



A community loving God by loving our neighbours.

At St. Andrew's, Brampton, we: learn together to know God's love through worship and study; put our faith into action by loving and caring for each other; use God's gifts to go forth to bring others to Christ.

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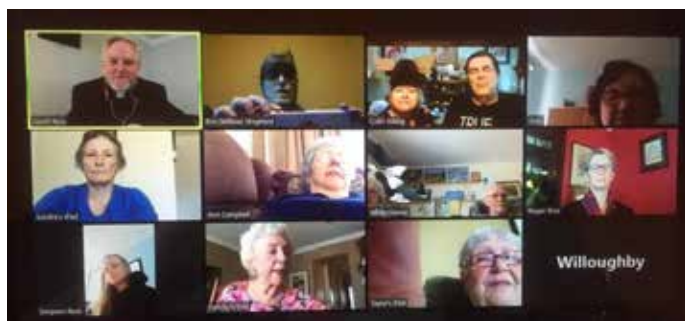
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Worship during the COVID-19 lockdown

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Regan Ross lights the Christ Candle at the start of the Worship Service



Coffee Fellowship on Zoom

The group of believers was one in mind and heart.

Acts 4:32a - Good News Bible



BIRTHDAYS



June

- 1 Isabel Campbell
- 3 Vicki Kastner, Sarah Loree, Gina Nobrega
Mark Prechner, Kristi Szolomicki
- 7 John Bakkeren, Jennifer Flint, Simpson Ross,
Sordeen Sukhu
- 9 Richard Aleong, Arman Manual, Naf Massy,
Carole White
- 10 Andrew Midgley-Brown
- 11 Victoria Dewar
- 12 Betty Moore
- 13 George Burrows
- 14 Catherine Mangaroff, Heather Marshall
- 15 Darlene Draper, Alice Stratton
- 16 Geoff Ross
- 17 Mark Massy, Valerie Warren
- 18 Rebecca Lachhman, Heather Reppen,
Petra Woods
- 19 Julian Mangaroff, Trista Warwick
- 20 Quinn Campbell, Anwar Kamal,
Fred Swackhamer
- 21 Michelle Aleong, Bill Dewar,
- 22 Luke Smith
- 24 Kayan Edwards, Shirley Johnston,
Sandra Short
- 26 Jessie Bannerman, Dean Dunlop
- 27 Shirley Kellam
- 28 Derek Dawson, Arun Nirmal
- 29 Mark Bhim, Sheila Clarke, Nola Roopchan
- 30 Muriel Allen, David Young



July

- 2 Victoria Goodman
- 3 Perveen Kousar
- 5 Rukhsana Chand, Denise Sannella

Birth day Blessings



Condolences

To the family of former member Alice Merle Diplock who passed away on April 30 in Peterborough.

To Dolores Young on the death of her husband Norman on May 18.



Congratulations to Gloria and Neil Brown who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 7.



A hug is a handshake that comes from the heart,
 A welcome embrace after time spent apart,
 A sweet "Good to see you", or loving "Godspeed",
 Or perhaps just to comfort a friend who's in need.
 For hugs have a meaning no handshake can hold:
 To those you love best they are worth more than gold,
 A warm, wordless gesture each human can share
 That speaks your affection, and shows how you care.

Margaret Ingall
The Friendship Book 2010



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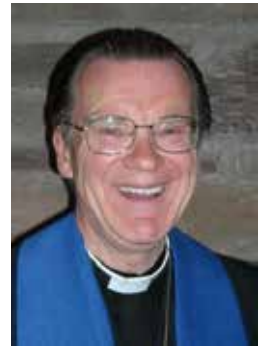
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Wayne's World



I've been thinking about
Community

Scripture - Acts 4:32-37

The lesson of the Sequoia trees

“We're going to get through this together.”

In all the words and phrases the coronavirus has given rise to, I think the above words are among the best. Why do I say this?

Firstly, they give us some hope that indeed this too will pass and we will come out on the other side.

As we hear of the number of new cases and deaths each new day, we need to have some glimmer of hope which the above words give rise to.

Also the above words focus on ‘community’ and take us beyond the emphasis of the individuality that is too often prevalent in our world of “I and Me” as reflected in the attitude of looking out for number one, as Cain asked if he were his brother’s keeper, and of those who boast of being a self-made person.

