



A community loving God by loving our neighbours.

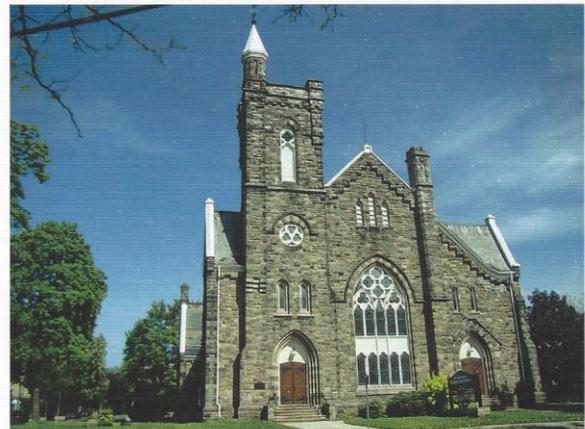
At St. Andrew's, Brampton, we: learn together to know God's love through worship, study, and prayer; put our faith into action by loving and caring for each other; use God's gifts to go forth to bring others to Christ.

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**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Brampton**



**Anniversary Sunday
October 17, 2021**

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

Psalm 122: 1

BIRTHDAYS

October

- 1 Celine Batasar, Kajah Boodhan, Uzbek John
- 2 Jason Portuondo
- 3 Kathryn Linton, Carlene Rollocks
- 4 Angeline Al Hakim, Sherry-Ann Boodhan, Lyn Malek, Jessica Rhind
- 6 Margaret Bakkeren
- 7 Anderson Czerepak
- 8 Margaret Hardat, Shirley Nash
- 9 Kaala O'Gilvie, Cataleya Portuondo
- 10 Catherine Nicholson, Jim Taylor
- 11 Ariel Jokhoo, Phil Leow
- 12 Jennifer Aleong, Penny Owens
- 13 Greyson Artymko, Matthew Dey
- 15 Saqib Bhatti, Emanuel Emanuel
- 17 Joseph Amoah, Karen Dunlop, Diane White
- 18 Barbara Osborne
- 19 Pierre-Paul Massy
- 20 Krista Collins, Parker Wilson
- 21 Andro Al Hakim, Elijah Emanuel, Sarah Jess, Elizabeth Kreitner, Jonathan McKittrick, Chandos Ross
- 22 Jeremy Flint, Henry Ettinger, Carrie Khokhar, Darrie Khokhar
- 23 James Stratton
- 24 Promila Kamal, Christine Wilkinson
- 27 Murray Meadows
- 28 Anna Vanderberg
- 29 Rhena Hyma, Deric Karkada, Cayden Massy, Winston Polack
- 30 Zachary Jules, Jelani Koloko



November

- 3 Bill Temple, Kara Urquhart



The Stewardship Committee is looking for a Church Treasurer. The individual should have an accounting/bookkeeping background and experience in working for a non-profit organization.

If you are interested and wish to volunteer but need more information, please contact either our current Treasurer, Stan Loree, or Anna-Marie Dewar.



Unfortunately, once again this year we were unable to hold Rally Sunday in the Church, so all the committees/teams have been asked to write an article about their group for this newsletter, in order to highlight the various activities that are still occurring, despite the church being closed due to COVID -19.

Please take the time to read all the reports.



Church Office

905-451-1723

Ext. 0

Open Tuesdays,
Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am – 5:00 pm
office@standrewsbrampton.ca

Service Times and Location Ext. 50

Lead Minister Ext. 22
The Rev. Geoff Ross Cell: 647-524-1870
geoff@standrewsbrampton.ca

Minister Emeritus 905-450-2720
The Rev. Rosemary Doran
rosemary@standrewsbrampton.ca

Minister in Association 905-456-1727
The Rev. Wayne Baswick
wayne@standrewsbrampton.ca

Music Director/Organist Ext. 0
Shelagh Tyreman music@standrewsbrampton.ca
Senior Choir, Leap of Faith Band, Junior Music Makers

Office Administrator Ext. 0
Valerie Barrett

Church Officer Ext. 0
Henry Ettinger

Church Ministries

Congregational Care Ext. 0
wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca

Food Bank Ext. 55
Food Bank Committee Chair
Gord Warren foodbank@standrewsbrampton.ca

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school@standrewsbrampton.ca

South-East Asian Outreach Ministry
urdu@standrewsbrampton.ca
Pastor Babar Allahditta Cell: 647-779-8281

Geoff's Journal

*"Let us go to the
House of the Lord!"*
A Return to Church!



