



St. Andrew's

October 2015 Newsletter

Minister's Message

As I write this we are approaching Thanksgiving. A time when we celebrate the harvest and the abundance we have been blessed with. We have much to be thankful for. For family and friends who we enjoy a meal and conversation with. We give thanks for our health and well-being. Our past-times and leisure activities which give us joy and pleasure.

There is much to be thankful for at St. Andrew's. God's work is being done and I give thanks for the faithfulness of the congregation. The Soup Kitchen has begun again and continues to provide meals and fellowship to all those who attend. Young at Heart provides a time for fun and fellowship during the week. The work of Session and the various committees of the congregation are all items to be thankful for. Each of these contributes to the life of the church and God's mission in the world.

Finally, I am thankful for each of you. For your faithfulness and prayer. For your friendship and words of encouragement. For the way we challenge and trust one another. God is at work within St. Andrew's. As we continue to faithfully work for the coming kingdom we will find much more to be thankful for.

- Rev. Ellis

Session Report:

This fall the Session has continued to vision and plan for the future of St. Andrew's. We spent time discussing our Mission Statement to bring into line with what we have been visioning and will present it to the congregation.

The five branches of Session are also working as to how they can better fulfill their mandate in relation to our mission and how to put it into action.

We each have ideas and plans and it takes many minds, hands and voices to carry out the many ideas presented. We want to ensure that it meets the needs of our congregation now and for the future.

We are most appreciative of the talents of our members and volunteers. Many work in quiet ways and behind the scenes.

We want to thank the group that prepared the new church school over the summer. Ruth and Bob Kerr, Mary and Dave Jones, Braden Saunders, Joy and Richard Randall, and many others were busy. The children are really enjoying their new space. The Nursery was also cleaned and cared for to be ready for the infants.

We appreciate the youth that assist the adults both in the Nursery and Church School and for the ones who cared for them during the summer programme.

The gardens have been cared for and some flowers supplied by Phyllis Smith and Richard Randall.

Many members of the F&O continue to help to care for the maintenance and operation of the church especially Bryan Armstrong and John Baines and John Vickers.

A special thanks to John Hyma and his son, James, for the great work they did on the boilers during the summer.

The soup kitchen volunteers are serving many people from our community again each week. This is a vital ministry that helps many people within our community.

Each new season Margaret Greenwood changes the sanctuary and Campbell Hall with new flowers etc.

Over the summer months we were saddened by the deaths of David Patterson and Jim Butchart. We give thanks to God for the faith and service of these two individuals and continue to hold their families in prayer.

THANKS TO ALL AND OTHERS I MAY HAVE MISSED!

We are truly thankful for the faithfulness of all in supporting St. Andrew's and volunteering in a variety of ways. We honour you and thank God for you. We pray that the work of God's kingdom will continue in our midst.

Clerk Joy Randall

LEADING WITH CARE POLICY at St. Andrew's Church October 2015

This fall we will take another step towards compliance of health and safety standards as mandated by the Presbyterian Church in Canada. We will practice safe evacuation of the building in the form of a fire drill.

Each room has a designated exit. When the "alarm" is sounded, then the following procedures need to be followed:

- Parents of infants are to go to the Nursery to assist the person in charge.
- A point person will notify the two downstairs Church school classes and lead the children outside in an orderly fashion to the back parking lot, far from the building. Parents will meet their children there.
- People in the sanctuary need to exit by the nearest door to the outside. Greeters at the narthex doors may assist as facilitators.
- The elevator will not be in use. Assistance needs to be given to those with canes, walkers or wheelchairs.
- An assigned person needs to check the washrooms on both levels.
- A review of any issues or concerns will be conducted after the practice drill and addressed. Changes and clarifications will be communicated to the congregation. Please express your observations to us so that we can improve our efficiency if necessary. Thank you.
- Ruth Kerr and Joy Randall

CHURCH SCHOOL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

It has been an exciting year. We have enjoyed the presence of young families and their energetic children. One member said that when the little ones leave the sanctuary, it seems half-empty! A good sign, I think.

This summer our youth covered 10 weeks of programming which saw an attendance total of 40 children spread over that time. We are encouraged that our families entrusted their children to us. Thank you to Becky and Grace Jeninga, Allison Robertson and Jaclyn McDougall for their efforts.

With the help of several people, the Laing Room was refurbished for the growing number of children, ages 3-5. Even with the summer humidity, we managed to complete the project. I appreciated the care and expertise that Braden Saunders brought to the job. He is following the footsteps of his great-grandfather who worked on the Christian Education wing in 1962.

