

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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I am sure that....Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord! (Romans 8: 38-39)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 44 Church St. E, Brampton ON, L6V 1G3 905-451-1723 www.standrewsrampton.ca







June

- 1 Belle Campbell
- 3 Vicki Kastner, Sarah Loree, Gina Nobrega Mark Prechner, Kristi Szolomicki
- 7 John Bakkeren, Jennifer Flint, Simpson Ross, Sordeen Sukhu
- 9 Richard Aleong, Arman Manual, Naf Massy, Carole White
- 10 Andrew Midgley-Brown
- 11 Victoria Dewar



- 12 Betty Moore
- 13 George Burrows
- 14 Catherine Mangaroff, Heather Marshall
- 15 Darlene Draper, Alice Stratton
- 16 Geoff Ross
- 17 Mark Massy, Valerie Warren
- 18 Rebecca Lachhman, Heather Reppen, Petra Woods
- 19 Julian Mangaroff, Trista Warwick
- 20 Quinn Campbell, Anwar Kamal, Fred Swackhamer



- 21 Michelle Aleong, Bill Dewar,
- 22 Luke Smith
- 24 Kayan Edwards, Shirley Johnston, Sandra Short
- 26 Jessie Bannerman, Dean Dunlop
- 27 Shirley Kellam
- 28 Derek Dawson, Arun Nirmal
- 29 Mark Bhim, Sheila Clarke, Nola Roopchan
- 30 Muriel Allen, David Young

July

- 2 Victoria Goodman
- 3 Perveen Kousar
- 5 Rukhsana Chand, Denise Sannella



MESSAGE TO THE CONGREGATION

The Rev. Geoff Ross's medical leave has been extended to June 12.

Please keep Geoff in your prayers.

Condolences

To the Dishart family on the death of their father Jack on April 30.

To the Willoughby family on the death of Paul's mother Doris on May 26.

Prayer for Ukraine

O God of love, we pray for the people of Ukraine, the frail and the elderly,

the women and children who are left alone, grieving families with loved ones who have fallen, and the multitudes who have lost everything.

O God of peace, how we long that violence will cease,

that the machines of war, will be transformed into implements of peace. Be with the leaders of this world, that their decisions will be keenly oriented towards a just and lasting peace.

O God of compassion, open our hearts, to care for the refugees who may come to our shores and the needy stranger in our midst. For Christ's sake. Amen.

> The Rev. Dr. Das Sydney, President, The Canadian Council of Churches





Church Office

905-451-1723 Ext. 0

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

| Open Tuesdays, | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| Wednesdays & Thurse | 2 | 9:30 am – 5:00 pm |
| | office@ | standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Service Times and L | ocation | Ext. 50 |
| Lead Minister | | Ext. 22 |
| The Rev. Geoff Ross | 3 | Cell: 647-524-1870 |
| | geoff@ | standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Minister Emeritus | | 905-450-2720 |
| The Rev. Rosemary | Doran | |
| ros | semary@ | standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Minister in Associati | on | 905-456-1727 |
| The Rev. Wayne Bas | swick | |
| - | wayne@s | standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Music Director/Orga | anist | Ext. 0 |
| • | | standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Senior Choir, Leap of | Faith Ban | d, Junior Music Makers |
| Office Administrator | r | Ext. 0 |
| Valerie Barrett | | |

Church Ministries

| Congregational | Care Ext. 0 wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca |
|-----------------|--|
| Food Bank | Ext. 55 |
| Food Bank Con | nmittee Chair |
| Gord Warren | foodbank@standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Prayer Circle | Ext. 0 |
| | prayer@standrewsbrampton.ca |
| Sunday School | Ext. 0 |
| v | school@standrewsbrampton.ca |
| South-East Asia | an Outreach Ministry |
| | urdu astandraughrammtan as |

urdu@standrewsbrampton.ca Pastor Babar Allahditta Cell: 647-779-8281

Rosemary's Reflections



A few weeks ago I had coffee (actually I had tea!) at Tim Horton's (naturally) with a friend, whom I hadn't seen in over two years (thanks to COVID what else is new?) We had a great time catching up on how things were going, what was happening in our lives and with our families, what plans we had for the days ahead. Then the conversation inevitably turned to what's going on in the world, specifically how we have all been affected by COVID, by the threat of war and by personal crises of health and grief. Both of us are women of faith and we spoke of how difficult it has sometimes been, and continues to be, to keep that faith, when prayers don't seem to get answered, at least not as we would like and hope. I heard a prayer recently about waiting, hoping for God to "show up" and bring peace and healing and love to the world. Any of us could have prayed that prayer. Indeed, many of us probably do. The problem is that often God doesn't always seem to show up.

