



January 18, 2012

Dear Parents.

On Christmas Eve, we hosted the Westboro community to a marvellous celebration of Jesus' birth amid sparkling eyes, excited babies, fond grandparents, and delightful children of all ages. It was a great opportunity to show hospitality to folks who wished to mark this sometimes commercial holiday in a 'religious' way.

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## THE FAMILY TREE

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 All Saints' Ministry with  
Parents and Children

Fortunately, we at All Saints can offer meaningful experiences to our families, not just at Christmas, but all through the year. What follows are some of the highlights for the winter term.

### JANUARY 22 : ALL AGES

Don't come to church this day (at 9:30!) Come, instead, at 10:30 to join with our friends from First United in our annual Partnership Service. Children's activities will be built around the concept that we are all part of one body, each with an important role to play (1 Corinthians 12:27). Kids from kindergarten to high school will participate in activities highlighting heads, hearts, hands, and feet and will return to the service to show us what they've learned. This service is followed by a delicious pot luck lunch.

### FEBRUARY 5 : GRADES 6-12

Our Rite 13 and Senior Youth groups are hosting a basketball night for youth from churches in our area. Beginning at 5 o'clock, Aaron Leech will organize games and skills practices for all age groups with an optional activity for those who wish. Chili supper follows at 6:15, and youth led worship closes the evening 7 - 8 p.m. Registration is required, but there is no fee. Kids should contact Steve or Barb.

### FEBRUARY 4 - 26 : GRADES 1,2

February is 'Celebrating our Gifts Month' for this age group. Blanche Dunn has lined up a different craft for each Sunday. On February 26, the children will conduct a craft sale of the resulting items during the coffee hour. They will have been learning about the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund and will donate the proceeds from this sale to that fund.

### MARCH 4 - 25: SERVERS, AGES 11 AND OLDER

Each Sunday in March, kids aged 11 and older will enjoy 'Breakfast with Barb' in room 5/6 at 9 a.m. This will be followed by servers' training, both refresher and introduction for new servers. The main activity during the month, however, will be the creation and production of a play called *The Table*.

This play will look at the role of table hospitality in the Judeo-Christian faith. We will learn about the first Passover meal, the Last Supper, and the breaking of bread on

the road to Emmaus. The play which will result will be performed on March 25. At that time, probationary servers will receive their red ribbon crosses and new servers will be inducted.

#### APRIL 5,6: TEENS, GRADES 6-12

From Thursday, April 5 at 7 o'clock to Good Friday at 1 p.m., our youth will be on a Holy Week Mini Retreat, staying overnight in the church. Through a wide variety of activities including cooking their own meals and designing their own worship, our youth will give some thought to the significance of the events of Holy Week and Easter. Bring a sleeping bag, a towel, and ten dollars to help with food.

#### APRIL 6: AGES VERY YOUNG TO 10

The Children's Good Friday Way of the Cross has become a Westboro tradition. Beginning at 10:30 in the narthex (entrance off Richmond Road), the children will walk through the events of Holy Week with a little drama, art, music, and story telling. This event ends with a light lunch for the families in Steacy Hall. Come along and bring friends.

#### BAPTISM

If you are considering baptism for your child or yourself, get in touch with Father Chris or Barb. Our planned upcoming baptism dates are: April 7 (Easter Eve); May 17 (Pentecost); September 16; November 4 (All Saints). We hold three preparation classes prior to each baptism.

Below are some of the charming fish which now hang in the Nursery Nook. Each baptism candidate has his or her own specially designed objet d'art!

