:imcphee@sympatico.ca)

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## Our Community Caring Corner

*We ask that you keep all those  
in our church community in your prayers.  
There are people whose concerns we do not know  
and so we pray for all those who are grieving,  
facing health and other life challenges.  
We are not alone, thanks be to God.*

*It is with sadness that we share the news that  
**Marilyn Elliot passed away on Tuesday, December 6th.***  
Marilyn was a long time, devoted member, of St Mark's Church.  
She with her husband Amos were involved  
in all aspects of church life and church work.  
She was a wonderful, friendly greeter to all who entered the building and  
volunteered tirelessly at church events.

*Follow the link below to see Marilyn's Obituary*



**[Marilyn Jean Elliot's Obituary](#)**

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## **The Christmas Mail Box is back!**

If you have Christmas cards for the folks at  
Highland Hills  
bring them with you to church  
and place them in the mailbox  
that has been placed in the Narthex.

This is a great way  
to get mail to your friends  
while saving yourself some money.

Thanks to Garth and Wilma for ensuring this is available again this year!

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## **This Week's Meetings and Gatherings**

### **Fri, Dec 12**

**Pickleball** 7:00 pm

### **Sun, Dec 14**

**Worship** 10:30 am in the sanctuary

### **Tues, Dec 16**

**Knit and Chat:** 2:00 to 3:30 pm in the Fireside Room

**Bell Choir Practice:** 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

### **Wed, Dec 17**

**Walking Group:** 10:00 am at the Dundas Driving Park

**Sit to be Fit:** 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

### **Thurs, Dec 18**

**Choir Practice:** 7:00 pm

### **Fri, Dec 19**

**Pickleball** 7:00 pm

Sun, Dec 21

**Worship** 10:30 am in the sanctuary

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## **Drive-Thru Cookie Sale**

A huge thank you to all the people who  
contributed their cookies, their time and their  
money to buy cookies.  
The sale was a resounding success!

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## **Please Consider Second Mile Givings!**

At Highland Hills we have a history of  
making an additional financial gift to the church  
during the Season of Advent.

This is known as Second Mile Givings.  
This financial contribution helps to offset our deficit.  
With December upon us,  
it is time to think about  
whether we have a little extra on hand  
to give to the ministry and life of this congregation.

This year we **budgeted for a deficit of \$26,471**  
and we find ourselves quite behind at this time..

**As of November 30**, our actual income is **\$213,000**  
while spending on church programmes,  
salaries and property maintenance totals **\$256,000**.  
This leaves us with a **deficit of \$43,000**  
**at this time.**

**How can we help, you ask?**

**Did you pledge an amount to give to the church in 2025?**

If you have not met your pledge for 2025, we ask that you consider using a Second Mile Giving to fulfill your pledge.

If you have met your pledged amount, thank you!

If you did not pledge this year, we are asking you to consider increasing this months donation to help us meet our commitments to the operation and ministry of Highland Hills.

In order to avoid handling currency and cheques as much as possible, please consider e-transfers.

The email for e-transfers is [office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca)

If you have any questions about ways to give our would like to set up Preauthorized remittances please contact

Jennifer at

[office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca)

or at

905-627-9251

**Thank you** for the thoughtful ways you give to Highland Hills.

The gifts of your time, talent and financial resources help H.H.F.C reach out and in to touch the lives of so many.

We are a busy place and could not do all that we do without you!

## WINTER WARMTH

For many years faithful knitters in our congregation have made hats and scarves for children and adults participating in Wesley's various programs.

This year Wesley has said they will not be collecting these items.

The Salvation Army, through the Dundas Food Bank, welcomes our gifts and will make them available to folks at Christmas and/or to those who use the food bank.

Our clotheslines will go up in the narthex in November and you are invited to fill them with **new** hats, scarves, mitts and gloves for





children and adults, handmade from machine washable/ dryable yarn, or purchased. This winter you may catch a glimpse of your gift on a stroll through Dundas or dashing through a playground!  
Thanks for caring!

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## **Our New Website**

**[www.highlandhillsfaith.community](http://www.highlandhillsfaith.community)**

is up and running. It is still under construction and many of its features will be added soon. Please visit it often. Your feedback and ideas are appreciated. Speak to Rev. Peg.

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## **United Church of Canada** **Mission & Service Stories** **Strengthening Communities**



During the 2025 federal budget announcement, Prime Minister Mark Carney delighted many by highlighting a Mission and Service



partner: [Bissell Centre in Edmonton](#). While Bissell Centre's roots go back more than a century, their mission today is urgent and forward-looking: reducing poverty, preventing homelessness, and creating a community where everyone belongs.

Click on the underlined for more info.

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### **Providing Relief in Afghanistan**

In Bamyan province, the highest and coldest region of Afghanistan, limited livelihood opportunities and the realities of the climate crisis have meant food insecurity for many.

PWS&D, with our local partner and support from Canadian Foodgrains Bank, is implementing a cash assistance project to support families to buy essential food items through the harsh winter.

[Learn more](#)

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### **St. Mark's Donations**

Please remember that you can e-transfer your donations to [office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@stmarksunitedchurch.ca) or contact Jennifer to set up PAR. Cheques can be made out to St. Mark's or Highland Hills.

### **Donations to Knox Presbyterian Church**

- By PAR (pre-authorized remittance)
- By e-transfer to [knoxpresbydundas@gmail.com](mailto:knoxpresbydundas@gmail.com)
- By mail: Knox Presbyterian Church, Attn: Rev. Ian McPhee, 1 Lynndale Dr, Dundas, ON L9H 3L4.