Over the summer of 2020, we did a preaching series entitled, "Road Trip;" that looked at the places where Jesus went: in the Gospel of Luke, the first place recorded by name was Jerusalem. For Centuries, Jerusalem was the capital city of the Kingdom of Israel, and Scripture depicts the People of God singing "let us go up to Jerusalem," as they sought refuge and safety within its walls, or were making their annual pilgrimage to the Temple on top of Mount Moriah. In chapter 2, we're told of one such trip as Mary and Joseph "brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord" at the Temple. (Luke 2:22) Later we're told that "every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival." (Luke 2:41-42)

Over the past few weeks we've been learning that what Jesus would do was go to Church - that it was His "habit": But Church was also His spiritual home! (Luke 2:49) Church, being with the faithful, worshipping and glorifying God, brought Him joy; which is why He called us to be His Church - so we could bring Him joy! This is why I am excited that the Session has voted in favour of a tentative date for our return to Church!

Continued on page 4

Church Contacts

Clerk of Session

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Deputy Clerk

Jean Bradshaw 905-455-6573

Christian Education Committee

Jean Bradshaw 905-455-6573

Congregational Care Team

Felicity Alexander 905-791-0490

Envelope Secretaries

Bea Embling 905-451-3954

Valerie Warren 905-456-3472

Food Bank Committee

Gord Warren 905-456-3472

Helping Hands

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Mission Committee

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Ijeoma Ross 647-299-8877

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Prayer Shawl Ministry

Florence Martin 905-454-7352

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Richard McMechan 905-455-8468

SALSA Women's Group

Pam Loree 905-459-0390

Stewardship Committee

Helen Collins 905-450-6314

Treasurer

Stan Loree 647-668-4390

Usher Co-ordinator

Paul Willoughby 905-457-4508

Visiting Committee

Felicity Alexander 905-791-0490

Web Team

webadmin@standrewsbrampton.ca

Women's Missionary Society

Kim Shepherd 905-457-2127

Worship Committee

Colin Young 905-456-7224

Geoff's Journal continued

The proposed date for our first in-person/in-Church worship service in 82 weeks is *Sunday, October 17th*. Interestingly it is the 1-year anniversary of our return into the sanctuary for our online services – but more importantly, it will also be St. Andrew's 174th Anniversary Sunday! What better way to celebrate a return to the "House of the Lord" than to celebrate our spiritual home – in our spiritual home!

Having said this, when we return it will take some time for things to feel like 'home.' In order to return, we will need to put in place the required COVID-19 protocols as set out by both the Province and the Peel Region Health department. More information on the protocols and other reopening details will be coming in the coming weeks by mail – and on our Church website (<https://standrewsbrampton.ca>)

Personally, the past 18 months have been a very strange experience! I am proud of the fact that St. Andrew's did not miss a single service during the pandemic! I am grateful to you for trusting me – and the Session – as we undertook this leap of faith. I am also in awe of the reach that our online services have had. Having said this, I am looking forward to it being over – and to seeing you in-person – and in-Church!



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 should be sent by email to felicity.alexander@sympatico.ca

Additional Contributors This Month:

Helen Collins, Karen Hutchinson, Stan Loree, Richard McMechan,
Ray Scanlan, Doreen Scott-Dunne, Kim Shepherd, Gord Warren,
June Young

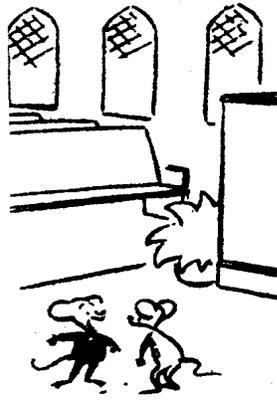
**Deadline for submissions for the November issue is
October 27, 2021**

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**News
from
the
Pews**



On Friday, September 3, 2021, Rosemary and Gerry Doran (affectionately known as “The Revs”) celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary with a quiet luncheon at their favourite restaurant, The Brampton Flying Club.



Rosemary and Gerry (seen above with daughter Barb McMechan Woods and grandson Nathan Woods) would like to thank all of those who sent best wishes. They always reflect on how blessed they are to have such wonderful family and friends! They are looking forward to celebrating many more years together!



A mini reunion of St Andrew’s Sunday school students happened at a recent backyard gathering in early September.

In the picture above - Thomas and Victoria Dewar, Christian Shepherd, Nathan Woods and Devon Peyer came to wish Sarah Loree (centre) bon voyage before she departed to the United Kingdom for a year-long Graduate program studying Directing Fiction Film at MetFilm school in London.

