

Eternal God, rock and refuge... we wait for revival and release. Abide with us until we come alive in the sunrise of your glory. Amen.



ST. ANDREW'S TIMES

St. Andrew's United Church, Chalk River - Newsletter Lenten Edition 2021

From the Minister's Desk

About a year ago a global pandemic was declared. Renfrew County is coming out from under its second lockdown, one of only 3 counties in Ontario. Congratulations for staying home and staying safe! When will we "be safe?" When can we go visiting? Where is God? The prophet Isaiah says God's thoughts are not our thoughts and God's ways are different. That must be true because if God's thoughts were anything like mine the pandemic would not have happened.

We do like to put a human face to God. This heartbreaking way of thinking is still found today when we tell suffering people that God would not give them more than they could handle. I know there are many people who are dealing with more than they can handle. We seem to want to believe that we can somehow go through life without suffering. "Our difficulty is that we don't want God," Will Willimon says; "we want answers, and many of us will go wherever we can to find easy ones."

Jesus says everyone needs to turn to God because there will always be suffering. So, when we are asking or being asked why this happened, the answer often is that there is no good reason, a hard to swallow answer. Bad things happen to good people all the time as was clearly shown when Jesus died on the cross. There are no easy answers to life's tough questions. The toughest question of all may be "Can you trust the love of God without linking it to the good or bad things that come your way in life?"

Life on earth is terminal, this is not earth-shattering news. I find hope in the gardener in the parable of the fig tree found in Matthew 24 who is willing to nurture the tree for another year. We are loved and we grow best when the master gardener tends to our souls with care, giving us another chance.

So, I will hold onto hope. I will practice patience and I will cling to Jesus as my example in life. And who knows what one more year will bring. God bless you and keep you safe.

Yours in Christian Ministry.

Susan DeHaan DLM

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Happy birthday my little Valentine

While browsing through a photo album
I'm reminded of the past.
Photos work best for me
It makes the memories last.
Whether riding on a motorcycle, a boat or snowmobile
or going through the mountains
on an arctic cat 4 wheel.
We drove across the country
and boarded on a ship
and went up to Alaska...
a truly memorable trip.
You've always been there with me
no matter what the ride
it must be said, since we've been wed
I've loved you by my side.

Written by Bob Barks - February 2021
For his wife Gayle on her birthday



Church Building Reopening

Weekly in-person worship services have resumed on Sundays at 10:30 am

Live streaming of worship services continues on our Facebook page.



Join United in Learning for this opportunity to journey together through Lent, exploring the resources in the new Lenten devotional from United Church Publishing House. Join like-minded souls for the next six weeks, to seek ways to deepen faith, hope, and love for ourselves and each other.

Black History Month

In February, we celebrate the rich Black history in The United Church of Canada. Union United in Montreal has been the home of a vibrant Black congregation for more than a century; Wilbur Howard became the church's first Black Moderator in 1974. The leadership and participation of Black peoples and congregations continues today.



Photo from UCC

Anti-racism: What We Believe as the UCC

The United Church of Canada has made a [commitment to becoming an anti-racist denomination](#). A short document, "[Working Towards Becoming an Anti-Racist Denomination](#)," explains more about what this commitment might mean. People in the church are working on frameworks and strategic directions—including ways to involve the whole church—to continue to deepen the church's anti-racism work. This [anti-racist commitment](#) is part of the church's ongoing work toward racial justice.

The United Church of Canada's anti-racism policy, [That All May Be One](#), names four key areas of work:

- Organize for the full participation of all peoples.
- Organize for diversity by supporting anti-racism work and promoting positive relationships among diverse peoples.
- Act justly within the church's structures, courts, policies, and practice.
- Speak to the world by supporting anti-racism work within broader society.

Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI)

Poverty can happen very quickly to anyone. Aware that some pandemic-related relief programs (such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, CERB) were scheduled to end in July 2020, Moderator Richard Bott has written to elected officials encouraging them to seize the moment to roll out a universal basic income program in collaboration with the provinces, territories, and Indigenous leadership.

“It is my belief,” he writes, “that our collective experience as Canadians during COVID-19 presents a vital opportunity. [T]ogether we can take important steps to protect the health and safety of all Canadians going forward.” The full letter is available on the UCC website.

