

In conjunction with our most recent series "Shift", I received an email from a man in our Riverside Body, that really impacted me; I thought it very accurately described the sensation that many of us feel at the potentially daunting thought of the arrival of the Christmas season.

Here's what he wrote: "A few weeks ago someone mentioned 'Oh, it's almost Christmas,' and I pretty much inwardly rolled my eyes to massage the incoming headache that stems from the stress of buying the right presents (budget wise, shipping times, crowded shopping malls, etc.). I felt awful afterwards, knowing that was my first thoughts when someone mentioned Christmas."

That's precisely why I believe the Lord has led us to this moment of contemplation just before Christmas arrives! He's giving us an opportunity to "reclaim" something that may have been inadvertently lost along the way, with regards to this most "wonderful time of the year".

That's our hope and prayer for this Advent season; to actually "shift" something - our treasure, our thinking, our actions, our focus - to more accurately reflect our beliefs and faith.

Perhaps that "shift" could simply be making church attendance a priority, with the idea of re-discovering the truth and wonder of the greatest story ever told.

So please join us (feel free to bring a friend or neighbour!) as together we endeavour to make this year's celebrations memorable; not just because of the trimmings or the outward, visible expressions, but because we found a pathway back to what really matters.

"I bring you Good News that will bring great joy to all the people. The Saviour - yes, the Messiah, the Lord - has been born today in the city of David."

~ Pastor Terry

## Service times

Sundays at 10am - in person & online

# Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm Closed for lunch 12 - 1pm

## **Lead Pastors**

Terry & Ingrid Janzen terryj@rside.ca ingridj@rside.ca

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## **FOR EVERYONE**

#### **Sunday Worship Services**

We meet together every Sunday at 10am. We also offer a livestream service at 10am at rside.online. You can view past sermons and get sermon notes at rside.ca/sermons.

## Prayer & Worship

Join us each Wednesday at 7pm. Further details at rside.ca/prayerandworship.

#### **Baptism**

If you would like to be baptized, please complete the application form at rside.ca/baptism.

#### Membership

If you would like to become a member of Riverside Community Church, please complete the application form at rside.ca/membership and turn it in to the office.

## 2023 Interim Giving Statements

We will be emailing the 2023 interim giving statements in the beginning of December. Please update your email address by emailing admin@rside.ca. If you would like a paper copy, please request one at the Connect Desk or call the church office.

#### Give Christmas

We are once again offering our Give Christmas program. Please donate at rside.ca/give and email debbieb@rside.ca if you can volunteer your time to help out with shopping, packing and/or deliveries.

#### Nicola Lodge Service

Sunday, December 3, 2pm. Contact Tina if you would like to participate in this senior's service - tgoetz518@gmail.com.

#### **Vespers**

Sunday, December 10, 8pm. Piano carols by candlelight, played by Pastor Ingrid.

#### Blue Christmas

Thursday, December 19, 7pm. A special service designated to those grieving the loss of a loved one.

## Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, December 23, 5pm. A special Christmas performance by the Port Moody Youth Symphony Orchestra.

## **Christmas Eve Services**

Sunday, December 24. 10am service will be a regular church service. 6pm service will be a special Christmas Eve service.

# **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

# Extravaganza

Monday, December 4, 7pm. Free Potluck event. Please register at rside.ca/women or at the Connect Desk.

## Over a Cup of Coffee

Saturday, December 16, 9-11am. Bring your own coffee and some baking or appetizer to share.

## **MEN'S MINISTRY**

## Quest Men's Breakfast

Please note there is no Men's Breakfast in December. See you on January 20.

## Quest Men's Hockey Bus

Saturday, December 9, 5:30pm. Must register and pay in advance at rside.ca. Only 20 tickets available.

## YOUNG ADULTS (18-30 yrs.)

Wednesdays, 7pm. Meeting at Riverside. For more info, please contact Taylor at tayjoklas@gmail.com.

# YOUTH & KIDS

Check out the calendars for Middle and High at rside.ca/youth for all of our upcoming events.

Middle - Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm. Check the calendar. High - Fridays at 7-9pm. Check the calendar.

Sundays - Dismissed after worship.

Middle School Youth (gr. 5-7) Rm 205 (every Sunday). High School Youth (gr. 8-12) Rm 207 (1st & 3rd Sundays).

# Stay Connected

Instagram @rsideyouth https://linktr.ee/rsideyouth **Riverside Kids Sunday Program** (nursery to gr. 4) Please sign your kids in upon arrival.

# Riverside Kids Online

Following our online service, watch a 15 minute video that includes worship and a lesson. Find us online at rside.online Sundays at approximately 11:15am or watch again throughout the week at rside.ca/kidsonline.

Christmas Bible Bucks Store on Dec. 10, for those in Elementary Class. Come ready to shop for your family!

Our kids will be participating in a special **Christmas Presentation** on Dec. 17.