



# St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Responding!

Restoring!

Rejoicing!



## From Joyce

Slowly the government is opening things up, however, we have no indication as to when churches will be given the green light to start congregating in sanctuaries for a time of worship. Still, because we know that at some point and in some form we will be able to gather as one community of faith in the same physical space, conversations are taking place regarding what we can do to make sure people are as safe as possible. Our custodian Sheila, has been working diligently while we have all been away. She has completely sanitized the sanctuary and other high traffic areas. The Session met using Zoom this past Tuesday and discussed some initial steps to help prepare us for worship at the church. The Parish Health Ministry team has also been asked to advise the Session. There are things we can plan for. We will be removing all the bibles and hymnbooks from the pews and using only large print bulletins which will have all the information needed to be able to follow the worship service with ease. Individual children's activity packs will be prepared in a safe environment and supplied to families who come to worship. We will be providing hand sanitizer for everyone as they enter the church as well as guiding people to safely enter and exit the building. As we are all aware, there are many unknowns yet. Whatever happens, we know that we will have to abide by government and health authority directives. And even though waving to one another will replace our hugs and handshakes, when the times comes, you will find a place of joy and love, a place of worship, community, and hope. We are St. Andrew's and together or apart we are family in Christ.

## MASKS AVAILABLE

A local person is making masks for people who do not have them. If you would like a donated mask please contact Sheila at 807-631-2192.

One per person.



## MONTH OF MAY 2020

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church will be suspending all church programs and closing the office until further notice. If you have any questions or concerns you can still contact the church by email.

## WAYS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF ST. ANDREW'S

**e-transfer:** [offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net)

- If you have an offering (envelope) number with the church and you know it, be sure to include that and your full name in the Message box.
- For all others, please include your first and last names along with your full address in the message box so we can send you a donation receipt.

**Website:** You can donate by credit card using the "Donate Now" link on the website.

**Preauthorized Remittance:** This is a monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account that can be set up with the bookkeeper. Email Barb at [accounts.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:accounts.standrewspres@tbaytel.net) to have a form sent to you.

**Mail:** You can mail in a donation to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 207 S. Brodie St. Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5X8. Or just drop it off in the mailbox at the church.

Thank you for supporting the life, ministry, and mission of St. Andrew's. You make a difference!

## PRAYERS FROM THE HEART

Dear Lord, in these challenging times we ask for your blessings and guidance. In midst of the universal impact of COVID -19 on your people; you at the same time provide us with relief and support by Care givers and other essential workers who have the responsibility to do your good work of ensuring that we stay strong and healthy.

Because this is Nurses' Week, please bless all the Nurses and Caregivers and give them the tools and spiritual guidance to do their work compassionately.

Written by: Ed & Jean Rawana



## ST. ANDREW'S CHARITIES

St. Andrew's Presbyterian has a few chosen charities that we work to support throughout the year and just like our own church, all are feeling the effects of Covid-19 on their funding. The St. Andrew's Mission and Outreach team has guided our choices of charities by looking at how we can support local, regional, Canadian, and international ministries. For the next few weeks, we will highlight some of the work St. Andrew's supports beyond our own walls.

A number of years ago, Lifewater.ca was chosen to be one of the organizations that St. Andrew's supports financially. It is unique in that it is both local and international. Lifewater is based out of

Thunder Bay but touches the lives of entire communities in Liberia, Nigeria, Kenya, and Haiti. Lifewater volunteers train & equip people to drill wells and build washrooms. They help overseas villages that can't afford the full cost of critically-needed water & sanitation. Sponsorship saves children's lives and allows girls to go to school instead of hauling water all day. In 2019, Lifewater.ca made the list of top 10 Impact Charities based on demonstrated impact per dollar donated in Canada. The designation was given by Charity Intelligence Canada. Jim and Linda Gerhls and the Lifewater teams are passionate about getting clean drinking water to communities so that children in particular have a chance at life, recognizing that safe drinking water is a basic human right, essential to realizing all human rights.

Usually Lifewater holds a major fundraising event in the spring, but as with all events in this time of pandemic, that was cancelled and an important source of revenue to continue the lifesaving work of drilling wells has been greatly affected. Should you be looking for a way to support this important work, please go to [lifewater.ca](http://lifewater.ca) and you will find a whole lot more information and also ways to donate. For those who do not have computer access, but still would like to donate to Lifewater, you can send a cheque or money order to:

Lifewater Canada  
457 Heather Cres.  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7E 5L1  
CANADA



## PCC MISSION MOMENTS

### Paying it forward in Ghana

Due to the loss of his leg from an infection at the age of thirteen, Halidu Dayuma thought he would never be financially stable. Some simple pieces of thread and the caring support of Garu Community Based Rehabilitation Centre in Ghana changed everything. At this PWS&D-supported centre, which is committed to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, Halidu learned cloth weaving and dressmaking so that he could make



an income. Inspired by his studies with skilled coaches, Halidu is now paying it forward by training more than 40 apprentices to continue the work he loves. In gratitude, Halidu reflected, "I am who I am today because of your generous work and love."

*PWS&D helps people overcome limitations*

## WORSHIP SERVICES

To continue to stay connected to the congregation, during this time, we have been uploading church services online. Please visit our Facebook page or our website to find a link to the Sunday Worship services.

<http://standrewspres-tbay.ca/>

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

We owe it to each other - and to our children and grandchildren - to leave our planet in a better state than when we found it.

*Christopher Dodd (1944 - ), former US senator*

## ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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**Rev. Joyce Yanishewski**

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(807) 632-8348

Clerk of Session ~ John Mason

Choir Director—Jamie Gerow

Organist ~ Rebecca Krawczuk

Office Administrator ~ Shaundra Benincasa

Bookkeeper ~ Barb Silvey

[office.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:office.standrewspres@tbaytel.net)

Caretaker ~ Sheila Berry

**Sunday Worship - Cancelled**