

## BE THANKFUL

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy.

That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." "I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day, but I cannot see it."

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so lucky that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear.

The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling. And even more beautiful, is knowing that you are the reason

## Annual Operation Come Home Project *Make this your opportunity to help!*

Zip lock bags to fill are available now and can be picked up at the back of the Sanctuary until the end of November..

These must be returned no later than Dec 5th as our children will be presenting them to a Representative from Operation Come Home in early December

Each donation should include a pair of work socks, mittens, toothbrush, tube of toothpaste, package of throat lozenges, small package of Kleenex, and a package of lifesavers. Almost everything can be bought at the Dollar Store

Kind words are short to speak,  
but their echoes are endless

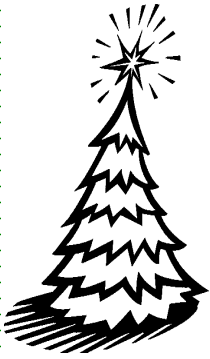


Don't forget to see a member of the Senior Youth Group to get your Loblaw's prepaid/gift cards during coffee time. The cards can be redeemed at **Loblaw's, Your Independent, Loblaw's Superstore and Value mart.**

The cards come in denominations of \$10.00; \$25.00; \$50.00 and \$100.00 and the youth group will gain 4% on the amounts sold.

You can not only use these cards yourself but they can also be used as gifts. The young people are enthusiastic about supporting the Church. Just think, for every \$100 the church will get \$4.00 at no cost to anyone.

## PLEASE HELP DECORATE OUR CHRISTMAS TREE



Once again, our Christmas tree will be decorated by you, the Congregation.

If you wish to have the names of a friend or loved one on our Christmas tree, please fill out the envelope that is provided in the bulletin and place it on the collection plate. It can be in memory of someone that is no longer with you or, in honour of someone living.

An ornament with the person's name attached to it, will be hung on the tree. It is suggested that for each name, you pay a minimum of \$5.00. All of the money will go to the general funds of St. Andrew's.

The Christmas Eve bulletin will include a list of the names that are on our Christmas tree.

Trouble will drive you to prayer,  
but prayer will drive away the trouble.

### St. Andrews "Community" Handbell Choir

Bells ring in church steeple and bells ring to create music. Robert Dueck is forming a new church/community handbell choir. Rehearsals will be on Thursday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at the Stittsville Pres. Church. Should you be interested, and have a basic understanding of music notation/theory, please contact Robert at (613) 836-1824 or email dueckrobt@gmail.com

As in previous years, St. Andrew's has been asked by the Stittsville Food Bank to commit to supplying Voortman Cookies for the Christmas Hampers. This year's goal is 90-100 packages for those less fortunate. We have been asked to have them here by December 19th.



## DECEMBER 12 - SAVE THE DATE!!!!

The annual Christmas pageant will be held during the church service after which we will be treated to a delicious turkey dinner prepared and served by our senior youth group.

(There will be a free will offering)

During this time and following will be a Mini Bazaar/Bake Sale. All donations of baked goodies, preserves and other bazaar type things would be gratefully received.

The Senior youth are asked to meet at the church on Saturday, December 11 from 9 am till noon to prepare and set up for Sunday.



### CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN BOARD

A Christmas Concert presented by St. Giles Presbyterian Church and the pipes and Drums of the Cameron Highlanders - Wednesday, **December 8** at 7:30 pm.

Christmas Tea & Bake Sale, jewelry table, silent auction and more, Parkwood Church, **December 4, 1-4 pm**

Goulbourn Jubilee Singers, Christmas – Two by two. **December 4**, Stittsville United Church at **1:30 and 7:30**.  
(Tickets from Jean Wong in the Choir)