The “old folks” at the party were marvelling at how well all of their “kids” have grown up.

This month we have special “News from the Pews.”

CHURCH ELDERS

Congratulations to our newly elected Elders who were ordained and admitted to Session on Sunday, September 26. They are Robyn Kirkpatrick, Samina Babar and James Stratton.

God
BLESS
you

CALL TO PRAYER



by Ray Scanlan

This has been the longest gap in our church life in many years. For some it has been isolation for months on end with few outings except for groceries, even medical appointments or consultations are done by phone or online. For some seniors who do not have cell phones or internet access it has been a very lonely life.

One of the most devastating results of this pandemic has been the loss of human interaction, particularly for those in retirement homes or isolated in a bachelor or one bedroom apartment. In many cases, funeral celebrations for family members have been limited to a few or none at all. As we look around the globe, there are millions of refugees in overcrowded camps, huddled together, searching for a better life or just escaping tyranny.

On top of all this there have been fires, floods, civil unrest, political unrest as well as other symptoms of climate change and war.

Thankfully, we here in our St Andrew's faith community have our God and Saviour Jesus to turn to in prayer, as these things can be overwhelming. You are welcome to join with others at 3pm on the third Friday of each month to pray (virtually) with others for these and other issues.

If you would like to receive an e-mail with the World News prayer for the week every third Friday, to get you tuned in to current world and local issues to pray about, please contact ray.jay.scanlan@gmail.com.



by Doreen Scott-Dunne

There are two GRACE groups alive and well at the moment. One is led by Felicity Alexander and Molly Harvey in the L6T/L6P area of Bramalea. They meet monthly on Zoom and have had most successful monthly meetings where they are able keep in touch and enjoy fellowship with each other. The next meeting date for this group is October 21 at 7:30 pm.

The second group is led by Ray Scanlan, Doreen Scott-Dunne and Sue Haw, and is in L6X/L6Y area of Brampton. We have also met monthly on Zoom and enjoyed regular fellowship. Unfortunately, at least half of our group members do not have the technology to meet on Zoom. So we have kept in touch by telephone, and keep up to date with prayer requests. Our next Zoom meeting date is October 12 at 1.30 pm.

We are all looking forward to meeting again in person, but have no definite dates set so far. So we will continue to meet on Zoom, and communicate by telephone.

If you are interested in becoming involved in coordinating a GRACE group in your area, please contact Ray or Doreen at 905-454-1937. We look forward to hearing from you.

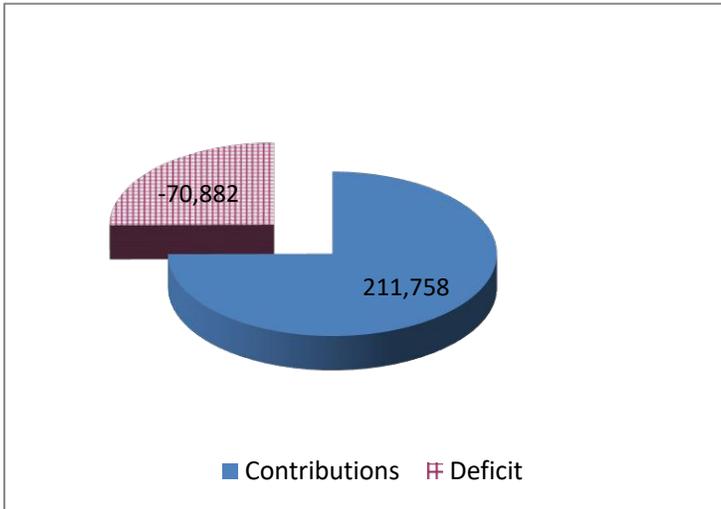
At its meeting on September 23 the L6T/L6P GRACE group got caught up on summer activities with reports of canoeing on Lake Superior, the Notawasaga River and kayaking on Drag Lake. Others were able to enjoy visits with family members for the first time in many months. We were able to congratulate two of our members, Robyn Kirkpatrick and James Stratton, who have been called to be Elders.



