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

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

Thursday, February 20, 2025

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, February 23rd

7th Sunday after Epiphany Scout Sunday Celebrating Black History The Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

The Sermon: 'Don't Block My Blessing'

Please click here to view the Order of Service



#### **Scripture Summary**

And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

#### **Humour Corner**

What do you call a snowstorm in the middle of a church service? A "Holy Blizzard" of blessings!

## **Membership Announcements**

#### Thank you Rick and Colleen!

A big thank you to Rick and Colleen Armstrong for generously purchasing a new refrigerator after our old one broke! The 25 year old fridge which has lived a good life, was not worth repairing after talking to a service tech. We are grateful to have the new fridge in time for this week's community dinner!

#### Hi Everyone

This week is out of the cold walk on Saturday, February 22nd. We have an awesome team. Please show your support if you haven't already. They really will be out in the cold this year!!

This Sunday is Scout Sunday and we will need some extra help for coffee time. Please check the March schedule which so far is blank but I know this will not last. Thanks to all for your ongoing support!

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

Keeping in our prayers Judy Shea who was in hospital for a respiratory issue and is now home. Also Pierre Paradis who was in hospital after a fall. He is now home recovering and his family has been helping him while the elevator was out of order.

#### **Volunteer Hours Needed!**

We have to submit yearly statistics to the United Church of Canada. One of the statistics they are requesting are the number of volunteer hours contributed by your congregants and adherents to the life of your community of faith for 2024.

We realize that this is a difficult thing to do since so many people volunteer a lot of time to the church, but we are going to try and quantify this number. There will be sign up sheets at church for you to enter your estimated hours or you can email the church office at office@standrewsuc.ca with your name and the number of hours you are estimating for volunteering last year.

This looks like it will be a yearly statistic, so please also start keeping track of your volunteer hours for 2025!

Please submit your hours by Wednesday, February 26th, 2025as the

statistics need to be submitted by March 3rd. Thank you for your support!

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





Our CNOY Walk...Please help make this community outreach a success!

Please go to the **Angels United Georgetown CNOY webpage** to sign-up as a walker, sponsor a registered walker, or donate to the team in general. **Hillcrest, Norval, St. Andrew's and St. John's** are walking as one team on the **Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY)** under the banner "Angels United Georgetown". The 5KM & 2KM walk event will be held at 4:00PM this **Saturday, February 22nd** at Norval United Church. All funds raised through the CNOY Georgetown Walk stay in the community and will be directed to the Georgetown Bread Basket and Links2Care. Please help make this community outreach a success.

Please Click Here to Register or Sponser one of our Walkers

# Family Day Food Drive

# Rescheduled to: Sunday, February 23rd

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

Thank you for your support!

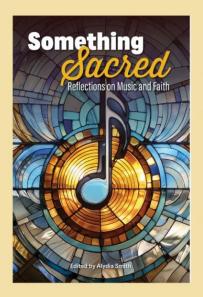
#### **Most Needed**

- Brown Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Apple Sauce
- Flakes of chicken
- Flakes of turkey
- Juice 1L and juice boxes
- Sugar

### Needed

- Cookies
- Fruit cups
- Pudding cups
- Spices
- Cooking Sauces





## **A Lenten Study**

A Lenten Study during March will be offered by Kate on Monday nights via Zoom. Using the United Church Lenten Resource: "Something Sacred, Reflections on Music and Faith" we will explore how music has the power to deepen our faith and our connection to God.

