

St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews



St. Andrew's United Church
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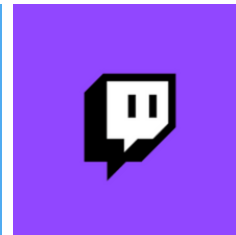
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NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

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

Thursday May 4, 2023

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 May 7th Theme: Living a Life Caring for Others

This week we will talk about the importance of having faith in Jesus Christ, based on the passage found in John 14:1-14. In this passage, Jesus speaks to his disciples and tells them about the promise of eternal life and the importance of faith.

Jesus begins by saying, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me" (John 14:1). Here, Jesus is comforting his disciples and encouraging them to have faith in Him, just as they have faith in God. He reminds them that they do not need to be afraid or anxious, but instead, they can trust in Him.

In the following verses, Jesus explains that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one can come to the Father except through Him (John 14:6). This statement is incredibly powerful, as it highlights the exclusivity of faith in Jesus Christ. It is not enough to simply believe in God or to be a good person. We must have faith in Jesus Christ. When we have faith in Jesus, we are empowered to do great things and to pray with confidence, knowing that God hears our requests.

When we live a faith with Christ as our center, we will live a life caring for others. Like Jesus, we too can offer encouragement to those around us. As Christians we believe in the hope that comes through eternal life, and there is a place for you in heaven after we die.

Scripture Readings: John 14:1-14, 1 Peter 2:2-10

Sermon: There is a place for you!

New Community Supper offered in Georgetown by the Rotary Club, held at Knox Presbyterian Church. Starting on May 5th the Rotary club will be offering monthly free dinners. Doors open at 5:30 PM and meal is served at 6:00 PM. They are modelling their meals after our St. Andrew's dinners. All are welcome!



Scripture Summary

1 Peter 2:2-10



But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

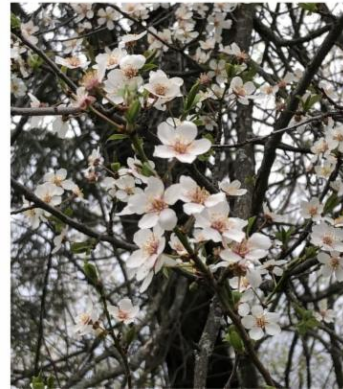
Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people.

Humour Corner

There was a preacher who fell in the ocean and he couldn't swim. When a boat came by, the captain yelled, "Do you need help, sir?" The preacher calmly said "No, God will save me." A little later, another boat came by and a fisherman asked, "Hey, do you need help?" The preacher replied again, "No God will save me." Eventually the preacher drowned & went to heaven. The preacher asked God, "Why didn't you save me?" God replied, "Fool, I sent you two boats!"



First signs of Spring...



St. Andrew's Announcements

Important dates coming up:

May 14 - Mothers Day

May 21 - Music Sunday ☐☐

June 3 - Major clean up day. This day has been picked because there are no renters in that day.

Kitchens need to be cleaned before our next Public Health inspection. The property committee is seeking support for small fix it jobs and cleaning. We need full support from all able bodied members.

Please sign up and with enough support we can form teams assigned to various sections of the church inside and out and get the jobs done in short order.

More details to follow in the coming weeks.

June 4 - Church picnic

Thanks,
Membership Team

Bread Basket Sunday



Georgetown
BREAD BASKET
Your local food bank

The Georgetown Bread Basket is running low on food due to high demand. If you are able, please bring food donations to church this Sunday, we'll have collection boxes out front.

Some of the most needed items include: Canned Meat, Canned Fruit, Juice Boxes, Crackers, Chicken Rice Soup, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Jam, Ketchup Instant Coffee, Cereal, Canned Pasta, Peanut Butter.



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



JOIN THE ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH BASEBALL TEAM

St. Andrew's Baseball Team- Once again St. Andrew's will have a baseball team in the local church league. This league is co-ed and is non competitive. We play on Wednesday nights at 7 PM starting in May. It is open to anyone ages 14 and up.

