

Meadow Brook Calendar

- Nov 26 (Sun) - Baby Dedication
- Dec 3 (Sun) - 4pm Baptism
- Dec 3 (Sun) - 5:30 Family Christmas Banquet (tickets on sale till Sunday Nov 26)
- Dec 6 (Wed) – 9am-4pm – BAKING DAY
- Dec 24 (Sun) - 10am service and 6pm Christmas Eve Service (no childcare provided for either service)
- Dec 31 (Sun) - 10am Pancake Breakfast/service

Community Outreach



BAKING DAY - on Wednesday December 6th the baking crew is hosting a baking day

here at Meadow Brook Church. They will be baking to make up platters for seniors and for our community neighbours. They would love to have many of you join them in the kitchen that day. They will be baking from 9am to 4pm.

Essex County Community Bulletin Board

- The Bridge is hosting a soup fundraiser on Saturday December 9th and Sunday December 10th at The Bridge 11am to 2pm. Come enjoy some amazing soup! We have 14 varieties to pick from! By donation.
- **Dec 17 (Sunday)** – 7pm Heritage Park Alliance Church will be hosting Leland Klassen & Dan Macaulay for Christmas Unplugged – a Christmas Comedy and Music. Tickets for this event are available by visiting [buzzTIX](#) or call HPAC office



December 2017

MINISTRY MANAGEMENT TEAM

Water Baptism/Banquet! Please join us at 4pm on Sunday, December 3, where we have several candidates being baptized! This will be followed by the Christmas banquet!

Holiday Services! Please note that on Sunday, Dec 24, and Sunday, Dec 31, we will return to one Sunday morning service at 10am for these two services! The 31st will be a pancake breakfast/sharing time in the gym! There will be no childcare for any ages during these two services, but we will have activity packs to keep the kids busy! As well, please join us for our candlelight Christmas Eve service on Dec 24th at 6pm!

NEW & EVENTS

Each Christmas we send the missionaries that we sponsor a Christmas card and a small gift. Sunday Nov 26 & Dec 3 you will have the opportunity to sign these cards and make a small donation for the gift. There is a table in the foyer set up with the cards.

Our Christmas Eve Service is on December 24th at 6pm. There will be invitations available for handing out to friends and family for this service.

Meadow Brook Church offices will be closed the week of December 25. They will re-open January 2, 2018.

Meadow Brook collected approximately 3000 shoeboxes this year for Samaritan's Purse.

Our annual family Christmas Dinner is coming up on Sunday December 3.

Doors open at 5pm and dinner is at 5:30pm. This Sunday November 26 is the last day to buy tickets.

Meadow Brook Church
Family Christmas Dinner
Sunday Dec 3rd
Doors open at 5 pm
Dinner at 5:30pm



\$5.00/person
or
\$20/family
2 & under free
(however must
have a Kid's
ticket to reserve
a place at the
table)

MISSION FOCUS

Somdy and Chanh Jusse

Somdy is very thankful for having a praying church behind him. He does not take that for granted! While he is still in Canada until after Christmas, his heart is far away in Thailand.

The believers in the church he planted are under attack by the enemy and need our prayers to stay strong and true to the Lord.

Somdy also asks us to pray for finances for his family and future trips to Thailand.

He plans to return to Thailand on Jan. 15/18 for six weeks. This is essential for the spiritual health of the new believers.

Please also pray for his wife, Chanh, and their daughter, Sarah, while Somdy is away that the Lord will continue to bless them as a family.

MEADOW BROOK KIDS

MB Kids

MB Kids Club is wrapping up for the year on December 5th and will start back up on January 23rd.

For the month of November our MB Kids talked about Thankfulness and how we can show gratitude to others! Our memory verse was 1st Thessalonians 5:18 "No matter what happens, God wants you to thank Him because you believe in Christ Jesus." We focused on our bottom line: ALWAYS be grateful.

We look forward to December as we look at "generosity".

Every good and perfect gift comes from God. In fact, generosity is at the very core of God's character—He even gave us His own son, Jesus! Jesus showed unwavering generosity as He traded His life for ours. And, because God gave us Jesus and Jesus gave His life, we can be generous towards others. Not only that, but when we are generous towards others, we prove that we love God by loving the people He loves. We pray that this Christmas, as kids celebrate God's amazing generosity, they'll see how they can be generous with their family, friends, and neighbors.

We would like to encourage our church family to be praying for our kids.

MB Kids Sunday Morning: There will be no classes for the kids during the morning service, Sunday December 24 and Sunday December 31. Also the Nursery will not be staffed. Kids' activity packages will be available for both services.



