

# **St. Andrew's Session** **Meeting notes from April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

## **GENERAL SESSION NEWS**

### **2020 Annual General Meeting – A Thank You!**

The 2020 Annual General Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, via Zoom, with 48 in attendance. Thank you to everyone who attended and for the presentations by Committee Chairs and the audited financials.

### **Annual General Meeting Follow up Re: St. Andrew's Board of Trustees**

During the AGM questions arose regarding the process around amending the Standing Orders. At the time, Rev. Ross and the Clerk – Kim Shepherd, promised to provide a response to the concerns. At our meeting it agreed this response be added to the Session Summary.

In the Standing Orders of St. Andrew, it is stated: *“These Standing Orders are to come into effect only when they have received approval from the Session. When notice of proposed changes to these Standing Orders have been presented at a Session meeting, these Standing Orders can be amended at a subsequent meeting of the Session with a concurring vote of 2/3 of the membership present. With the inception of these Standing Orders, all present standing orders of Session are rescinded and the Session is free to make new rules and regulations for the proper conduct of its business as governed by the spirit and terms of these Standing Orders”*

Following the direction of the Standing Orders, at its November 2020 Session meeting a Special Session Prep Team was created to review the Standing Orders in relation to the election of Trustees. At the February 2021 meeting, the Session Prep Team presented a motion that the Standing Orders be amended from five (5) Trustees to four (4) Trustees. The Session voted unanimously in favour of the motion.

At its March meeting, in setting the Agenda for the AGM, the Session again passed a motion to present this recommendation to the Annual General Meeting. This motion was carried with a count of 41-7 in favour of the motion.

Session then made a second motion that the congregation approve the following names for the Board of Trustees for the year 2021: Stan Loree, Gord Warren, Henry Peyer & Deborah Warwick. This motion carried with a count of 46-2 in favour of the motion.

## **Elder Election**

Due to COVID, in November 2020, the Session voted to delay the scheduled December 2020 Elder Election to May 2021. At its April meeting the Session set the dates for the election: May 2, 9, & 16<sup>th</sup>. Election packages will be in the mail Friday April 16<sup>th</sup>. With the resignation of Gord Warren, we will be electing six new Elders to Session for this election. We encourage everyone to please cast your votes for members who are listed on the Membership List that is being mailed to you. If you have any questions, please contact our Clerk of Session ~ Kim Shepherd 416-557-5001 (email: [clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca)) or Rev. Geoff Ross 647-524-1870 (email: [geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca))

### **Welcome Back Valerie Barrett – HR Report**

Valerie Barrett, our Office Administrator, has returned to work. Valerie will be working remotely for a minimum of 14 hours per week (Tues, Wed., Thurs.). Valerie can be reached by ([office@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:office@standrewsbrampton.ca)). The Church Office still remains closed for phone calls.

### **Thank You!!**

We would like to thank to Rev. Wayne J. Baswick for leading worship on Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and also to the Women's Missionary Society for leading worship on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Mission Awareness Sunday.

### **Spring Hanging Baskets are back!!!**

The Stewardship Committee are hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Spring Hanging Baskets fundraiser. The plant sale commenced Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The deadline for placing an order is Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Details of pick up times on Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> will be to be given out closer to the pick-up date. Please contact Helen Collins, chair of Stewardship if you would like to place an order.

### **Need meat for your BBQ? North County Meats for the win...**

The Stewardship Committee is also hosting the North Country Meat fundraiser. North Country Meats has everything from hot dogs to chicken/beef to seafood – all in time for BBQ season. Orders will be accepted from April 9 up to and including Wednesday, May 12. Pick up will be on Thursday, May 20. You will be notified by email or phone the time of pick up at the church. If you have any questions you can send an email to [Macgregorsfundraiser@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:Macgregorsfundraiser@standrewsbrampton.ca)

### **2021 Offering Envelopes**

With the renewed lockdown/stay-at-home order until May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, we are still looking for a way to distribute the 2021 Offering Envelopes safely. In the meantime, we encourage you to use our online offering options, or to mail any unused 2020 envelopes (change the date), inside another envelope, to the Church – 44 Church St. E., Brampton, ON L6V 1G3.

## Quiet on the Set ... Take 2!!!

The filming of Hot Zone took place on Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. We have been approached by the film company (associated with Disney Canada) for the possibility of further filming.

## New Email for Building Access

Permission must still be received to enter the building, however, to make it a lot easier a new email has been set up. All requests are to be emailed to: [entryteam@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:entryteam@standrewsbrampton.ca).

## Our Committees Need You!!!!

Many of our current volunteers on various committees are coming to the end of their time, come June. We need volunteers who would be interested to serve on committees. If you are interested please contact our Clerk of Session ~ Kim Shepherd 416-557-5001 (email: [clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca)) or our Deputy Clerk ~ Jean Bradshaw 647-524-1870 (email: [depclerk@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:depclerk@standrewsbrampton.ca)) and they would be happy to discuss with you.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Mission & Outreach Committee:** faith in ACTION is fast approaching. Missions is looking for more involvement from individuals and committees to work on projects both on our property, but also within the community. If you have ideas, suggestions and/or questions, please contact Robyn Kirkpatrick, Faith in ACTION Chair.

**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](mailto:geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca)), Rev. Wayne Baswick 905-456-1727 (email: [wayne@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:wayne@standrewsbrampton.ca)) or members of the Congregational Care Team so that we can provide appropriate care. Requests can be sent by email: [wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca). We encourage everyone to reach out to neighbours, friends, other members/adherents of St. Andrew's, as we find ourselves in another lockdown/stay-at-home order.

**Keep in Touch:** We want to keep in touch with you so we can keep you as up to date as quick as possible. Email blasts are both the fastest and most economical way of reaching you. If you have email and would like to receive these updates, please send an email to [socialmedia@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:socialmedia@standrewsbrampton.ca).

**Property Committee:** The Property Committee has been working hard to get ready for our eventual return to the Church building.

- Further work is required in the basement, Vestry, Education Wing and other small areas of St. Andrew's due to asbestos. The main focal

area is in the basement. There is no contamination concern as long as no one goes in the basement.

- Session has approved for two companies to come and remove the asbestos in the above areas. This process will take 4-8 weeks and the church along with the church parking lot will not be accessible during the weeks that this undertaking will take place. The company will make sure that the sanctuary is accessible for Sunday Worship.
- The parking lot will be used for the company who will be in full hazmat suits etc. for the safety of the workers when removing the asbestos from the Church.
- We will advise of the starting dates and further updates as we receive them. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Property Committee.

**Stewardship Committee:** Currently general offerings from January 1 to March 19 up 15% over last year with all other donations decreased by a 4 % 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, do an Interac e-Transfer or go on Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR).
- To process an Interac e-Transfer: Go to your banking website, select Interac e-Transfer, enter the amount you wish to donate and in the message area indicate your name, envelope number and how you want the donation distributed i.e. amount for 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, this cannot be changed later. It is vital that you use the email [treasurer@standrewsbrampton.ca](mailto:treasurer@standrewsbrampton.ca).

**Worship Committee:** Thank you to all who participated in the Holy Week drama readings (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday).

- We would also like to thank those who helped with picking up the flowers and placing the flowers in the cross for Easter morning. The flowers were then taken to two cemeteries and placed on the graves of Canadian veterans. Thank you to all who took flowers to each cemetery.
- Further upgrades will be made to enhance our online streaming. These upgrades will be made together with the Property Committee.
- We continue to ask that you please continue to have patience and grace as we work to improve our online services. Worship and Property continue to work on improving our technology.