If you are interested, please speak to Grant Williams or Joanne Wardle.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COFFEE TIME

If you have been enjoying fellowship and the baking offered we invite you to consider signing up to help with coffee time in the upcoming Sundays. I realize that the people available to do this are small in number so greatly appreciate the fact that many of you have been stepping up more often. If you are unable to assist with serving, please consider donating baked goods or store bought cookies to our fellowship hour.



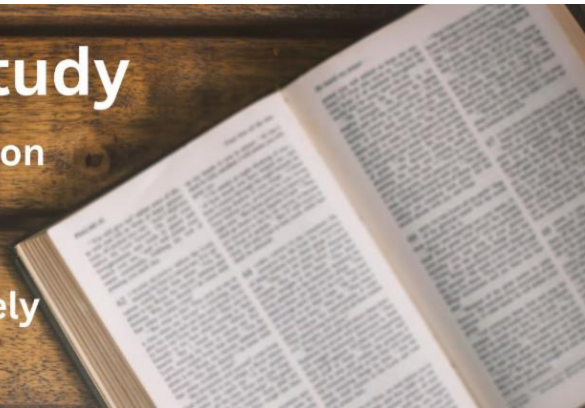
Our Daily Bread Booklets

The April/May/June edition is now available!

Please find them on the table across from the Office. A donation of \$1 would be greatly appreciated.

Thursday Bible Study

Our weekly bible study is held on Thursdays at 10 AM in the Fellowship room. Come and join us for some lively discussion on the bible.



In need of Baby Items!

A friend of Christina's is in need of baby items! She is not able to afford new items and would greatly appreciate any donations. She is looking for a diaper bag, baby bottles, teethers, clothing, etc.

Please contact Christina at c.martin690@gmail.com or (905) 873-6614

Collecting Used Batteries

In support of Georgetown Hospital
Volunteer Association

Collecting Eyeglasses

In support of the Lions Club

Collecting Pop Can Tabs

In support of the Shriners

Collecting Used Pens

For proper recycling

> Drop off at the church,
collection boxes are beside the photocopier



Community Announcements



Rotary Free Community Dinners at Knox Presbyterian Church

Supported by Out of the Cold Volunteers

Everyone is Welcome

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

Friday, May 5th and June 2nd

Doors open at 5:30

116 Main St. S, Georgetown ON

We are unfortunately not wheelchair accessible,
but an electric stair chair is available



LEASH-FREE HALTON HILLS

Presents:
an exciting new learning
opportunity

St. John's Ambulance Pet First Aid Training

Saturday May 6th
St. Andrew's United Church

Register in advance with Leash-Free Halton Hills
leashfreehalton@gmail.com
Space is limited: First come, first serve



St. John's United Church

Coronation Breakfast

Saturday May 6

from 5am until it is over

BBC Live feed

Continental Breakfast Tickets \$20 each

available from the church office at
905-877-2531 or office@stjohnsuc.ca

Rotary



Club of Acton

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS IN ACTON!

Taste of Spring

GALA TAPAS DINNER & LIVE AUCTION



Gala tapas dinner & live auction to help build
a hospice in North Halton.

Date: Friday May 5, 2023

Location: Acton Town Hall, 19 Willow Street
North, Acton

Please click here for more details and to purchase tickets



United Church Mission & Service Fund

Protecting Love around the World: Michael Blair's Work



“When we hear these stories, we can see that this is
a life and death matter.”

Would you go to jail to proclaim your love?
Would you be willing to die?

We are blessed to live in Canada, a country that recognizes the right to love whoever you want, regardless of their gender or sex. And while we haven't always done what is right, The United Church of Canada now recognizes that all love—including Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ relationships—is holy and

blessed by God. But those rights do not exist in many parts of the world today. "One of our partners in Kenya has advocated strongly for the human rights of sexual minorities, and that has caused him to be in jail, caused him to risk his life to be able to do that," says the Rev. Michael Blair. The church's first openly gay General Secretary is now helping to advocate for sexual and gender minorities in foreign countries.

