

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



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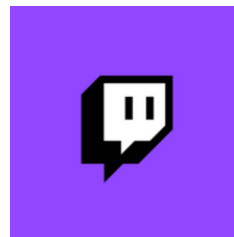
NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

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

Thursday April 13, 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!



100.3
FM
All St. Andrew's Radio
Available 1 KM around St. Andrew's United Church
Log on for Service on Sundays at 10:00 AM
ST. ANDREWS UNITED CHURCH
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482

St. Andrew's United Church

Worship This Week
Sunday, April 16, 2023
Theme:
**Holy Humour Sunday/
Doubting Thomas**

This week, we will be focusing on the bible reading from John 20:19-31. In this, we hear the story about Thomas, one of the disciples. Thomas didn't believe

that Jesus actually rose from the dead and walked around. He wanted to see the proof that Jesus was who he said he was by seeing the nail marks on his hands.

Like Thomas, we too sometimes have doubts in our faith. How do we really know what we believe? We too sometimes need a firsthand account of events taking place in order to believe them.

On the Sunday after Easter, it is sometimes known as Holy Humour Sunday, as it seems funny that the joke is on us that Jesus, could actually rise from the grave and live again. It is almost like an April fool's joke. But in the Christian belief, we do believe that miracles happen and with God anything is possible. We worship a God that can make things happen and is all knowing. The rising of Jesus from the tomb is the best miracle possible, and we believe this to be true by the acts of love in the world, that are made possible through God's love.

So now more about Holy Humour Sunday.

The idea of setting aside one Sunday each year to celebrate God's gift of laughter and joy may be new to you, but it's got a long and rich history in many congregations around the world. Here is a write up I found on the internet to explain the history.

"Laughter Sunday (also known as Holy Humour Sunday, Hilarity Sunday, God's Laughter Sunday, Bright Sunday or Holy Fools Sunday) has its roots in a number of different Christian traditions. Churches in 15th century Bavaria used to celebrate the Sunday after Easter as Risus Paschalis ('God's Joke,' or 'the Easter laugh'). Priests would deliberately include amusing stories and jokes in their sermons in an attempt to make the faithful laugh. After the service, people would gather together to play practical jokes on one another and tell funny stories. It was their way of celebrating the resurrection of Christ – the supreme joke God played on Satan by raising Jesus from the dead.

The observance of Risus Paschalis was officially outlawed by Pope Clement X in the 17th century. Perhaps people were having too much fun. In the Orthodox tradition, people would gather on Easter Monday to tell jokes and funny stories, and to dance and eat together. In 1988, the Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging churches to resurrect some of these Christian traditions—to celebrate the grace and mercy of God through the gift of laughter and joy."

So, we have some fun planned for this Sunday. We hope you will join us!

Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31
Nap Time It's Good to Laugh!



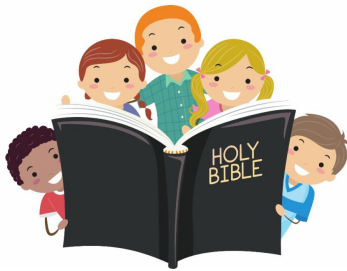
Thank you to our Sunday School class for decorating our bulletin board with

their beautiful artwork!



SCRIPTURE SUMMARY

John 20: 19-31



Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them.


Humour Corner

I needed some supplies from a Sunday School cupboard that was seldom used and was secured with a lock. I didn't know the combination, but our minister offered to give it a try. The minister placed his fingers on the lock's dial and raised his eyes heavenward for a moment. Then he confidently spun the dial and opened the lock. Seeing how impressed I was with this demonstration of faith, he smiled and confided, "The numbers are written on the ceiling."

Holy Week at St. Andrews







It was wonderful to see the sanctuary filled on Sunday morning to welcome our new members!

I believe the congregation finally outnumbered those in the choir loft. Thank you to Carolyn Burns, Michelle Yahiro, Marguerite Webster and Colleen Armstrong for supplying delicious cupcakes.

We are finding that more people are staying for coffee time and fellowship when they can sit at tables. If you are enjoying this time please consider signing up or supplying goodies for May and June.

From The Membership team



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.

