

INSIDE*ST. ANDREW'S*

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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This month...



Therefore, you too must be ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. [Reflects the Advent season: A time of waiting and getting ready.]

Matthew 24:44

BIRTHDAYS

December 2023

- 3 Samuel Odzenma
- 4 Thomas Dewar, Kim Shepherd
- 5 Jamina Cabral
- 8 Felicity Alexander, Robert Orrom
- 9 Wilma Zinkweg
- 10 Carl Phillips, Barend Zinkweg
- 12 Marilyn Hunt, Razia Rehmat
- 14 Maltina Armstrong
- 16 Florence Martin, Peter Shepherd
- 17 Isabella Martin, Manoj Moon,
Cathy Haney-Beattie
- 18 Harvey Kalyan
- 19 Leigh Tomlinson
- 22 Rookmin Bisnauth
- 25 Grace Halm
- 26 Sundes Emanuel
- 27 Roshni Manual, Michelle Tedder
- 28 Faiza Bhatti



January 2024



- 1 Frank Kar
- 2 Lenore Armstrong, Richard Duncan
- 3 James McCoy, Lynn Wright
- 4 David Aleong
Lyndon Roopchan



Robert and Carson Orrom whose wife and mother Sarah Ann Orrom died on November 18.



Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers and greeters on Sunday mornings. A friendly, welcoming smile is the only requirement. Please contact Karen Hutchinson at vankarry@gmail.com if you are interested in this ministry.



Worship

We also need volunteers to prepare and serve refreshments at the fellowship time after the worship service.

There is a signup sheet in the Great Hall.

Bruce the "cookie man" is back!



Contact Bruce in person or by email for a list of available items. **No phone calls please.** Orders will also be taken in person or by email at brewsterwlu@hotmail.com. Bruce will deliver the goodies to your home.

Proceeds go to support the needs of our Food Bank.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
905-451-1723

Church Office Hours:

Tue 9:30 am–12:30 pm & 1:00 pm–5:00 pm
Wed 9:30 am–12:30 pm & 1:00 pm–5:00 pm
Thu 9:30 am–12:30 pm & 1:00 pm–5:00 pm

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music@standrewsbrampton.ca

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Pastor Babar Allahditta 647-779-8281
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wecare@standrewsbrampton.ca

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Ext. 55
foodbank@standrewsbrampton.ca

Prayer Circle

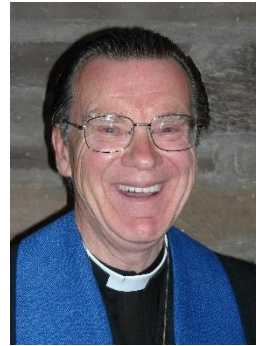
prayer@standrewsbrampton.ca

Sunday School

school@standrewsbrampton.ca

Wayne's World

A Little Bit of Advent and A Little Bit of Christmas



Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. [Reflects the 12-day Christmas season: the Son of God is born to be with us.] - Luke 2:11,12

We begin with how the lighting of candles placed on the Advent wreath signifies the meaning of Advent and leads us into Christmas.

The Advent Story

The use of the Advent wreath is an early German custom used four Sundays before Christmas. The dictates of the Church read as follows:

“Gather ye evergreens, cedar and pine, twine them into a circle everlasting and garnish with the fruits of the earth.”

The first Sunday of Advent, a violet candle is lit. The first candle signifies the prophets' hopes and prayers. The second Sunday, a second violet candle is lit signifying the stable birthplace of the Christ Child. The third Sunday, an old rose candle is lit for the good news the angels sang to all peoples. The last Sunday of Advent, a violet candle is lit signifying the worship and gifts of the Wisemen. One minute after midnight Christmas Eve, a single tall white taper is lit to signify the birth of the Christ Child, His goodness and His purity. Christmas Day, the violet and the old rose candles can be changed to red to signify the joy of the world upon the hearing of the Christ Child's birth.

