

Outreach Committee expresses gratitude

The Outreach Committee would like to thank the Cathedral family for its support throughout 2011. Thanks to the outpouring of generosity:

- We brought 80 Christmas Angel gifts to the Fredericton Food Bank, representing hundreds of dollars worth of donated toys and stocking stuffers for needy boys and girls in Fredericton
- We received \$1,140 from the congregation for Christmas Outreach and divided it equally among the Fredericton Community Kitchen, Fredericton Homeless Shelters, Transition House and the Salvation Army
- We again delivered an average of one box of non-perishable groceries weekly to the Food Bank
- We organized teams (about three dozen people) from the Cathedral to prepare, serve and clean up after the evening meal every Saturday at the local soup kitchen; we will continue this ministry in 2012, thanks to some new volunteers for whose help we are grateful

The main focus of this committee's efforts continues to be a Monday morning gathering. Approximately 40 people visit the hall on non-holiday Monday mornings year-round for friendship, food and support. Support comes in many forms such as drives to the Food Bank, attending court proceedings, offering information about health issues, and, mostly, a sympathetic ear. The people are poor, and many are addicted, homeless, or struggling with illnesses or deep-rooted problems.

We appreciate very much that members of the Cathedral family have donated money, used clothing and housewares; baked muffins and cookies; made sandwiches; knitted socks, tuques and mittens, and chatted with our guests on Mondays. The group loved the Christmas party Dec. 19th. Sixty-one men, women and children ate seasonal treats, and each received a gift and a Christmas card as well as a lunch voucher or bus tickets to use later.

We also want to thank the local businesses that sell us lunch vouchers and welcome these folks: Trinitea's, Hannah's, Subway and Tim Horton's. City Hall also gave us numerous free bus tickets to distribute. We continue to enjoy great support from the Dean and all the staff at the Cathedral.

Thank you for prayers and for reaching beyond the cathedral walls to help local people less fortunate than ourselves. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we look forward to continuing this ministry in 2012.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the
Cathedral Outreach Committee:
Penny Ericson (chair), Mark Carr (vice-chair),
Doug Milander, Wayne Phillips, Don MacPherson