## **NEWS FROM THE PEWS...**

News and Inspiration from St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown, ON

Thursday, November 14, 2024

St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews





We stream our worship services Sundays at 10 am on Facebook Live, YouTube, Twitch & 100.3 FM Click on the icons below to connect!









## St. Andrew's United Church

## Worship This Week - Sunday, November 17th

Thank you to Rev. Kate for leading us in worship this week! We hope you can join us for our Sunday Service, all are welcome!

**Theme:** As we wind down the church year, and look toward Advent, we remember the rock and cornerstone of our faith. Jesus.

The 26th Sunday After Pentecost
The Epistle Reading: Hebrews 10:11-19
The Gospel Reading: Mark 13:1-8
The Sermon: 'Do Not Be Led Astray'





Thank you to Jean and the Sunday School for decorating our bulletin board!

#### **Scripture Summary**

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," and he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

#### **Humour Corner**

Mount Sinai is the tallest mountain in the Bible. Mount Sinai likes to enter height competitions. When Mount Sinai goes to these competitions it sings the song, "Ain't no mountain high enough."

## **Membership Announcements**

Dear St. Andrew's Family,

This note is to thank all of you for the Get Well Wishes, Gifts and Visits while I was in hospital. Your kind thoughts and sentiments definitely helped to cheer me up and put a smile on my face.

While I was in the hospital, a nurse said to me "With all these get-well cards, you must have a big family." I explained to her that these cards and well wishes came from my extended family at St. Andrew's United Church. I must

say, she was extremely impressed.

Although I have a long road to recovery ahead of me, it's nice to know I have so many wonderful people cheering me on.

I'm hoping to be able to thank you all in person this coming Sunday (fingers crossed).

With Sincere Gratitude, Bill Pennycook

#### **Desperate Need of Building Keys!**

We have no spare building keys left and this is affecting our ability to rent space. We are currently unable to order more due to licensing issues!

If you have a building key and are not currently using it, please return it to the office asap. We would greatly appreciate it!

Thank you!

#### **Prayers of the People:**

Clive Searle is in Georgetown hospital recovering from elective surgery. Wishing him a speedy recovery.

Keeping Marguerite and the Webster family in our thoughts as husband Ralph is in hospital after a fall

# In Memoriam - William Gordon Rea

Visitation at St. Andrew's, Saturday, June 14th, 2025 10:00 - 11:00am Memorial service to follow at 11:00am.

Gord passed away peacefully at the age of 96 on Monday, November 11, 2024 with his family by his side. Gord was a long time member of St. Andrew's and will be deeply missed by our church family. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.



Please click here to view the obituary and share memories or words of condolence

If you have announcements to share or milestones to celebrate in next week's News from the Pews, please send them to the office by Wednesday.

## St. Andrew's Announcements

### **ADVENT SMALL GROUP STUDY with Kate**

"Advent Longing" what are you longing for? Join me for 3 weeks of study, prayer and reflection about how we can use longing as a spiritual gift, and bring Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to the world in practical ways.

Wednesday evenings,
December 4th, 11th, and 18th
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Zoom.
Link available from Kate.
revkate@bell.net









## **Volunteers and Donations Wanted!**

Out of the Cold will be opening once again (in late November) at Knox Presbyterian Church in downtown Georgetown. This is the third year of operation. Last year, 2023-4 we averaged 5 persons accommodated each night that we were open. The downstairs space under the sanctuary is where the program takes place. During the day this space is used for other purposes. In order to prepare for this 'season', new 'roll away' beds (heavier duty) are being obtained. A washer/dryer is available (for use early in the evening) and Knox is proceeding to obtain a commercial grade dishwasher. We are seeking donations of some clothing and cleaning items at this time-Laundry Detergent, Bleach, Hand soap, disposable razors, feminine hygiene products, mens and women's underwear(new), packs of socks (new), and packs of gloves to be distributed as the temperature plummets. There is a need for more volunteers as the number of guests has increased. St. Andrew's United Church has been providing a team every other Wednesday night for the last two years. Speak to that team about their experience-Ross and Jean Leckie, Bill and Jan Pennycook, Joanne Wardle, Allison MacIntosh (Acton, family of the Leckies). There are three shifts. The first 2 or 3 people arrive at 8 pm and prepare the space for the night. They speak with the guests, review the rules and routine for newcomers and assemble a lite meal (the kitchen is kept 'stocked') for those that wish one. At 10 pm, 2 people arrive for the overnight shift. Guests are expected to settle in around 11 pm. The 2 people are available to speak to guests, respond to situ ations that arise, keep one another awake and hopefully have an uneventful night. Security concerns are taken in to account and usually a steady calm is experienced. Washrooms are monitored for cleaning, the building is secured and the kitchen is for the volunteer workers to provide needs for the guests only. The 'morning shift' comes in at 6:00 am. Their role is to relieve the night shift, deal with light 'cleaning up', prepare a coffee and breakfast, get the guests going in the morning, and to put away the 'beds' for storage, all by 8:00 am. Speak to one of us who has volunteered in previous years. Volunteer information sessions, training in First Aid, and Food Preparation are all made available from time to time. An online scheduling software allows you to communicate when you are available, so even a few evenings during this winter season would be great. Please consider how you might take part in this valuable, essential service to the vulnerable in our community. Blessings, Ross Leckie