This takes us into Christmas. I am going to use the word “CHRISTMAS” as an acrostic and put things in bullet note form – firstly to save you a lot of reading at this busy time of year, and secondly to allow you to reflect on the notes for each letter and invite you to make your own mental notes on each letter and apply them as they relate to you for the Christmas season.

Continued on page 4

Church Contacts

Clerk of Session

Jean Bradshaw 905-455-6573

Past Clerk

Kim Shepherd 905-457-2127

Christian Education Committee

Jean Bradshaw 905-455-6573

Congregational Care Team

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Web Team

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Women's Missionary Society

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Wayne's World continued

Christ	"Keep Christ in Christmas", it is said. Look at the words; you can't take "Christ" out of "Christmas"!
His People	That's who we are! That's why He came. He never leaves nor forsakes.
Risen	The one born in the manger is Risen and alive to be with us forevermore.
I as in Me	"Christmas is for children." Yes! For you and I (me), too, for we are all God's children.
Saviour	He came to save us from sin, evil and ourselves. Often we get in the way of ourselves.
T-bar	Known better as the Cross. The wood of the manger, it is said, was also part of the wood of the Cross.
Messiah	Come, thou long-expected Jesus. He has come! In the here and why of life.
Adore Him	O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him. What else needs to be said?
Spirit	The challenge! To keep the Spirit of Christmas in us 24/7/365.

Warmest wishes for the Christmas season, and all the best throughout 2024.

Rev. Wayne
Interim Moderator & Stated Supply



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

felicity.alexander@sympatico.ca

Additional Contributors This Month:

Helen Collins, Anna-Marie Dewar, Sandra Jackson,
Stan Loree, Ray Scanlan, Doreen Scott-Dunne, Gord Warren

**Deadline for submissions for the January 2024 issue is
December 21, 2023**

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News from the Pews



Congratulations to Wayne Tedder who, on Monday, October 30, received one of 25 “caring” awards at Dynacare. This is a nominated award, and he was nominated by his direct Managers for being innovative and introducing technology advancements within the department.



In the picture on the left, Wayne is seen holding a bag with the Naseem Somani Caring Award. It was a wonderful ceremony and Wayne was thrilled to be nominated.



A delegation of clowns from St. Andrew’s participated in the Santa Claus Parade this year as part of the Kiwanis Celebrity Clowns program, a fundraising initiative which helps supply service dogs to autistic children in Peel Region. Did you recognize Ken Jackson, Peter Shepherd, Kaitlin Shepherd, Pam Loree, Stan Loree and Bill Dewar?

All-Ages games night – November 3

By Jessica Rhind



Hoboy did you miss an event! Everyone knew games had just been taken to another level when Barry Hutchinson and Doug Warwick walked in with a professional looking automatic card shuffler. Not only that, but the Scrabble table also operated without a dictionary present (gasp). However, we kept our Presbyterian sensibilities, and no fights broke out over spelling. The Zinkwegs also showed up with a custom bag and pulled out a handmade wooden game board for “poker dice,” which is easy enough that a 6-year-old could play, but required enough strategy that Chris Shepherd enjoyed beating the pants off of the opposing team -twice!

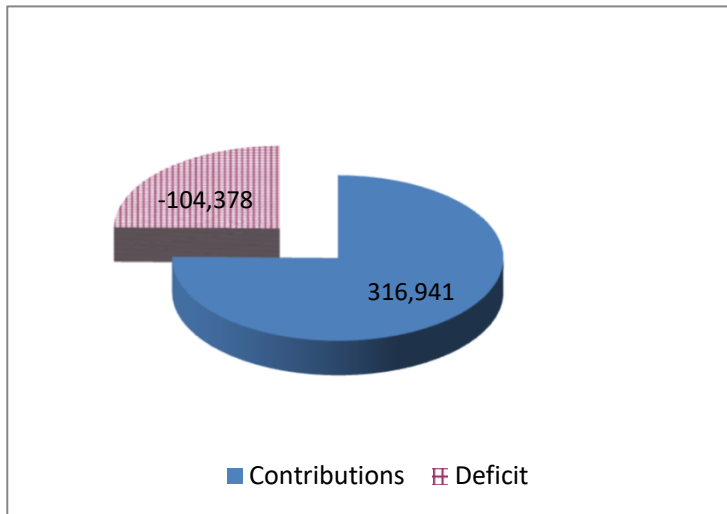
There was hot chocolate, homemade goodies, popcorn and plenty of high spirits over at the Play 9 game table, and the Youngs were very involved with the Roopnarine and Heuther families while playing Jenga. 9:30 pm rolled around far too fast! Everyone had such a good time that this is sure to be a recurring event in 2024. Don't miss it!



