

St. Andrew's Session

Meeting notes from November 3rd, 2020

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU! SUNDAY SERVICE BACK IN SANCTUARY!

It has been three weeks since Geoff Ross & Shelagh Tyreman returned to the sanctuary to do our online worship services. While there have been some hiccups, the Social Media and Technology team have been working to improve your online experience. Worship Services will continue to be streamed on Facebook Live and later posted on our YouTube Channel and the St. Andrew's website, www.standrewsbrampton.ca.

SESSION NEWS

Re-opening Date Revised – Again!

In light of the ongoing rise in COVID19 cases – and the Provinces' recommended shutdown – in the Peel/Brampton region, the Session has regrettably decided to push the re-opening date to January 3rd, 2021. This decision will be reviewed at the December meeting. More to come next

2021 Budget Meeting

The annual Budget meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22, 2020 following the Worship service. Due to the situation of the pandemic, the meeting will be held via Zoom. Session made the decision that the meeting on Sunday November 22nd, will be for the sole purpose of presenting the Proposed 2021 Budget. The Zoom link for the meeting along with the Proposed Budget package will be posted on our website, the week of November 15th. We pray that you will attend the Budget Meeting via Zoom – you can also attend by phone.

“THANK YOU” May!

The Session has accepted, with regret, the resignation of May Jackson as Treasurer of St. Andrew's effective January 20, 2021. We thank May for her 18 years as Treasurer and we acknowledge her dedication and commitment to St. Andrew's: Thank you!

Treasurer Transition

A transition team has been approved by Session for the role of Treasurer. The team of Stan Loree and Anna-Marie Dewar will work with May over the next two and a half months. We also approved the role of Transitional Treasurer to assume duties as of January 20, 2021 for a one-year term. Our Transitional Treasurer will be Stan Loree. Session would like to thank both Stan Loree and Anna-Marie for

volunteering their time and talents to assist with the transition.

Elder Elections

With the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic, Session made the decision to post-pone the Elder Election until May of 2021. The congregation will be voting for six positions on Session and the Induction of New Elders will take place in September. We are hopeful that the COVID situation will be in a better position and the Elder Elections will be able to happen at that time.

“THANK YOU” Gord!

Earlier this year, Gord Warren, rendered his resignation from Session as a Serving Elder. Session accepted Gord's resignation, with regret. We want to say “Thank You” to Gord for his dedication, time & talents that he brought to Session over the past four years.

Board of Trustees

The Session voted to put together a Session Prep Team to go over and review the Standing Orders with respect to the Board of Trustees. The Prep Team will provide to Session, for approval, nominations to be presented at the February Annual General Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship: It is good to see Rev. Geoff Ross and Shelagh Tyreman back in the sanctuary for Sunday services. Worship and Property are working to improve our online presentation.

Upgrade of Church Website

Our web team have been working on our new updated website, with the assistance of the PCC. Keep watch for the announcement in bulletin for the launch of our updated site.

Social Media: We want to keep you as up to date as quick as possible. Email blasts are being sent weekly, if you have email and would like to receive these updates, please send an email to socialmedia@standrewsbrampton.ca.

- We have a **Facebook page** ([St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church –Brampton](#)). We have also created a **YouTube channel:** [St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church: Brampton](#). The services, hymns and Bible readings are posted here to watch anytime. Please look click the link above and subscribe.

Pastoral Care: If you know of someone who needs pastoral care due to illness or personal strife, please notify Rev. Geoff Ross 647-524-1870 (email: geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca) or you can members of the Congregational Care Team so that we can provide appropriate care. Requests can be sent by email: wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca

Property Committee: The Property Committee has been working hard to get ready for our eventual return to the Church building. Here are some updates.

- **Church Security:** Most of you may be aware of the sad news that fell upon St. Andrew's a couple of weeks ago. A woman OD'd on the property of the Church. The Property Committee was able to provide the police with video of the occurrence. The Church's security has been an area that the Property Committee has been diligently working on. The motion sensors have been updated at all doors and an additional security camera has been installed by the doors off Church Street (the alcove). This is the camera that was able to record the events and provided to the police. The security alarm is scheduled from 8:00pm through to 8:00am.
- **Entrance to Church Building:** Permission must still be received to enter the building. Request are to be submitted, in writing, to the following persons: (Richard McMechan (Property Chair) Peter Shepherd (Property Member), Kim Shepherd (Clerk of Session), Jean Bradshaw (Deputy Clerk of Session) and Geoff Ross (Lead Minister). Approval for going in the building is granted when 3 out of the 5 persons agree to the admittance.
- **Sanctuary:** Most may have noticed that TV Screens have been mounted to the walls in the sanctuary, on either side of the organ pipes. The screens will be replacing the bulletin, when we come together in person. Watch as the screens will start to be used during our online Facebook Live services.
- **Online Upgrade:** The Wi-Fi for the church has been upgraded, which has and will continue to assist in the live streaming of service. An additional splitter-box has been purchased to assist with the streaming so that not only those who are speaking but also Shelagh playing the music for the service.

Stewardship Commtee: The work of the church continues even in these difficult times of the COVID pandemic. There are several expenses that continue such as stipends, salaries and utilities, but also expenses of items to allow us to continue the ministry of St. Andrew's in preparation for when we can gather together. We thank you for continued support. You can continue to contribute in the following ways:

- **Electronic Givings:** We have researched alternatives to credit

cards, 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, resbyterians' 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**

- **Online through our Website:** You can contribute using a credit card on the webpage: <http://standrewsbrampton.ca/donatedtoday/>. 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.
- **PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance):** You can also sign up for PAR. The PAR registration for also be located <http://standrewsbrampton.ca/donate-today/> .
- **Mail in:** Cheques (no cash please) can be mailed to the church; the address for the church is: 44 Church Street East, Brampton, Ontario, L6V 1G3. The mail for St. Andrew's is being forwarded to our Clerk of Session, Kim Shepherd. **Please do not drop off cheques in the mailbox outside the church at the entrance off Church Street.**