A growing movement of senators, Anglican and Evangelical Lutheran bishops, and many more across Canada are calling for a universal basic income. The use of “guaranteed” signals a focus on ensuring a level of income for all. Emphasis is on its being available to anyone below a certain income level (universally accessible) rather than necessarily paid out to everyone and then clawed back, which for some is what universal implies. The use of “livable” signals an income that enables people to live with dignity, not just stay alive.

A guaranteed livable income (GLI) is a payment to individuals or families by government that covers the cost of basic necessities (food, shelter, clothing, transportation, and community participation) and is not conditional on meeting employment criteria in order to qualify for the benefit. It ensures everyone an income adequate for meeting basic needs, allowing all people to live with dignity regardless of work status. Such a program would be part of the national fabric of services that preserve and protect Canadians; or, as Jesus put it, “to love our neighbours as ourselves.”

The incomes would be unconditional, automatic, non-withdrawable, individual, and a right of every legal resident. A guaranteed livable income is an effective way to support the reduction and elimination of poverty and insecurity; the narrowing of extreme income and wealth inequalities; shared citizenship; and improved democratic and economic functioning.

The United Church of Canada affirms that a guaranteed annual income is the most efficient way of ensuring that all Canadians will have a secure economic floor to stand on. Since 1972, The United Church of Canada has advocated a policy of guaranteed annual income that is more equitable and less expensive and complicated to administer than the numerous government support programs presently available. Since then, national and international studies and programs have shown that a universal basic income is both affordable and had beneficial effects in the areas of health, justice, education, and social welfare.

Much more information about GLI can be found on the United Church of Canada website at: <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/create-guaranteed-livable-income-program>

Mission & Service Fund

Your gifts to Mission & Service transform and save lives, inspire people to live with meaning and purpose, and help build a better world.

Your gifts help those who need it most in Canada and around the world.

- Your gifts help people in need by supporting homeless shelters, food banks, soup kitchens, and refugee programs.
- Your support means that people who are sick or at the end of life are cared for by providing addiction, mental health, and counselling services and hospice care.
- In the most dire circumstances, your gifts provide access to life-saving clean water, food, and medical care.
- Your generosity makes vital economic development, skills training, peace-making, advocacy, and disaster relief possible.
- To donate to the M&S Fund make a designated note on your weekly envelope or cheque.
- You can also donate online at:

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/ways-give/giving-opportunities/gifts-vision>



Make your mark on the world through your generous giving to Mission and Service



Credit: Diane Renault, The United Church of Canada

Worship Information

Weekly Worship Services - at 10:30 on Sunday morning

Regular in-person Sunday worship services are held in the church building at 10:30 on Sunday. Covid-19 related safety measures and social distancing are in place. The church is located at 40 Joseph St. in Chalk River ON. You can also participate in the weekly worship services via live streaming on Facebook at:

< <https://www.facebook.com/standrewschalkriver/> >

Our weekly services are also accessible on the church website at: <http://standrewschalk.ca/>

Enjoy 40 days of peace and love. Use this Lenten time to cleanse and heal your mind, soul, and body of hate, regret and impatience. Perform a daily intentional act of peace and love for yourself and at least one other person.

Amen

Pastoral Care Visits

If you desire to have a pastoral care visit, for whatever reason, please contact Susan DeHaan DLM (613.589.2312) who will arrange for a telephone or video visit. All aspects of a pastoral care visit are held in confidence and are between you and the pastoral care provider only.

St. Andrew's United Church—serving North Renfrew from Petawawa through to Deux Rivieres.

We are located at 40 Joseph St. in Chalk River

Call us at 613.589.2312

St. Andrews United Church PO Box 190 Chalk River, ON K0J 1J0

Check out our website at: <http://standrewschalk.ca/>

Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewschalkriver/>



Have you read this month's Broadview?

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Covid-19 Pandemic Safety Notice

For all congregants entering St. Andrew's United Church – Chalk River

The following safety notice/procedures for reopening St. Andrew's Church for in-person worship services are in place for when congregants enter St. Andrew's United Church under Phase 2 of our Reopening Plan which was approved by Church Council on February 13, 2021. A copy of the Reopening Plan, Terms of Reference for the Reopening Committee and relevant minutes of Church Council meetings are available upon request.

