



NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

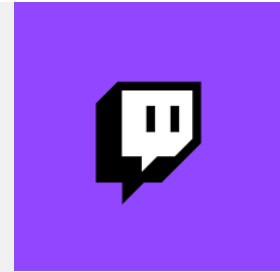
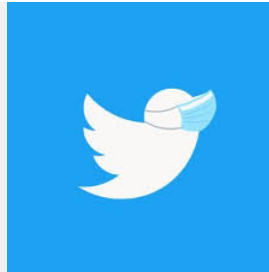
News and Inspiration from St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown, ON

Thursday January 28, 2021

**We stream our worship services Sundays at 10 am
on Facebook Live, YouTube, Twitter & Twitch.**



Click on the FB Live Image above to connect and join Sunday's Worship Service. You will see the "FB Live" option in the Facebook menu.



Refocus - Part 4: Radical Hospitality

This Sunday we are continuing our Refocus series with part four, radical hospitality. When you think of radical, what comes to mind? Something that is so over the top, very usual or special, or perhaps something unexpected. When I say radical hospitality, this implies an action that is so special that you want to enjoy it fully.

Christ calls us a church and as individuals to practice radical hospitality whenever we can. This could mean to be very open and accepting of who we are and who comes to join us for worship. How can our church offer this radical hospitality that Christ shows us in the scriptures and teaches us how to be?

Being a church that offers radical hospitality is fully accepting and nonjudgmental of who may come as a guest to our building and our community. In the service this week we will look at ways that St. Andrew's can offer radical hospitality as we practice our faith with open arms, open doors and open hearts. Our church building may be closed to in person worship but we are still a community each week for online services. We encourage you all to participate and engage with others through the comments below the live stream.

This week we have also made it easier to connect people through four social, media platforms so connect with which ever way is best for you. We are now streaming weekly to Facebook live, YouTube live, Twitter and Twitch. No matter which platform you choose, the comments are simultaneously shown on the other platforms. On Sunday with all our streams we had the highest online attendance since the start of the pandemic. So, its good to see you all connected to the church each week.

Here are the addresses to connect to us each week:

Twitter: @SaintAndrewsUC

Twitch: standrewsuc

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCLnvnC1CpDVRQOjuJfTUfPQ

Facebook: StAndrewsUnitedGeorgetown

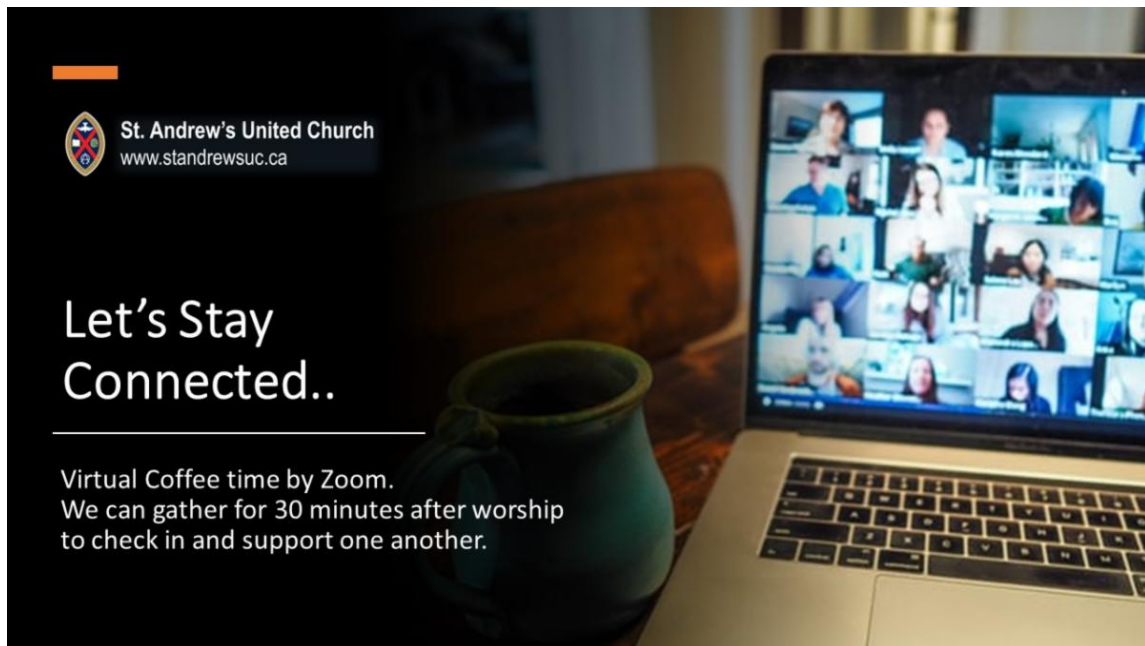
The icons at the top of our News from the Pews Newsletter also have direct links to each platform to make it easy for you to connect on Sunday.