I think that ALL those sacrificing on our behalf on the front lines, from transportation, warehouse and grocery staff to all those in the medical and science fields, to whom we are truly grateful, take us beyond our individualism to a heightened sense of community - in short that we need each other and are dependent on one another. Surely this is one of the lessons among many that coronavirus has taught us!

Of course a community focus is not new to us as Christians and the church. Our roots give us a unique word for community – “fellowship” from the Greek word ‘koinonia’ which carries the meaning of a community of persons on equal terms or a sharing of experience and of possessions as expressed in the above Scripture passage of the early church and continues through the ages to today.

Continued on page 4

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Wayne's World continued

To bring this to the here and now. I am missing Sunday Worship Services which nourish our Faith week by week! But equally as certain, I am missing, as I am sure you are, the fellowship time in the Great Hall following Worship as we share together in conversation, laughter and even the odd tear in the love that is given to us by and in Christ.

Yes we were made for Worship and Fellowship -that caring and sharing of one to another, that with all due respect our tech twins of 'streaming and zooming' don't quite cut it.

The sequoia trees of British Columbia tower as much as 300 feet above the ground. Strangely, these giants have unusually shallow root systems that reach out in all directions to capture the greatest amount of surface moisture. Seldom will you see a redwood standing alone because high winds would quickly uproot it. That is why they grow in clusters. Their intertwining roots provide support for one another against the storms. This is the same support that we need in the face of our storms, in this invisible silent storm of COVID-19 and the support we have in Christian Fellowship.

In Christ we need each other! In Christ we have each other!

Absent in the body but together in the Spirit,

Together in Christian Fellowship.

INSIDE ST. ANDREW'S

PUBLISHED MONTHLY (except August) to inform our church community about activities within this congregation and the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and to provide inspiration to our readers.

Submissions can be made by email to newsletter@standrewsbrampton.ca, left in the office, or given to a newsletter committee member.

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Felicity Alexander, Bonnie Bunkis, Kennedy Jackson, Wayne Tedder,
June Young

Additional Contributors This Month:

Jean Bradshaw, Helen Collins, May Jackson, Robyn Kirkpatrick,
Ray Scanlan, Doreen Scott-Dunne, Kim Shepherd, Gord Warren

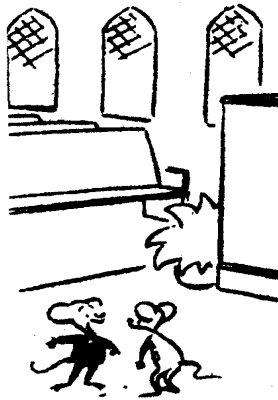
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June 24, 2020**

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News from the Pews



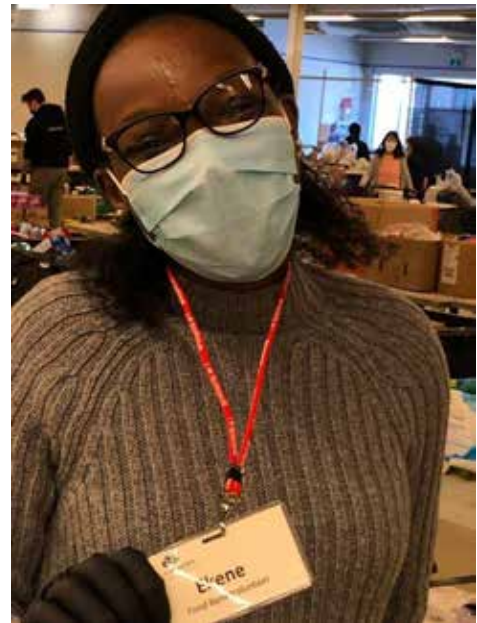
We are happy to share the news of the arrival of baby Ethan Anjum Bhatti, born April 30. Proud parents are Faiza Anjum and Sardar Anjum Bhatti. Ethan's brother and sister are Adam and Saffron Anjum Bhatti.



The Bhatti family is the first of the St. Andrew's sponsored refugee/immigrant families. Sponsorship arrangements were made by the Mission Committee. To celebrate the birth of baby Ethan the Mission Committee is requesting donations towards the purchase of a gift card for the Bhatti family. If you would like to contribute to this gift please contact Blanche McCreary at 905-451-5753 or Brigita Kar at 905-455-7819.