"When we hear these stories, we can see that this is a life and death matter." Mission & Service plays a critical role in Blair's efforts.

Your gifts help shelter refugees as they escape repressive governments. Same-sex attraction is a crime in 71 countries, and 11 of them have the death penalty.

Mission & Service also holds consultations in other countries to discover how we can best work with our partners to protect sexual and gender minorities. "A few years ago, we hosted a consultation here in Canada with several partners and asked how we can be supportive of their work," Blair says. "They told us we needed to come and help in their context."

To date, Mission & Service has supported consultations in Latin America and the Philippines.

"We are bringing together leaders to explore how the church can be a place of liberation and life for sexual and gender minorities in those communities. That is happening because of the folks who contribute to Mission & Service," says Blair.

Thank you for helping to protect sexual and gender minorities. You are saving lives and changing views around the world!



This week on Sunday after the service I made a special announcement to the congregation. Here is the letter that I read out.

"I am writing you to share the news that as of July 31st, 2023, I will be stepping down from my role as minister of St. Andrew's United Church and seeking a change in pastoral relations. I assure you that this was not an easy decision and one I have been contemplating for some time now, but it is time for me to move on to the next steps in God's plan for my life.

I can say that these past 19 years here has truly been a blessing. I never would have imagined when I began in 2004 that I would be still here 19 years later. My oldest daughter, Katie, was just an infant when we arrived and a couple years later my second daughter, Sarah, was born.

Over these years, we have been blessed by your welcoming hospitality, your grace and support in our time here. I hold many dear memories in those special times of worship, VBS programs, pastoral visits, fundraisers, weddings, funerals, baptisms, countless meals, study groups, men's retreats, and countless meetings.

Over the past few years, we have seen a great deal of changes within the congregation and beyond in the world. Covid has disrupted the normal processes of life in all ways. Our congregation has succeeded and thrived under challenging circumstances. We have maintained an online presence connecting with people near and far away. I owe a great deal of gratitude to the staff for keeping us current and working far beyond expectations.

You are amid a new vision process to discover what God has planned for us as a congregation in the future. You are in conversations with St. John's United, are looking at creative ways to see a new way forward through surveys and town hall meetings and looking at new revenue streams to remain a vital congregation.

When a congregation is looking at the future with a careful lens and a possibility for changes it is often a good plan that the long-term incumbent minister step aside to allow the congregation to dive in and seek a way that will be their desired path forward.

It has truly been an honour and blessing to have been your minister through this season. I am planning to take a break from ministry for now, to recharge, regroup and recalibrate how God will be working through me. I plan to remain in the community and will be fulfilling another vocation that has been dormant for many years. I have recently licenced and registered a Home inspection and Renovation business that I will pursuing in the next while. It is called "Willbuilt Home Inspection and Renovation Services"

I do love the ministry and intend to continue to serve God in some way through volunteering, doing pulpit supply or taking on short-term part-time appointments. Only God knows what is in store for me.
I wish you all well in the future and all of God's blessings."

Leaving a beloved congregation after all these years is not an easy one. They will be sadness and grief and a sense of joy for what is yet to come, for both the congregation and for my family and me.

As I have reflected on my time here, I can think of so many good memories of events and ministries that have taken place. The friendships that have been made have been invaluable. I plan to remain in the community, and you will likely see me around. In the next few months please feel free to come and say hello, have a coffee and chat.

St. Andrew's is a vibrant and blessed community and I wish you all the best for the next leg of your faith story.

See you on Sunday,
Blessings,
Grant Williams



We have changed our email addresses!

To contact us via email now please use:

office@standrewsuc.ca or minister@standrewsuc.ca

WAYS TO GIVE



CASH & CHEQUE



ETRANSFERS TO

STANDREWSGEORGETOWN89@GMAIL.COM



CANADA HELPS

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...



Share This Email



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