

St. Andrew's Session **Session Summary from April 3, 2023**

WE ARE WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

SESSION NEWS

The April Session meeting was Rev. Geoff Ross' last meeting at St. Andrew's. Easter Sunday will be his last worship service, then he will be starting at his new Charge on May 1. He addressed the question of pulpit supply, pastoral care, and then asked St. Andrew's Presbytery Representative, Rosalind Cammidge, to give the Presbytery report. During her report, she informed the Session that Presbytery has appointed Rev. Wayne J. Baswick as Interim Moderator and Stated Supply half-time, effective May 1, 2023. Until then, he is the Interim Moderator at North Bramalea Presbytery Church.

Annual Meeting Update

Due to Rev. Ross' Presbytery appointed leave – and the fact that Rev. Wayne J. Baswick will not start at St. Andrew's as the Interim Moderator – Rev. Ross outlined how the Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, April 23, can still take place. A motion was then made to nominate Stan Loree – an Elder and Trustee – to Chair the Annual Meeting. The motion passed. Stan Loree's name will be presented at the Meeting.

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 need weekly, monthly, or occasional volunteers.

Committee Members

We need volunteers on our Committees. 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).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education

On Sunday, April 2, St. Andrew's welcomed parents, grandparents, and relatives as they came to support the confirmation of ten youths. It was a happy occasion, and there was cake in the Great Hall after the service. Thank you to Ray and Doreen for teaching the confirmation classes. Thank you to the three members who provided pizza for the youths during the classes. Thank you, Geoff, for your support and encouragement in making this happen.

Mission Committee

The Faith in ACTION Committee is working on finalizing this year's activities; look for dates and details soon. A thank you note was received from a community member for providing them the hats, mitts, and scarves at Christmas. The Session approved the Covenant for the year 2023 with Rev. Babar Allahditta, who is the Pastor of St. Andrew's South-East Asian Outreach Ministry (S-EAOM).

Stewardship Committee

The Treasurer, Anna-Marie Dewar, presented the audited Financial Statement for 2022, followed by questions and discussion; the Session then approved the Statement. The Session recommended the Auditor's Report be presented to the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, April 23, 2023 for its approval.

Property

The Committee has received the permit from City Hall to replace the Fire Panel. The work will start in the next few weeks. Property also informed the Session that there would be a Netflix film crew renting space at the Church for several days after Easter.

Worship

The Committee is saying goodbye to Simpson Ross, who supported Peter Shepherd at the soundboard every Sunday since 2020. Thank you, Simpson, for all your hard work, and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours!

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.

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 the Clerk of Session, Jean Bradshaw, at clerk@standrewsbrampton.ca or at 905-455-6573. Or you may contact the Congregational Care Team, through Felicity Alexander, at 905-791-0490.