COVID-19 has placed a great deal of stress on the leaders of our congregation. They have had to come up with creative ways to keep in touch with members of the congregation, while observing social distancing guidelines. One way the Rev. Geoff has done this is through the "wave," as he and Regan drive by or walk by our homes. See pages 11 and 12 for pictures of this ministry in action!

In March, after an abrupt return from visiting Gord Warren's brother in Antigua, Gord had a message from his cousin in Brantford saying that a Nigerian international student named Ekene (pronounced Akina) Olatunji was finishing her Master's degree in IT and needed a place to stay while interning at William Osler in Brampton. Since the church was closed there was no one to ask if they were willing to help with accommodation. Although worrying about the possible spread of the coronavirus, Gord and Valerie talked it over and somewhat reluctantly agreed to open their home to her, because she was desperate.



As it turned out, the virus was not problem, as she works from home during the pandemic and has been set up by the hospital with the equipment she needs. Gord and Valerie have talked with Ekene's family in Nigeria, and Rev. Geoff has enjoyed talking with her because he was also raised in Nigeria.

Ekene has fit nicely into the Warren family and has volunteered a couple of times to help out at the Food Bank. The Warren family life is different for her, because she is now tasting Hungarian cooking and learning more Canadian customs. The Warrens are re-learning about young adults who like to sleep-in late and stay up all night, and Ekene sings as she goes about the day.

Gord says "We have both been blessed and challenged as we continue our journey."

Please share your news with our church family. Contact any member of the newsletter team whose names are listed on page 4.



St. Andrew's-Pringle Women's Missionary Society

WMS UPDATE

As many know, the Executive made the difficult decision to cancel our April, May and June meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Executive is hoping we will be able to have a September meeting where we will have a full business meeting (which would have been our April meeting). We were not able to share a meal together as usual in June, and are looking at having a potluck dinner in October to go with our Thanksgiving theme.

For the summer, we always have as our June Roll Call – A book/movie/TV show for summer enjoyment. As we are unable to meet, and so many enjoy hearing about a new book to read; or a movie/TV show to enjoy, please send your suggestion(s) to Kim Shepherd, and a list will be put together for all to see.

On May 6 the WMS National Office hosted a Zoom meeting, and over 80 women from across Canada took part. The meeting's main topic was finances, including the filing of tax returns. The National Office is asking that funds still be mailed in. If you would like to forward your offering that would have been contributed for April, May and June, please contact Jean Bradshaw, our Treasurer.

On the Zoom call a variety of women spoke on how they are keeping their groups together during this difficult time when we cannot meet in person. Some suggestions were:

- Organizing a Zoom fellowship time, or another form of telephone conferencing;
- Through email correspondence, encouraging participation on topics in two-week intervals. The discussion could be on themes from Scripture, hymns, favourite Sunday School stories and/or memories. An example given was: the word 'Hope' in Scripture is given to the group and the discussion begins, through email, on the word Hope in various verses in Scripture.

- Engage the members of the group who may not have internet, by either sending cards or placing a telephone call.

If anyone is interested in doing an email chain, please send an email to: Kim Shepherd, President, (kimbers1269@gmail.com), other suggestions are most welcome to stay connected as women of faith.

Lastly, please know that the leadership of the church is praying for you and your families during this stressful and troubling time. May God continue to bless you all.

Kim Shepherd, President
Jean Bradshaw, Treasurer

MUSIC DURING THE LOCKDOWN

Even though the church is closed we enjoy wonderful “virtual” music for our “virtual” worship services, thanks to Shelagh Tyreman, Rob Hennig, our senior choir and the Leap of Faith band.



Senior Choir



Leap of Faith

Food... for Thought

by Gord Warren



The anticipated reopening of the Food Bank is expected late in the summer or early in the fall. We are exploring how we will manage in the post-COVID-19 world, and know that it will not function as we have done for the past years.

- All volunteers will wear face masks and/or face shields and gloves. They will have sanitizer available for periodic use during the day.
- We can no longer group all the clients in the Great Hall as we have done. If we bring them into the Hall we will have to space them out so that there is a distance between them, or have them line up outside and bring them in as required.
- We have previously offered hand sanitizer, but it was voluntary, now it will be mandatory.
- Each client will be visually assessed and asked about virus symptoms. If we don't feel comfortable they will not be allowed into the building but will be given a prepared hamper of food.
- The spacing through the food room will be increased so that clients don't bunch up, and clients may not handle food or return items. All items that are not wanted will be deposited in a bin at the end of the bread room. These items will be sanitized before being returned to the shelves. Donated items from individuals will have to be sanitized before being distributed.
- The nursery will be closed, and parents bringing children will have to have them with them as they pick up their food.
- All helpers will have to wear face masks and gloves as they assist in the preparation of the food.

