



LENT 2023

**seeking:**  
honest questions  
for deeper faith

## 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

**SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM**



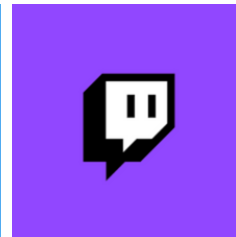
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# NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

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

Friday March 3, 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



## seeking:

*How do we  
begin again?*

This week, we are continuing our Lenten series called “Seeking”. This week for Lent 2 we look at the concept of being “born again.”

This phrase, “Born Again” has become well-known in Christian circles and is often associated with a dramatic and transformative spiritual experience. But what does it really mean to be born again, and why is it such an important concept in Christianity?

In John 3:3, Jesus tells Nicodemus, a religious leader of his time, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” This phrase perplexed Nicodemus, as it may also perplex some of us. How can someone be born again?

Jesus goes on to explain that being born again is a spiritual rebirth, where one is not only physically born into the world, but also spiritually born into a new life in Christ.

This concept of being born again is not just a one-time event, but a lifelong process of spiritual growth and transformation. When we accept Christ as our Saviour, we become new creations in him (2 Corinthians 5:17), and the Holy Spirit begins to work in us, transforming our hearts and minds to be more like Christ. We become children of God, adopted into his family and given the gift of eternal life.

Being born again also means that we have a new identity in Christ. When we journey through Lent it is a time of reflection of our relationship with God and this may be a time for you to be “born again” also.

This Sunday we will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion. When we celebrate communion, we let go of past wrongs and judgments. We offer and accept forgiveness and make an effort to be at peace with each other. Communion reminds us of the sacrifices Jesus made on our behalf and it unites believers in the holy Christian family.

**Old Testament Scripture Reading:** Genesis 12:1-4a

**New Testament Scripture Reading:** John 3:1-17

**Meditation:** Born anew!



**seeking:**  
How do we  
begin again?

2nd Sunday in Lent | Year A

**MAIN IDEA:** *I can always start over when I need to.*



## veil

The Seeking logo was designed by Lauren Wright Pittman. Do you see the veil? A veil is like a cover that keeps us from seeing the full picture. The veil refers to Nicodemus' confusion in today's story. **Color the veil in the graphic above.**



**SCOUT SUNDAY** was a wonderful event with so many of our 4th Georgetown members in attendance.

A huge thank you to all the youth for your participation in assisting with set up, clean up and for all the wonderful baking and cake supplied by the leaders at coffee time.

In addition, congratulations to all those who were presented with their Level 1 and 2 Religion and Life certificates and badges. A major achievement in your Scouting experience to be proud of.

# Broadview Magazine Renewals



Thank you to everyone who renewed or signed up for their magazine on Sunday.

We still have 3 trial subscriptions available if you have never subscribed before but would like to try it free for a year. A great offer.

Please contact Colleen or Ginny Morecroft if you wish to take advantage of this offer.

*Happy Birthday!* Milestone birthday wishes go out to Carolyn Burns week.

*Wishing you a  
Speedy recovery!*  
♥

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Margo Baird and Ken Nokes.



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
www.standrews.ca (603) 877-6882

## Sat March 18, 2023

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
**MEN'S  
Breakfast**  
CLUB

at 9 AM  
at the legion.

All are invited to join us! Email the office to join!



The Out of the Cold program 'housed' at Knox Presbyterian Church in downtown Georgetown continues through the cold nights of March. An evening meal, safe overnight accommodation, and a simple breakfast is offered to anyone who desires it. Some of our St. Andrew's volunteers have had to drop out for a variety of reasons. We have a particular need of volunteers for the overnight shift (11pm-6 am) and the morning shift (6-8am). For more information please contact Ross Leckie.



## Georgetown Bread Basket

If you are thinking of making a donation to the Georgetown Bread Basket this month, the items in most need are juice boxes for students, individual pudding cups (preferably Chocolate), Instant Hot Breakfast Cereal, Ketchup and Sugar. Items can be

dropped at the food bank, in grocery stores or at Knox and they will be delivered for you.

We are asking families to share Easter with another family. Any donation however small is greatly received. Donations will be dispersed in the Easter Basket Brigade.

# EASTER BASKET BRIGADE



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
www.standrews.ca (905) 877-4482

Gift Cards and Monetary Donations can be dropped off at the church office until March 16, 2023.



## St. Andrew's United Church

# CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday, March 5, 2023



11:00 am after worship service

This Sunday at 11 am we will be holding a congregational meeting as a follow up meeting from the Annual Meeting on February 12th. The agenda for the meeting will be a single item. We will be bringing forward an update from the Vision Team and a reaffirmation of the work they are tasked to do. This will provide some opportunity for open communication and dialogue with one another as a faith community. This will be a hybrid meeting and will follow immediately after worship. we will invite people to go and have a coffee and bring it back into the sanctuary for the meeting. The link for the meeting is accessible through the button below.

