

## Sunday Morning December 9th - The Code of the Elves:

There's a lot to do at this time of year ... gifts to arrange, decorations to put up, concerts to attend, people to visit, food to prepare, not to mention for many students there are exams to write! There's a lot to do before Christmas Eve or Christmas Day! This is a season for making lists and for checking them twice! There's one list that no one ever wants to be on - especially at this time of year because we know Santa checks it regularly (twice even) and that's the Naughty List. Have you ever been told that unless you shape up in one way or another you're going to be on the "Naughty List?" Maybe you didn't even get the option of shaping up - you just got the express ticket to the list - like a VIP but not in a good way. Maybe you made a colossal mistake and failed miserably at something - leaving you feeling like a "Cotton Headed Ninny Muggins"? This Sunday morning we'll follow Buddy the Elf's adventure thru the 7 levels of the Candy Cane Forest, thru the Sea of Swirly Twirly Gum Drops and thru the Lincoln Tunnel as he heads to NY City as he discovers his own father is on the Naughty List. Buddy point us to the deeper meaning behind Christmas that because of who God is and what He's done - no matter what label we have or list we're on - "There's Room for Everyone on the Nice List!"

## Church Calendar

December 11: Women's Connect + Grow Christmas Potluck

December 12 @ 9am; Moving with music

December 18 @ 7pm: KCA Christmas concert

December 22: J-Walkers Youth Nite - 6:30pm

December 24 Christmas Eve Gathering @ 7pm



## Prayer & Praise

Praise the Lord:

> Good news regarding Bryson (friend of the Gerber family) who is recovering from complications during surgery. He's looking great and feeling much better, continuing with physical therapy 3 times a week. Please continue praying specifically for Bryson as doctors are trying to diagnose what is wrong with his heart which is a very high 120 bpm even while resting. As a result he has to rest a lot and can't walk for more than 15 minutes at a time.

> Over 700 people from our community who gathered last Sunday afternoon for the Egan's Community Candlelight Memorial to hear good news and support one another on the grief journey.

> For a great opportunity to connect and celebrate our community with the KELC + KCA float in last Saturday's Bolton Santa Claus Parade

#### Please pray for:

> Reta Campbell as she has arrived in Jamaica and prepares to connect churches together to minister to the community. Pray for unity of spirit and purpose.

 Neighbours who we can engage with intentionally as Christmas approaches - looking for ways to express the love and good news of Jesus!
 Mark Webb as he underwent heart tests on Thursday and will await results for the cause to an irregular heart beat he's been experiencing the last few weeks.

> Heather Campbell as she is coming to the end of her chemotherapy treatments. > For Isaiah Augusto, the child of Sandra & Chris Augusto, he is in Sick Kids hospital with complications with his heart, which is being caused by a cold.
> Marisa Parise will be head-ing to Asia on Mission in Laos Asia in March to assist in "freeing the children mis-sion". Please pray for her as she prepares.

If you are aware of items for praise or needs we as a community can join in prayer together - please let Melanie in the church office know or email

melanie@nashvilleroad.ca

# A people who.....



### <u>Share:</u>

In Acts 4 we read that the followers of Jesus - Christians were "one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had" and that "God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them." (vs 32, 33) That's what happens when God's grace is at work - His love is lived out and needs are met - it's Family the way God intended it - and it's also awesome! On **December 16th** during our Sunday morning gathering we're going to be intentional about sharing as we receive a special offering towards our Benevolent Fund that will help us meet some needs within the NRCC body that are heightened at this time of year. Please pray and prepare to give as God leads you.

# Upcoming events



we need your help! Bring new, waterproof mittens

Bring new, waterproof mittens to our December event, so that we can bless some children at Lesley's school!



Having completed our video study on 'Living Life To-gether' by Shauna Niequist, we will join together at Gail's home for our Christmas Potluck Dinner on December 11th at 6:30pm. Regular meetings will re-sume in the church building chapel following holidays on January 8th at 7pm



We're collecting new waterproof mittens to bless needy children at Madoc Drive Public School in Brampton where Lesley Kennedy serves as the Principal. Over 70% of the families connected to the school live in poverty. Many struggle to give their children some of the needed clothing for cold winter weather. Since we're aware of the need - we're going to do what we can to help! If you can provide new or slightly used winter gloves please bring them to the Nashville Road church building anytime on or before Sunday December 16th and we'll make sure they get onto the right hands!!



