

ROSS ROAD

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Helping People Find and Follow Jesus

December 18, 2016

**“Anticipation”
Isaiah 9:6-7**

Art Birch

Our Vision...

We envision a Spirit-led church of bold Christ followers, who are experiencing a new freedom in His love and are intentionally leading their friends, neighbours and world to Him.

WELCOME

We are so glad you said 'yes' to God's invitation to be with us today! We'd like to get to know you better! Please take time to fill out one of our **Connect Cards** found in the pews and drop it in the offering bag. *Thank you!*

the week

sunday. december. 18

- 8:30 am Prayer Time @ Prayer Room
8:40 am RRCC serves at Tabor Ministries
10:00-11:15 am First service
Hallelujah Chorus practice afterwards
11:15-11:45 am Coffee and snacks
@ Common Grounds
6:30 pm "A Christmas Carol" Advent devotional
@ Prayer Room
7:00-10:00 pm Young Adults @ Fireside Room

tuesday. december. 20

- 7:00 pm "A Christmas Carol"

saturday. december. 24

- 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service

coming up

sunday. december. 25

- Christmas Day brunch and worship @ 10:00 am

monday-tuesday. december. 26-27

- Church office is closed

friday. december. 30

- Last day the church office is open for 2016 donations

sunday, january. 01

- One worship service @ 10:00 am

monday, january. 02

- Church office is closed

saturday, january. 07

- Mens Drop In Hockey @ ARC

CHURCH NEWS & UPDATES



Service Cancellation Protocol: If we need to cancel a service due to bad weather, an announcement will be placed on the church answering machine, the website, and posted on Facebook and Twitter. If you're in doubt, please check one of these sources before venturing out!



Movie Night: As part of the Advent Reading series based on "A Christmas Carol" which has been taking place as part of Advent, there will be a showing of the classic movie "A Christmas Carol" on Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Be sure to join us!



Firewood Wanted: Shirley Moerike is looking for free firewood in order to heat her home. Due to Shirley's health, the wood needs to be in relatively small pieces for ease in carrying. If you have any firewood you would be able to donate, please contact the church office.



Thank You! Due to the weather last Sunday we had several folks who weren't able to get here. Thank you so much to those of you who helped pitch in and fill the gaps where needed last Sunday - ushering, helping in Sunday School classes, Common Grounds etc. We so appreciated it!



Reminder: Those who would like to rehearse the Hallelujah Chorus today in preparation for the Christmas Eve service please meet Vic in the Fireside Room directly after the service.

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for your faithful giving throughout 2016! The Giving Goal towards the operations budget for December 2016: **\$125,000**. This is about twice the monthly amount we have been giving throughout the year. It is similar to the usual increased giving we celebrate each December ...an attainable goal!

This increased need for December is a combination of:

- normal December expenses
- planned \$26,000 to meet our Seminary, BC & Canadian Conference commitments
- past giving being less than budgeted for, but offset by spending decreases
- desire to increase our cash reserve if we exceed the goal

Please be in prayer about how the Holy Spirit is leading you to participate.

Total Dec. Income Target	Actual Received	Remaining Target to Meet Total	Last Week's Attendance
\$125,000.00	\$31,785.00	\$93,215.000	

MEN'S MINISTRY

**DROP IN ICE HOCKEY -
saturday. january. 07
10:30-11:30 pm @ ARC,
\$10**

For more information or to book your spot call/text Will Wall.



LEAD

LEAD is off to a great start but we'd love to have you join us

anytime. If you have a desire to grow spiritually, or are willing to invest in mentoring others (in itself a great way to grow), please send an email to lead@rossroadcc.ca -- or you can chat with Karen Stobbe or Clive Russell to get more info.

YOUTH

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Hey Everyone!

This past week concluded our youth nights until after the Christmas break! So keep watch for information about exciting events that we have coming up in the New Year, such as our SKI/SNOWBOARD trip on January 14th! This is for Middle School and High School, and if your families are big skiers or snowboarders they are welcome to join us! Merry Christmas everyone!

YOUNG ADULTS

MEETING TONIGHT- @ 7:00-10:00 pm

Tonight we're having a get together in the Fireside Room. Looking forward to seeing you there!

“Anticipation”

Isaiah 9:6-7

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During Advent, we relive the world’s anticipation of the only Person who can meet our every need!