My friend referenced something she had read recently, which spoke to this very dilemma. The writer spoke of times of great trouble and sorrow in life, that can blind us to the joy that is always there, because that too is a part of life. After focusing on the negatives that so often seem to dominate our days, the writer ended with these words: "... even so." "Even so" because we believe God is still at work.

The Bible often reminds us of God's "even so". In Genesis as Noah picks up after the flood and looks at the road ahead, God says "As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night."

Continued on page 4

Church Contacts

| Clerk of Session | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| Jean Bradshaw | 905-455-6573 | | | |
| Past Clerk | JUJ- 1 JJ-0575 | | | |
| Kim Shepherd | 905-457-2127 | | | |
| Christian Education (| | | | |
| Jean Bradshaw | 905-455-6573 | | | |
| Congregational Care | | | | |
| Felicity Alexander | 905-791-0490 | | | |
| Envelope Secretaries | 505 751 0150 | | | |
| Bea Embling | 905-451-3954 | | | |
| Valerie Warren | 905-456-3472 | | | |
| Food Bank Committe | | | | |
| Gord Warren | 647-226-0960 | | | |
| Mission Committee | 017 220 0900 | | | |
| Eunice Boyd | 905-455-8275 | | | |
| Newsletter Editor | 903 133 0275 | | | |
| Felicity Alexander | 905-791-0490 | | | |
| Newsletter Asst. Edito | | | | |
| Ijeoma Ross | 647-299-8877 | | | |
| Prayer Circle | 017 299 0077 | | | |
| Sandra Jackson | 905-459-4563 | | | |
| Property Committee | 505 155 1505 | | | |
| Richard McMechan | 905-455-8468 | | | |
| SALSA Women's Gro | | | | |
| Pam Loree | 905-459-0390 | | | |
| Stewardship Committee | | | | |
| Helen Collins | 905-450-6314 | | | |
| Treasurer | 700 100 0011 | | | |
| Anna-Marie Dewar | 647-444-9466 | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| Karen Hutchinson | 416-704-5398 | | | |
| | | | | |

Rosemary's Reflections continued

Have you looked out at the flowers recently or listened to the birds sing? Even so... And in Psalm 23 we read God's eternal promise to be with us no matter what. "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me." Even so... Or what about Paul's triumphant words in Romans in the face of difficulty and persecution? "I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love – not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future and not powers above or powers below. Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!" Even so indeed!

I got a lot out of my trip to Tim Horton's! A good cup of tea and a huge cookie. A laughter-filled chat with an old friend, filled with do-you-remembers and what-ifs. And a welcome and necessary recharging of my sometimes shaky faith. No matter how things may look, God always has the last word – "even so."

Roseman

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 can be made by email to <u>newsletter@standrewsbrampton.ca</u> or to <u>felicity.alexander@sympatico.ca</u>

Additional Contributors This Month:

Helen Collins, John Collins, Anna-Marie Dewar, Anne Russell, Doreen Scott-Dunne, Kim Shepherd, Gord Warren

Deadline for submissions for the Summer issue is June 22, 2022

This newsletter and St. Andrew's office printing are done by:

15 Fisherman Drive, Unit 22 sales@postplus.ca







Pictured above is part of the group of St. Andrew's members who joined the MacDonald family on Sunday, April 24 in a memorial event for their father, Ewen MacDonald. In the picture are Tom and Belle Campbell, Sheila (Eitner) Hunt, Felicity Alexander, Rev. Wayne and Cathy Baswick, Paul Willoughby, and Mike and Molly Harvey and Herb Eitner.

Congratulations to Simpson Ross has now earned a BA (drawing and painting) through the OCADU Faculty of Art.

The graphic on the cover of this month's newsletter is the artwork of Felicity Alexander's friend Maureen Marshall. Bob and Felicity met Tom and Maureen Marshall while on a cruise nine years ago and have kept in touch ever since. They discovered their shared faith, and every year Felicity receives a calendar created by Maureen, in which she illustrates wellknown quotations – often with a religious message. The one on the front cover is from May 2022.