The new program is off to a successful start under the capable leadership of Mary Jones. Mary is making use of the helpful site, ministry-to-children.com. Her years of experience as a primary teacher are paying off! Older children meet with Ruth Kerr to follow a more formalized curriculum based on the lectionary readings from “Seasons of the Spirit”. We appreciate the assistance of Helen McDougall who is helping the classes to settle in, and the youth who continue to support us.

Our “Leading with Care” policy advises that two people are required in each room. We are working on how to implement this in our Nursery program. Thanks to the parents who are filling in, especially Adam Frybort, who has agreed to support these efforts. We know that the growth we are seeing now originated under the dedicated leadership of Mary Jones in the past.

Finally, we are considering how to use the offering that the children bring on a Sunday. One idea is to add our monetary support to the local churches’ efforts to provide for Syrian refugee families. Any feedback is welcome.

Ruth Kerr

Finance and Operation Report

FINANCIAL UPDATE for the third QUARTER of 2015

	Sep.YTD	Presbyterian Sharing
Bank balance Jan.1 ‘15	\$ 30,352	Budget for year 2015 \$13,693
Plus Church income	\$137,645	Collected to date \$10,952
Less Church expenses	\$134,691	
Less paid to Manse Fund	\$ 2,000	P.W.S.&D.
Bank balance Sep.30 ‘15	\$31,306	Collected to date \$10,747
Manse debt Sep.30 ‘15	<u>\$12,000</u>	
Overall balance	\$19,306	

Thank the Lord for this encouraging result. Our budget showed a downward trend, but thanks to your faithful contributions, including some large donations, our bank balance is higher than in the beginning of the year! Your support is very much appreciated.

Thank you to Bob Cleland and his faithful service for fund scrip. He presented the treasurer with a cheque for \$1000 in September. Please remember to start thinking of using the cards for your Christmas gifts. Order early in order to have them in good time.

During this calendar year, we have spent a considerable amount of money and time working in the Boiler Room. In the church proper, we have been repairing small nuisance projects, IE, replacing the works on the washroom door which was not working properly, replacing a toilet in the upstairs ladies washroom as the unit was leaking, etc. Currently, we are fixing the indoor stair lights on each side of the front steps, resurfacing the communion table as it had two or three areas with water damage, etc. We thank John Hyma for replacing the broken roof drain pipe near the rear entrance. The conversion of the Lang room into a usable Sunday School room is a great accomplishment. These “little” projects soon add up in both time and money and are usually taken for granted as they are invisible until they become a problem. We are currently obtaining quotes on a good “spring cleaning” as the sanctuary walls and roof have not been cleaned for a considerable number of years. They need to be cleaned but what is a reasonable cost?

According to the analysis which our Treasurer, Henk, reported in the calendar on Sunday, October 11th, we have \$31,306 in the bank and owe \$12,000 to the manse fund. The congregation deserves a round of applause as this is a great position to be in. It must be noted that we are not on a mad spending spree. We are doing the things around the church that we need to support our congregational objectives and we should be quite proud of the work we have done this year. Well done folks.

The Boiler Room. In the spring, we approached the congregation and told them that we needed \$13,000 for repairs in the Boiler Room. Our subsequent campaign raised \$11,377 toward the project. We knew that when we started pulling things apart, we would probably find additional problems and we were not surprised when these items started popping up.

So far we have spent \$8,498.29 and we need to thank John and Jason Hyma for the work on the plumbing which saved us a bundle.

Upcoming are the following items (these amounts are educated guesses): the new electronic boiler controller (\$2500), emergency boiler disconnect (\$400), a new igniter switch for boiler one (\$200). Three of the boilers are overheating (\$3,000) but this one could become a big ticket item if the simple fixes do not work. We will know that next summer. We have shelved the re-piping of the exhaust system until we know the effect of the current changes.

Therefore, we are making progress in the Boiler Room and we believe we have a handle on the project.

Our congregation has decided to support the “Better Together” Refugee campaign which is going to bring several refugee families to our community. As a fundraiser for this campaign, on Saturday, November 14th, we will be hosting a concert by Matt Williams which will be a night of Country and Western music. This will be open to the public and tickets will cost \$15 per person. Tickets are available through the church, at 10,000 Villages and at Long & McQuade.

Prepared by John Vickers

Heating System Rejuvenation Report Oct 15 2015

This past spring we talked about needing to do three things:

1. Install a second main circulation pump, a chemical feed system to deactivate the oxygen, and an air elimination device to remove air and gases from the circulation water:

This work was completed well within the estimated cost thanks to the generous volunteer work done by John Hyma and his son Jason.

2. Install a new electronic controller for the boilers:

This is a one day job to install and it can be done anytime. Bryan and John Baines are reviewing the specifications of the controller more thoroughly before ordering it.

