

NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

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

Thursday February 1, 2024

St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews

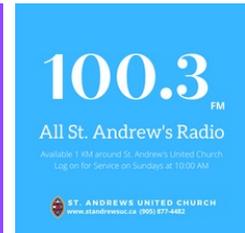
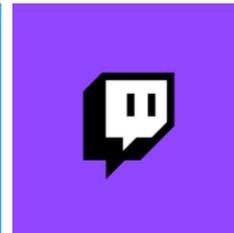


St. Andrew's United Church
89 Mountainview Rd. S. Georgetown ON L7G 4T9
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482



One License: #738674-A
CCLI License #2633008

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



St. Andrew's United Church

Worship This Week - Sunday, February 4th

Thank you to Rev. Kate Young for leading us in worship this week! We would appreciate it if you could please wear your nametags on Sundays to help Rev. Kate learn our names. We hope you can join us for our Sunday service!

Sermon: What Kind of Healing Do You Need?

Old Testament Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

New Testament Scripture Reading: Mark 1:29-39



Scripture Summary

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

Humour Corner

One Sunday after church Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. Her daughter answered "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilts." Needless to say, mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the Pastor stopped by for tea. Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

Membership Announcements

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday February 11th, 2024** following the church service. Lunch will be served at the AGM. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to bring sandwiches or dessert! There are still a few spots to sign-up for cookies/squares. Please see the sign-up sheets outside of the sanctuary.

Please find below the motions that will be presented at the AGM. (Please note that motions will not be accepted unless submitted in writing to the Board by this Sunday, February 4th.

MOTION: That St. Andrew's United Church pursue creating an action plan toward amalgamation with one or more United Church communities of faith in Halton Hills.

The motion provides one option, a yes vote would mean exploring the possibility of amalgamation and a no vote would mean to continue as we are.

Only full members of St. Andrew's will be allowed to vote on this amalgamation motion as per UCC rules around policy changes or governance.

The Board has approved that for the motion to pass it will require a majority of 60% of full members present in the room. Voting will be by secret ballot with scrutineers. You must be present at the meeting to have a vote.

MOTION: to relocate the wooden pews currently stored and unused on the stage in the gym temporarily back to the sanctuary. This will allow access

again to the stage for events taking place throughout the year such as groups providing live entertainment during our community dinners, additional vender space for our craft sale and a space to practice and present our Christmas Musical, to name a few. This is to be done by March 3rd 2024.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

As the United Churches in our area are involved in the Townsend Smith Hospice planning, there is a request for more volunteers to be involved in moving this forward. Jean Leckie has been representing St. Andrew's but more support is required. If you have a strong belief in this much needed facility you are invited to put your name forward via the church office or to Jean Leckie.

In Memoriam - Allan Ellwood

We send our condolences to Bryan and Stephanie Scott and family with the passing of Bryan's uncle. We keep their family in our prayers.

Family and friends will be received at Smith Funeral Home, 1576 London Line, Sarnia, on Sunday, February 4th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. with a funeral service on Monday, February 5th at 11:00 a.m



[Please click here to view the obituary or share words of condolence in the guestbook](#)

In Memoriam - Shirley Holloway

We send our condolences to Geoffrey and Jennifer Holloway and the family with the passing of Geoffrey's Mother in Bloomfield, Newfoundland. Please keep their family in your prayers.



Rev. Kate Young

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays mornings
(905) 877-4482 (office)
(416) 577-3305 (personal for pastoral emergency)
minister@standrewsuc.ca

St. Andrew's Announcements

Valentine's Day Food Drive

Sunday, February 11th

If you are able, please bring food donations
to our collection boxes at the church.

Some of the most needed items
include: Apple sauce cups,
Cream of wheat cereal, Fruit cups,
Ground coffee, Pudding cups

Please click [here](#) for the full list of food items needed at the Georgetown Bread Basket

Weekly Bible Study

10am every Thursday

Book of Matthew: The Leaders of the King

Invite your friends.

Add to your spiritual journey.



Walking as one on the Coldest Night of the Year - Sat. Feb. 24, 2024

Hillcrest, Norval, St. Andrew's and St. John's will be walking together as one on the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) under the team banner **Angels United**. Our team captain is Joanne Wardle (St. Andrew's). Please go to the **Angels United CNOY webpage** to join up as a walker or to sponsor a familiar name. All funds raised through the CNOY Halton Hills Walk stay in the community and will be directed to the Georgetown Bread and Links2Care.

