

St. Andrew's News



www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

April 11th, 2021

Responding!

Restoring!

Rejoicing!



A letter of thanks....



Dear Friends at St. Andrew's (Thunder Bay) Pres. Church,
Every year, through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, Presbyterians across Canada faithfully respond to God's call to be generous people. We are so grateful for your congregation's prayers and support. Your gift of \$17944.00 is helping equip congregations, start new faith communities, support international partners, empower youth, encourage new ministers, equip theological students, support Indigenous ministries, pursue justice – and so much more. Thank you.

Together with individuals and congregations across Canada, the Women's Missionary Society, Atlantic Mission Society and others, you helped raise over \$5.63 million for Presbyterians Sharing. The many hours contributed by volunteers, staff and committees who worked and prayed together to develop resources, lead events, raise funds and participate in outreach ministries, multiplied the impact of each dollar given.

When we put our gifts into God's hands, God does remarkable things!

At the beginning of 2020 we couldn't anticipate the chaos and uncertainty that the global pandemic would bring. However, your generosity, combined with decreased expenses and salary support from the government, meant that not only we were able to continue the mission and ministry we had planned, we also provided additional support to help congregations and mission partners adapt and respond to the circumstances the pandemic created.

Your gifts are a symbol of hope, a reminder that we serve a living, vibrant and generous God. I thank God for you, the lives you are touching in your community and the love we are sharing together in communities across Canada and around the world. I look forward to working with you in 2021 and into the future.

Karen Plater

Associate Secretary, Stewardship & Planned Giving
Life and Mission Agency

*Gifts from our congregation to Presbyterians Sharing (the National Church budget) come from members who designate a portion of their offering to go to the work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Our church benefits directly from the staff, programs, and resources that are available because of the generosity of people across the country who understand the value for all in the work of the PCC as a whole.



PRAYERS FROM THE HEART

Heavenly Father,

We have been under quarantine for over a year and there has been a great deal of sadness, loneliness, illness, and loss. We miss family, friends, fellowship, activities, and regular day to day routines that we no longer do. We miss comforting friends and love ones, sharing in their joy. We look forward to when we can all be together again. Staying positive is hard but I know that it will help us move forward. We have learned how important touch, family, friendship, and small gestures are. Spring gives us hope.

Beautiful birds, trees, flowers, new life. Thank you, Lord.

A kind gesture goes a long way. A card sent to me made me feel very loved. It reminded me of our services and how I want to be back sitting with everyone. I pray that that day will come soon. I want to thank God for all the good that I have in my life. I pray for others who are struggling and working hard to get us through this.

Amen.

Written by: Roberta Haywood



From Joyce

Excitement about vaccinations, conversation with people about when they got their shot, when they are booked to get their shot, when is the next age group going to be eligible for the vaccine, who is eligible, the wait for the second shot, who should be eligible, kids in school, kids not in school, how many new cases today, how many in hospital/ICU, did anyone die, oh! another new variant! And then there is the ongoing challenges of what is open, what is not, how are businesses/owners/employees coping, another stay-at-home order...I don't know about you, but I'm kind of done with it...problem is *I can't be. We can't be.* In pretty much every conversation I am having, even people who would consider themselves well adjusted are struggling to some degree. It is difficult for me to minister and to say wonderful words, because the world does not feel wonderful. It is not that blessings have been withheld; it is that everything seems muted.

One might wonder why I am writing about this topic again; well, it is because I know that people are fatigued. In the service today, one of the hymns is *Precious Lord, take my hand*. The hymn contains the line "I am tired, I am weak, I am worn." It was written by Thomas A. Dorsey - not to be confused with Tommy Dorsey, though both great musicians. Thomas wrote the hymn after "His wife died in child birth while he was away on tour, and the child died soon afterward. Their deaths shook Dorsey's faith to the core, but eventually he regained his faith and peace with God." Which is why the hymn also contains the words, "take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home." Thomas trusted that God was with him through it all, and in that he found hope. As for ourselves in our time of weariness, we too can trust that God is present, takes our hand, and leads us to a place of peace and hope. Peace be with you today and in the weeks to come.

*<https://music.allpurposeguru.com/2011/08/tommy-dorsey-thomas-a-dorsey-two-different-great-musicians>

FAMILY TIME WITH JAMIE GEROW

St. Andrew's has a family time video series with our Choir Director, Jamie Gerow. Jamie will be making these every other week or so, and they can be found on our Youtube channel, so please be sure to subscribe.

Here is a link to the latest video.
<https://youtu.be/OiumRSpcyJw>

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

e-transfer: 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 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!

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT



What I spent is gone. What I kept I lost. But what I gave will be mine forever.

Tombstone Epitaph

ST. ANDREW'S COVID UPDATE

St. Andrew's remains closed until further notice, due to government regulations.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Caretaker ~ Sheila Berry

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Sunday Worship - Online
 at standrewspres-tbay.ca