Regeneration Outreach is a ministry in Brampton that continually strives to provide dignity for those in need, as an expression of Christian love in action. They serve those living in extreme poverty and homelessness by meeting their physical and spiritual needs. One of our Nashville Road family - Dan Gibson, serves there as Chaplain. We can also stack hands and help extend God's kingdom in tangible ways by providing new and gently used clothing. Presently they are in big time need of - men's pants, t-shirts, shoes, belts and hats. Also any sort of jackets, back packs or bags are always very helpful. New socks and underwear are always in need. If you bring these items to the church building we'll be happy to pass them along to Dan for Regeneration. Please check out the Regeneration website for all the info on this great ministry!



Our church's bible study library is digital and GIGAN-TIC and offered as a FREE GIFT to you! It's called RightNow Media and with it you can instantly stream great biblical teaching to your TV, computer, tablet or smartphone! Enjoy great resources for everyone from kids to young adult and beyond from over 350 leading Christian publishers and ministries! Nashville Road is excited to provide this awesome tool as a free gift! It doesn't cost you anything! **CLICK HERE** and to head to the NRCC website where you can read about all the great resources and then sign up for free - no strings attached!

### Family Happenings

Marisa Parise will be heading to Asia on Mission in Laos Asia in March to assist in "freeing the children mission". Please pray for her as she prepares. Marisa is collecting the following to fill 1 large suitcase to take with her to give away: > tooth brushes & toothpaste > a selection of Tylenol, both regular & extra strength > Aspirin, Aleve, Gravol, Immodium, Advil, > as well as cold versions of Tylenol and Advil (sealed bottles please)

Please speak to Marisa to hear more about what she's going to be doing and ways you can pray for her and add support and encourage to her while she's away.



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son …" To say that Jesus is the reason for the season sounds right but it actually misses a significant point - Mankind is the reason Jesus came. God loved the world so much that He gave at great cost to those who mattered most! As people of Jesus - we get to live out that same love each day in practical ways. This is a season where perhaps we become more aware of the ongoing needs of many in our community and the many organizations that provide resources to those in need and that is a good thing. As a people who are living out the love of God - we are servants and are part of this community to make it better than it could be without the body of Christ in its midst. As you consider different options for enacting your serve please consider how you can support the needs that **Caledon Meals on Wheels** and **The Caledon Community Services Santa Fund** help to meet:

From November 15 –December 31 2018, the Stafford's at both Bolton Tim Hortons locations are once again launching their Match our Meals campaign in support of Caledon Meals on Wheels. Funds cover the cost of hot or frozen meal delivery throughout the year for those who cannot afford it themselves. For every dollar donated, Tim Hortons will match it, up to \$7,500.

*"It is hard to imagine that there are individuals in our community who are unable to afford a nutritious meal, but they exist and I think we have a responsibility to help where we can." - Liz Stafford* 

If you are interested in supporting this campaign please contact the Caledon Meals on Wheels office directly at (905) 857-7651 and state that you are interested in the Match Our Meals campaign. Every dollar donated is matched by Tim Hortons' Bolton. Then share this message with a friend....and be the spark that lights another's life!



There are 213 individuals and families and 199 children in Caledon that live below the poverty line who need your support. They don't know if they will have heat or food, let alone dinner and gifts on Christmas morning. "We sometimes have to choose between paying the rent and paying the heating bill" says one CCS client.

For 36 years, beginning in 1982 the Santa Fund has assisted families and children in Caledon to have a joyful holiday season and make the dreary months ahead brighter. Over the years, thousands of Caledon families have turned to CCS for support that would not have been possible without YOU.

As always, CCS' Santa Fund will distribute donations of food and new toys this holiday season. Even more importantly, CCS will provide things like home heating, medical prescriptions, emergency expenses and counseling to 213+ Caledon families, including over 199 children. There are 1,300 low income families in Caledon according to Peel Data Centre, this means there are almost 1,100 families in need that can benefit from your help!

You can <u>donate online</u>, visit our new Santa Fund Workshop located at The Exchange at 55 Healey Road, Bolton or contact Santa's Helpers at (905) 584-2300 ext 236, they'll be pleased to help you!