# Weekly Bible Study Every Thursday at 10:00am in the Fellowship room

We are studying the letter of Paul, 'Jesus Our Joy'.

Philippians Lesson 2: An Encouraging Example

Purpose: To help people strengthen their Christian

Purpose: To help people strengthen their Christian relationships as they encourage each other with affirmation, godly affection and prayer.

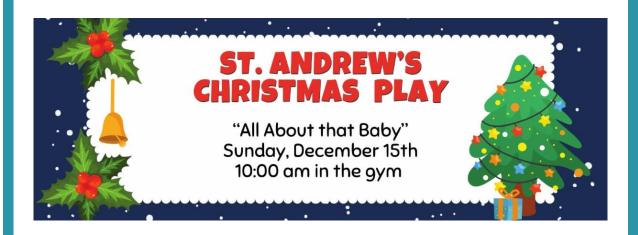
Invite your friends. Add to your spiritual journey.



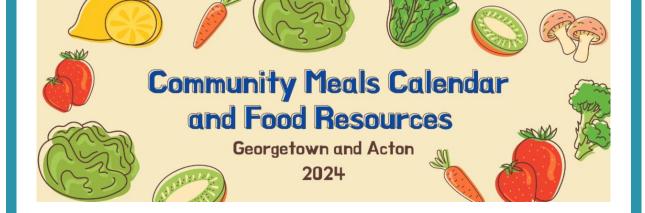


An evening of Christmas Music is tentatively planned for **Sunday, December 8th at 7:00 pm.** 

Please plan to attend and hear readings and songs for the season St Andrew's United Church Choir and Friends!



**Community Announcements** 



Please click here to view November's meal calendar, as well as more details about local food resources