[Congregational Meeting Zoom Link](#)

**Can you help?**



We have a request for a queen mattress in good condition. If you have one to spare. Please let the office know and we will arrange to have them delivered.



## United Church Mission & Service Fund



### Creating a safe space for single women in India

Maina Bai's mother died when she was a baby, and Maina never went to school.

When she was just 10 years old, her father married her off to an older man. By 16, she had a child. A few years after the birth of her daughter, her husband died. When she returned to her maternal home, Maina was married off—again.

After a few years of marriage, Maina became a widow again. Single, she faced extraordinary stigma.

Approximately 2.18 million single women like Maina live in the state of Rajasthan, India. Whether they are widowed, divorced, or have never been married, these women are deemed “incomplete” and a disgrace to their families. As a result, many live lives marked by stigma, fear, and violence—simply for not being married.

Your gifts support Mission & Service partner Astha Sansthan, “Association of Strong Women Alone” (ASWA). In 20 years, the association grew from 450 single women to over 70,000 members.

ASWA's approach is simple: Create a safe space for single women to come together and get the knowledge and skills necessary to improve their lives.

The association has made all the difference for Maina. She can now read and write and is empowering other women to become literate. Because of her leadership, 35 women have enrolled in adult learning. All of them now have grade eight certificates. What's more, the generational cycle of illiteracy has been broken. Maina's daughter can not only read and write but is also teaching others to do the same, opening up opportunities and increasing independence.

Your Mission & Service gifts empower women like Maina to be agents of change within their communities. Thank you for your generosity.

Grant's  
World



Last Saturday night we had the Coldest Night of the year Walk. Our team, the Georgetown United Angels had over 30 people participating. In total, we raised over \$9400, a new record for any one team, for the Georgetown Breadbasket and Links 2Care.

If you are unfamiliar with the important work that the Links2care organization does here is a snapshot of their role from their website.

They provide a better quality of life through care, support and connection.

They support healthy living and create connections through:

- Supporting independence at home
- Fostering early learning and development
- Connecting people in need

They encourage Community Well Being

- Improve connections to increase community impact
- Develop programs and services that respond to community need
- Provide leadership to improve the continuum of care.

They offer a Culture of Caring

- Encourage professional development opportunities.
- Foster exceptional workplace practices to become the employer of choice
- Exhibit people centred mind set based on equity and compassion

As you can see, Links2Care provides assistance for people of all ages and walks of life.

Some have been saying this week to me of how good it is that we are involved in the community and not just a church that holds a worship service each week.

The reality, we are seeing around North America is that faith communities are shrinking as a whole. Fewer people can be found seated in a worship service each Sunday. Our world has changed as people see the church or worship as less relevant. However, what we are seeing is that churches are adapting to new paradigms of what the church is about, and we are seeing more people connecting through outreach and community partnerships. Churches will see fewer people sitting in worship on a Sunday morning but more people engaged with such things as Links2care, the breadbasket, United Way, care support groups, and other humanitarian organizations.

Churches are no longer seen as solely a place to worship on a Sunday morning, but more as a community hub that cares for one another and those in need. The ministry of Jesus, was always one of caring for the poor, reaching out to people on the margins of society. We are now seeing churches returning to a Christian style of ministry as found in the first century. Jesus never promoted people to sit inside a church building each week for worship, but rather he encouraged his followers to minister to the needs of the world around them.

As our church building is being used more for rentals to community and business organizations, we are connecting with many more people than we do

for a Sunday morning worship service. As the world around us changes, so must the church to be able to connect with people in a new way.

Through our outreach involvement in such things as the Out of the Cold Program, Community Suppers, Clothing Room, Links2care, the Breadbasket, Community Unity, and providing space for scout and guide groups and walking in the Coldest night of the year walk, we are living our faith in the world as Christ intends.

I am so proud of the commitment and engagement of the St. Andrew's Congregation as we care for others in our community.

Blessings,  
Grant

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ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-6182

## We have changed our email addresses!

To contact us via email now please use:  
[office@standrewsuc.ca](mailto:office@standrewsuc.ca) or [minister@standrewsuc.ca](mailto:minister@standrewsuc.ca)

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## WAYS TO GIVE



CASH & CHEQUES



ETRAANSFERS @

STANDREWSGEORGETOWN89@GMAIL.COM



CANANDA HELPS



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-6182

Our Charitable Registration Number is: 892633462RR0001

*Sent with love* 

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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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St. Andrew's United Church | 89 Mountainview Road S., Georgetown, L7G 4T9 Canada

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