Church Finances

Shortfall Pie Chart

Purpose of this chart is to show in a graphic form the shortfall of contributions to expenses as of Sept 22, 2021



Currently general offerings from January 1 to Sept 22 are down 1% compared with last year with all other donations decreased by \$18,000 for the same period. Other revenue includes the two church rentals to Disney and two rentals to Netflix in 2021. 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**

Now, if a Christian when he gets all he can and saves all he can, does not give all he can, I have more hope for Judas Iscariot than for that man!" *John Wesley*

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

Contributions & Expenses Comparative

	1 Jan - 22 Sep 21	1 Jan - 22 Sep 20
Contributions		
Offerings	158,511.33	160,335.46
Other Revenue	53,246.98	13,464.52
Total Contributions	211,758.31	173,799.98
Expense		
Education	1,726.48	2,176.20
Mission	2,810.39	978.62
Property	158,819.62	45,236.09
Stewardship	110,195.07	123,888.11
Worship	7,753.43	4,341.76
Session	1,335.09	7,025.35
Total Expense	282,640.08	183,646.13
Net General Surplus (Deficit)	(70,881.77)	(9,846.15)
Presbyterian Sharing donations*	14,608.94	15,361.44
PWS&D donations*	4,744.94	3,664.94
Food Bank donations*	18,841.65	37,349.98

* NOTES: 1) Presbyterian Sharing, PWS&D and Food Bank are not included in the Offerings numbers above. 2) The Property expense includes roughly \$90,000 re asbestos abatement costs, which were funded from our investments held with the PCC in July.



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

It is with prayer that this newsletter finds all our WMS members well and staying safe - as normal and safe as is possible.



Pam Loree and I had the honour and pleasure of delivering our Faith in Act!on Activity Bags to Linda at the Family Centre.

The Centre was extremely thankful for the bags for the youth.

It is with a heavy heart that our members be informed that our return to meeting is yet to be determined. The Session of St. Andrew's, through lots of discussion and prayer, made the decision to tentatively schedule the reopening date for St. Andrew's In-Person Worship Services only, as Sunday October 17, 2021.

We will continue to meet on Zoom at least until the end of the year. Our October meeting (October 5) will be our Thanksgiving Service. Our Roll Call for the evening will be **Favourite Fall Activity**.

As I was writing this article for October's newsletter, I came across a bible verse that spoke to me, and I hope that it speaks to you as well. The verse is from Isaiah 64:8 – "Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

If you have any suggestion and/or comments, please send an email to: Kim Shepherd, President, (kimbers1269@gmail.com). All are most welcome to stay connected as women of faith and until we can come together physically.

I will close with the Mizpah Benediction:
May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from another.

Kim Shepherd
President

St. Andrew's Session
Excerpt from Meeting Notes from
September 13, 2021

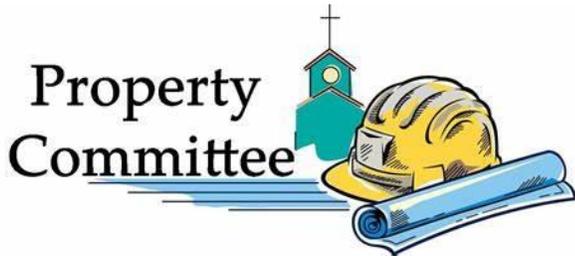
**THE PLAN TO RESUME
IN-PERSON/IN-CHURCH SERVICES**

Reopening the Church: The Session discussed and approved a proposal to resume in-person/in-Church worship (morning service only). The proposed date for returning to in-person/in-Church worship is Sunday, October 17, 2021, which also happens to be Anniversary Sunday. This will be a phased re-opening – with us only resuming Sunday morning worship services at this time. It was also agreed that we will be continuing with the Hybrid model (both in person and live streaming online). The current format of Sunday Worship will stay the same. **PLEASE NOTE: This is only a proposed re-opening date; the Session will review the situation at its October 4th meeting before we finalize our decision.**

Session is continuing to work on protocols which follow the current restrictions and guidelines from both the Government of Ontario and Peel Region. We do know the following:

- Pre-registration will be required. The church will be using EventBrite for our online registration – a link for this site will be posted on our website.
- Registration will also be possible by calling and emailing the Church Office at 905-451-1723 or office@standrewsbrampton.ca.
- Masks will be mandatory. If you forget yours, a mask will be provided.
- As we are not able, at this time, to use bulletins, hymnals, or Bibles, the order of service will be projected on the newly installed screens.
- We are also not able, at this time, to have congregational singing.
- We are not able to share in Coffee Fellowship after the service.
- We must maintain physical distancing at all times, both inside and outside the Church, before and after service.

We would like to '**Thank You**' for your patience, understanding and most of all your trust during the time that we have been closed. Your safety and the safety of all who attend St. Andrew's is important to us as we discuss moving forward.



by Richard McMechan

This year again continues to be a challenging one for the Property Committee. We have continued our weekly security walk-thru and weekly property maintenance to maintain and secure the empty building.

