

# St. Andrew's News



www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



## From Joyce

Happy Easter! Though we are not in our church, Easter has not been delayed or cancelled, we are just celebrating in a different way. I said this last week during our first online service, that the way we are celebrating Easter this year, sequestered in our homes with some degree of fear and much uncertainty, is closer to how the disciples experienced that first Easter than anything we do in church. It is not that church has suddenly become unimportant. Gathering in community has always been a hallmark of a community of faith, but the church building is not a necessity to being the church. The church is the people. As a congregation that worshipped without a sanctuary for a number of months in 2013-14, you know that the church doesn't need the sanctuary to be the church. Still, the majesty of the space and beauty of the stained-glass windows is a reminder of the majesty of God and the beauty of creation encompassing the history of our faith both individual and corporate and we will worship there again. When the Queen gave her address this past week she said, "We will meet again." And we will, but also remember Jesus said, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt. 28:20). You are not alone; we are in this together and Jesus is with us always. May God pour out blessing on each of you today and in the days to come.

## MONTH OF APRIL 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.

## ST. ANDREWS HISTORY

The main entrance features two arches supported by ten polished granite columns with carved floral capitals. The carvings on the capitals and arches depict not only the Scottish thistle, which might be expected on a Presbyterian church, but also the English rose, the Welsh leek, the shamrock of Ireland, the lily of France, and the maple leaf of Canada, indicating that all are welcome.

## PRAYER INVITATION WRITTEN BY MARYELLEN FLEMING

God of life and love, we give you thanks for this day of resurrection.

Easter made a world of difference to the disciples and it makes a world of difference to us. We are an Easter people. We live with the hope and certainty of the resurrection even as we live with the uncertainties we face today. We give you thanks for your presence with us. In the midst of life with its worry and heartache, you are there. When we need you, you are there to strengthen our faith and resurrect our hope.

We give you thanks, for in the person of Christ, your son, you have walked among us. Through his presence in our midst we can glimpse the peace that passes all understanding that is your will for each of us. We so much need that peace and reassurance today.

You are the God of dreams – we pray for your vision for the future.

You are the God of hope –we pray for the healing of our planet and its people.

You are the God of life – we pray for your Spirit to gather us into your presence.

In the name of the risen Christ we pray, Amen

## 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 two services we have up so far.

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

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