Church Finances

Shortfall Pie Chart

Purpose of this chart is to show in a graphic form the shortfall of contributions to expenses as of November 21, 2023



The **deficit** year to date is **\$104,378** which is in line with what was budgeted for 2023. **Thank you** for giving generously to the operations of St. Andrew's.

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**



Contributions & Expenses Comparative

	Jan 1 - Nov 21, 2023	Jan 1 - Nov 21, 2022
Contributions		
Offerings	232,567.66	218,650.60
One-time Grants	30,000.00	-
Other Revenue	54,373.46	(5,184.61)
Total Contributions	316,941.12	213,465.99
Expense		
Education	2,577.03	2,180.71
Mission	38,366.90	23,321.39
Property	159,497.31	93,323.67
Stewardship	198,784.19	209,931.92
Worship	21,284.93	18,871.56
Donation - Ukraine Relief	808.77	2,000.00
Total Expense	421,319.13	349,629.25
Net General Surplus (Deficit)	(104,378.01)	(136,163.26)
Presbyterian Sharing donations*	18,145.66	19,510.26
PWS&D donations*	4,184.16	7,290.76
Food Bank donations*	40,191.18	37,004.04

* NOTES: 1) Presbyterian Sharing, PWS&D and Food Bank donations are not included in the Offerings numbers above.

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
2024 BUDGET SUMMARY
with previous years comparisions

	2021		2022		2023		2023		2024
	Audited		Audited		Budget		Jan 1 - Oct 31		Budget
	<i>pandemic</i>		<i>pandemic</i>		<i>post pandemic</i>				
General Fund Income/Expense									
Income									
Total Offerings	245,692.37	49%	266,445.48	68%	257,950.00	56%	220,764.11		284,850.00
Total Other Revenue	291,323.52		(143,346.58)		63,000.00		77,692.73		63,500.00
Total Income ex.Mission and Service	537,015.89		123,098.90		320,950.00		298,456.84		348,350.00
Expense									
Total Congregational Care	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
Total Education Committee	2,691.99		2,180.71		4,250.00		2,577.03		4,450.00
Total Mission Committee	16,180.80		26,031.25		49,500.00		34,120.14		25,300.00
Total Property Committee	166,537.28		99,350.12		148,100.00		149,404.95		120,000.00
Total Stewardship Committee	299,949.82		237,944.06		235,650.00		183,401.92		219,800.00
Total Worship Committee	15,027.58		21,031.76		24,725.00		16,165.20		23,000.00
Total Session	2,018.24		4,604.13		1,000.00		90.77		1,000.00
Total Expense	502,405.71		391,142.03		463,225.00		385,760.01		393,550.00
Net Ordinary Income ex. Mission and Service	34,610.18		(268,043.13)		(142,275.00)		(87,303.17)		(45,200.00)
Mission & Service (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)									
Income									
PWS & D Income	6,644.92		8,004.92		0.00		3,771.66		0.00
Food Bank	84,555.50		58,912.89		0.00		35,696.28		0.00
Sharing Offering	21,507.92		22,219.92		0.00		16,761.66		0.00
	117,453.28		89,137.73		0.00		56,229.60		0.00
Expense									
Food Bank Expense	35,760.96		45,505.68		0.00		42,967.22		0.00
PWS&D Expense	6,644.92		7,904.92		0.00		3,239.16		0.00
Presbyterians Sharing....	21,507.92		21,709.92		0.00		14,267.66		0.00
	68,658.74		79,865.46		0.00		60,474.04		0.00
	48,794.54		9,272.27		0.00		(4,244.44)		0.00



By Stan Loree

In late March of this year, an exceptionally heavy snowfall, followed by rain, brought down the eaves troughs and underlying wooden eaves on the west side of the church building. This revealed the very poor condition of the woodwork and the ends of the underlying roof truss because water had been leaking through to the trusses for many years. The Property Committee hired an engineering firm in June to assess the damage, select a contractor and supervise the needed repairs. It was determined that the west and north sides were at a critical stage, so they will be repaired this year.