This safety notice and procedures may be subject to change depending upon guidelines and/or restrictions outlined by the local health unit and/or the Province of Ontario and/or **Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) or their Executive.**

Worship service time is 10:30 a.m. The service will also be live-streamed. A greeter will be available for guidance and assistance to comply with wearing a mask and to explain/assist with maintaining social distancing of 2m and pew seating.

Hand sanitizer, gloves and non-medical masks will be available at the main door. Along with social distancing being in place, Church Council has directed that non-medical masks/face coverings be worn during the service. Please bring your own non-medical mask/face covering and gloves (if you desire to wear gloves) if you have them available.

Singing during the worship service is not permitted. Kurt Zhou, our musician, will play the hymns and other service music. Obviously, everyone can hum or say the words to hymns/songs while wearing a mask. Hymn books and bibles have been removed from the pews in accordance with our Reopening Plan.

Pew seating will be marked to encourage physical distancing. Seating can take place in the back pew, the next pew will be skipped and then the next pew can be used etc.

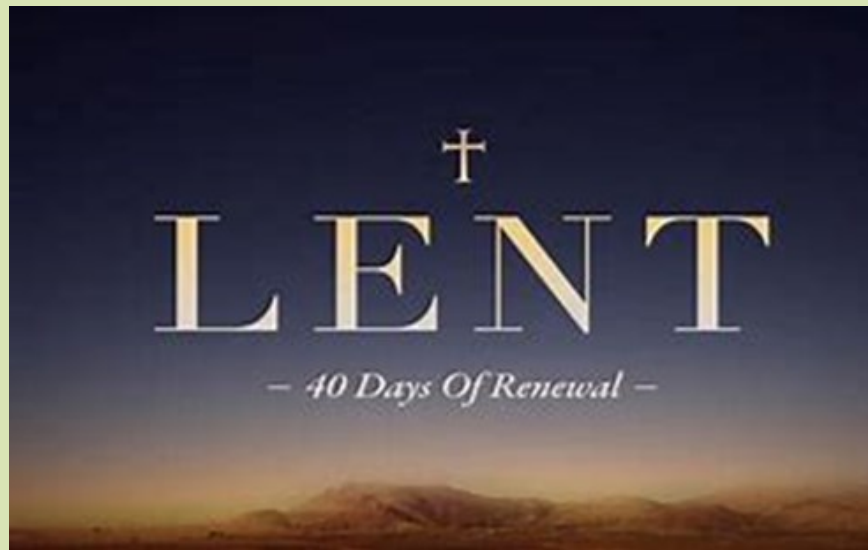
The balcony and the downstairs area are closed until further notice as approved by Church Council. There will be no gathering for coffee and fellowship until further notice. Please exit the church immediately after the service.

Please dispose of your used disposable masks and gloves in the receptacles provided as you exit the church. Names of attendees/congregants will be recorded for contact tracing purposes.

The Custodian will clean/disinfect all touchpoints/hard services after each worship service. Hand washing can be done in the sanctuary washroom or in the kitchenette. If you have any questions about our safety measures that have been put in place for your protection and the protection of others during our worship service please talk with the greeter or a member of the Reopening Committee which are:

Heather Wiegand, Nancy Dunham, Marj Kellow, Wendy Hawley, John Fleurie and Doug Tennant (613.281.6967)

Issue Date: February 15, 2021



Schedule for Lent

at St. Andrew's United Church

Shrove Tues - Feb 16 - Get your pancakes on!

Ash Wed - Feb 17 Service @ 7:00pm Sanctuary and Live streamed

1st Sun of Lent - Feb 21 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

2nd Sunday of Lent (Communion) - Feb 28 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

3rd Sunday of Lent - Mar 7 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

4th Sunday of Lent - Mar 14 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

5th Sunday of Lent - Mar 21 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

Palm Sunday - Mar 28 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

Good Friday - Apr 2 Service @ 3:00pm Sanctuary and Live streamed

Easter Sunday (Communion) - Apr 4 Service @ 10:30 Sanctuary and Live streamed

Rising with the Morning Star Devotional Conversations will take place
Saturday mornings @ 10am via Zoom beginning Feb 20, 2021
(please let Susan DeHaan know if you would like to take part)