We appreciate Maureen's generosity in making these illustrations available to us.



How wonderful it was to have baptisms take place at St. Andrew's for the first time in three years.



On Mother's Day, May 8, the Rev. Wayne Baswick baptized Ethan Anjum Bhatti, son of Sardar Anjum Bhatti and Faiza Anjum, (photo above) and Princeton Jahkai Laird Banton, son of Isaiah Banton and Kendra Amber Lee Laird. Kendra and Princeton are pictured below.





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

May 2022

The WMS gathered, via Zoom, on May 3, enjoying an evening of fellowship. The ladies just talked about different topics and enjoyed much laughter. The evening was brought to an end with a Mother's Day prayer read by Kim Shepherd.



The ladies of WMS will once again be collecting items to make Activity Bags for the Family Centre. The bags were most appreciated last year. The children can design/personalize the bags as they can be coloured on. If you would like to donate items, Kim Shepherd will be collecting the items on Sunday, June 5th, 2022 – prior to the morning service. If you are unable to attend the worship service on Sunday, June 5th, no worries, please let Kim Shepherd know and she will make arrangements with you for pick up or delivery.

We will be collecting the following items:

**journals (this helps the children express their feelings either by colouring or by writing)*

*nut-free snacks (granola bars, fruit chews, etc)

*ITunes or Google Play gift cards (all the children have their own devices and music plays a big role in their healing)

*pens/pencils/crayons/pencil crayons

*adult colouring books (this way the mother can colour with the child and it is gender neutral) *cake/cookie/brownie mixes (these, and icing can be purchased at the Dollar Store. Each Unit has a kitchen and bake ware. The Units like anything to be baked.)

*they are also open to recipes like candy apples - we provide all the makings for the candy part, including the sticks. The facility always has apples - just another suggestion that the kids like doing.

*they also like Scripture cards/storybooks etc. They are a Christian organization. My contact even mentioned that she had one family return for a visit to say thank you, and the mother said that she carries the scripture card with her everywhere (and the mother was not a Christian).

Our next meeting, via ZOOM, will be held on Tuesday, June 7 at 7:00 pm. This will be our last meeting until September. As once again this year our June potluck dinner is not feasible, bring your tea and goodie to enjoy as we share our picks for a "book/movie/TV show for summer enjoyment." If you are unable to attend the meeting, feel free to send along your choice and it will be added to the list for the summer newsletter.

If you would like to attend, please let Kim Shepherd know and the meeting link will be sent to you. We hope we will see you there. If any of our members have any suggestions or enquiries, please send an email to: Kim Shepherd, at kimbers1269@gmail.com.

Let us close with the Mizpah Benediction:

May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from another.

Kim Shepherd President

> "The fact that I'm a woman doesn't make me a different kind of Christian, but the fact that I am a Christian makes me a different kind of woman." – **Elisabeth Elliot**

Church Finances

Shortfall Pie Chart

Purpose of this chart is to show in a graphic form the shortfall of contributions to expenses as of May 18, 2022



"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churhill Currently total contributions from January 1 to May 18 are down 12%. Expenses YTD compared to the prior year are comparable. Thank you all for your generosity.

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

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

Contributions & Expenses Comparative

| | 1 Jan - 18 May 22 | 1 Jan - 18 May 21 | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| Contributions | | | |
| Offerings | 77,308.91 | 80,919.79 | |
| Other Revenue | 40,992.69 | 53,427.37 | |
| Total Contributions | 118,301.60 | 134,347.16 | |
| Expense | | | |
| Education | 390.91 | 1,292.77 | |
| Mission | 5,335.22 | 5,175.87 | |
| Property | 51,578.48 | 70,845.96 | |
| Stewardship | 76,759.52 | 59,781.66 | |
| Worship | 6,742.77 | 1,980.97 | |
| Donation - Ukraine Relief | 2,000.00 | 1,210.36 | |
| Total Expense | 142,806.90 | 140,287.59 | |
| Net General Surplus (Deficit) | (24,505.30) | (5,940.43) | |
| Presbyterian Sharing donations* | 7,358.64 | 6,990.64 | |
| PWS&D donations* | 2,806.64 | 1,971.64 | |
| Food Bank donations* | 17,956.09 | 10,020.85 | |

* NOTES: 1) Presbyterian Sharing, PWS&D and Food Bank donations are not included in the Offerings numbers above. 2) PWSD donations includes amounts for Ukraine relief over and above the \$2,000 donation made by Session

Book Fundraiser



John Collins is selling his humorous memoir as a fundraiser with twenty percent of all profits (not just from St. Andrew's, but from all sales) being donated to our church. Buying a copy (\$25 paperback incl. HST), and, if you like it, posting a review online at Goodreads, Chapters or Amazon. Reviews are very important to boost a book's visibility and sales.