Our contractor arrived on site a month ago and immediately commenced work on the west side of the building. Looking at the first picture from left to right, you can see their repair process. On the far left, the old woodwork along the face has been removed, along with the steel sheeting along the roof and the underlying (rotted) roof boards. In the middle of the roof, new four-foot supports have been attached to the roof trusses on either side of them, and new plywood sheeting has been attached on top. On the far right, wooden fascia boards have been added, and waterproof "blue skin" has been installed over the plywood. Moving to the second picture on the north (parking lot) side, new metal sheeting has been installed over the plywood. At this point, the west and north sides are completely finished, and our roof is waterproof and protected from the elements.

The next phase is the installation of the aluminum "cap" over the wood fascia board. This cap will be folded by a fabricator to look very similar to the former wooden exterior and will have a painted finish that lasts for several decades. The final piece will be the installation of the new eaves troughs and downspouts. These last two steps have been delayed while the metal fabricator works to achieve the proper bends and colour match. Hopefully, they will be complete before the snow arrives.



You can see the phases, as they remove the old roof, insert the new ends of the trusses and then install the new roof (blue) and fascia.

MISSION COMMITTEE



The Mission Committee and Kenyan newcomers want to thank everyone who donated the winter gear that they took home on October 29, 2023. You have warmed their bodies and hearts with your kindness.

Sandra Jackson



Stewardship Corner

The narrative budget meeting was held in person in the Church Sanctuary on Sunday, November 19, 2023 and viewed online via Microsoft Teams. Financial statements had been made available to the congregation one week prior to this meeting.

Rev. Wayne Baswick opened the meeting in prayer. Jean Bradshaw, Clerk of Session, was appointed to take the Minutes of the meeting.

Anna-Marie Dewar, Treasurer, conducted the budget meeting. She presented each committee's proposed budget for 2024. Anna-Marie listed the various sources of revenue for St. Andrew's, along with their expenses. The budget projected a deficit of \$44,200. She also went over the different ways to donate to the Church. Throughout the meeting, people had the opportunity to ask questions.

Anna-Marie moved that the budget be approved as presented. This was seconded by Helen Collins. By a show of hands or vocal agreement from the online congregation, the vote to pass the budget was unanimous. A copy of the budget is on page 7 of this newsletter.

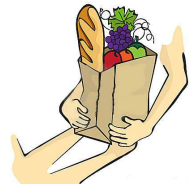
A special thank you to Anna-Marie for all the time and effort she spent on putting the presentation together. Also, thank you to Peter Shepherd for all of his computer support.

Following the budget discussion Stan Loree asked the congregation to vote on a different issue. Stan made a motion to request more money from the Flame Endowment Fund. The amount would be less than \$50,000 or the actual cost for the repair of the Church's eaves as of December 31, 2023. The request was approved by the congregation.

Overall, it was a very successful budget meeting. With God's help and the continued generous support of the members of St Andrew's, 2024 will be a better year financially for St. Andrew's.

Yours in Faith
Helen Collins, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Food... for Thought



by Gord Warren



Brampton Hockey Helps Out

The Gift of Giving Back food drive has arrived in Brampton, courtesy of Brampton Hockey. The enthusiasm and energy shown by the participants is contagious and affects all the helpers in the building. Some of the St. Andrew's Food Bank volunteers on Monday, November 20 are pictured above.

