



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

February 2nd, 2025

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



PRESBYTERIAN WORLD SERVICE & DEVELOPMENT

As today is PWS&D Sunday, here is some information on the goals, mission, and guiding principles of this organization.

Our Mission: Faithful to our calling, we respond together. Presbyterian, ecumenical and inclusive in our practice of faith, we gladly serve all people according to their need and regardless of their faith. In a world with too much poverty, injustice and oppression concentrated in nations of the South, we recognize the interrelation between our affluence and the suffering of others. We undertake development, emergency and refugee activities that restore human dignity, ease the pain of want, promote self-help, and encourage community cooperation that benefits all. We are sensitive to gender issues, empowerment of the marginalized and the protection of human rights. We promote awareness of global issues, connecting Canadians to the needs of others throughout the world.

Theological Statement: The ministry of PWS&D is rooted in the living hope of Jesus Christ and inspired by God's promise of abundant life. It is an integral part of the ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

God enters into faithful relationship with those who respond to the divine calling. As Micah proclaimed, God requires that we "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (6:8). In Jesus, God became human for our salvation. This love for humanity expressed in Jesus' life must be demonstrated by the church as we live for justice, mercy and peace.

We believe peace and well-being are God's will for creation. As we respond together to the world's pain and despair, we bear witness to the love of God among us. We believe that injustice and inequality are an affront to the will of God and that our involvement in compassionate ministry with people throughout the world is an imperative of the Gospel.

Learn more at presbyterian.ca/pwsd

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- Tues Feb 4 - Seekers @ 11:00am
- Wed Feb 5 - Fun & Fitness @ 10:00am
- Wed Feb 5 - The Music Class @ 4:00pm
- Wed Feb 5 - The Music Class @ 5:15pm
- Thurs Feb 6 - The Music Class @ 11:00am
- Thurs Feb 6 - Facilities & Finance @ 1:30pm
- Thurs Feb 6 - The Music Class @ 5:15pm

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held next **Sunday, February 9th**, following the worship service & lunch provided by St. Aidan's Guild.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

For it is in giving that we receive.
-St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226),
founder of Franciscans



Donations can be sent via e-transfer to offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

The next Children's Sunday will be **February 23rd**, during which we celebrate our youngest members. A special children's activity will be offered.

LUNCH WITH A DIFFERENCE

Lunch with a Difference will be holding its first meal of 2025 with a Valentine's lunch on **Wednesday, February 12th at 12:15pm**. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in the front office. If possible, a \$10 donation per guest is appreciated.



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Sunday Worship - Available online at standrewspres-tbay.ca

Office Hours:

Wednesday - Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm

From Joyce

Ken and I have just had the privilege of going away for a week-long vacation in the Dominican Republic. And it is truly a privilege, one that I recognized each day that I was away. Ken and I have worked hard to be able to do this. We have saved money and planned for it, but I also understand that because I already start from a place of privilege, I have advantages to be able to work and save that others never have the opportunity to do. Not all people begin their lives at the same start line. Some are born into poverty so education and finding viable work is just not as straightforward and accessible as it is to others. Some make one wrong decision, or a few of them, and find themselves in situations that are life-threatening, morally threatening or illegal, and finding a way out of that on one's own can be near impossible to navigate. Social-Economic status, culture, sexual orientation, or colour of one's skin can all be factors that set some people back a long way from others with privilege... privilege which also comes in many ways and forms. There are times that, no matter how hard one works, things just never seem to go their way. There are so many reasons that people do not and cannot prosper in wealth, education, business, health and wellness, in relationships, and so many other areas of life.

I am learning to not judge. Some people may not realize that I have to learn that, yet I have spent years learning not to jump to conclusions about why people live as they do or behave as they do. Being judgmental and assuming I could understand people's situations, without much knowledge about them, was my default position for many years. I have spent a few decades now learning to question my assumptions, and I continue to have to do that learning every single day. So, I give thanks for a wonderful vacation, knowing that my going, along with so many others, also invigorates the economy of many places, businesses, and hopefully the people employed. But I always remember it is a privilege, especially as I pull away from the church in my warm coat, and my warm car with heated seats, headed to my warm home with a comfortable bed, while I see a person huddled in a corner trying to get out of the wind, knowing that there is no place of refuge for them let alone a warm vacation. I give thanks for my opportunities, but hope that one day together our world will figure out how to take care of the most vulnerable in our midst, those who are hungry, unhoused, fearful for safety for all kinds of reasons and that we, as a church, will find our place in making the people whose lives we can touch feel seen, loved, and welcome.

MISSION MOMENT

For more than 75 years, the church and PWS&D have been dedicated to serving those in need across the globe. In collaboration with our partners, we are creating meaningful change in our shared world. Working together, we support the poor, the sick and the marginalized, strive to restore dignity, relieve suffering, and empower communities that thrive through cooperation. Guided by faith, we are called to walk alongside those we serve—advocating for equality, sustainability, human dignity, peace, and care for God's creation. Together, we are working toward a future that is sustainable, compassionate and just.

Mission Moments are short highlights of the mission and ministry that we are doing together in Canada and around the world through Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D.



SERVICE AT SISTER LEILA GRECO

Rev. Joyce will be leading a service at Sister Leila Greco this **Wednesday, February 5th**, at **10am**. All are welcome to attend. 330 Lillie St. N.

ROMANS FOR EVERYONE

Using N.T. Wright's *Romans for Everyone, Part 2: Chapters 9 - 16 (20th Anniversary Edition with Study Guide)*, we will be exploring the second half of Romans.

N.T. Wright is the Chair in New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is the former Bishop of Durham in the Church of England, and is a prolific author and noted New Testament scholar. Writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Wright helps us to see the great sweep of this letter. Romans has long been viewed as the book above all in which Paul puts forth the basic doctrines of the faith, and the picture of God's life for us. It is the classic setting-out of the Gospel.

This study will begin on **Thursday, March 6th** from **12:00 - 1:30pm**, and continue **every Thursday** until April 3rd. You can order the book yourself through **Indigo**, or ask Rev. Joyce to help you secure a copy. This is shaping up to be an interesting time of learning, discussions, and connecting. If you have been looking for a way to engage with scripture and glean new insights this is a place for you.