Description

Andrew McKinney seems to have it made: an important job, a great wife and three wonderful children. But when his two daughters become teenagers, life turns upside down. It's as if aliens have taken over the bodies of his loving daughters, leaving him confused and uncertain about what to do.

Follow Andrew's hilarious adventures as he deals with cell phones (from commando raids to decoy phones), wild parties, theft of his beer and a strange neighbour who prances around his pool naked and complains about their dog.

Family holidays provide some relief and family bonding, but comical mishaps ensue, such as racing down a mountain to reach the gate before it closes.

As they teeter on the brink of chaos, Andrew and his wife must determine what to do with their youngest and most rebellious child — send her to university or kick her out of the house? Part memoir and part self-help book, these warm-hearted stories sparkle with wit and wisdom while providing the laughs and support that a best friend would.

How I Lost My Hair Raising Teenage Girls is a parenting comedy for everyone. If you've raised teenagers or been one, then this is the book for you. If you haven't had children but wondered what it would be like, *this is the book for you*. And if you ever thought that pets would add to your domestic bliss, then ... *this ... is the book for you*!

Written under the pen name Andrew McKinney, it has received high praise from members of the congregation that have read it and garnered six reviews from book reviewers- all rated 5 stars. Here are a few examples:

5 out of 5 stars. "Great book, and I can definitely relate as a parent! Plenty of laughs and well-written. I recommend it even for people without kids." Gemma Johns, author of The Marriage Sabbatical.

5 out of 5 stars. "I love how open, honest and just downright relatable this book was. I think book will be perfect for parents of teenagers, but also parents whose kids haven't reached the dreaded teens yet. The writing style was easy to digest and the flow of the book was really enjoyable." Rebekah Fisher, Australian book reviewer @storieswithbee

5 out of 5 stars. "I read this book because of the title and it was such a joy to read. Though I don't yet have children of my own, I can somehow relate to some of the incidents here. Being an eldest daughter in an Asian household, I've unknowingly sort of become a second parent as well. This is funny, well-written and just over all delightful. reading experience." Nica V. Phillipine's Book Reviewer.

Buy it for him for Father's Day, but read it yourself!

To order a copy, contact Helen or John at 905-450-6314 or email johnco@sympatico.ca.

TAKING CARE OF OUR HERITAGE

Presbyterian Daily Devotional of September 13, 2004

by Anne Russell

Later this year we will be celebrating our 175th year as a congregation, so we thought that Anne Russell's Devotional from 2004 was worth sharing.



Haggai 1:7-9 – This is what the Lord Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured," says the Lord. "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the Lord Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house." (NIV)

I now attend a stately old church made out of stone that came from a quarry nearby. Built in the year 1880, it has come to the time to be pointed. Yes, I, too, wondered what it meant to be pointed! Over the years, due to age and some settling, the cement between the stones has begun to fall away. All this cement needs to be carefully removed and replaced.

The need was brought before the church membership, with some (as always) wondering if it needed to be done now, or if it could wait for another time when we had more financing.

With a leap of faith, it was decided to do it now, before there was real trouble. It was a good thing, for as the work proceeded, it was discovered that the foundation on one side of the building was beginning to crumble away.

How often do we neglect stewardship of the things we inherit, not wishing to give of our money at the time? I have witnessed other things in our churches that go to ruin simply because of a lack of good stewardship.

Thinking back to the time when many of our church buildings were built — many debt-free when the doors opened — it seems a shame that we just use the facility with no thought of keeping it in good repair and up-to-date.

The heritage has come down to us to look after, so that we may come to worship God in His church. The building is the gathering place for us in the body of Christ. It is therefore our responsibility to care for and keep in good repair His house of worship.

God has provided and will continue to provide us with the funds. In the faith of our fathers, let us pray that we will honour God, and not ourselves, with good stewardship.