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

We are
HIRING

JOB POSITION:

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/
BOOKKEEPER**

Visit the link below for the full job posting



[Please click here for the full job posting](#)

Circle of Friends

2nd, 4th, 5th Friday of the Month

The next meeting is on
Friday, April 14th at 9:30 am in the
Fellowship room



The Elaine Jones Real Estate Team's 2nd Annual Women's Spring Closet Clean-Out Event

Friday, April 14th: 1-7pm

at St. Andrew's United Church
New & Gently used women's clothing

All items \$1

Proceeds to Townsend Smith Foundation building
a Hospice for North Halton



 ST. ANDREWS UNITED CHURCH
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482

ST. ANDREW'S FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

Friday April 21, 2023

Doors Open @ 5:30 PM

Anyone wanting takeout
please contact the office.
89 Mountainview Rd. S. Georgetown

Supported by Community Donors and
Free Will Offerings



SPRING FLOWER BASKET FUNDRAISER

Proceeds to benefit 4th Georgetown Scouting

\$25 per basket

Orders due April 27, 2023

Pick up: May 27, 2023, 10 AM - 1 PM

Poets Path, Georgetown

10" mixed hanging flower baskets

Full to part sun

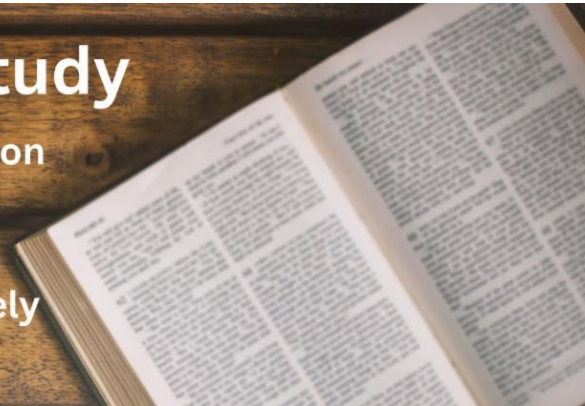
Colours vary by basket



[Please click here to place your flower basket order](#)

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.



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.



Lives and Worlds Tour, Spring 2023

Friday, April 21st, 2023 at 8:00 PM

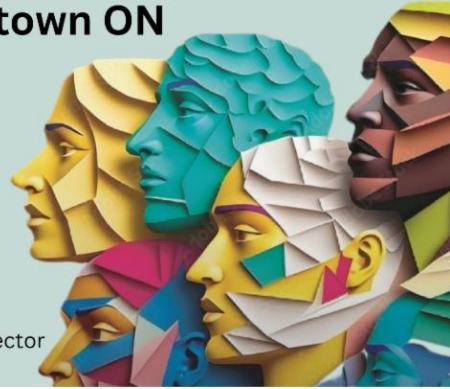
The Sanctuary Concert Hall at St. John's United Church
11 Guelph St. Georgetown ON

The Marion Singers' first spring tour since the pandemic shutdown celebrates the world and its people in mostly acapella music spanning centuries and genres from sacred and classical to folk, jazz and spirituals.



The Marion Singers

of Greater Toronto | Christopher Dawes Music Director



Please click here to purchase tickets



Worship Service with St. John's United

April 23rd, 10 AM at St. John's United
Church

11 Guelph St, Georgetown

There will be a joint service with the two congregations worshipping together. Leadership will be shared by both choirs, Rev. Grant Williams and Sue Cowan along with lay participants. There will be no service held at St. Andrew's on this day.



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

COMPASSIONATE ENGAGEMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY SPACES

Engaging with respect, dignity, and justice-oriented care.

Norval United Church

Wednesday, April 26

6:00-8:30 PM. Dinner included - Must pre-register

We will cover:

- Broad overview of GTA-based homelessness and the issues that face marginalized people
- Practical engagement tips around assisting people experiencing crisis
- Build awareness of useful resources and supports

[Please click here to pre-register](#)



Georgetown Bread Basket

If you are thinking of making a donation to the Georgetown Bread Basket this month, the items in most need are peanut butter, canned pasta, canned fruit, juice boxes, ketchup, sugar, chicken noodle or rice soup, pancake mix and syrup. Items can be dropped off at the church.



FOR THE LOVE OF CREATION

This year, the United Church and fellow members of the *For the Love of Creation* climate justice initiative are holding a "Together for the Love of Creation" Earth Week.

During the week of April 16 – 23, engage in a climate justice activity...
praying, learning, acting.

