

Be kind, tender-hearted and forgiving—Eph. 4:32



ST. ANDREW'S TIMES

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

**Pentecost Edition
2020**

From the Minister

"Teach them to obey everything that I have told you. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of the world."

—Matthew 28:20

Does it seem like the end of the world to you? Do you feel God with you? We are not coming and going as we used to. Our busy-ness has all but come to a halt. Yes, some folks are now working from home leaving the vehicles parked in our yards. I used to go through a tank of gas in a matter of days, now I am on the same tank of gas purchased April 9th. We are not going to the grocery store just because we can, we are going when we actually have a need, and we make it worthwhile. Granted, some folks overdid their stockpiling, I still fail to understand the toilet paper demand. Maybe this is not the end of the world, maybe it is the beginning of a new world. Maybe this is a time of getting back to the basics. Maybe, this time of social distancing is giving us a chance to know ourselves and our purpose here on Mother Earth?

Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life.

— Galatians 6:4–5 MSG

I know my situation is different from many, I was given 6 months to prepare for this. My cancer diagnosis and subsequent chemotherapy treatments had me take leave of my ministering and isolate for a while now. I viewed this as a time to get to know myself, so I borrowed books and a course study and started reading, something only done when required before. My love of needlework is a passion again as I try to finish projects started years ago and work on new ones.

I encourage you to look at this as an opportunity to know yourself (again), to declutter, to clean, and as Galatians tells us, "explore who you are and the work you have been given and sink yourself into that." If you don't know what that is, maybe it is simply to write a letter or phone a friend or to check on your neighbours or drop off baking at their door. Have flowers delivered to someone to say "Hi, I am thinking of you." Take this opportunity to live like Jesus, think outside the box and do the unexpected. He promised to be with us always. Read his story and write your own. You do not go alone. Blessings and stay safe.

Susan DeHaan

In This Issue

- A message from Susan DeHaan
- Church building reopening
- A COVID-19 prayer (UCC)
- Safety Notice
- Maintaining church finances

A Prayer for Those Who Struggle

We pray for those who struggle. We pray for those who struggle at this time of huge uncertainty; for political leaders faced with unforeseen challenges, uncharted ways, difficult decisions,

Holy One, we will acknowledge wise choices, we will offer words of support.

(time of silent reflection)

We pray for those who struggle. We pray for those in situations never before experienced.

We pray for moms and dads who struggle with having children at home all day.

It is difficult to find new activities; it is hard to stay creative.

Holy One, we will listen carefully to the challenges, we will encourage fresh ways of communication with good friends.

(time of silent reflection)

We pray for those who struggle, We pray for those whose day is radically different.

We pray for those who must leave their usual workspace,
for those breadwinners who must work at home.

Holy One, we will support the new priorities, we will not intrude into the working hours.

(time of silent reflection)

We pray for those who struggle. We pray for those who have lost their jobs.

We pray for those whose financial security has gone, who have anxiety around paying rent or providing for family needs.

Holy One, we will be there in the testing times, we will assure them of their self-worth.

We pray for those who struggle. We pray for those who have been affected by the Covid 19 virus.

Those who are sick at home and those who have been hospitalized, in their suffering, and in their fear.

Holy One, we will hear and respond to their distress, we will be a safe but compassionate presence to their loved ones.

This prayer we offer in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen



Church Building Reopening

Weekly in-person worship services resume Sunday June 21, 2020 at 10:30 am

Live streaming of worship services continues

As of Friday June 12, 2020 the provincial government announced that we can reopen our church building and once again come together, with social distancing and other measures in place, to worship together. Additionally, live streaming of our weekly worship services will continue for the foreseeable future. Members of the St. Andrews faith community can also stay connected with one another through social media < <https://www.facebook.com/standrewschalkriver/>> and on our website at < <http://www.standrewschalk.ca/>>, through email and telephone trees. The Trustees and the Church Council continue to meet using telephone and video conferencing.

Weekly worship is at 10:30 and Kurt Zhou, our musician will be playing the piano for us during the services. Come a wee bit early so you can receive instructions from the greeter on how to safely enter and enjoy the church services. All congregants are required to wear a mask. Bring your own mask or face covering or one can be provided for you. No singing is allowed in the church as per various regulations/guidelines and everyone must maintain social distance of 2m. There is no hugging or lingering after the service. Everyone must leave immediately and dispose of used bulletins, masks and gloves in the garbage containers as you leave the building. Washing of hands is encouraged using the two sinks upstairs in the sanctuary. Hand sanitiser is available throughout the building. Access is restricted to the basement and the balcony.

Church Council has authorised the reopening of our church building due to the hard work of the recently established Reopening Committee and the officially approved Reopening Plan by Church Council. The Reopening Plan is premised on safety of everyone involved in entering the building and adheres to the current local health unit and provincial restrictions and regulations. The Eastern Ontario and Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) has recommended that churches do not open until Labour day 2020. However, due to our comprehensive Reopening Plan, the regularly revised Safety Notice, and much due diligence related to cleaning and disinfecting touchpoints and hard surfaces, Church Council has made the decision to reopen St. Andrew's United Church in Chalk River as of Sunday June 21, 2020.

It is understood and fully supported by Church Council that some worshippers may not desire, for a variety of reasons, to resume attending worship services in-person. It is for those reasons that we will continue to live stream worship services each Sunday on Facebook.