Wonderful Counsellor

Mighty God

Everlasting Father

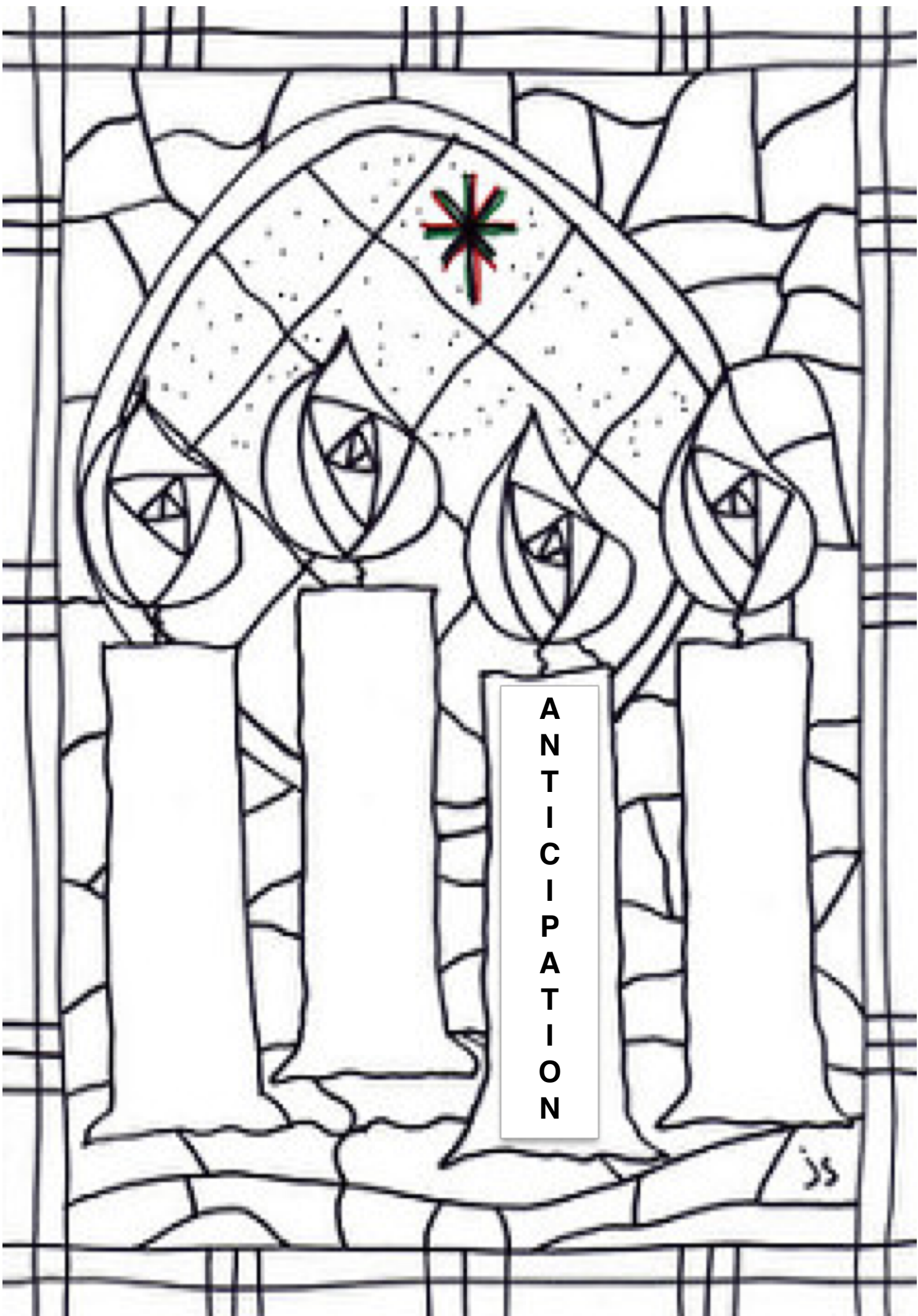
Prince of Peace

For Personal Reflection and Discussion with Friends and Family:

Which of these pictures of the only Person who can meet our every need is most meaningful to you at this moment in time? Why? What needs are you entrusting to Him today? If you haven’t done so, put them in His hands right now.

In Preparation for Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning:

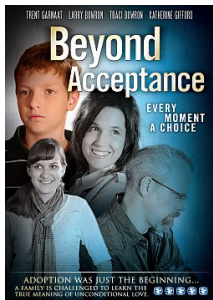
The key word for Christmas Eve is “Proclamation.” Picture the angels’ proclamation that first Christmas night (Luke 2:9-14). Now picture yourself as proclaiming to others as the shepherds must have done (Luke 2:20). The key word for Christmas morning is “Immanuel” (God with us). Picture yourself as Isaiah or King Ahaz puzzling over what this prophecy could possibly mean (Isaiah 7:1-17). How would they have understood it? Or try this simpler assignment: what did the fulfillment in Jesus of this prophecy mean to Matthew (Matthew 1:22-23)? Do you think Joseph put Isaiah 7:14 together with what angels told Mary and him (Matthew 1:20-21; Luke 1:30-37)?