The following is a partial listing of what has been accomplished in 2021:

- Church Security: The server for recording the security cameras was updated and a new camera was installed outside in the courtyard. A new motion sensor was installed in the Education Wing, and the main control was upgraded to a Windows-based application that allows us to monitor and react to alarms in real time.
- Basement: The asbestos in the basement was removed by an outside company and two independent air samples have been completed, indicating that the asbestos has been removed and it is safe to go into the basement.
- Online Upgrade: The Wi-Fi for the church continues to be upgraded and a new computer was purchased to provide the live streaming of the services.
- The church was rented out twice to movie companies and the filming took place over multiple weeks,
- The yearly maintenance has been performed on the boiler system, and the boiler repair has been scheduled in October.
- The organ has had some minor repairs and was tuned. The piano in the sanctuary was tuned after the completion of the movie shoots.
- The contract with a Lawn Care company was re-signed to provide weekly grass cutting services.

- The contract with a Cleaning Company was also re-signed for weekly cleaning of the church.
- The five outside flood lights have been replaced with LED lights.
- The Great Hall was rented out as a polling station during the recent election.

Many thanks to the members of the Property Committee who are always available and eager to help with the upkeep of our church and facilities.

The committee welcomes our newest member, Christian Shepherd, this month. If you are interested in joining the committee, please speak to any one of the committee members.

Richard McMechan
Chair, Property Committee



Basement under type 3 asbestos removal



Air sampling in process



Stewardship Corner

by Rosalind Cammidge and Helen Collins

Our vision at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is to be a community loving God by loving our neighbours. 2021 celebrates 174 years of Christian witness at St. Andrew's. Your Stewardship Committee offers ways we can celebrate our legacy by giving in various ways.

- Your time - You can sign up to be an usher or for coffee fellowship. Volunteering at our Food Bank, once it reopens, is another wonderful way to help out and give back.
- Your talents – by joining a committee, singing in our choir, or teaching Sunday School.
- Your treasures – by giving, using your offering envelopes and committing to give the suggested amount of \$125.00 per month; using our Pre-authorized Remittance Plan - PAR; donating through our new e-transfer method or by using your credit card. Canada Helps can also be used for those who want to donate online through our website. However, your donation will not be included on your receipt issued by the church. Your donation receipt will be issued by Canada Helps. Lastly, **Benevity Causes** portal is a new method that has recently been set up by our Treasurer. Donations can be accepted here as well. There continues to be our Flame Endowment fund that was launched in 2016. This gives you the option to leave a memorial gift in a creative way. There are flyers available throughout the church if this program interests you. You can also speak to someone on the Stewardship Committee.

The Stewardship Committee is blessed with a great team that works together in promoting various ideas, new and old. Our members include Chairperson, Helen Collins, Rosalind Cammidge, Stan Loree, Anna Marie Dewar, Valerie Warren, Bea Embling, Mark Nicol and Grace Gowland.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year. Questions are always welcome if you have any for the Stewardship Committee.

Food... for Thought



by Gord Warren

The Food Bank is re-opening at St. Andrew's. Don't know exactly when, as the Food Bank committee is working with Session on the protocols that will govern the re-opening. Every member of the committee has been asked by clients when this will happen, and this is the first major step towards re-opening.

There are many hurdles to overcome, as we have to replenish the non-perishable items that were donated to Regeneration Marketplace Food Bank in order use them before they expired. We also have to purchase cleaning supplies and special equipment to sanitise the working areas before and after opening. We plan on purchasing a hand fogging machine and special chemicals to spray the area with. Our operational protocols will be in accordance with provincial and Session mandates.

We are not planning to open with the clients entering the Great Hall and picking up food as we have done previously. This may happen later as COVID-19 subsidies and operating protocols evolve, but presently we are suggesting that we only use the hallway in front of the kitchen, with clients entering from the courtyard and exiting into the parking lot. Only those clients who can show that they are fully vaccinated will be allowed into the building, and those that can't will be offered a general selection of food.

The volunteers will need to be fully vaccinated, wear masks and gloves, be separated from the clients by Plexiglas shields, and will pass the food to the clients. Our plans are to provide a safe environment to both the clients and volunteers. At the end of the Food Bank day a ½ hour is allocated to clean and sanitise the area, leaving it in good shape for the next user.

