



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

-Nelson Mandela

This Advent season we will reflect on this quote and the place of education in empowering our children.

Advent 3- "I Am A Witness"

From First Nations Caring Societies website: <https://fncaringsociety.com/i-am-witness>

"School should be a time for dreams. Every kid deserves this."

- Shannen Koostachin

Shannen Koostachin, a youth education advocate from of the Attawapiskat First Nation in Ontario, had a dream: safe and comfy schools and culturally based education for First Nations children and youth.

Many First Nations schools receive less funding per student than provincial and territorial schools, and zero dollars for things like libraries, computers, languages or extracurricular activities. Many also do not provide a safe and appropriate learning environment, and may pose serious health concerns, including mold contamination, high carbon dioxide levels, rodent infestations, sewage, and inadequate or lack of heating.

Shannen worked tirelessly to try to convince the federal government to give First Nations children a proper education. Unfortunately, she passed away in a car accident at the age of 15 before her dream could come true. But it did. On June 22, 2012—the day Shannen would have graduated—construction started for a new school in Attawapiskat. The [new school opened in August 2014](#) (CBC).

Shannen remains an important role model for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and young people who continue to carry her dream for safe and comfy schools for all First Nations children in Canada.

Education is the second priority area of the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action](#), released in June 2015. In the report, the TRC calls on Canada to provide culturally based education for First Nations children, and to educate all Canadians about Aboriginal peoples to prepare them for the important work of reconciliation. This aligns with the Caring Society's work on Shannen's Dream, and [our engagement of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children](#) to end inequalities across all areas of First Nations children's experience.

Go to <https://fncaringsociety.com/shannens-dream> to find out ways that you can support these children.



This Week at Inca



Carols and Lessons

Sunday, December 24 at 10am

Christmas carols and seasonal readings, with special music performances by the Incarnation Festival Choir and Strings

Christmas Eve Services

4:30pm – Family friendly

7:00pm – Holy Communion with carols and candles

10:30pm – Holy Communion with carols and candles

New Year's Eve Day, December 31

8:30am Holy Communion, spoken service

10:00am Holy Communion, choral service



Parking for Dickens' A Christmas Carol Reading.



If you are coming to Sunday's performance, we ask you to consider carpooling and parking at Abbey Lane School, or one of the side street. As a gesture of hospitality, we ask you leave the spots in our parking lot to guests who may be visiting us for the first time. Many thanks!



Call for baked goods: during the event we'll be serving Christmas cookies and squares. If you can, while doing your Christmas baking, please donate an extra batch and bring to the church on Saturday, December 16 from 2-4, or after worship on December 17.



Help Decorate the Blue Spruce

Our blue spruce tree located outside the church on the parking lot side, is transformed in December with lights and decorations into our memory tree. If you'd like, please add a decoration in memory of a loved one to our tree. Leslie Hickey will remove the decorations after Christmas and save them for the following year.



Holiday Food Drive

For the next few weeks, we'll be holding a food drive to support local food banks. They will gratefully accept your donations of non-perishable foods and necessities. Here is a sample of some of the items they like to receive:

Powdered Laundry Soap ♦ Instant Coffee ♦ Cereal(Hot/Cold) ♦ Pancake Mix/Syrup
Cookies/Crackers ♦ Cake Mixes/Icing ♦ Side Dishes (Rice, Pasta, Potato) ♦ Dry Soup

Diapers Size #4, #5 and #6



Christmas Flowers

This is the last week to make a Christmas flower donation. Please look for the Christmas flowers envelopes at the greeter's table. The money donated will go towards purchasing flowers for our Christmas services.

Loved ones will be remembered at these services.

COUNTERS: to ensure proper recording of the names, please make sure to leave a copy of the envelope on Margot's desk



Contemplative Fire – Returns in January

Contemplative Fire is space and time to reflect, meditate, review, and recharge your emotional, spiritual and physical life. We provide a short time of hospitality starting at 8pm then we gather together as a contemplative and intentional community. We seek to enable reflection and meditation for all, from the novice to the experienced person.