Our church building continues to be checked by the custodian, and other designated volunteers regarding security, cleanliness, water, smoke alarms and so on.

Through the efforts of Church Council and the Reopening Committee, we will keep up to date on the directives from our provincial government and the Renfrew County & District Public Health Unit. During the COVID-19 pandemic our worship services, whatever they look like, will include a high priority on the safety of worship leaders and anyone assisting them in person. See the Safety Notice in this edition.

May the winds of Pentecost refresh and renew you.

Christ is with us—we are not alone!

Generosity during un-precedented times!

As a community of faith, we are once again able to gather in-person as of Sunday June 21, 2020 and come together and worship in-person or online. As outlined on page 3, Church council has authorised the reopening of the church building for weekly worship services at 10:30. These continue to be challenging, but also heartening, times as our local, regional, and national church bodies have come together to help each other offer new ways of worshipping and reach out to those in need. Our ministry continues both within our local church community and out into the broader global and national communities. When we worship together, we share our gifts by placing them on the offering plate. The Trustees encourage you to continue to be graciously generous with your offering of time, talents and money.

It's important to promote and use other ways to give. As the church, we need to take seriously the reality that some of our participants are continuing to face financial hardships due to layoffs, store closures, sickness, and/or caring for family members.

Our first priority is providing pastoral care and maintaining the relationships that exist within our community of faith. If you would like to enquire about pastoral care please give Gayle Barks a call at (613) 401-1465 to make arrangements.

The St. Andrews Church trustees realise that inviting you to continue to donate to the St. Andrew's community during this pandemic must take into account your personal situation. Remember, within the community of Jesus, ALL gifts of time, talents and money are a sign of faith and an act of generosity to be celebrated. The key practices of Inspire, Invite, and Thank continue to underpin all we do regarding our offerings. Giving freely and generously is an important spiritual practice for all people of faith. We invite everyone to share cheerfully and generously because this is how we, as the community of Jesus, care for each other and those around us.

To help make giving your offering accessible and easy, Church Council recommends the following ways to continue supporting our local mission as a community of faith and the ministry we do together through Mission & Service:

- Place your offering in the collection plate at the church on Sunday mornings as you enter the sanctuary.
- Provide post-dated cheques for local and Mission and Service (M&S) work in an envelope, sealed with a wet sponge—not licked—and mailed to Nancy Dunham at PO Box 190 Chalk River ON K0J 1J0
- Folks can also call Nancy Dunham at (613) 589-2750 to come and pick up offering cheques in Chalk River/Deep River
- PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance). PAR allows you to give through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account. To set up PAR, contact Jim Young at (613) 589-2426. Those already on PAR can also update the amount of their gift by contacting Jim.

Please continue to give generously and cheerfully knowing that we can continue to make a difference in our community while maintaining the viability of our church.

Sincerely;

St. Andrews United Church Trustees
Chalk River ON

Camp Lau-Ren Goes Virtual for 2020

Camp Lau-Ren has made the very difficult decision to not open Camp this season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we do want to keep our campers, staff and volunteers connected to Camp. We have hired a summer student to organize and run some virtual programming over the summer to keep everyone connected.

Please stay tuned for more information in the coming months. The camp website is <<https://camplau-ren.com/>>

Camp Lau-ren continues to experience some operating costs and invites you to consider donating to your local children's camp via their donate option on their website at <<https://camplau-ren.com/donate-now/>>

To mail a donation to Camp Lau-Ren, make your cheque payable to "Camp Lau-Ren" and mail to:

Camp Lau-Ren, PO Box 1670 Deep River, ON K0J 1P0



Photos from Camp Lau-ren



Quilt Show—2018



Nancy and Susan
Winter 2019 Soup & Sandwich

Worship Information

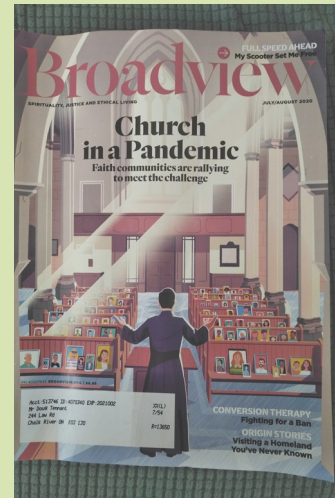
Weekly Worship Services—resuming June 21, 2020 at 10:30

Regular Sunday worship services resume in the church building at 10:30 on Sunday June 21, 2020 with Covid-19 related safety measures and social distancing.

The church is located at 40 Joseph St. in Chalk River ON

However, you may want to participate in the weekly worship services via live streaming on Facebook at:

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



Have you read
this month's
Broadview?

Pastoral Care Visits

If you desire to have a pastoral care visit, for whatever reason, please contact Gayle Barks (613.401.1465) who will arrange for one of the lay worship team members to call you for a telephone 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.**

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/>

Contact Us

Council President

Gayle Barks

barksgayle@gmail.com

613.401.1465

Worship Committee

Marjorie Kellow

kellowm@sympatico.ca

613.589.2953

Newsletter

Doug Tennant

dougi Tennant@gmail.com

613.281.6967

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 being put 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 June 10, 2020. A copy of the Reopening Plan, Terms of Reference for the Reopening Committee and relevant minutes of Church Council meetings can be provided to you 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 entry door for use by congregants. 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. Gloves are optional. Hand washing can be done in the washroom at the rear of the sanctuary 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: June 17, 2020