3. Repair or replace three boilers that are not running well because they were overheating:

Two boilers (#4 and #5) were modified to improve water flow through them and they no longer run hot. The third boiler (#1) runs hotter than we would like but appears acceptable from tests done in September. With the various changes done this summer we are now able to evaluate the performance of all boilers much more effectively than we ever could before. At this point we appear to have reasonable reliability in all boilers but further study this winter when the system operates at higher temperature is needed.

Prepared by Bryan Armstrong

Offering Envelopes

It will soon be time to distribute the offering envelopes for 2016. If you do not have envelopes and would like some please speak to Cecilia Morris at Coffee and Conversation or call her at 905-372-2007.

If you would rather go onto the P.A.R. (Preauthorized remittance) plan she can help you with that. When you are on P.A.R. your offering automatically comes out of your bank account on the 20th of each month. Whether you have envelopes or are on P.A.R., you will receive a tax receipt at the end of each year.

Cecilia Morris, Envelope Secretary

MISSION AND OUTREACH Branch:

The Mission Branch met in early October. The group spent time discussing local mission opportunities for St. Andrew's to partner with, including Transition House, Fare Share and Neighbourlink. The team will be doing more work to discover who might be a natural fit for the congregation.

The team also articulated a desire to see support for St. Andrew's traditional mission partners continue. This includes working with Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D) and Presbyterian Sharing. These two agencies are part of the Presbyterian Church in Canada and represent us in national and international mission projects.

Also discussed was the Better Together Refugee Sponsorship. St. Andrew's has agreed to join this initiative which represents many of the church's in Cobourg. Early in September eight members of St. Andrew's attended an information night about this project, resulting in two individuals volunteering to participate on the Core Teams which will work with the refugee families when they arrive in Canada.

Expect more updates on the Refugee projects and other ways that St. Andrew's can get involved with local mission projects in the near future.

Presbyterian World Service & Development

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, Presbyterian World Service & Development envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world.

PWS&D is able to respond to almost any emergency situation around the world through ecumenical alliances and partnerships.

Many disasters and emergencies never make the world media headlines, but the needs are no less real and the impacts on families are equally devastating. PWS&D believes in reaching out to the most vulnerable with support that addresses both immediate needs such as food, medical attention and shelter, as well as long-term needs including livelihood recovery and psychosocial assistance to help overcome trauma.

PWS&D is seeking volunteers to provide assistance with refugee sponsorship applications for congregations interested in supporting refugees.

Volunteers must have:

- Basic administrative skills
- Keen attention to detail
- Preferably some knowledge with regards to the Canadian government's requirements for refugee sponsorship
- Access to a computer that can support PDF documents

Volunteers must also agree to respect the confidentiality of the information they are dealing with.

Time commitment: 5 to fifteen (or more) hours per week

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Rob Shropshire, PWS&D's refugee sponsorship co-ordinator, at rshropshire [at] presbyterian [dot] ca or at 1-800-619-7301 ext. 249.

Respond with us to the Syria Crisis – Donations matched until December 31

On September 12, 2015, the Government of Canada announced the establishment of the Syria Emergency Relief Fund. For all eligible donations made until December 31, the Government of Canada will contribute a matching amount towards Canada's "Syria Emergency Relief Fund."

Other News:

Nepal Earthquake Update

PWS&D and Canadian Gov't Improve Maternal Health Program

From Hope to Harvest - World Food Day October 16th

Program Coordinator Vacancy

Farmers Helping Farmers Overcome Hunger in Malawi

Thank-you for your prayers and generosity.

For additional information please contact the undersigned.

Bryan Baxter, PWS&D Representative

October 2015

Fare Share: Please remember to bring your food items especially on the second Sunday of the month – but it can be anytime you remember.

They are currently low on:

canned vegetables, fruit and tomatoes
canned stews or chili
kraft dinner
jam

school snacks eg. pudding cups, granola bars,
juice boxes
shampoo and other personal care items

Pastoral Care Branch Joy Randall

The Pastoral Care Branch continues “to care of our community of faith through our hospital, Nursing Homes, home visits and prayer.”

Our Pastoral Care Team is Joy Randall (convener) Marg Johns, Valerie Baines, Pauline Green, Carol Van Goch, Ruth Kerr, Douglas Carruthers, John McDougall and John Vickers.

If you would like a visit from the minister, an elder or a member of the Pastoral Care Team please contact the church office or Joy Randall. If you just want to talk to someone by phone please call one of us. If you have a need or a prayer request please contact we and we will keep you in our prayers.

We are thankful that Marilyn Ball who had been in the hospital/rehab since last December is now at Stream Way Nursing Home. We welcomed her back to church recently and presented her with a prayer blanket for her room. She is still smiles and happy most of the time.