Incarnation Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays at 7:15

If you are interested in sharing your voice, please join us at one of our Wednesday rehearsals, or speak to Charlene after a 10:00 service.

Monday, December 18 - Incarnation Choir is CAROLLING at Oakville Trafalgar Hospital from 11:30 AM to 2 PM. Pre-carolling rehearsal will take place in the Incarnation Sanctuary at 10:30 AM before heading over to the hospital.



Wing and a Prayer – Returns January 25

We meet at 6:30pm at Monaghan's. Cost: \$25 per person including food and drink. RSVP Winkie Macdougall. Everyone is welcome!

Community News



PWRDF World of Gifts Guide

This Christmas make a world of difference with The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's (PWRDF) World of Gifts! You can support the many wonderful and impactful PWRDF development and relief programs by making a gift.

There are three easy ways to order:

- 1) Use the order form in the World of Gifts guide found in a recent Anglican Journal issue.
- 2) Order from PWRDF's secure site any time by [clicking here](#).
- 3) Browse the [online guide](#) and then call PWRDF during business hours at 1-866-308-7973



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Every year between January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship.

The theme for the 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes to us from the Caribbean region. The ecumenical team chose the song of Moses and Miriam (Ex 15:1-21) – a song of triumph over oppression – as the motif of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

[Download your Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2018 materials today.](#)

This & That



Looking to Volunteer?

We have lots of way you can get involved. Positions include: altar prep, greeters, readers, hosts and coffee preparation. **Youth** can gain some volunteer high school hours. Training will be provided. Contact Julia Lockhart if you are interested in helping out. Don't forget to mark changes to the schedule on the master copy in the office.



Milk Bag Collection

We're still collecting Milk bags for the kids at Ellengale Public School



Our recycling efforts! New procedures

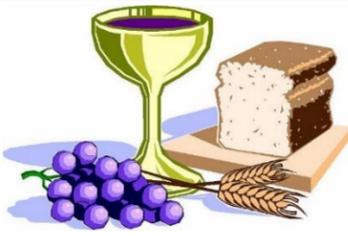
Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers who prepare the coffee and help with the set-up and clean-up of our premises. The daycare has been testing a new green bin routine with much success. We have almost completely eliminated critter attacks!

- **Start a new SMALL green bin for each service or event. Before leaving, tie off the bag and move the SMALL green bin waste to the shed and deposit into the LARGE green bin. This will eliminate any critter attacks. No green bins are to be left in the kitchen or out the back door after each event. If you don't know where the key to the shed is located, please ask a Warden or office staff.**
- Green bin liners are located in one of the 3 stacked multi-coloured baskets in the kitchen on the counter by the small sink
- All recycling must be emptied after each coffee hour or event. The large blue recycling bins are located at the back door. Please dump all recycling into the larger bins before leaving the church.

JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

Changes to Order of Service or Bulletin News - Any changes need to be sent to the office by Tuesday, noon. office@incarnationchurch.ca

Nametags let people know who you are and make it helpful for people to put names to faces, especially for newcomers



Receiving Communion

All people at Incarnation are invited to receive the bread and wine at communion. The bread is received from the priest who stands between the servers who offer wine from the common cup; choose whatever side is free. You may choose to receive from an individual wine cups available to the left of the altar. Take one, consume the wine and replace the empty cup in the same spot. We hope this provides an inclusive approach to communion where all are welcome.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	December 17	December 24 services
Bread Making	J. Vanderwater	
Altar Prep	A. Moniuk	
Coffee	Stevens	
Coffee	L. MacLauchlan	LOOK FOR
Host	W. Macdougall	SIGN-UP
Reader 1	J. Smith	SHEETS
Gospel	L. Bennett	OR SEE
Prayers	J. Grieve	JULIA LOCKHART
Server 1	P. Moffat	
Server 2	J. Stevens	
Wine Cups	C. Boulert	
Counting	M. Morrison.	

Please Note: Thanks to all of you who update the master copy in the office – very helpful for me!