This food drive is not completely for the collecting of food for food banks, but also for the teaching of the players that there is a life outside of hockey. The food is important, but the lifelong teaching of the children is more important. On the news every day are stories of gang violence, discrimination, racist actions, etc. The hockey players in the Brampton Minor Hockey Program have not shown any of this as they practice on the floor during the collection of food. They aren't allowed pucks in the area, so anything from a hockey glove to a hair elastic is passed back and forth. They play with anyone regardless of race, creed or differing beliefs, because a good pass doesn't get held back!

If only the rest of the world was based on the beliefs of a minor hockey player!

The volunteers at St. Andrew's Food Bank wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Merry Christmas!



The L6T/L6P GRACE group zoomed together on November 16 for a catch-up chat. Thanks to Maggie Nicol for coordinating the techie aspect of the meeting. We got to see Lee Crawford's granddaughter Winona who just celebrated her first birthday, and then we discussed plans for our in-person Christmas event that we are planning for December.



The L6X/L6Y GRACE Group had a very small meeting in October due to the ill health of a number of members, who are fortunately much better now. Then on November 14, we could not meet because Ray had a bad bout of bronchitis.

However, we are praying that everyone is in good health for the December GRACE Group Christmas luncheon at the home of our hostess, Sue Haw, on Tuesday, December 12 at 12:30 pm. We also believe that Marilyn Hunt is celebrating her birthday that day! It will be so lovely to join once again in fellowship!



CALL TO PRAYER



by Ray Scanlan

We continue to pray for an end to the violence and wars in so many countries around the world.

Jesus tells us in the Gospel to ask for what we want, and we turn to Him in prayer for peace. We give thanks for the countries that have provided humanitarian aid in a plethora of ways, yet our hearts break for the millions of innocent men, women and children living in refugee camps or caught in the war zones and physically unable to escape.

You are invited to take a moment to pray to ask our God to comfort all the families affected by this violence, and for an end to all those suffering in these war-torn countries, and in particular those now homeless, starving and desperately seeking a place of refuge.

As the daily bombing continues and thousands seeking medical treatment are now challenged due to diminished healthcare systems, we call again for peace. We call on Jesus' words (Luke chapter 11), Jesus said, "this is how you should pray," and 11:9-10, "And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking and you will find. Keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."

Jesus, we know that you love us as we pray for peace and an end to the suffering.



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

“In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.”

Our Remembrance Day service on November 5 began with music on organ and trumpet. Once again this year we thank Lino Varano for his contribution to the service.



Carole Jones (daughter of the late George Burrows) laid the wreath on the Communion Table, and this was followed by two minutes of silence. Lino Varano honoured the fallen by playing the Last Post and Lament, after which we sang both “O Canada” and “God Save the King.”



Veteran Sue Haw read the scripture passages.

June and Colin Young and May Jackson participated in the Act of Remembrance, reading the names of those who gave their lives in the two World Wars. We also remembered two of our veterans – George Burrows and Fred Swackhamer – who died this past year.



December Events



- Friday, December 8 at 7:30 pm – Advent Event – based around a Christmas movie (with snacks, no meal.)
- Sunday, December 10 – Family Service – Children and youth will stay in church. Most elements of the service (hymns, readings, sermon, etc.) will be children/youth focussed.
- Wednesday, December 13 at 7:30 pm – Blue Christmas Service in the Parlour.
- Christmas Eve, December 24 - Services at 10:30 am, 4 pm and 7:30 pm.
- There is no service on Christmas Day
- New Year's Eve, December 31 – 10:30 am Service.



Thanks to the “church mice” who decorated and will “undecorate” the Sanctuary this Christmas.

ELDERS

Leading. Shepherd. Teaching.

We need to have two people sit in the Great Hall during Sunday Worship to serve as "Duty Elders."

- You need not miss the service, as you can follow it on YouTube on your phone.
- As long as you are an Elder or Supporting Elder, you can recruit your spouse or a member of the congregation to serve with you.

Christmas Gift Suggestions



To your enemy, forgiveness
To an opponent, tolerance
To a friend, your heart
To a customer, service
To all, charity
To every child, a good example
To yourself, respect.