Coming together for the love of creation is a way to connect, grow, listen, inspire hope and affect change. Your activity could be visibly joining a community-wide event or creating something new. This is a chance to reach out to other faith communities and neighbours in your climate justice initiatives.

[Please click here for more information](#)

HALTON HILLS EARTH WEEK

April 21st - April 28th

April 22, 2023, marks the 53rd year of Earth Day. To recognize this important date, the Town will host its annual Earth Week celebrations! Earth Week activities support a healthy environment, strong local tree canopy, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and a resilient community.



[Please click here to get involved and view the full schedule](#)



The Revolution Generation
7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
John Elliot Theatre

Revolution Generation is an exploration of the world-changing activism and potential of the largest youth generation in history. The film shows examples of young leaders working to revolutionize systems that have failed their generation. It paints a powerful and hopeful picture of how today's youth can solve global political and environmental crises. Adults \$10 Students \$5

[Please click here for tickets and more details](#)

Great News!



Easter Basket Brigade - Event was a massive success as the CUHH "Community" Team came together to show that we as a Christian Community care and as called "Love Thy Neighbours". God called and your congregation and CUHH answered.

Families delivered to	220+
People	545+
Amount Raised	~\$26 000

Just wanted to say thank you to all of our participating Churches, Volunteers,

Supporters, CUHH Team and of course the Lord for giving us the opportunity to make a difference in our community! Please see the result of your efforts and there were also significant contributions outside these events ie St. Andrews with their donation from The Coldest Night of the Year Walk to Georgetown Bread Basket of over \$9,000 just as an example.

The key take away from all this from initiatives like Easter Basket Brigade or the massive volunteer need with the Out of the Cold Program down at Knox:

- It all starts with sharing the message, the “**Ask**” – Everything happens with the message being shared
- Your congregations and community around us want to get involved, care about their neighbours
- As a Christian Community in Halton Hills we can make a difference! Even better News to Come!!

-Timothy Chisholm



United Church Mission & Service Fund

Learning about agroecology at the Dora Alicia Sorto School Farm in El Salvador



Community members show their pride in a successful bean harvest at the Dora Alicia Sorto School Farm, a project led by the Association of Economic and Social Development Santa Marta (ADES).

Credit: Christie Neufeldt

The Association of Economic and Social Development Santa Marta (ADES), a Mission & Service partner, is located in an area of Central America that is very vulnerable to climate change. This hot, dry region regularly experiences drought. Mining projects have also negatively affected the environment and the people in the region. ADES and other community organizations decided to act to protect the community's right to a healthy environment.

An example of how ADES is responding is a three-year agroecology project

co-funded by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation and The United Church of Canada Foundation, along with Mission & Service. Agroecology benefits the land and water because it recycles nutrients back into the soil. It also reduces production costs, lessening the financial burden on rural farmers.

In this project, ADES works closely with the community to grow food in a rural region of El Salvador, promoting sustainable agriculture that protects biodiversity, maintains the integrity of the land, and upholds rural culture. The centre of the project is the Dora Alicia Sorto School Farm, where rural families, mainly led by women, learn about agroecology. The school provides training, technical expertise, and seeds indigenous to the region. It focuses on preserving the surrounding environment and on upholding gender and human rights as part of its approach to food security.

Your gifts to Mission & Service help support ADES' agroecology project. Thank you for your generosity!



"Merry Christmas!" I hope you all had a great time with family and friends over the holidays. On the weekend, my family enjoyed a lovely Turkey dinner with all the fixings. It's springtime and nice to be able to get out and about, enjoying the sunshine and time in our yards as we get ready for new growth to burst forth out of the hard frozen soil.

Coming up will be the Community Unity Yard clean up day. As usual, we will be looking for volunteers to assist in the raking of leaves and yard waste from people's yards over the winter. If you can assist, please let myself or Ross Leckie know.

Community Unity is a great organization that helps to support people in need within our community. I attended a ministerial meeting this week and we learned that 214 families were served from all the donations received from the annual Basket Brigade. With all the churches combined, we raised just over \$26,000. What an amazing result given by generous people in our community. The families assisted were people on the Georgetown Bread Basket client list from Halton Hills. We owe a huge thanks to those who contributed gift cards and cash to Community Unity and for volunteering to deliver gift bags to help those in need. We have been noticing a huge upsurge of people in need and using the food bank this year, due to the rising cost of food and inflation.

Together we can support our neighbours in need through our compassion and generous gifts.



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4862

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...



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