

# St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews



Advent 2022

FROM  
GENERATION  
TO GENERATION...  
*We tell this story*

SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AT  
10:00 AM ON FACEBOOK LIVE,  
YOU TUBE, TWITTER & TWITCH



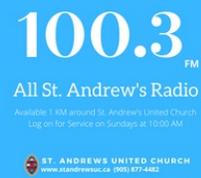
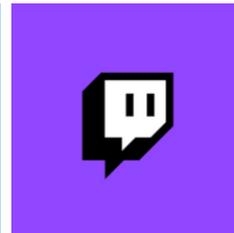
St. Andrew's United Church  
89 Mountainview Rd. S. Georgetown ON L7G 4T9  
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

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

Thursday December 15, 2022

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!



### This Week's Theme: Advent 4 Advent Love

#### Generation to Generation Series: We See God in Each other

This Sunday we will be celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent. We light the candle of love. In our advent series, Generation to Generation, we look at how we can see God in each other. Some may see God as a higher power up in the air, all mighty and powerful, but God can also be found in each of us. inside our hearts, minds, and bodies. When we look around and see acts of kindness and generosity, that is where we see God at work. God can be found in the person who donates hats and mitts to a clothing drive, or someone who helps a neighbour clear their snow on a winter day, or we see God in the heart of a stranger who drops everything to come rescue a stray dog lost on the street.

God is amazing and all powerful for sure, but God can also be found in the little things. In the still small voice that nudges us to change our mind on something

or gives us a sign to go and reach out to an old friend.

Advent is a time for preparing our hearts and homes for the coming of the saviour in a stable. Jesus came to the earth in a humble way to show us a different way to live our lives.

In the scripture reading from Matthew 1 we hear the story of Joseph. Mary had been told by the angel that she will give birth to a son, but this was not Joseph's son, but God's. Yet despite this Joseph accepted Jesus as his son. Joseph had thoughts to divorce Mary, but God gave him a sign to carry on and accept this little baby born into the world.

Sometimes life throws us curveballs that we don't expect, and its in the little moments of life that we see love poured out and we see grace revealed.

In the service we will look at the ways in which we see God in one another and how God's love is revealed.

In the service we will also be celebrating the sacrament of baptism so we hope you will join us for this special Sunday!

**Scripture Readings:** Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1: 18-25

**Meditation:** Seeking God's Love!

## St. Andrew's United Church





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

Come out and sing your favourite Christmas Carols!

Presentations by 5 local United Church choirs!

# Community CAROL SING

## SUNDAY, DEC 18TH

FREE ENTRY/ FREE WILL DONATION TO CHARTIY  
2 PM  
REFRESHMENTS TO BE SERVED FOLLOWING THE CAROLLING



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH  
89 MOUNTAINVIEW RD. S. GEORGETOWN, ON  
905-877-4482

In addition to coffee, tea and juice we will be serving **hot chocolate** at fellowship. Come out and get in the Christmas Spirit.



### CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Our St. Andrew's United Church community mailbox is out and available for everyone to leave their Christmas cards. It can be found in the lobby.

We are looking for some people willing to help with our Christmas Services for people willing to be greeters, readers, and communion servers. A sign-up sheet will

**CAN YOU HELP?**

be available on Sunday.

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

# Christmas Eve Family Service



SATURDAY DECEMBER 24, 2022  
4:00 PM  
IN PERSON

**December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service for Families (In Person)**  
A fun and interactive Carols service especially for those with children.

# Christmas Eve Service

SATURDAY DECEMBER 24, 2022  
7:00 PM  
IN PERSON & ONLINE



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

December 24th at 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

(Online and In Person)

A contemplative service with Senior choir and a message to celebrate the Christmas miracle.



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

# Christmas Service

AN INFORMAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE  
CELEBRATING CHRIST'S BIRTH



SUNDAY DECEMBER 25, 2022  
10:00 AM (ONLINE ONLY)

January 1st

# Worship Service

CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR. CONVERSATIONS  
ABOUT RESOLUTIONS FOR 2023

SUNDAY JANUARY 1, 2023  
10:00 AM (IN PERSON & ONLINE)

# Youth CONFIRMATION

We are hoping to run a youth faith confirmation class in the new year at St. Andrew's. This will be open to anyone in grades 8 and up. If your son or daughter, or grandchild is interested please speak to Rev. Grant



A person from Brampton is looking at possibly joining our choir but requires a ride from Brampton at about 6 pm on Thursdays. Susan will ensure she is able to return home. If there is anyone that could offer a ride please let the office or [Susan](#) know!



This is a great magazine with a broad range of topics!

The following are coming up in Jan/Feb. edition.

Keeping Faith on Death Row

Ramiro Gonzales faces execution in Texas. Since 2014, a United Church minister has been his spiritual compass.

What's in a Name?

Some people think Negro Creek Road in Grey County, Ont., should be renamed. For others, it shines a light on the rural area's Black history.

