



# St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*Responding!*

*Restoring!*

*Rejoicing!*



## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on the following dates:

**Wed. Aug 24 - Mon. Aug. 29**

Church is open for Sunday Service

## PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK from PCC Prayer Partnership

**Monday, August 29** We pray for the Rev. Stephen Kendall and his family as he begins retirement after 35 years of ordained ministry—24 of which he served as a dedicated Principal Clerk of the General Assembly.

**Tuesday, August 30** We pray for a spirit of Christian stewardship so that we may give generously of our time, talent and treasure to share God's love in our church and throughout the world.

**Wednesday, August 31 (International Day for People of African Descent)** Recognizing the harmful legacy of colonization faced by people of African descent, we seek the Spirit's wisdom as we work to eliminate anti-Black racism.

**Thursday, September 1** We pray for the people who gather and serve at Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church in Northern Saskatchewan, and we give thanks for their mission and ministry.

**Friday, September 2** We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Eastern Han-Ca.

**Saturday, September 3** We pray for participants of the World Council of Churches' 11th Assembly in Germany as they engage in this unique global expression of unity.

## PRAYERS FROM THE HEART

Lord, We give thanks for the many people who serve this church and this congregation.

May they be renewed by summer weather and a break from normal duties.

Especially after a long winter, a cool wet spring and all the concerns around Covid.

We give thanks for Rev. Jeff Andrews, Rev. Kerry McLaughlin and Will Newton for ministering to us this August. And for the St. Andrew's staff who continued serving each week.

*Written by: Geraldine White*

## PCC MISSION MOMENTS

The Respite Ministry of St. Columba—a parish of the Presbyterian Church of Mauritius—supports families who care for people with intellectual and physical challenges by giving guardians and family members an opportunity to have a break while trained volunteers help take care of their children or dependents. Presbyterians Sharing supported renovations to make the parish more accessible, including modifying washrooms and installing ramps where there were only stairs. The Rev. Rodney Curpanen of St. Columba shared, “We are



**very grateful for the support extended to us by The Presbyterian Church in Canada** that enriches and heightens our hospitality ministries to strangers, poor, needy and marginalized. Thank you for your partnership.”

## NEW BEGINNINGS PROGRAM UPDATE

Though it may seem that things have been quiet on the New Beginnings front, we have actually moved into Phase Six of the program which is a time of discernment and decision making. Our small group facilitators have been meeting together to share their information and to discern the underlying themes and directions that came through during the small group meetings. The facilitators have gathered the comments into a report which will be shared with the congregation the last week of August to those with an email on file with the church and printed copies will be available in the office or upon request.

With that all in place, the date of **Thursday September 29 at 7:00pm** in the Sanctuary has been set for a **Congregational Information Session**. At this meeting the congregation is given an opportunity to identify priorities from within the report and affirm a future direction for the congregation. At this stage the congregation receives the report and sends it to the session to develop an action plan. Please plan to attend either by Zoom or in person this very important time of working toward a future story for St. Andrew's.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to Will Newton for leading us in Worship this Sunday.



## From Joyce

Today is a day of celebration, transition, and some sadness for our sister church First Presbyterian here in Thunder Bay. The church, manse, and land on which these two buildings are situated have been sold to another congregation, Hosanna Karen Baptist Church (HKBC). The celebration is that the congregation that has purchased the properties has its root at First. It was with bold ambition and great concern for the welfare of refugees from what was at the time Burma, now Myanmar, that First began to sponsor individuals and families to Thunder Bay. This work began over thirty years ago and continues through HKBC. The Karen people that were sponsored worshipped at First and, as they continued to grow, began to hold their own worship services in the church. The relationships that were forged between the peoples were filled with grace and love. It was only in the last decade that HKBC bought their own building and began worshipping elsewhere. I recall being told at the time, that it was like the children of First were all grown up and were now moving away, ready to set out on their own.

When HKBC heard that First Pres was having difficulty financially, they approached the Session and said they would be interested in purchasing the properties should they come up for sale. Which was the beginning of how we arrived at this day. All things have been put into place and the sale of the properties finalized this past week. I have likened it to the children coming back to take care of parents and grandparents. I must say that if all negotiations were as filled with grace, care, and love as this has been, the world would be a beautiful place.

So today there is a joint service of worship between First Presbyterian and Hosanna Karen Baptist Church as we formally acknowledge the transition of ownership of the property to HKBC. This does not mean the end for First. Part of the beauty of this agreement is that First will continue to worship Sunday mornings in the building they built over sixty years ago. They will continue to discern their future, but they will do it without the concern of maintaining the church, manse, and property. There will also be sadness as it means the end of what has been. The future story for First is yet to be fully determined. In the meantime, the congregation will serve God, community, and each other as faithfully as they have done for decades.

May First and HKBC know God's blessing upon them and our blessing as well. I will bring greetings from St. Andrew's as I join in this service of worship today.

*stay safe*

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

Happiness is not made by what we own.  
It is what we share.

*Rabbi Jonathan Sacks –  
philosopher, theologian, author*

Offerings can be sent via etransfer to  
[offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net)



## SIGN UP FOR MUSIC PUPS

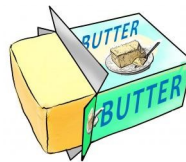


For infants up to 4, register for fun filled classes of singing, dancing, movement and instrument play. Parents learn how to enrich their child's music environment, increase music potential and understand music development.

Wednesday evening (5:30pm - 6:15pm) or Thursday morning classes (11:00am - 11:45am) are available. The cost is \$130 for the first child & \$90 for the second child from the same family. The program runs from Sept. 21 - Dec. 8. Contact Rev. Joyce at **632-8348** to register or for more information.

## SHORTBREAD SEASON

Shortbread time is fast approaching and the search for inexpensive salted butter is underway. Butter seems to be \$6 a pound or more this year. We need your help again in amassing 200 lbs of salted butter as cheaply as possible. If you find butter on sale, please pick up the maximum allowed. The butter can be brought to the church for storage and the receipt submitted for reimbursement. You could also approach the store manager and explain it is for a church fundraiser and often they will let you have more than the limit. If there is no limit, consider picking up a case (50 lbs). Anything under \$5/lb is a good buy, but it would be great if we can find it for even less than that.



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Sunday Worship - Online at

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