This is a first proposal on changing conditions at the Food Bank and we welcome any suggestions that will make the giving out of food safer for both the clients and the volunteers.



by Robyn Kirkpatrick

Our annual Mission Possible/faith in ACT!ON day is nearly here!!

Join us on Saturday, June 6 as we seek to live out our commission to be the Body of Christ – literally and physically – by doing acts of love and compassion for our neighbours and community.

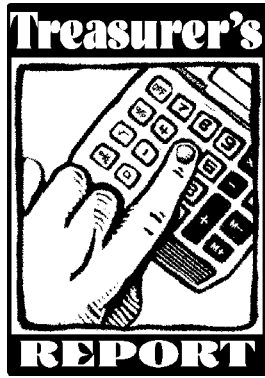
We will be holding a 24-hour prayer vigil where members of the congregation will be praying for our church, our community and our world remotely from home. Further information about the prayer vigil can be found in the faith in Action 24-hour Prayer Vigil column on page 10 of the newsletter.

Volunteers will be planting flowers and vegetables in the beds around St. A's on June 6. Volunteers will work in shifts of five people and proper social distancing measures will be in place. For those interested in helping out, please bring your own gardening gloves and tools.

You are also asked to drop off your protective masks, food donations, first responder and hospital worker appreciation cards, letters and kid's art to the church parking lot between 10 am and 2 pm on June 6. Tables and bins will be set up to ensure that donation drop off will be contactless.

For further information and to sign up for a Mission Possible/faith in ACT!ON project, please visit the Mission Possible/faith in ACT!ON page on the church's website.

Together we can make a difference in our community. Don't just go to church – BE the church during our Mission Possible/faith in ACT!ON day!



by May Jackson

We normally do not receive enough contributions to meet the expenses of the operations of the church. However in times of closure we don't receive any donations other than PAR once a month which contributes \$6,900 to operations, and any online donations made through our website www.standrewsbrampton.ca. Currently, offerings from January 1 to May 31 are down 26.5% from last year, while Food Bank donations have increased by 33.7% for the same period. Thank you all for your generosity at this difficult time.

You can contribute by credit card through our website, mail a cheque, or go on Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). If at any time you wish to make a change to the amount or allocation of the funds you originally committed to on PAR you may do so by notifying the person who administers the congregation's program.

Credit card donations are very expensive to the church. Depending on your card the provider can take up to 4%, so a donation of \$100 would only give the church \$96. Each card is different for the fees charged. We have researched alternatives so we have now also set up the ability to accept Interac e-Transfers. Go to your banking website, select Interac e-Transfer, and enter the amount you wish to donate. It is very important that in the message area you indicate your name, envelope number and how you want the donation distributed: i.e. how much to General Funds, Presbyterians' Sharing, PWS&D and Food Bank. If you do not indicate a split your entire donation will go to the general operating fund, and this cannot be changed later. Another very important part is to use the email: treasurer@standrewsbrampton.ca

Also, for those who donate online through our website, you will receive your tax receipt from Canada Helps. It will not be included on your receipt issued by the church.

We pray you and your families are safe and well.

We also pray for our fellow Canadians and those around the world facing this awful disease.

May the peace of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour be with us.





by Kim Shepherd

As most of the congregation may be aware, a Faith Formation team was established in 2019 to focus on building faith in our members. Our members also include our children. In conjunction with the Dwell Curriculum, the children are also learning The Lord's Prayer, and The Apostles' Creed, which will assist them when joining for Communion and Worship services.

Our Grades 1-3's are working through the *Wonder* curriculum. The children in this Wonder class are encouraged to ask their favourite "why" and "how" questions as they engage in God's Big Story. During wonder questions, there are no right or wrong answers, this encourages all to participate with "I wonder..." questions. Our teachers for Grades 1-3 are Jennifer Aleong and Rachael Shakoor.

Our Grades 4-5's are working through the *Marvel* curriculum. The children in these classes explore smaller sections of Scripture where they dig deeper into and marvel at God's Word. Our teachers for Grades 4-5 are Meaghan Bhim and Lesley Rae.

