

Bethel | SERVES @ Christmas

HOW CAN WE GIVE BACK THIS CHRISTMAS? As disciples and apprentices of Jesus, one area of focus and growth is serving our *Community Gathered* and *Community Scattered*. There are many opportunities within the church and in the community, and we encourage you to explore how you can serve as individuals, Life Groups, families, and friends. Below are just a few current opportunities during the Christmas season and beyond.

Bethel House  **Group Dinner** | The men at Bethel House love it when people have dinner with them. (They love leftovers too!) You would make dinner off-site for 8-10 men, plus your own group, and bring it to one of the houses to sit down with the men for food and fellowship. Simple meals are great; no need to go fancy unless you want to. It's also recommended that you supply paper plates, utensils, etc.,...or be prepared to do dishes after dinner! Dates and times are open/flexible, so email Lisa Porter at bethelhouse@bethelkingston.com to confirm a date you'd like to offer this gift of hospitality.

Bethel Church  **Serving Team** | Gather 2 or more people to start a new Coffee and Conversation Serving Team! This ministry is in need of a few new teams for ongoing commitment (once every few Sundays, depending on the number of Teams). The C&C Serving Team typically arrives before the 9am service to prep drinks, snacks, and other supplies in the kitchen. Then just before the end of the 9am service, supplies are moved from the kitchen to the gym. During C&C, the Team keeps an eye on the gym, replenishing, replacing and/or cleaning as needed. After guests have left the gym, the Team clears and cleans up. Full training is provided! For more in-depth info, contact Mike Barrett at mikebarrett613@gmail.com.

Bethel STUDY HALL Volunteer Your Time | Bethel will be opening the Upper Room for a week in early December for students to study and prepare for exams. Room Supervisors are needed for 3-hour periods of time (9am-12pm, 12pm-3pm, 3pm-6pm) over various dates. Donations of baked goods and/or K-Cup pods are also helpful. Please contact Keri Oosterhof at keri@bethelkingston.com for more detailed information.

Turn over for more ideas...



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THE SALVATION ARMY  **Christmas Food Hamper** | Provide a food hamper for a family in need by signing up as a Sponsor in this city-wide campaign. As a Sponsor, you will be assigned an Applicant family and given a recommended list of groceries to purchase. (The hampers range in cost from \$85-\$110, depending on the size of the family.) You will then make arrangements with the Applicant to deliver the hamper at a mutually-convenient time. To become a Sponsor, contact Rosa Gutierrez at [613 548-4411 ext 138](tel:6135484411). For other Salvation Army volunteer opportunities, including the Toy Drive, Santa Shuffle, and Christmas Kettles, visit www.sacfs.com.

ANGEL TREE  **Christmas Gifts for Children** | Purchase, wrap, and deliver a gift for a child of an inmate in the local area (max. \$30 per child). Children of prisoners are often forgotten and silent victims of crime. Children experience feelings of abandonment, loneliness and shame from having a mom or dad in prison. Maintaining a connection between an inmate and their children is crucial in positive social and emotional development. To participate in this program, register online at www.prisonfellowship.ca/angel-tree-christmas.

celebrate Christmas  **Witness to a Friend** | Purchase an extra ticket or two and reach out to an un-churched friend to hear the good news of Christmas. "Celebrate Christmas" is an uplifting multi-media concert featuring old classics and new favourites. Held at the beautiful Isabel Bader Centre on Thurs, Dec 14 and Fri, Dec 15 at 7pm, tickets are only \$15! For more information, visit www.celebratechristmas.ca.

Turn to front for more ideas...

DID YOU KNOW? The grades 1-5 students in UpStreet, along with their families, are also getting involved in serving this Christmas! In October they made baby blankets for Kingston Pregnancy Care Centre, and in December they are putting together Christmas care packages for the men of the Bethel Houses.