This is a major undertaking for your Food Bank, so your thoughts and prayers are needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact any of the Food Bank committee members: Gord Warren, Sandra Jackson, Tom and Belle Campbell, Herb Eitner, Ian Jess, Grace Brewster-Yates, and Bruce Cornish.

A Mission Minute of Your Time

by June Young

Time indeed, does fly by... and as part of the Mission Committee we are thinking of others, this very minute.

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity during our **faith in ACT!ON** campaign this past summer. We collected and distributed many toiletry items to our friends at Ellen House. We couldn't have done this without the kindness of our St. Andrew's family.

Here we are in the fall, and again, we are wanting to help those in need at Ellen House. The cold weather will soon be upon us, and like many, they will need to feel some warmth.

We are collecting scarves, hats, and gloves and/or mittens. Due to COVID-19, we need to collect '**new**' items. We are hoping that, once again, our church family will be able to reach out, to help us in our quest. Just like the squirrels who gather their food before wintertime arrives, we are hoping to start collecting these items by mid-November, to be distributed by the first week of December. If necessary, please reach out to our Mission team and we will be more than happy to pick them up from your home.

Due to ongoing construction the Santa Claus Parade will not be travelling through the downtown Brampton corridor. It will be starting this year in Chinguacousy Park and making its way to Professor's Lake. Therefore, we will not be offering our very popular hot chocolate stand. Hopefully, in a couple of years it will return to 'downtown,' where the merry band of Christian 'elves' can give out our tasty treats!

Because we all know that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season" we will soon be selling our CHRISTmas signs once again. Please 'stay tuned' for when these signs will be available. Do remember that they sold out early last year, and we thank you once again for your generous contribution!

Well, that's it from the Mission Committee at this time... and hopefully some day soon we can reunite and get to worship together in person, in church.

Thank you so much for your kindness.



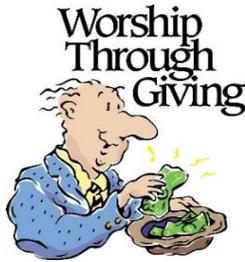
by Karen Hutchinson

The Worship Committee is responsible for many aspects of our Sunday morning services. The purview of the Worship Committee includes various components of Sunday morning services; some of which are:

- Collaboration between the Minister and Organist for hymn choices
- Setting dates for Jr. Choir and Band participation
- Planning for Special Services (i.e. Rally Sunday, World Communion Sunday, Remembrance Sunday, etc.)
- Organizing readers for Sunday morning scripture
- Planning the type of delivery of sacraments for Communion Services (distribution/intinction, etc.)
- Planning special music (i.e. bagpipes and horn for Remembrance Service, etc.)
- Planning theme décor for the sanctuary (i.e. Flowers for Easter Cross, Banners for Easter and Christmas, etc.)

It is a privilege for Worship Committee members to have input on many meaningful aspects of our Sunday morning services, and new members are always welcome to join our committee.





by Stan Loree, Treasurer

We normally do not receive enough contributions through offerings to meet the expenses of the operations of the church. However, in times of closure we are completely reliant on mail-in offerings, PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance), which contributes \$6,900 to operations monthly, online donations made through our website www.standrewsbrampton.ca, and E-transfers. Currently, regular offerings from January 1 to September 22 are keeping pace with last year, while Food Bank donations have decreased by 50% for the same period. Thank you all for your generosity at this difficult time.

The area of greatest growth in our contributions this past year is the Online Money Transfer (popularly known as “E-transfer”). We set up the ability to accept Interac E-Transfers in 2020 and many supporters have taken advantage of this payment system. For those of you unfamiliar with E-transfer, the process is 1) Go to your banking website, 2) select Interac e-Transfer, and 3) enter the amount you wish to donate. 4) in the message area 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. 5) under Email Notification use the email:

treasurer@standrewsbrampton.ca

FYI, for those who use PAR (thank you!!), 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.

Also, as a final note, for those who donate online through our website, you will receive your tax receipt from Canada Helps. It will not be included on your tax receipt issued by St. Andrew’s.



Fall is now here, so it’s time to think of our Thanksgiving offering. Please use one of the different methods available for you to do this, as they are outlined by our Treasurer, Stan Loree, in the adjoining column.

We hope and pray that you and your families stay safe and healthy. Stay tuned for an update on our annual Poinsettia sale.

God bless you.

Helen Collins
Chair, Stewardship Committee



A Prayer of Thanks and Gratitude

Dear God,

Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that you are able to bring hope through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes ... Forgive us for when we don’t thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you’ve given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day ... In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

– **Rachel Dawson**