[Please click here to register for our CNOY Team or sponsor one of our walkers!](#)

A Letter from Merna

Hi all, I just had some things I wanted you to ponder. We have a very important meeting coming up on the 11th of February, it's the AGM and you are going to be asked about considering amalgamating or staying as we are.

This could potentially be a significant decision in the life of St. Andrew's as we know it. I am personally struggling with this one. St. Andrew's is extremely important in my life both past and present. I think of St. Andrew's as my second home, you have all been a part of my family at different stages of my life. I have been very glad to have the support, the laughter, the welcoming home, and the place to pass that on to my children and grandchildren.

I try and be present for the functions, Pancake suppers, Halloween parties, coffee after service. It has been challenging at times but I have done my best to volunteer and take part in things.

In the last 6 months at St. Andrew's we have had some things change in our dynamics, and it has been for every one an adjustment period. Our church has been kind of like a car without a driver, just running the same routine over and over again. We now have a minister again to help us move forward toward the future. Whether that is looking into amalgamation or making a decision on putting the pews back in the church or finding a new temporary place to put them until we can actually properly decide on what direction we want to go in. Personally I can see a mix of both new seating and a few pews in our sanctuary. I would like to see more of the moving forward other than getting stagnant in our comfortable old ways.

We need to do more for our children, find out how to attract the teens and young adults and make them realize we are more than just Sunday services. Anyway I think it was important for me to pass on my thoughts that as a group we are more than our ages, stages, activities, points of view, we are family and as a family what we want most is to be as Christ wants us to be. Working together towards keeping our faith alive.

For our future generations and to not let what the past generations saw in their vision of what they wanted to St Andrews to become. Most of all we NEED to

not argue, to not push our own views on others and keep this church as a welcoming home for all.
Merna Prete

Community Announcements



Rotary Club of Georgetown Free Community Dinners

Everyone is welcome.

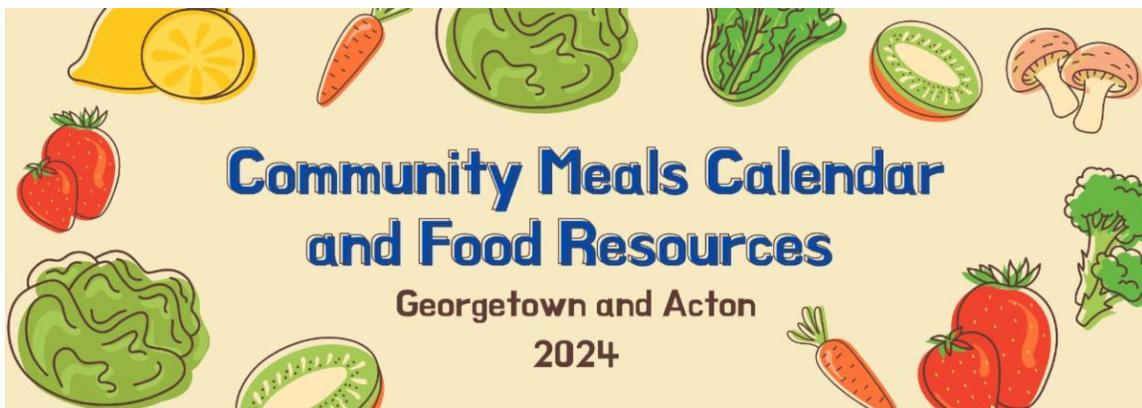
Donations to cover the cost of those who are able to would be appreciated.

Fri. Feb. 1st at 6:00pm

Doors open at 5:30pm

Knox Presbyterian Church

116 Main St. S, Georgetown ON



Please click [here](#) to view February's meal calendar, as well as more details about local food resources.

Pancake Supper at St. John's United

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

5:00pm-7:00pm

11 Guelph St, Georgetown



St. Andrew's will not be having a pancake supper this year. Instead, let's support our friends at St. John's and share in a delicious pancake supper! There will be pancakes, sausages and real maple syrup (donated by a church member).