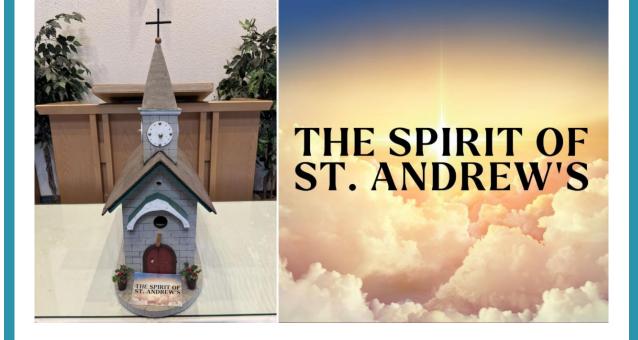
Please click here to order the paperback or e-book (Ucrd)

## **Weekly Bible Study**

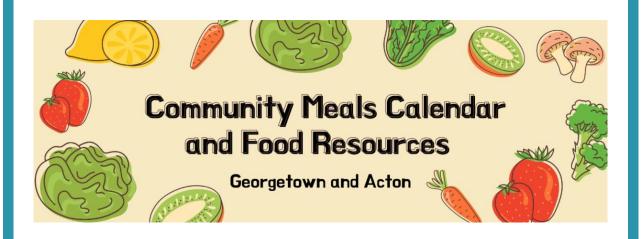
Every Thursday at 10:00am in the Fellowship room
The Letter of Paul to the Romans

Lesson Eight, Romans 5
New Life, New Lifestyle
Our new life in Christ demands a new Lifestyle.
The new service completely ousts the old.

**Invite Yourself** 



## **Community Announcements**



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









# Easter Basket Brigade Saturday April 5, 2025

We together as a Christian Community can and will make a difference in Halton Hills...and this is happening with your action and answering "His Calling" loudly. 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.

Jesus has chosen us as "His Hands/Heart" 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 - Saturday March 29th, 2025 Request:

"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." (1 John 3:17-18)

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 April 5th 9:30 AM at Georgetown Christian Reformed Church. We are suggesting our Families in all of our congregations to share Easter with another family by ideally purchasing (2) \$50.00 Grocery Gift Cards and also 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. 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 22nd as it takes a week for the funds to be released to Community Unity.

God in his mercy has provided us with his bounty, and likewise we can open our hearts and share this bounty with our Community.

Please see the volunteer sign up sheets outside of the sanctuary!

Please click here to make a donation, watch the video, or get more information

On behalf of your Community Unity Team! Timothy Chisholm tjc@chisintl.com Executive Director Easter Basket Brigade Chair - Community Unity – Halton Hills

# **Pub Night**



## **Featuring**

- Russell Braun and Carolyn Maule
- Diana Tesser and Justin Tesser
- Don Ablett and Brent Cooper

Food Drinks Fun Friends
Silent Auction

Saturday February 22, 2025

7:00pm to 11:00pm

St Alban's Church Hall 537 Main St., Glen Williams

A Fundraiser for GFORCe3
Supporting Our Refugee Family

# Pancake Tuesday Tuesday, March 4th

Free or Free Will Offering



St. Alban's Glen Williams 537 Main St.

> Norval UC 14015 Danby Rd.

> > St. John's UC 11 Guelph St.

Bethel CRC Acton 365 Queen St.

Salvation Army Acton 114 Mill St. E.

#### Grace United Church Presents

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

# Scrumptious Pancakes & Sausages (with <u>real</u> maple syrup!)

TUESDAY, March 4, 2025

Served between 5 & 7 p.m.



# Tickets:

Adults \$15 Children \$5 (12 & under)

#### Tickets from

Church office (905-451-1215)

Take out available



Be a part of the pay-it-forward social community. Donate the cost of a ticket by February 23 and Grace will distribute tickets to those who are in need.

Together we can make good things happen at Grace.
Thank you for your support.



156 Main St. N., Brampton

## When Faith Meets Understanding

Grandmothers help pastors learn to do better by connecting their love for their grandchildren to God's love for all.

Credit: The United Church of Canada



In the Rift Valley of Kenya, over 200,000 people are HIV positive, 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 of Canada, 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 was raising three grandchildren on her own after losing both her daughter and her son. 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 caring for her 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 moved forward 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 <u>Mission and Service</u> 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!









**CANADA HELPS** 

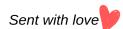


**SCAN ME for more details** 

**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...







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

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