

St. Andrew's Session
Meeting Notes from March 7, 2022

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

SESSION NEWS

The Rev. Geoff Ross is on medical leave.

Rev. Ross is on medical leave from March 14 to May 15, 2022. We ask everyone to give Rev. Ross the peace and rest he needs during this time to make a full recovery. Remember to keep Rev. Ross in your prayers. We are blessed to have Rev. Wayne J. Baswick cover the preaching from April 3 until May 15. We thank Rev. Baswick and ask you to keep him in your prayers.

Pastoral Care

If you need pastoral care from the minister, contact Rev. Wayne J. Baswick at 905-456-1727. For all other matters please contact our Clerk of Session, Jean Bradshaw, at either clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca or 905-455-6573; you may also contact our Past Clerk of Session, Kim Shepherd, at either depclerk@standrewsbrampton.ca or 416-557-5001. Members of the Congregational Care Team are also willing to help you; contact the Team by calling Felicity Alexander at 905-791-0490.

New Date for the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is postponed to April 3, 2022. This change was necessary due to Rev. Geoff Ross' medical leave. The meeting will be moderated by Rev. Wayne J. Baswick starting at 11.45 a.m. It will be a hybrid meeting in the Sanctuary and via Zoom for those at home. A new link to the meeting is in the worship bulletin and on the website.

Re-entry Update

The Entry Team met on Wednesday, March 9 to discuss the changes to the new protocols. The focus is on the resumption of the two remaining Worship services (S-EAOM and the Seventh Day Adventists) first, with our other groups following when appropriate. An update will be forthcoming.

Leading With Care

The Leading With Care workshops, facilitated by David Phillips, were held on February 12 and 26. Fifty-six attendees heard updates to the program instituted five years ago. If you are a volunteer at St. Andrew's and did not attend, contact Jean at clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca or 905-455-6573.

War in Ukraine

The Session Meeting approved a donation of \$2,000.00 from St. Andrew's to the Red Cross Ukraine Relief Fund. We encourage members to make personal donations through PWS&D or the Red Cross. Gifts sent to St. Andrew's will be forwarded to PWS&D.

Do We Have Your Contact Information?

If you have moved and/or changed your contact information, please let Kim Shepherd, our Rolls Clerk, know.

We Continue to Grow ...

On Sunday March 13, 2022, we will be baptizing three young adults, and then they and five other people will become members of St. Andrew's by Profession of Faith. This is good news as we continue to reach many in our community through our digital footprint.

We Are Turning ... 175 years!!!

Did you know that in October 2022, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church will be celebrating its 175th Birthday? We are looking for ideas on celebrating, so please share your thoughts with us.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education Committee

Bible Study has been cancelled due to Rev. Geoff Ross' medical leave. Lenten devotions are on our Facebook page. The Lenten devotions for Young Adults and Teens is also on our website, located under the Christian Education page at www.standrewsbrampton.ca.

Pre-Lent Event: "Drawn to the Cross" took place on Ash Wednesday, March 2. Those who attended gathered together to feel, hear and experience the movement of Jesus' last days as recorded in the Passion account from the Gospel of Luke read by Rev. Geoff Ross, Kim Shepherd and Jean Bradshaw. The evening ended with our Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary, after which Pre-Lent resource bags were handed out. If you would like a resource bag, please contact Kim Shepherd or Jean Bradshaw.

Stewardship Committee

Easter Offering: Stewardship has designated the Easter Offering to upgrade the outside lights on the Church. These lights will be an environmentally friendly and economical use of electricity. The lights are now upgraded and installed. Many thanks go to the Property Committee Team.

Spring Fundraisers: The Stewardship Committee will once again be doing the Hanging Baskets and the Northern Meats for the BBQ Season. More details will follow.

New Fundraiser for 2022: The sale of a book entitled *How I Lost My Hair-Raising Teenage Girls and the Lessons I Learned* by Andrew McKinney. The author will be donating 20% of sales to the Church. The book will be available at the Church, Chapters and Amazon.

Financial Update: The Financial Report indicates a drop of 20% in offering to the Church in January and February. The expenses of the Church will begin to rise as staff returns to full-time work and utility usage increases.

Worship Committee

Easter Flowers: The Committee is looking for four or five volunteers to take care of the Easter Flowers for the Cross. This will involve picking up the flowers at the florist (Brampton City Centre); delivering the church and getting them ready for Easter Sunday Service. If you are able to assist in this ministry, please contact Karen Hutchinson at 416-704-5398 for further details.