If you subscribe to any of these platforms please **"follow"** St. Andrew's United.

Theme: Radical Hospitality

The Scripture Readings this week are: Deuteronomy 24:10-22, Romans 12:9-21

Immediately after worship we will hold a Zoom Coffee Hour. Please grab your coffee and connect on this link at 11 am. The link can be found [here](#).



Virtual Coffee House This Sunday

We invite you to join us for worship on YouTube and Facebook live at 10 am each week!

After the service, this Sunday we will be starting to hold a "Coffee Time" virtually. At 11 AM you are invited to log onto our Zoom call so we can check in with each other for about 30 minutes or so.

[Virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 943 0017 2425
Passcode: 8774482

JIGSAW PUZZLE EXCHANGE!



Do you have any Jigsaw Puzzles you could donate and exchange? We'll be collecting Jigsaw puzzles to exchange with members of St. Andrew's United. Drop off and pick is on Thursdays from 9 to 3 pm!



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

Milk Mat Ministry



We will be starting a Milk Mat Ministry again at St. Andrew's United! Looking for something fun and interesting to do while you're at home? For those that might be interested in weaving milk bags together into a mat - please contact the [office](#) and we will ensure you receive a frame and some milk bags to weave! Videos will also be sent out on how to weave the mats. Mats are currently being used by the homeless in Hamilton. Thank you to Lorne for making our weaving frames!

St. Andrew's Annual General Meeting



St. Andrew's annual general meeting will be held on **Sunday February 7, 2021 at 1:00 pm on zoom**. The meeting link can be found below. Annual reports will be available prior to the meeting. An email will be sent to St. Andrew's members early next week with a link to download the report.

If you wish you receive a printed copy contact the office by [email](#) or phone (905) 877-4482.

St. Andrew's Annual General Meeting on Zoom - February 7, 2021

Meeting ID: 381 580 3708
Passcode: 8774482
Phone: 647-55- 0588 Canada

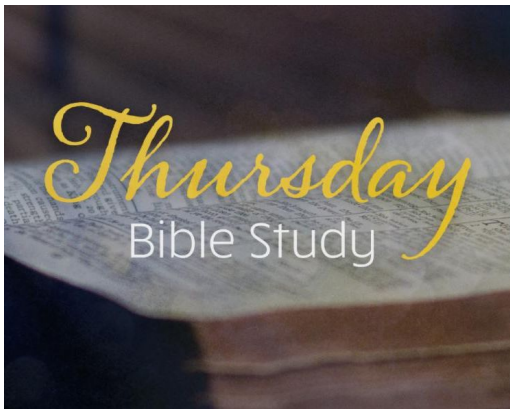
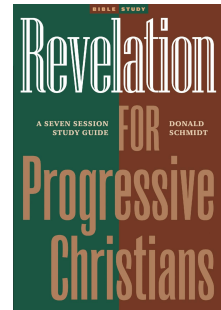
Offering Envelopes

If you are missing your offering envelopes please email the [office](#). We will make arrangements to have them delivered to you!



St. Andrew's United Men's Book Study

Revelation... for Progressive Christians is a seven-session study guide by Donald Schmidt that invites readers to explore Revelation as a fun, hope-filled book that contains a lot of fanciful imagery and symbolic reference. The book offers words of assurance and hope to the church and its people today. Any men of the congregation are encouraged to join in! Please contact [Ross](#) for information and registration. **If you would still like to join contact Ross today!**



Thursday Morning Bible Study

Our weekly bible study has started again on **Thursdays at 10:00 AM** on Zoom. Come and join us for some lively discussion on the bible. Anyone is welcome to join. No experience is necessary. **Zoom Passcode: 8774482**

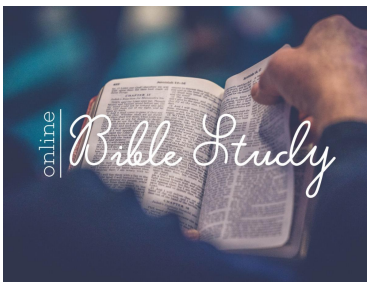
[Click to Join our Bible Study on Zoom](#)

time to
UPDATE



Has your Contact Information Changed? Keep us informed!

Have you Moved? Have you changed your phone number? Is your email address the same? Let's stay connected! If your contact information has changed, please let the office know! Click [here](#) to send a quick email!



With Rev. Jean Leckie...

“He began to teach them many things using parables. He said, “A sower went out to sow...Let anyone who has ears to hear listen.”