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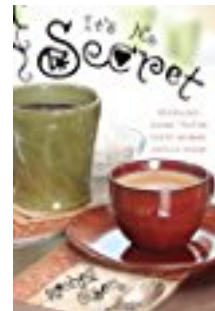
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FEATURED LIBRARY BOOKS/DVDs



First time foster parents Aaron and Stacy Border struggle to trust in God's plan after they welcome an emotionally damaged child into their stable home in the DVD movie - *Beyond Acceptance*. Abandoned at birth and shuffled through foster homes, 10-year-old Evans presents a challenge for which the couple are not prepared. *Beyond Acceptance* is a powerful testament to the obstacles we can overcome when we put our faith in God.

Whether just starting out in their walk with Christ, or a seasoned Christian, every woman wonders how she can lead a life of greater spiritual intimacy, fulfillment and growth. Rachel Olsen opens the Scriptures to show that *Its No Secret*. With lighthearted writing on topics women care about, plus deep study questions, this enjoyable read makes a heart-level impact.



Empower your kids to respond well to the hard questions that threaten their faith. Its no secret that children of all ages are exposed to negative criticism of Christianity as they spend time at school, with friends, or online. Are you prepared to talk with your kids about how they can effectively answer the tough questions that come their way? In *Keeping Your Kids on God's Side*, Natasha Crain discusses 40 of the most common challenges kids face along with clear, easy-to-understand responses you can discuss together .

OUR RRCC MISSIONARIES

Don't forget to check the Missionary bulletin board for the latest update letters from our missionaries!

Paul & Edna Cairns – in Chilliwack with Transport for Christ

Otto & Marjorie Ekk – in Portugal with MB Mission

Janice Esau – in the Dominican with Multi-Nation Missions Foundation

Cynthia Friesen – in Thailand with MB Mission

Rob & Judy Griffioen – in Abbotsford with Good News International Ministries

H & E – in Central Asia with MB Mission

S & B – in Central Asia with MB Mission

Lauren Neudorf – in Cambodia with Youth With A Mission

Dwayne & Helen Rainwater – in Africa with Pioneer Bible Translators

Beth Scholes – in Abbotsford with FamilyLife

Jason & Stephanie Shellborn (Madison, Hudson, London & Brooklyn) – in Abbotsford with Discipleship International

Al & Karen Stobbe (Karissa & Natasha) – in Abbotsford with MB Mission

Rachael Wiebe – in Winnipeg with MB Mission

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Lauren Neudorf – in Cambodia with Youth With A Mission

Hello my Ross Road Church family!

I am delighted to be home and to share with you, in person, all that the Lord is doing in Poipet, Cambodia. In this time of rest and preparation I would appreciate prayer for the following things.

My team and I have debriefed at our home YWAM base in Kona for a few days and we are all travelling home for the holidays. Please be in prayer that we would receive rest as we will be continuing ministry in some capacity at the beginning of the new year.

I ask you to be interceding for the finances of the Poipet base, as we are in the midst of fundraising for our first van, which is \$2,500. This will be very beneficial for hosting teams in the coming years! Lastly, the Lord has put in my heart to lead a long term team to the city of Poipet. Please be praying for these future team members and the Lord's calling on their life; for blessing to be on this team.



PRAYER & PRAISE

Debbie Bracewell

Gerd Loewen.

Walt Letkeman

The Christmas season can be a particularly difficult time of year for our brothers and sisters who are dealing with ongoing struggles in their lives - whether it be illness, spiritual battles, the loss of a loved one, or financial difficulties. Remember to lift these dear people in prayer, that God provide them with comfort, patience, endurance and strength in their daily lives and that they will find solace and joy in the message of Christmas.

PRAYER REQUEST



S&B - Restricted

We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized - Hebrews 6:11

PASTORAL TEAM:

Art Birch - Lead Pastor

Curtis Congo - Interim Adult Ministry

Dave Rodda - Worship Ministry

Elaine Regier - Kids Ministry Coordinator

Holly McLean - Student Ministry Intern

Nick Parker - Student Ministry Intern

Darren Petker - Adult Ministry (On leave)

Merri Ellen Giesbrecht - Kids Ministry (On leave)

ELDER TEAM:

Barry Jackson, Moderator

Len Loewen

Vic Martens

Bob Regier

Dale Regier

Al Stobbe

PRAYER CHAIN: Doreen Froese



Find RRCC on:



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