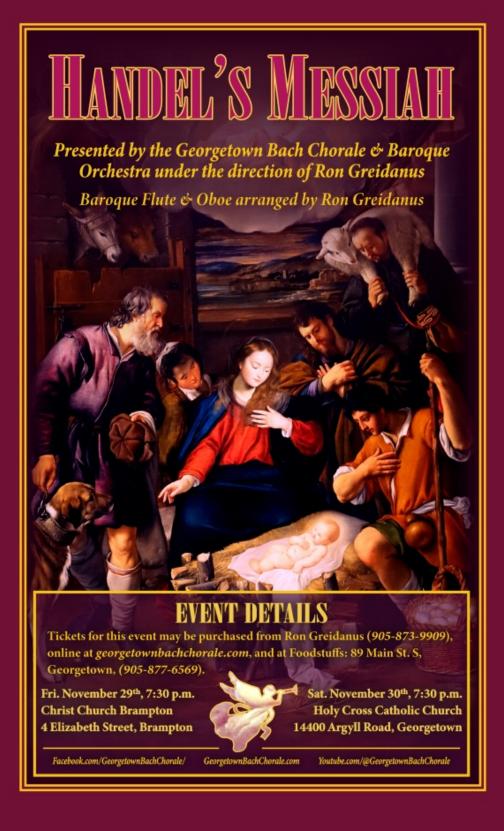
#### **Afghan Refugees Update**

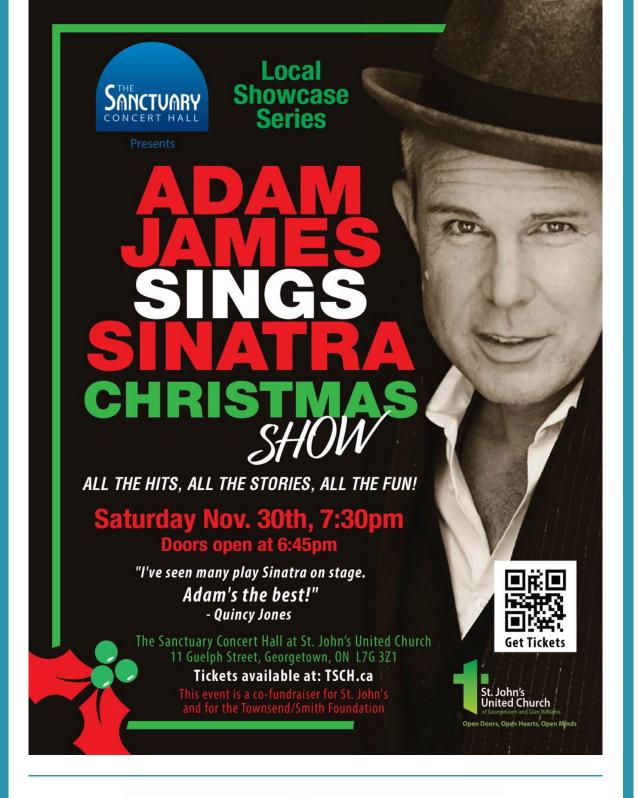
The Afghan family supported by GFORCE3 has arrived in Georgetown and are very thankful for the support!

GFORCE has an obligation to support the family for the next year while they adjust to employment and life in Canada. St. Andrew's board has voted to support GFORCE3 as an outreach initiative. That means we can accept and receipt donations and forward them to GFORCE3. You can mark your gift "Refugees" and every cent will be used for the welfare of these wonderful people.



UNITED4HOSPICE Community Members, Elaine Jones with the help of Ruth Lee, are hosting a Community Winter Market on Fri. Nov. 29 from 12:00 - 7:00PM at St. Andrew's UC. The event will include 24 vendors and a raffle of special items donated by community supporters. Reps from Townsend Smith will be present to answer questions about our hospice dream. All funds raised from the raffle ticket sales and the vendor table rentals will be donated to the Townsend Smith Foundation for the building of the North Halton Hospice. Please support this community event by having some fun shopping for the season.







**United Church Mission & Service Fund** 

## **Supporting Community Resilience in Zimbabwe**

Supporting practical, long-term solutions to drought and food shortages.

Credit: The United Church of Canada



In Zimbabwe, severe drought and food shortages continue to take a toll on communities, but the Zimbabwe Council of Churches is leading efforts to provide support. In partnership with Mission and Service and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, the Scaling Up Resilience Project focuses on practical, long-term solutions. By emphasizing climate-smart farming, gender equality, and community-driven initiatives, the project is helping families strengthen their resilience and work towards a more secure future.

The challenges facing Zimbabwe are immense, with frequent droughts, unpredictable rains, tropical cyclones, economic instability, and outbreaks of diseases like cholera all contributing to severe food insecurity. In the Bikita and Gutu districts, up to 60% of people are affected, with many families struggling to put food on the table, send their children to school, and are at risk of gender-based violence. Crop failures, especially due to El Niño, have worsened conditions, leaving communities in urgent need of solutions. The Scaling Up Resilience Program addresses these issues by building on the success of previous humanitarian efforts. It will provide training in gendersensitive, climate-smart agriculture, strengthen disaster risk management systems, and revive essential community assets, such as water conservation works and irrigation schemes. By promoting gender equality, supporting financial resilience through savings and loans programs, and ensuring that all community members, including the elderly and those with disabilities, are included, the project is creating a brighter future for thousands of people. Your gifts through Mission and Service

(opens in a new tab)

have provided crucial support to partners like the Zimbabwe Council of Churches as they work toward a secure and sustainable future. Your continued support is deeply appreciated.

# **WAYS TO GIVE**

We thank all those that continue to support our Church with your giving!









**CANADA HELPS** 

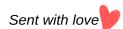


**SCAN ME for more details** 

**ETRANSFERS TO** standrewsgeorgetown89@gmail.com



Our Charitable Registration Number is: 892633462RR0001



Halton as we know it today is rich in history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the Anishinabe to the Attawandaron, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis - these lands surrounding the Great Lakes are steeped in Indigenous history. We acknowledge and thank the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for sharing their traditional territory with us.









We would love to share our News from the Pews! Please feel free to share with a friend...







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