Jesus in the first three chapters has succeeded in angering the Herodians (Rome’s political power), the scribes and Sadducees (the religious elite in the Jerusalem temple), the Pharisees (the local religious authorities) and even his family. His healings and teachings have challenged the economic, political and social systems that make some people rich while keeping many poor. The many poor have been impressed and follow him in crowds. In chapter 4, Jesus turns his attention to his chosen disciples. Jesus knows that the initial naming and challenging of an injustice is only the beginning and that many are not up to the task of making real change happen. It is like a farmer who sows his seed. Some of the gospel message falls on deaf ears, some of it makes for a good sound bite but is easily forgotten, some of it gets choked out by the weeds of status quo, a desire for wealth, the cares of the world but the seeds that take root produce amazing results. He goes on to say, “Don’t hide your lamp under a bushel.” You may have heard, “measure for measure” or “the rich get richer while the poor lose everything.” It doesn’t have to be that way. “The farmer sows the seed and then waits. As if by a miracle, one day, he sees that the harvest is ready! Then he is ready with his sickle to bring in that amazing crop, one hundredfold! One that will get him out of debt forever! Remember how a small seed, like a mustard seed can grow into a large tree that the birds of the air can nest in.

Then Jesus ends up in a storm on the lake and discovers that his select group that he has been preparing to take over his mission don’t even have enough faith to survive the first storm they encounter!

I heard a recap of the “Arab Spring” on the radio. It happened ten years ago. From here it seems like not much has changed over there. The last commentator said that things have changed. People now know that change is possible, slow but possible. She said that some women are protesting patriarchy by wearing their required black coverings inside out! It reminded me of a small badge I carried in my briefcase for years. It was given to me when I worked for the national church on some international committees. The man who gave it to me had been in East Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall. The badge was a symbol of a movement calling for peace and justice and unity. When the movement and the wearing of the badge that symbolized it was forbidden by the state, the members tore the badge off their coat sleeves but left the hole where the badge had been. One small step.

Change takes patience and persistence. Our culture values short-term immediate results. Our indigenous traditions remind us to think ahead for seven generations, not just the next election cycle or today’s stock market returns.

What are you listening to and for? How are you sharing the message that gospel living is possible? What gives you courage and hope when the seeds just don’t seem to be sprouting?

Check out Rev. Lecki's blog [here](#).

Grant's World...

Today is the annual Bell let’s talk day. Today, Bell will donate more towards mental health initiatives in Canada by contributing 5¢ for every applicable text, call, tweet or TikTok video using #BellLetsTalk, social media video view and use of their Facebook frame or Snapchat filter. Let's work together to help create positive change!



I am not just about supporting the Bell Canada corporation with this innovative, but I do

support the idea behind it. Caring for our mental health and that of others is critical. Many people suffer in silence as they struggle to feel loved, to be cared for and feel like they matter in the world. Many people have suffered from some sort of mental health issue in their lives and this let's talk day highlights the importance to speak out and raise awareness for more support in this area.

This year is particularly challenging for many of us in the midst of a stay-at-home order in Ontario. Its hard to not be with others, I feel that loneliness too. Its hard to not be able to hug your kids, or grand kids or a significant other who does live in your own household. To get through this pandemic is a challenge for all of us but it is a particular challenge for many who live alone and don't have those other people to support them at home. But it is also a challenge for some who do have families at home but the relationships are strained with more working and staying at home. For some this can be a time of loneliness with people in the same room.

Today I encourage you to speak out if you are not doing well and seek any help you think you need. Just know you are not alone in this. God is there with you. If you are able to, I also encourage you to connect with anyone who lives alone and check-in in with them, connect to an old friend or family member you have not heard from in a while. Let's all do our part to stay connected and share God's love with other's. Let people know they are loved and appreciated.

Blessings,
See you on Sunday!

Grant

Contributions to the Church

We thank all those that continue to support our Church with your givings.
There are many ways to support St. Andrew's...

Mail or drop off cheques (preferred) or cash in envelopes to St. Andrew's United Church,
located at 89 Mountainview Road S., Georgetown.

Alternatively, you can donate by clicking [here](#). This will take you where you can donate directly to the Church via CanadaHelps. (Note that these donations will be tax-receipted by CanadaHelps).

Or on your on-line banking site go to "Interac Transfers" and send your Interac donation to standrewsgeorgetown89@gmail.com. This email account is used exclusively for this purpose.
Note that these donations will be included in your year-end tax receipt and are not anonymous.

You are also welcome to call the Treasurer or any member of the Finance Team to have your donation picked up or dropped off in a way that preserves social distancing.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE ON PAR AND TO EVERYONE WHO HAS GIVEN
DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH!**



We would love to share our News from the Pews! Please feel free to share with a friend...



www.standrewsuc.ca