

St. Andrew's Session **Session Summary from March 6, 2023**

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

SESSION NEWS

The Session returned to the Session Room for its meeting on March 6. This was the first time it met 'in-person' since the March 2020 meeting – three years ago! It was a hybrid meeting with some of us joining the meeting via Zoom.

Another 'New' Elder!

The Session heard that Ray Scanlan has agreed to rejoin the Session for another Term. A Reaffirmation of his Ordination vows will take place before the next meeting. With Ray's return, the Session has two vacancies remaining. Rev. Geoff Ross will continue approaching nominees to fill these positions.

Baptisms and New Members

Session approved that the following youths – Sheal Babar, Azaniah Babar, Lucas Bhim, Bryan Hallim, Jabneel Hanif, Esha Imran, Robyn Jarjour, Elio Jarjour, Matthew Roni, Maheem Shakeel, Daim Shakeel, Azeeka Sharoon – will be confirmed as New Members on April 2, 2023.

Volunteers Needed

As St. Andrew's is gradually returning to "normal," we – like many other churches and organizations – are experiencing a drop in volunteers to help with our various programs and activities that we have long enjoyed. The commitment does not have to be great – or ongoing – but we do need volunteers on both weekly, monthly, or an occasional basis.

Committee Members Wanted

Our Committees also need your help! God has blessed us with many gifts and talents, so what are yours? The Committees are Worship (Karen Hutchinson), Mission (Robyn Kirkpatrick), Christian Education (Jean Bradshaw), Stewardship (Helen Collins), and Property (Stan Loree).

Worship Service Volunteers Needed

On Sundays, we are looking for Duty Elders to help with security and safety during services (Elders and Supporting Elders, expect to hear from June Young). John Bakkeren is our contact for the Welcoming Teams, please see John on Sunday Mornings to offer your help. Michelle Tedder needs help with the Coffee Fellowship after the service. If you are interested in helping, please contact Michelle at 647-261-2066, or Jean Bradshaw at 905-455-6573 for any of these positions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education

Confirmation Classes for our Youth (12 – 19): The classes are well attended and are being led by Ray Scanlan and Doreen Scott-Dunne.

They are thrilled with the response from the youth. The Youth are also enjoying the classes.

Mission Committee

The Committee is planning to run the Faith in ACTION activities again this year. The date and details of the activities will be coming soon.

Stewardship Committee

The Financial Report for February shows that our offerings are still weak, but we managed to avoid using our Line of Credit. One of the items that the Stewardship Committee wants to emphasize is the importance of having a regular, steady source of revenue – and the best way to achieve this is through the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) Program. Increasing the percentage of members using the PAR Program to cover St. Andrew's monthly base expenses will help stabilize the seasonal ups and downs of our givings. We encourage you to continue your faithful giving to St. Andrew's and ask that you consider signing up for our PAR Program.

MacGregor Meats Fundraiser -

Gord and Val Warren have agreed to run the MacGregor Meats fundraiser this year. The campaign kicks off on Sunday, April 2.

Reminder: The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting will be taking place after the worship service on Sunday, April 23, 2023.

Property

The Committee is still waiting for City Hall to approve replacing the Fire Panel application. The coffee machine, the ovens and the cooktop are not working, and the cost of replacing them is exorbitant.

Worship

Simpson Ross, our on-line technical assistant, is leaving in April. With her departure, we need to find another assistant to help ensure that we can continue to stream our services for those at home.

In-Person/In-Church Worship Reminder

The Session wants to assure you that your safety and health remain its primary concern. While there is no mandate for wearing masks, the Session recommends wearing them if you need to – or when you are singing. ***We continue to ask those attending In-Person/In-Church worship to do what "feels right for you" regarding your safety and health.*** Please respect and acknowledge that not everyone has the same comfort threshold regarding public gatherings. Again, the Session reminds you not to attend in-person worship if you are not feeling well.

Pastoral Care

If you have any Pastoral Care needs or concerns, please contact either Jean Bradshaw, the Clerk of Session, by email at clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca or at 905-455-6573; or Felicity Alexander of the Congregational Care Team at 905-791-0490.