

St. Andrew's Session
Meeting notes from November 1st, 2021

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

SESSION NEWS
WE ARE BACK!!!

After 20 months of COVID19 lockdown, Sunday, November 7th, 2021 was chosen by the Session, at it's specially called meeting on October 13th, to be the re-opening date for in-person/in-Church worship! This has been a long, difficult process – one that the Session took very seriously – but in the end the Session agreed to move forward in faith and hope. Thanks to Session – in particular, the Summer Session Team and our Past Clerk – for their hard work and time in It preparing for the re-opening.

Letter from Session

A letter was sent out after the October 13th meeting to inform the congregation of the approved – and required – Protocols and Requirements: we hope that you received the letter, and have had a chance to read and review this very important information. These Protocols and Requirements are meant to provide those attending with confidence by ensuring a safe space for all. If you haven't read the letter; it and the Protocols and Requirements are posted on the St. Andrew's website. (click: <https://standrewsbrampton.ca/session/>)

Registration Required for In-Person/In-Church Worship

In keeping with the Protocols on Social Distancing, we have limited the initial number of congregants at Service to 50 including the worship/welcome teams. **All those wanting to attend the service on any Sunday you must reserve your seat by pre-registering.** There are two ways to do so: Online or by telephone. For the online option, sign on to the link on the St. Andrew's website – or click on the St. Andrew's EventBrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/in-person-worship-st-andrews-presbyterian-church>
If you do not have the Internet, the best method is to contact Kim Shepherd at 416-557-5001 and she will register your name for you.

Commitment to Continuing our Online Worship Services!

To those who watch online – of cannot attend in person – the Session has committed to continuing our Online services, which will be broadcast live each Sunday morning at 10:30am on the St. Andrew's Facebook page.

Work in Progress: Your Patience is Needed!

The Session has been working toward this moment but it recognizes that this is the 1st time that we have ever done this! A lot of work has gone into make our re-opening happen. While for you 'going to Church' has been something you're used to, things have changed! With our Protocols in place you likely not be your regular pew: **BUT you will be at Church!** Your patience is needed – and appreciated – as we figure all of this out together.

ELDER ELECTION UPDATE

The Session approved the nomination of two returning Elders to the Session. Please welcome **Karen Hutchinson and Henry Peyer** back to the Session. Their 're-introduction' service will be set before the Dec., 4th Session meeting.

THE 2022 BUDGET APPROVED

At a stated time, Session invited Stan Loree – our interim Treasurer – to present a proposed budget for 2022. First the financial report for the year to date for 2021 was presented and the projected 2021 financials look strong. Looking to 2022, it was noted that, with re-opening, our expenses will go up as staff return and programs resume. Each Committee submitted their Budgets and Stan highlighted a few issues for discussion after which Session thanked Stan for his work and report. After his presentation, **Session voted on and approved the 2022 Budget for the Annual Budget Meeting.**

Annual Fall Budget Meeting

The 2021 Annual Fall Budget Meeting will take place via Zoom on Sunday 21st, at 12 noon. The Zoom link and PDF copies of the Agenda and the Proposed 2022 Budget will be available on November 14th on the St. Andrew's website on the Session Page. We hope to see you at this important meeting as we look toward a new chapter of St. Andrew's history.

HUMAN RESOURCES

A sub-Team of Session has acted as the St. Andrew's HR Team for the past 20 months as we have been dealing with COVID19 related staffing issues. This has been a very difficult, emotional, and time-consuming process – on both sides of the issue – but Session finally heard a pair of reports and approved recommendations about having two of our staff return to work. Thank you to the Elders – past and present – who worked beyond and above their regular duties on these issues!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All Committee Night: The November All Committee Night meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00pm.

Building Access: Due to the continuing restrictions, permission to enter the building is still needed. All access must be pre-approved – and all COVID19 contact tracing requirements must be followed. To gain access please email: entryteam@standrewsbrampton.ca. We ask that you give as much notice as possible for your request.

Mission Committee: The has a new initiative that will help Ellen House and homeless individuals by providing hats, scarves, and mitts for the winter. Look for the insert in the Bulletin and please consider donating these items.

Stewardship Committee: The Stewardship Committee reminds you of the annual Poinsettia fundraiser that is now underway. Information about this fundraiser is in both the Bulletin and the November Newsletter.