Prayer: Dear Lord, there comes a time in our lives when we as believers must give of our money in order to keep Your house of worship in good order — not only for ourselves, but also for others — that we may come together to worship You in spirit and in truth. God, enable us to give back to You that which is Yours. In Jesus' name we pray and give thanks. Amen.



Members of the L6T/L6P GRACE Group were thrilled to have Suzzy Kirkpatrick join the meeting. We have missed her as she is in the hospital recovering from surgery, but Robyn was able to "hold the phone" for her so that she could participate in the Zoom call.



Topics of conversation included hospital food and recovering from COVID. We remembered with thanks the life of Esther Hunter of Emmanuel United Church who made sandwiches for our Food Bank for more than 20 years. Colin mentioned that his elementary school celebrated its 70th anniversary, and this triggered a discussion on experiences of our early school life.

The L6X/L6Y group had to cancel their Zoom GRACE group meeting in May, but have planned a pot-luck luncheon at Doreen & Ray's house for their group in June, and they are looking forward to meeting in person again for food and fellowship.



CALL TO PRAYER



With heavy hearts, we pray for all those affected by the school shooting in Texas

God of loving-kindness, creator and sustainer of all, you hold all souls and situations in your hands.

You sent Christ into the world that we might have life and Christ came as the Prince of Peace to a world that is too often tragic and violent.

In the face of gun violence at Robb Elementary School in Texas we turn to you in grief for those whose lives are cut short or forever changed; we turn to you in sorrow at the violence in schools, workplaces and homes; we turn to you in anger at the easy availability of guns; we turn to you in confession for our for complicity and inaction in the culture of violence.

Send your Spirit to comfort those who are experiencing shock, pain and loss; to give wisdom and compassion to those who comfort those who grieve, and to give us courage to be a force for change in our communities.

And in your grace, let us see the day when guns and all weapons that destroy life are replaced by instruments of peace and healing.

> These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



The Hanging Basket and MacGregors Meat and Seafood fundraisers were a success again this year.



A special "thank you" to Sandra Jackson for running the MacGregors Meat and Seafood fundraiser for May 2022



Thank you again to Sandra Jackson, and to Val Martin, Mark Nicol, Ken Jackson, and Deb Adair for their help on plant pick up day. Without their help this

fundraiser would not have been possible.



The book fundraiser "How I Lost My Hair Raising Teenage Girls" is still ongoing, and copies will continue to be available through the church over the summer into the Fall.

Thank you to everyone who supported these fundraisers. Without your support they would not have been successful.

Helen Collins Chair, Stewardship Committee



Food... for Thought

by Gord Warren



"The times they are a changing"

This album by Bob Dylan was released in 1964 and was about the changing time in North America during the 60's. There were mass shootings, protests, dissatisfaction with an unpopular war and general unrest. Students didn't trust the politicians and parents didn't know what to do with their teenagers. Sound familiar?

At the St. Andrew's Food Bank we see people who have worked their entire life and now can't afford the necessities of life. Pay your rent, transportation or buy food — those are the choices they are faced with every day. One person came to the Food Bank because his union was on strike, and he couldn't afford food for his family. We are seeing younger people coming for assistance, as well as those on disability benefits. The number of clients coming for assistance is slowly rising, as word gets around that St. Andrew's has re-opened. The temporary setup where we are using the hallways will soon reach its capacity and we will have to consider alternate arrangements. Thankfully we are able to serve all who attend on Wednesdays, thanks to your generosity, as our canned food shelves are almost filled to capacity, and we are able to purchase fresh produce.

Another bright light on the horizon is that the "Gift of Giving Back" is returning to Brampton this coming Fall. Young hockey players will soon be canvasing with their blue bags to raise food for local food banks. This is also a teaching moment for them, as they realize how important food security is.

Nothing stays the same and yes, the times are changing!

STEWARDSHIP FUNDRAISERS PHOTO GALLERY

Macgregors Meat & Seafood Sale



Sandra Jackson and Helen Collins check the meat orders



Maggie & Mark Nicol help Valerie Warren with the heavy lifting



Volunteers with flowers ready for pick up

Hanging Basket Fundraiser





Belle & Tom Campbell

Lionel and Mary Nichol



Felicity Alexander, Susan Jess, Sandra Jackson, Grace Yates



John Bakkeren

We acknowledge that we meet on the traditional territory of the Anishinabek (Ojibway), Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee and Métis peoples