Born a Week Apart

In my 60s, I discovered the half-brother I never knew I had — and began to unravel the complicated story of our births

**It's Gift Subscription season!**

Group Subscribers are eligible for very special gift subscription rates. Please see our Special Gift Cover Wrap located on the December and January/February issues. The first gift is just \$25\*, all subsequent gifts are only \$20\*! (\*before tax) – up to 64% off the subscription price!

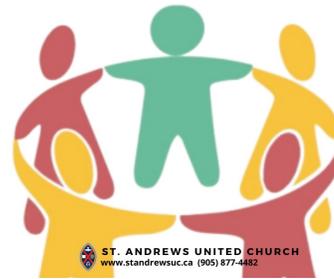
A gift subscription to Broadview will make a meaningful and conversation-creating gift for everyone on their Christmas list: daughters and sons, aunts and uncles, friends and caregivers. A subscription to Broadview is the gift that will inspire all year long!

Look for the gift subscription card from their December or January/February issues or use this link: [broadview.org/giftsubs](http://broadview.org/giftsubs) or call 1-866-807-5515 and use the code GIFTS22G for the special rate.



If you or your child wishes to be baptized at St. Andrew's, please contact Grant Williams to find out more information.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS



Circle of Friends meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> if there is one in the mornings. All are welcome to attend.



Our weekly bible study is held on thursdays at 10 am in person at the church. Everyone is welcome!



The choir practices Thursday evenings at 7 pm. All are welcome! No previous experience required!



## United Church Mission & Service Fund

Families want their dads to come back.



On November 20, countries around the world celebrate Universal Children's Day (also called World Children's Day). The date marks the anniversary of the UN General Assembly adopting both the declaration and the convention on children's rights. On the same day, Restorative Justice Week kicks off.

It's a perfect time to raise up the needs of children with incarcerated parents—the all-too-often forgotten, invisible, or ignored victims of the criminal justice system.

No one knows how many children in Canada are affected by the incarceration of a parent. Back in 2007, the guestimate was 357,604.\* But advocates think that with the increase in the prison population, the number is much higher.

While every situation is unique, many children with incarcerated parents face trauma, family instability, social isolation, and economic insecurity. On the inside, parents struggle to stay connected to their kids, let go of shame, and deepen parenting skills so they can successfully unite their family when they are released.

That's why Parkland Restorative Justice—a Mission & Service partner based in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan—runs an eight-week parenting course for male inmates called Dad HERO, (an acronym for "Helping Everyone Realize Opportunities"). Developed in partnership with the Canadian Families and Corrections Network (CFCN), the course is designed to educate dads about parenting, how to communicate with their child, and how to work with a co-parent. Afterward, the dads meet regularly in a group that continues to provide support after their release.

"A lot of people don't think about men inside prisons as a hero. In fact, when we told the men the name of the program, some of them said, 'That doesn't resonate with me, I don't really feel like a hero to my kids. But I want my children to look up to me, to think that I have value and worth, that I have information to give them, and can be a good parent that is aspiring to be a hero,'" says Louise Leonardi, Executive Director of the CFCN. "We all want the same things for these men. We want them to come out of prison, to reoffend less, to be with their families, to start a pro-social and productive life, and to move into society in a well-balanced way. Families want their dads to come back."\*\*

No one is disposable, and no child should feel forgotten. Thank you for helping to build stronger families and for believing everyone can be a hero.

This week we been a wonderful week around St. Andrew's. Last Saturday we held a successful Town Hall meeting. We had about 45 people in attendance as we discussed ideas for the future of the church. Many great ideas were shared as people talked

*Grant's  
World*



about what is most important about the church for them. we looked at ideas for what is important to be a thriving and growing congregation. Overall, the energy was good, and people shared with me many good comments. We will look forward to more opportunities to engage the congregation through surveys and

other meeting times.

Then on Sunday we held our worship service focused on Joy. In the service we brought in hundreds of hats, mitts, and scarves for people in need. it was fun to see the children throwing the donated items on the mitten tree! All our donations were then brought to the salvation army to be included in their Christmas Hamper program serving over 100 families locally. Many thanks to all those who donated items this week.

Overall, this fall has been a positive time around the church, and I have seen the church coming together for meetings, social events, and fundraisers. Clearly people have been missing one another during Covid and no coming back. It's so nice to see the choir loft completely full, Sunday school increasing weekly, and our congregation growing again with newcomers joining us each week.

Tomorrow night we will have our Christmas Community dinner offered in the gym. This month there will be live entertainment offered so I hope you will come and join us!

I also want to let you all know that we have many more rentals starting up in January. As I shared at the town hall meeting, we will be having a Boxing Exercise group renting the church basement all through the week. The Immanuel Lutheran Church has sold their building across the street and will be starting to use our church for worship services on Sunday afternoons beginning on January 8th. And we have a St. John Ambulance training group using the gym on Tuesday nights. With all these rentals in addition to the renters already this will be welcome news as we make efforts to balance the church budget and be able to offer more ministry in our community.

I have feeling very positive with how things have been going this year and we thank God for the continued blessings.

Blessings as you go into your Christmas week!

*Grant*



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)

This year, I want  
to give gifts that  
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A Giving Catalogue from the People of The United Church of Canada

# WAYS TO GIVE



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CANANDA HELPS



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

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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