We sponsored a special lecture in September with Kristina Nairn, R.N., of HKPR (Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit) Health Unit who spoke on “The Effect of Health of Poverty and Low Income”. Kristina presented many areas of concern about how we can be more involved in various kinds of activities. How to advocate for people in many areas and especially in housing opportunities in our community. We continue to have concerns and will continue to see how our church can be more proactive in these areas.

Please continue to hold the Pastoral Care Branch in your prayers.

St. Andrew’s Trustees

The trustees continue to invest the assets of the trust fund in a safe and prudent manner. The interest earned is transferred to the Board of Managers on a semi annual basis to assist with the operation of our church. So far, for 2015, the treasurer has passed over \$5,613.50.

We ask that you continue to consider St. Andrews’ Trust Fund with a memorial donation or a donation through your estate. By doing so, you are ensuring the financial longevity of your church. 1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.

If you would like to learn more on how to give, please feel free to speak to any one of the Trustees.

Joan Kemp

Chairperson

Marce L. Wood WMS Auxiliary

The Marce L. Wood WMS (Women's Missionary Society) Auxiliary continues to meet the 4th Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m. For the next two years we will study from Glad Tidings on "Women".

There are eight sessions and we will look at women around the world and the issues that affect women.

The WMS Council met in May and Joy Randall is on the Executive as CNOB (Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda) Synodical President. The theme was on HOPE – Hope for the WMS, Hope for the women of Guatemala; Finding Hope in Challenges – Human Trafficking and the ARISE Ministry in West Toronto Presbytery. We will share more about these special "Together we Can" projects for these two years.

You are most welcome to join us and if you need a ride please let us know.

Young at Heart Group

"Young at Heart" began again this fall and it is a time of fellowship, sharing, caring and fun on Fridays from 10-12 from Sept – June.

We decided to support the Alzheimer's Support Group Coffee Time this year on Friday, October 30th from 10-12. Sarah Cook will be the speaker this year. Each year we have learned many helpful things. You are welcome to come and bring a friend.

We try to keep in touch with some of our seniors through birthday cards and at other times of the year. Some may just enjoy a phone call or to know someone from St. Andrew's is thinking about them. Occasionally we assist with meals or help our people and keep them in our prayers.

Music Notes

The choir continues to grow! This fall we welcomed Rob and Saskia Lenters, Diana Carr and David Wilkins as our newest members. We are happy to have you with us!

There are several musical events taking place this fall at St. Andrews.

On Saturday November 14 we welcome country singer/songwriters Matt Williams and Alyssa Morrissey. All proceeds for this concert will go to the Better Together Refugee Sponsorship program. Come on out and support this wonderful cause!

On Friday November 13, McGill University Professor John Grew will give an organ concert here at St. Andrews. You will want to mark your calendars for both of these events. More details will be provided in the bulletin.

Choir rehearsals for the cantata, Were You There on That Christmas Night? Will begin on Thursday, October 29. If you are interested in singing with us please contact Carolyn.

Women's Association

Greetings from the Women's Association! We hope you had an enjoyable summer.

Our big upcoming event is the Christmas Tea & Bazaar, Saturday November 21st 11 am – 2 pm.

Admission for adults is \$7 and children 10 and under \$2

Donations of baking, canning and candy are always welcome. At the Craft Table knitted items or whatever your hobby may be. At the Treasure Table small household items, puzzles, plants, jewellery, scarves, Christmas items, etc are appreciated.

The group catered to the "Song" reception and the reception for the late Dave Patterson.

Thanks for your donations of coins and used stamps. The containers are in the narthex. Keep saving!

We were happy to receive a donation of \$65.00 for our 2014-2015 collection of stamps from the Cobourg Stamp Club.

Our W.A. group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Allen Room. Anyone is welcome to come.

Remember the shut-ins with a card or phone call.

Prepared by Marg Johns

President W.A.

Concert

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is pleased to present Matt Williams in concert. He will share with us his country and western music on Saturday November 14th. Tickets are \$15 and the doors open at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available in the church office, 10,000 Villages, 16 King St. W and also at Long & McQuade, 7789 Hwy #2. This performance will support the Better Together Refugee Sponsorship.

"You'll have to be quiet," a father told his little son. "We are in God's house now."

The little boy looked all around the church and asked his father, "Which door will God be coming in?"



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| October 27 | Session 7 pm Rhodes Room |
| October 30 | Young At Heart Alzheimer's Coffee Party Campbell Hall 10 - 12 |
| November 14 | Matt Williams concert |
| November 21 | W.A. Christmas Tea & Bazaar |