

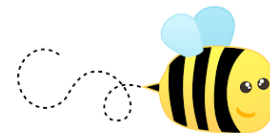
St. Andrew's News



www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

August 22nd, 2021

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



EPHESIANS SERMON SERIES

Glory, Grace, and Grit is a sermon series based in scripture readings from the book of Ephesians from the New Testament. It is a book to ponder and feel that you can ask questions of the text. This is the last two weeks of the sermon series, but I encourage you to read all of the book so you don't miss anything and get the whole context to aid in your understanding. "Ephesians divides neatly into two halves. The first half, chapters 1-3, provides a theological foundation for the faith in some of the most beautiful language in the Epistles. The second half, chapters 4-6, focuses on the ethical dimensions of the faith: How do we live it out? This second half reminds us that faith isn't simply about believing, but about living." I look forward to spending this time with you in worship and welcome your comments and questions as we consider and study these words of scripture together.

August 22 Ephesians 5:3-20
Renounce Pagan Ways

August 29 Ephesians 6:10-20
The Wole Armor of God

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/geared-up-for-life/seventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-b-lectionary-planning-notes>

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!

PRAYERS FROM THE HEART

Dear Lord

We thank you for our many blessings. With the summer months, we enjoy the beauty of the season. We see our flowers blooming and exhibiting exquisite arrays of colours. We smell the freshness of newly cut grass and we enjoy the birds singing as they fly gracefully in the sky. These gifts are to be treasured and enjoyed.

For many months, you have guided us as we have struggled to survive in a difficult year, filled with the fear from a massive pandemic. You have given us strength to endure the challenges it presented us and brought us to a much safer and happier place where we can enjoy our time with our families and our friends. Thank you, Lord.

Our hearts are full of gratitude to you, Lord. We ask that you continue to bless us as we go forward, transitioning into a more social world. Some people may be anxious as a result of the many months of isolation. Please hold their hands as they bravely enter the new environment opening up.

Amen

Written by: Joanne Kembel

PCC MISSION MOMENTS

Saving Hospitals in Nepal

The United Mission to Nepal (UMN) was founded in 1954 as an international, interdenominational Christian mission. As COVID-19 swept through the country, affecting the lives and livelihoods of much of the population, UMN's two mission hospitals in Tansen and Okhaldhunga experienced a funding crisis. Patients seeking care did not have the income to pay their hospital bills. UMN began a "Save Our Hospitals" campaign and reached out to partners and friends for support. Faithful supporters of UMN from around the world rallied to answer the call, including The Presbyterian Church in Canada—a UMN partner since 1974.

The campaign was a huge success, receiving over one million dollars in donations.





From Joyce

Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers: Exploring the Christian Faith
by Donald K. McKim.

Since we have the New Testament, why do we need the Old Testament?

Presbyterians, with other Christians, affirm that both the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and the New Testament are the Word of God and are essential for the church's life and belief. Early in its history, the church rejected the views of those like Marcion who argued that the Old Testament was not necessary for Christian understanding.

Both testaments are vital to understanding who God is and what God has done. The Old Testament is the witness to Israel's faith in the God who liberated the people from Egypt, called them into covenantal relationship, and gave them the Law as a guide for doing God's will. This God of Israel had made a covenant with Abraham and Sarah to be the God of their descendants and to make them numerous (Gen. 17). God's covenant promises were affirmed in other places, with other persons, such as David, to whom God promised a dynasty (2 Sam. 7:1-17; 23:5|| Ps 89:3) and that later became the "messianic hope" of the prophets (Isa. 11:1-90. God will send a promised "Messiah" to be God's "anointed one" (the meaning of the term), who as king will perfectly represent God and established God's reign a the end of time (Jer. 23:5-6; Zech. 9:9-10).

So the Old Testament with all its narratives and rich teaching is the context out of which Jesus emerged. Followers of Jesus believe that he is the promised Messiah, from the line of David, and that he in himself fulfills the promises made by God in the various covenants of the Hebrew Scriptures. The word "testament" comes from the Latin term *testamentum*, which means "covenant." So to say the "Old Testament" is also to say the "Old Covenant"

Theologically, the Old Testament provides the "promise," the New Testament the "fulfillment" (Heb. 6:13-20). Thus there is an important relationship between the two testaments. One cannot be fully understood without the other. Presbyterian Christians have maintained that the "substance" of the Old Covenant and the New Covenant are the same, but God's covenant relationship with the people of God has been expressed differently in different periods. The final and definitive expression of this

Covenant relationship is in Jesus Christ, who is the "new covenant," the fulfillment of God's promises (Jer. 31:31-34; 1 Cor. 11:23-26).

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NEW BEGINNINGS

St. Andrew's has been accepted into the New Beginnings program of the PCC. This is the breakdown of program that the church will be participating in. We ask that you hold our ministry, leadership, and congregation in prayer as we prepare for this time of discernment, hope, and discovery.

1. **Assessment** of the current ministry of the church, celebration of the way God has been present and is present with the congregation and a realistic identification of potential future steps.
2. **Workshops** to help the congregation understand the changes in spiritual practices in this new era and why many elements of current ministry structures no longer work.
3. **House Meetings** to open yourselves to new ways of thinking about mission and to make a bold decision for the future.
4. **Coaching** to help implement your future story." We will be assigned a specially trained assessor and coach to guide us through the process. All those trained to be assessors and coaches are ministers of the PCC.

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Sunday Worship - Online
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