The *Wonder* and *Marvel* go through the following points during class to assist the children in learning the Scripture: **Wonder**: Helps the class think, as there are no right or wrong answers; **Pray**: The class learns they can talk to God in a variety of ways: action prayers, leader prayers as examples; **Praise**: Making a joyful noise together as they create a picture; a poem; a cheer; and **Retell**: The class will be able to remember the stories they explore by retelling the story in class, with family after and during the week.

It is a joy to watch their faith seed grow as they explore Scripture, not just to know about God, but to know God.



**Stewardship
Corner**
by Helen Collins

Hanging Basket Fundraiser



On behalf of the Stewardship Committee I would like to thank everyone who purchased hanging baskets from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church this year.

When the fundraiser kicked off we had the unprecedented global pandemic. Needless to say, initially the plant sales limped along.

Halfway through the fundraiser the sales picked up. A special thank you to Pam Loree for sending out a few eblasts regarding this, and also to my family for posting information on the hanging basket sale in our residential area Facebook page multiple times.

Also, I wish to thank the volunteers who helped me with the delivery and organizing of the plants on the pickup date. They are Gord and Val Warren, Ian Jess, my husband John and our two daughters Krista and Sam. Without their help on the pickup date this fundraiser would not be possible.

When the fundraiser ended our sales were up \$400 from the previous year.

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



by Ray Scanlan

Sadly, the number of COVID-19 cases and the death rate continue to increase every day.

Sadly, the US now leads the world with the greatest number of cases, and the death rate there is over 90,000. Sadly for us, the death rate is greatest among our most vulnerable in Long Term Care and Retirement Homes.

Thankfully, the main answer to prayer is that the rate of new cases seems to be in the decline as a result of “Stay at Home” and “mitigation” strategies which have seemed to “flatten the curve,” leading to recent opening up of various parts of our economies.

Although Session at St. Andrew’s has canceled all services and events until further notice, weekly services are taking place ‘virtually,’ through the St. Andrew’s Facebook page and on YouTube videos. **Prayer, however, continues every week for an end to this pandemic.**

The Elders have joined with others across the country and around the world to pray together with a common purpose - to ask God for treatment and a cure. The groups meet in their own homes at 3 pm every Friday to pray as a “virtual group” with Christians around the world: for an end to this pandemic, the families of the deceased, those infected with the virus, the front line workers, medical supplies, and those with cancelled surgery.

You are invited to pray from your home, on Fridays, at 3 pm, as only God can provide us with help and hope.



Mission Possible faith in ACT!ON 24 Hour Prayer Vigil by Ray Scanlan

The Missions Team has decided to hold a **24 Hour Prayer Vigil on June 6** for the various local and global events as part of their **faith in ACT!ON** initiative.

In addition to the issues around the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Missions Team is asking that we respond and pray for those who have lost their jobs and those whose benefits have run out, for those in our faith community, as well as those living on the street, those who are hungry, and the marginalized as well as those affected globally by war, famine, natural disasters and depression.

You are asked to consider signing up for a one-hour time slot on June 6 by contacting Ray Scanlan at 416-274-5901 or 905-454-1937 or by email at ray.jay.scanlan@gmail.com A comprehensive list of prayer items will be provided.



by Doreen Scott-Dunne

With new technology becoming the norm in these times of staying home to save lives, two of our GRACE Groups have ventured into creating virtual meetings using Zoom technology.

Felicity and Molly had their first Zoom Grace Group Meeting on May 21, and Doreen, Ray and Sue had theirs on May 26. With practice, we will get to be more proficient at using the technology. What is important is that we see one another, at least virtually, and are able to experience fellowship in new ways, while staying safe at home.

.....and the “wave” goes on



Alverna Peacock



Fred Swackhamer



Barb & Richard McMechan



Colin & June Young



Chandos Ross



Grace Gowland



Farquhar & Mae MacDonald



Gerry & Rosemary Doran



John & Fida Jarjour



Anjum, Saffron, Adam and Faiza Bhatti



Rob & Ivie Wightman

and on



John Collins



Geoff & Regan Ross



Robyn & Suzzy Kirkpatrick



Bill, Victoria, Thomas & Anna-Marie Dewar



Molly & Mike Harvey



Mary Louise & Alice Stratton



Sylvia Cohen



Geoff is worn out from all that waving



Grace & Ken Yates