The weather has certainly changed over the last couple of weeks, it just seems like yesterday I was wearing shorts, sandals, and a comfortable t-shirt, and enjoying the day, oh wait that was yesterday. In all the busyness of the fall season, I look up and we are one month away from Christmas! Mercy, when did that happen? It's going to be our 2nd Christmas as a family here in Ontario and we look forward to celebrating Jesus birth as a church, with family and friends.

As Christ followers it's a special time of the year to reflect and remember the birth of Jesus. His birth gives hope to all mankind, and his death redeemed each of us.

This time of year is not always easy for people and there are many folks around us that we may pass in the mall as we shop for gifts, see at work, the community we live in, and yes even at church that are not looking forward to this time of year for various reasons.

As we enter the season let's be prayerful and mindful that the joy of the season is something we should cherish and give away to other people. Let's be aware of people who may not have a lot to look forward to during the Christmas season.

So, what small things can we do that will show that Jesus is the reason for the season? Here are some simple and practical ways we can show the joy of the season. If you have other ideas then go for it. This list is to get each of us thinking.

- Pray for opportunities where you can help someone in a practical way.
- Invite someone to a church service.
- Invite someone to the Christmas banquet at Meadow Brook.
- Invite someone to the Christmas eve service.
- Tell someone why Christmas is important for you.
- Invite someone over to your home for a meal.
- Adopt a family over the holidays, buy them some gifts.
- Bake some goodies and give them to your neighbours.
- Finally don't be somebody else's 'no'. You never know how someone might respond to an invitation.

There are many ways we can be a witness for Jesus and we should be doing these kinds of things throughout the year, however there seems to be more openness from people during the holidays then most other times of the year.

I know when I was growing up in Vancouver, we did not celebrate Christmas as a family. I remember often feeling lonely and not so much into the season. The only tradition I had for years during JH/ SH school was going to 7-11 that was a few blocks away, picking up a sub or a burger, and then hanging out with some friends or by myself watching basketball or another sport on TV. (Don't shed too many tears for me. There were some good games during those years J).

One year I remember hanging out with a friend at his house. His family did not celebrate Christmas either. As we went through the day, we took a drive over to his girlfriend's house so he could drop off a gift for her. When she came out to get the gift, she brought with her two turkey sandwiches, one for my friend and the other one for me. I remember thinking 'what a thoughtful gesture!' She gave us a simple sandwich yet this modest white bread, mayo and turkey sandwich made a huge impact on me. Not just because it was better tasting then a burger from 7-11, that was a part of it. But the fact that she thought of us, and took the time to put the meal together, meant a lot and made my stomach and heart feel very good. I was not a Christ follower in high school and not sure if my friend's girlfriend was either. I had no context or knowledge, and honestly the thought of her being a Christian did not even enter my mind. It's been many years since this happened, however I remember it so clearly even to this day.

Sometimes we think that we need to do something over the top or spectacular when it comes to showing God's love, yet the simplest gesture can make a huge impact on the people we bless. The birth of Jesus and the gospel message is so simple, yet it is the most profound message that we will ever hear and experience.

As we celebrate this Christmas season, may it be full of peace, joy, and reflection upon the birth of Jesus for you and your family. Let's also consider expanding our reach, and ask the Holy Spirit to open our eyes and ears, so we can be led to be a blessing in the name of Jesus. We never know how much a simple gesture will impact someone's life in profound ways.

Merry Christmas

Pastor Mesh

Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

THE BRIDGE

The Bridge Update.

Things are moving ahead at the Bridge. It's very exciting to see it all come together! We are very close to officially being a registered charity! Please continue to pray for the charity status to come through!

Construction is almost complete. The kitchen will be operational within the next two weeks.

We are ready for volunteer recruitment and training. We are looking for volunteers for the following positions: Youth Drop in program mentors, Kitchen Coordinator, Kitchen staff, Nutrition Program Coordinator, Nutrition Program support staff, Security/support staff, Welcome area/reception, General Maintenance Coordinator, General Maintenance team, Fund raising and community events/outreach, Volunteer Coordinator & Recruitment, Road Runners (drivers, must have own vehicle).

Upcoming Events:

- Save the date; January 25th is the **Grand Opening** day! Come celebrate with us. More details to come
- We are hosting a soup fundraiser on Saturday December 9th and Sunday December 10th at The Bridge 11am to 2pm. Come enjoy some amazing soup! We have 14 varieties to pick from! By donation.
- The Bridge is the host agency for the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser. This event will be held February 24th at The Bride. More details coming soon.

