

# December Birthdays

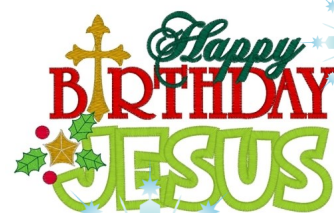
Eileen B. Dec. 9 Kathleen H. Dec. 17  
Simoncelli C. Dec. 11 Ethel M. Dec. 18  
Jason S. Dec. 16

## Birthday Teas

Wayne Usselman  
Thursday, Dec. 2 -  
Magnolia, 2 pm  
Thursday, Dec. 9 -  
Willow, 2 pm



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## CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

6:30 pm, Tuesday  
December 21  
**Willow & Camelia**

6:30 pm, Wednesday  
December 22  
**Rose & Magnolia**

Merry Christmas



## FESTIVE FURNITURE FUNDRAISER



Our annual Christmas Fundraiser project this year is raising \$20,000 to replace 8 large reclining chairs. Our old recliners had to be removed from resident lounges as part of infection control protection against Covid. Chair materials were of a soft, porous texture which made them difficult to clean and impossible to fully sanitize. The new chairs we are hoping to purchase are designed for durability and frequent cleaning.

Please consider supporting this worthwhile project by making a tax deductible donation. Donations can be made in-person at Buchanan Lodge, by mail, or online by visiting [www.buchanan-lodge.com/donations](http://www.buchanan-lodge.com/donations) and clicking the DONATE button. We will also be applying for funding from the Health Authority and if successful will direct any donated funds to the purchase of other needed equipment.



**An example of the type of recliners we need**

## BUCHANAN LODGE



# Buchanan Buzz

NEWS FROM 409 BLAIR AVE.

DECEMBER 2021

## Precious Memories



Our crew got an early start on their Christmas baking



Linda painted a beautiful tribute to our Buchanan squirrels



Our snow families are happy to be in from the cold!



Janet added a realistic touch of fall colours to her leaves



Birthday girl, Norma, thinks they used the wrong "flour"!



Clint, always the Maverick, paints outside the lines!

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## Thought for December

*In those moments when we move beyond our chronic selfishness to focus on those we love, we discover the truth in what Jesus said: "it is more blessed to give than to receive".*



A Christmas Story

My all-time favourite Christmas movie moment is from "A Christmas Story." Now with a title like that you would expect some reference to the story that started it all – the birth of our Saviour. Not so much. It's about Ralphie and his quest for the ultimate Christmas present – a Red Ryder BB gun. There's wonderful, whimsical scenes of Ralphie's dad fighting with the furnace, Ralphie's friend Flick getting his tongue stuck on an icy flagpole, the neighbour's hillbilly hounds attacking their turkey dinner, the waiters at the Chinese restaurant trying to sing "Deck the Halls", and the recurring warning about BB guns from every grownup - "you'll shoot your eye out!"



While there are many memorable moments in this holiday classic, one stands out as my favourite. And believe it or not, it does remind me of the first Christmas story. Ralphie has finished opening all his gifts, including the embarrassing pink bunny pajamas from Aunt Clara, and then settles on the couch, sighing with a resigned sense of deep disappointment. Just when he has given up all hope of ever getting his dream gift, his dad notices a long and narrow box hiding behind the tree.

What I love even more than Ralphie's excitement is the unrestrained joy beaming from his dad. His expression at that moment is such a contrast to the frustration on his face throughout the rest of the movie. It reminds me how all of us, even though we are clearly flawed at times, occasionally reflect the One who created us. The Bible says we are uniquely fashioned in the image of God. And in those moments when we move beyond our chronic selfishness to focus on those we love, we discover the truth in what Jesus said: "it is more blessed to give than to receive".

This is the heart of the original Christmas story, a Heavenly Father who gave the greatest gift of all to each one of His children. The gift, when we fully understand it and receive it, transforms our lives, and helps us come back to the way we were intended to live. Pre-pandemic, the families from our church experienced that same kind of joy, and our own little "movie moment" a few Christmases ago. We

stayed after service to form a north-pole-like assembly line, packing hundreds of boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Imagining the smiles on the faces of children around the world opening these gifts gave us more joy than we were giving away. It helped to know that everything we packed in those boxes was safety approved – no one would lose an eye!

God designed us to love and to give freely to others (yes, even BB guns) and that's the simple message of "The" Christmas Story.

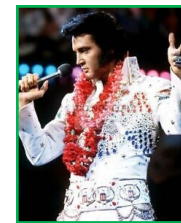
~ Chaplain Rob Buzza



## ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

with Chaplain Darlene GREECE

**Tuesday Afternoons**  
Dec 7- Willow & Magnolia  
Dec 14 - Rose & Camelia  
1:45 & 3 pm



**Radio City Music Hall Christmas Concert** Saturday, Dec. 18, 1:45 - MPR



CHOCOLATES

**Pick up your Christmas Purdy orders beginning 1 pm, Monday, Dec.13 from Trish.**

*To all of our residents, their families and our incredible team of caregivers, thank you for working together so well throughout this year!*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

*You are loved & appreciated !!*

*From Blake & our Leadership Team*

## HOUSE MUSIC FOR DECEMBER

**Rose** - Dec. 4, Saturday - Alastair McMurrey, 2 pm  
**Magnolia** - Dec. 4, Saturday - Brian O'Neil, 2 pm  
**Camelia** - Dec. 10, Friday - Alastair McMurrey, 2 pm  
**Willow** - Dec. 11, Saturday - Brian O'Neil, 2 pm



**Buchanan welcomes new staff members since March 2021**

Sarabjit Sangha	Support Services	4-Mar-21
Jennifer Merry	Care Aide	30-Mar-21
Ericka Intalan	Care Aide	30-Mar-21
Emmanuel Barrios-Rienzi	Care Aide	30-Apr-21
Glenys Thorp	Care Aide	26-May-21
Sumantha Yee	Dietitian	22-Jun-21
McDaniel Calaugan	Visitation	08-Jul-21
Paul Oorebeek	Support Services	09-Sep-21
Lilia Del Monte	LPN	04-Sep-21
Marivic Reyno	Director of Resident Services	07-Sep-21
Rita Noort	Recreation	23-Sep-21
Elizabeth Secretaria	Care Aide	9-Nov-21
Jacqueline Lopes	Visitation	17-Nov-21