



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

December 8th, 2019

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



Welcome to the worship of God this morning, and to our shared life in this church. It is a pleasure to have you with us today. Seat cushions are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please ask a greeter for assistance. We invite guests to sign our guest book located at the back of the sanctuary.



PRAYER INVITATION

Lord, Hear Our Prayer
As Christians, we have been called to pray for each other in all circumstances. To help with this, we simply move through the church membership list. Today we ask that you hold the persons listed in your prayers: David, Sean Hole; Jennifer Wiseman & Rob, Aidan, Britton Hole; Scott & Judy, Jerimiah, Kenny, Cameron Hole; Wayne & Janet Huber; Evan Hurtig; Terry & Sue Anne Hurtig; Trevor & Tanya, Abigail, Owen, Sydney Hurtig; Lawrence Irwin; Carolyn Jaroli; Joyce Jefferson; Jon & Bonnie, Cameron, Hannah Johnsen; Jean Johnson; Allen & Kathy Johnston; Audrey Johnston

~ Advent & Christmas Schedule ~ Worship Series: The Jesse Tree

Sunday December 1 (Advent I)
Isaiah 11:1-9 Stump of Jesse
Service with Communion

Sunday December 8 (Advent II)
Genesis 28:10-19 Jacobs Ladder
White Gift Sunday

Recognition of 30 Years of
Caring and Contact Group at St. Andrew's

Sunday December 15 (Advent III)
Book of Jonah – Jonah and the Whale
Church Potluck after Worship hosted by the Faith
Education Committee of St. Andrew's

Sunday December 22 (Advent IV)
Luke 1:57-79 Zachariah's Pencil and Tablet
Intergenerational Worship Service

Tuesday December 24 – Christmas Eve
Luke 2:1-21; John 1:1-14 Jesus and the Manger
7:00 P.M. - Candlelight Service
10:00 P.M.- Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday December 29 (Wassail Service)
A relaxed service of worship
that includes cookies and hot apple cider

WEEK OF 8 - 15, 2019

Mon 9 - Fun & Fitness @ 9:30am
Tues 10 - Session (offsite) @ 6:00pm
Wed 11 - Lunch with a Difference @ 12:00pm
Wed 11 - Advent Study Group @ 2:00pm

THUNDER BAY SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Many of us are aware that Mykola Cuthbertson is a member of our Special Olympian Curling Team. Each team member is required to raise money to participate. If you wish to sponsor Mykola and her team she will be accepting pledges after church for the next three Sundays, Dec 8, 15, & 22. Please sign up to support these hardworking athletes for this exciting event.

MISSION & OUTREACH

Christmas is just around the corner and Mission and Outreach needs your help! Of our four holiday projects, only one has been completed. Donations of gift cards, socks, gloves and scarves, pjs, games, puzzles, craft and school supplies for the women's shelters, as well as, gift cards and food items for the CAS Holiday Hamper are needed. Donations should be in by Dec. 15th. Thank you for your continued generosity.

SCRIPTURE READERS

We are now looking for scripture readers for the new year! If you would like to be a scripture reader for Sunday worship please sign-up on the form located in the front office.

CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

The latest edition of *These Days Jan - Mar 2020* are now located in the front office.



Christmas Potluck



Sunday December 15, 2019

Special Guest Appearance
SANTA CLAUS



Join us downstairs after church for fun & fellowship. Coffee, tea, juice provided.

ORGAN UPDATE

First of all, thank you! Thank you to those who were able to give above and beyond their regular offerings to help raise the funds to do the extensive maintenance that was needed to keep St. Andrew's historic organ in excellent condition. It was a wonderful day when Connor let the organ open up on the last hymn so that we could hear the magnificent sound. We had fundraised just over \$20,000 for the work as per the quote given by Dodington & Dodington of Toronto. This company has done the regular maintenance on this organ and others in the city for a long number of years. The plan was to have the work done this past summer. That work was delayed until September, which meant that other organs in the city would be tuned a little ahead of the normal October schedule. This worked to our advantage as the cost of travel was split between all the congregations who used Dodington's services. Our bill came to a \$15,181.55. We saved a full \$4,000.00 off the original quote. Though there may be challenges St. Andrew's faces in the coming months and year in regards to our building that change this position, Session's hope is to leave this money set aside for future tuning and maintenance of the organ. Once again, thank you for your generosity.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

Psalm 9:1

A PCC MISSION MOMENT

Human Rights Day (Dec. 10)

For Ahmad and Sarah and their daughters Reem and Rana, each day brought distress, thinking about what the future might hold. Their home in Al Raqqa, Syria had been bombed, and acts of brutal violence were taking place in their own neighbourhood. The family escaped to Kfarbo and forged a home in a cramped, unfurnished apartment.

Navigating the streets of a brand new city, in a country broken by over eight years of civil conflict, Ahmad and Sarah prayed each day for peace and relief from hunger.

Their prayers were answered when the family received their first food and hygiene basket through a PWS&D-supported project with Canadian Foodgrains Bank partners. "It came at the right moment," says Ahmad.

PWS&D responds to those living in danger or exile



From Rev. Joyce

Last week we began our countdown to Christmas morning by adding ornaments to the Jesse Tree. As I wrote last week, the Jesse Tree began in Medieval times as a pictorial way to teach about Jesus' lineage starting from creation. It is called the Jesse Tree based on Isaiah 11:1, "A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." (NRSV) I was asked to list the ornaments and their meaning so that it would be easier to follow as the weeks pass. So here it goes in order of the ornament, what it symbolizes and the scripture reference.

Earth – Creation
Gen 1:1-31, 2:1-4

Apple and Serpent – Adam and Eve
Gen 2:7-9, 18-24; 3:1-7

Rainbow – Noah
Gen 6:5-8, 13-22; 7:17,23,24; 8:1,6-22

Star – Abraham
Gen 12:1-3; 15:1-11

Ram's Horn – Isaac
Gen 22:1-14

Ladder – Jacob
Gen 25:1-34; 28:10-15

Coat – Joseph
Gen 37: 1-4, 23-28; 45:3-15

Stone Tablets – Moses
Exodus 2:1-10; 20:1-21; 34:1-9

Lamp – Samuel
1 Samuel 3:1-18

Shepherds Staff (crozier) - Jesse
1 Samuel 16:1-13

Six-pointed star – David
1 Samuel 17:12-51

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Choir Director ~ Jamie Gerow

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Bookkeeper ~ Diane Berube

Office Administrator ~ Shaundra Benincasa

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Jim MacLean ~ Caretaker

Sunday Worship - 11:00 am

Office Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm