

**St. Andrew's Session**  
**Meeting notes from February 5, 2018**

**Session Retreat:** Last month the Session Elders participated in a one day retreat at Crieff Hills Conference Centre. While there we looked at tangible ways of making our Mission statement (on the back of the bulletin!!) come to life at St. Andrew's. We will be meeting again in March for more brainstorming. One of the ideas that came up was to assign two elders to remain in the Great Hall and Education Wing area during service each Sunday, to be a welcoming presence for any late comers or visitors. Welcoming visitors in the Sanctuary is another way identified to enact part of our Mission statement. Everyone can help with that!!

**Save the Date**

**Pre-Lent Event – Wednesday Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm:**

Don't miss our annual Pre-Lent event! This year's event theme is about God's amazing grace! Tickets on sale now and at the door.

**Communion update: Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> is the next Big Communion,** and we are tweaking our methods of serving the balcony a wee bit—starting in February just two Elders will be serving the balcony, one with the bread, and one with the wine. We trust that this will allow folks to sit where they wish while reducing the number of trays prepared each Communion.

**And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” 2 Cor 9:8.**

Thank-you for giving to St. Andrew's of your time, talents and treasure. We want you to know that you make it possible to continue the ministry and work of this church, where, for 170 years, we have had a consistent Christian witness. Please join us for **the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**, right after the service. Come hear about the good things are happening here. There will be a luncheon following this brief meeting. Sign-up sheets for luncheon contributions are in the Great Hall for the next few weeks. **Hope to see everyone there!!**

**St. Andrew's Library – open for business:** The Library is open each Sunday after worship, and all are welcome to drop by and see what's new—borrow a book or DVD—there's lots for all ages! The library table is also the place to pick up mailings, sign up for a grace group, volunteer for a committee, team, or event, and buy tickets for upcoming events! Stop by today!

**Do you have an hour or two to share?** Listen for God's call in your life. Whether you have only a couple of hours available once and a while, or can spare one evening a month, St. Andrew's needs more volunteers to join a Committee, team, or participate in one-time events throughout the year. Our Committees are Worship, Stewardship, Mission, Christian Education, & Property; and all have room for more interested participants. Allow yourself to be surprised by God's plan for you. Visit the Library to find out more!

**St. Andrew's Food Bank:** Your Food Bank has started the year facing challenges that affect the way it delivers assistance to the needy in Brampton. We have been forced to find new sources for the food we deliver to the clients and we are challenged with storing donated food efficiently as space becomes a premium. We also have to factor in the changes in the client mix and all of the above means that the new-year will be exciting and challenging. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Calling all Bloggers!!** Perhaps you noticed no “Inside St. Andrew's” newsletter this month. Our editor Elizabeth Giesbrecht, is moving, and we need one or more individuals who would be able to take over this volunteer position. If this interests you, please contact Felicity Alexander, or Pam Loree for more information.

**Property Committee:** In preparation for rental, there were two water damaged ceilings in the Manse that were repaired and painted. A number of other small repairs were also made. Stay tuned for more news to follow about ongoing improvements being made by our dedicated volunteers on the Property Committee.

**Communication and Congregational Care:** Please continue to notify the office or members of the Congregational Care Team if you or someone who is unwell, experiencing extra struggles or in need of a pastoral visit, so that we can provide appropriate care. We can only care for those we hear about. Also, if you would like to receive periodic emails regarding upcoming events, or have a change in address please contact the Church office at 905-451-1723 or email [Office@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:Office@standrewsbrampton.ca)