

# HASTINGS-ROSENEATH PASTORAL CHARGE

## "LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCHES"

Minister: Rev. Jamie York

January 7, 2017

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TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Hastings, Ontario

Worship: 9:15a.m.-10:15a.m.

Organist & Choir Director: Marcus Elia

Chairperson: Ruth Geddes

ROSENEATH UNITED CHURCH

Roseneath, Ontario

Worship: 11:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Organist & Choir Director:

Chairperson:

Visit our web site ~ <http://harpcharge.com>

### The Season of Epiphany

Twelve days after the birth of Jesus, the arrival of the Magi is purported to have taken place.

The Magi came bearing gifts for Jesus and then took the information about the birth, back to the East and its people.

Epiphany is an unveiling, or revelation to the Gentile people of this information and celebration.

Epiphany is the Christmas celebration for the Easter Orthodox church.

Some people give it the nickname, "Little Christmas". These people don't consider Christmas complete until the arrival of the Magi at Epiphany. Some people consider it back luck to take down Christmas decorations until after Epiphany.

Here is a thoughtful meditation on what Epiphany might mean in modern terms from Rev David Lander minister at the

Castleton Grafton Pastoral charge:

*How many of you expect an epiphany this morning? We come because our God came as an epiphany, to invite us to be open for an epiphany, and indeed to go forth as an epiphany, an "exhibit A" for God. Maybe this will be an epiphany for you.*

*You've likely heard the story of the break time at a private school where there was a sign on a bowl of apples: Don't eat the apples; God is watching. However, down at the other end of the table, there was a plate of chocolate chip cookies on which someone had placed another sign: Take all you want; God is watching the apples.*

*Maybe worship is a bit like that. We may feel caught between two views of religion: guilt or grace, fear or hope, law and order and behave yourself or I love you. May this be your epiphany: Take all you want. Dare to be enriched, to be fed. Be risk-taking to get close to God and one another—those on the left, those on the right, those in front and behind. Celebrate our community. Let's have an epiphany as we connect in worship.*

### "CARING AND SHARING"

*Our prayers are with those who are shut-in and sick, unable to join us in worship this morning.*

**Sunday Bulletins:** Anyone who would like to sponsor a week of bulletins to honour a special day, event or in memory of a loved one, please call the office. Cost is \$10.00. Please email or call the office with details.

**If you would like an announcement put in the "Caring and Sharing" please call or email the office by Wednesday to let the secretary know. Thanks!**

**Donation envelopes: If you have still have undated envelopes, please continue to use them in 2018. If you need more envelopes for 2018, please contact Bonnie or Jean.**

## **“MINUTE FOR MISSIONS”**

### **Displaced People**

Our gifts for Mission & Service support displaced people. The widespread displacement of people is a crisis around the world.

In 2014 the United Nations High Commission for Refugees reported 19.5 million refugees—those fleeing their homes across international borders—and 38.2 million internally displaced people—those who remain within their own country but cannot return to their homes. Throughout 2015, many more undocumented people were displaced as refugees or were internally displaced due to natural disasters, including here in Canada. More than half of refugees and displaced people are under the age of 18.

Through Mission & Service, the United Church and our partners are addressing the needs of displaced people in many ways:

- Mission & Service provides for the basic needs of displaced people. As the number grows globally the need for resources for housing, shelter, medical assistance, and education also increases.
- Through refugee sponsorship, congregations and community groups are working hard to provide the emotional, financial, and practical support refugees need to positively integrate into
- Canadian society. Mission & Service funds the refugee sponsorship program staff that assist congregations.
- Congregations respond to immediate needs of refugee claimants entering Canada. Mission & Service funds the national program staff that provide advice and guidance to congregations.
- Mission & Service funds the United Church’s participation in the Canadian Council for Refugees so that we can advocate with the Canadian government on refugee-related issues.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

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### **Next week’s information:**

**January 14, 2018 2nd Sunday after**

**Epiphany**

**Scripture:**

**1st Samuel 3:1-10 (Reader)**

**John 1:43-51 (Minister)**

**Hymns:**

**VU#509 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky**

**VU#649 Walk with me**

**VU#567 Will you come and follow me**

**VU#510 We have this ministry**