Cost is \$12 per person.



Easter Basket Brigade Spring 2024



2024 is a year where we together as a Christian Community can and will make a difference in Halton Hills...but it only happens with action and it has begun at the top – with God. Jesus has chosen you as “His Voice” and calls each and every one of us to walk in his ways, and together we are taking a beautiful step in our journey in his name.

Collection of Cards/Donations: Now until Saturday March 9th, 2024

In conjunction with the Georgetown BreadBasket, Community Unity has identified approx 225 Families in need of Groceries in the Halton Hills area and will be convening **Saturday, March 16th at 9:30 AM at the Georgetown Christian Reformed Church**. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the easel outside of the sanctuary. We are suggesting our Families share Easter with another family by purchasing **Grocery Gift Cards** and writing an **Easter Card** to the family and share God’s love between us. Any size of donation is greatly appreciated and please forward all Cards, Donations and Easter Cards to your Church Representative, Ross Leckie.

OR

Donations to Community Unity

Individual Donations will also be gratefully accepted and donations may also be made at <http://www.communityunityhaltonhills.com/> and clicking on "Donate" - Canada Helps - a tax receipt will be instantly generated. It would be ideal to receive the donations prior to March 9th as it takes a week for the funds to be released to Community Unity.

This is going to be a great demonstration of the love of God and our love of our neighbour. Thank you so much for your help!

On behalf of your Community Unity Team!

Timothy Chisholm

Timothy Chisholm tjc@chisintl.com

Executive Director Easter Basket Brigade

Community Unity – Halton Hills



Kevin Pauls concert poster featuring Joel Parisien and Luke McMaster. The poster includes the text: **As Seen on Gaither Homecoming, KEVIN PAULS, IN CONCERT, February 10 @ 7pm, Bethel Church, 365 Queen St, ACTON, \$20 advance \$25 door, and Tickets: kevinpauls.com OR at Church Office.



United Church Mission & Service Fund

Accompanying Grandmothers

Grandmothers whose children have died of AIDS are often left to care for their grandchildren. Credit: The United Church of Canada



In the Rift Valley of Kenya, 7 percent of the people who live there are HIV positive—nearly 900,000—and many will not survive. Grandmothers whose children have died of AIDS are often left alone to care for their grandchildren, and to add insult to injury, their church community condemns them, leaving them without support as they raise their grandchildren.

Some pastors in the Rift Valley, as in many other places, believe and teach that faithful Christians cannot contract the disease and that it is a judgment from God—a disease for sexual sinners.

“The pastors had little information about HIV and AIDS; to them, and others in the community, it was a strange disease.... [They believed] HIV was a result of sexual sin and was a judgement from God for the sexually immoral,” writes Esther Mombo of the World Council of Churches.

In partnership with the United Church, Mombo and Pauline Wanjuru of St. Paul’s University in Limuru, Kenya, led a series of workshops in one Rift Valley community that has been hit especially hard by HIV/AIDS. They invited grandmothers and pastors to connect and learn from each other.

One grandmother who attended the workshops was 70 years old. She had lost both her daughter and her son and was left to raise three grandchildren on her own. Instead of stepping up to help, her neighbours refused to visit her because they said her daughter and son had been sexually immoral. Her pastor wouldn’t even attend her children’s funerals because he didn’t want to be seen associating with her family. When she went to church, the pastor preached about the punishment for sexual immorality.

At the workshops, this woman bravely told her story to the pastors who attended. She also shared with them how it felt to be shamed for loving her children and grandchildren. Another grandmother explained that her grandchildren were born with the virus and couldn’t have been involved in any sexual immorality. Yet another spoke of God’s love for everyone. Pastors listened and learned, and ended by making a commitment to extend compassion and offer pastoral care to the grandmothers.

All of us know from our own life experience that when we know better, we do better. Your Mission and Service gifts gave these grandmothers the opportunity to help their pastors learn to do better by connecting their love for their grandchildren to God’s love for all. Thank you.

WAYS TO GIVE

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



CASH & CHEQUE



CANADA HELPS



SCAN ME for more details



**ETRANSFERS TO
standrewsgeorgetown89@gmail.com**



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.

Our Charitable Registration Number is: 892633462RR0001

Sent with love 

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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