

St. Andrew's News



St. Andrew's United Church, 40A Joseph Street, Box 190, Chalk River, ON K0J 1J0
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Serving people in the North Renfrew corridor from Petawawa to Deux Rivières, since 1875.

Member: Renfrew Presbytery, Bay of Quinte Conference

Summer Edition 2009



Minister's Message

Dear Friends of St. Andrew's,

I watched with special interest the reports from Stonehenge of the Summer Solstice celebrations, because Ruby and I had had the opportunity to visit this world heritage site when we were in England to attend the marriage of our niece. Once it became a world heritage site, visitors are not allowed to walk amongst the stones except on two days each year, at the time of the Summer and the Winter Solstice.

Sites such as Stonehenge are shrouded in mystery, but they testify to the human need to try to understand the great forces of nature which impact upon human life. The Egyptian pyramids, the stone circles and tombs of northern Europe and the British Isles, the calendars of the Mayans and Incas all lend weight to this thirst for understanding that has characterised humans from our beginnings. We have known for a very, very long time that the Sun exerts great influence upon life on earth. It is only three hundred years since Galileo became convinced that the Earth rotates around the Sun, and not vice versa.

Just as Galileo faced sharp persecution, even excommunication, for the publication of his convictions, the debate rages on about creation versus evolution, with some people in the church convinced that it is an either-or question, with creation by God as the only correct understanding, while others are satisfied with seeing it as both-and. I see myself in the latter fold. The creation stories in the Book of Genesis are not about science, as I see it, but about faith. However, these are not unsophisticated statements of our pre-scientific fore bearers. They represent the highest and best understanding of people who reflected carefully upon their relationship with God

and God's creation. They were convinced that we cannot understand ourselves and our relationship with the Earth and its creatures apart from our relationship with God.

Science is the human endeavour to understand how things work, and how we can apply that knowledge to improve our life and the life of the Earth upon which we all depend. Faith in God as Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, Biblical faith, is our endeavour to state our understanding of ourselves and others as the beloved children of God, to whom we are responsible for our life, the lives of our neighbours, and the Earth which God has entrusted to our care.

Summer affords us the opportunity to get close to the rhythm of life around us in God's creation, to observe the wonder and beauty of all that God has made, and to learn new and deeper ways to sing God's praise. May God bless us in these endeavours.

Yours in Christian service,
Paul McLenaghan

Church Council

Dear Friends:

St. Andrew's United Church is a small church with a big heart; our church family is few but we extend our arms to welcome one and all to worship with us every Sunday.

Over the last few months, the Church Council has made some very significant recommendations and we hope that everyone is enjoying the refurbishments that have taken place and will be taking place in the very near future.

The new walkway is such an improvement and certainly enhances the look of the front of the church. Wheelchair accessibility to all public places is a provincial law and we are so thankful to be able to welcome all those who require using a wheelchair. The chair lift inside for both upstairs and downstairs enables you accessibility to both the main part of the church and the church basement. Finally, we are into the 21st century.

As noted in the update from the Goals and Objectives Committee Report, we will soon have a wheelchair accessible washroom upstairs as well and we are just elated about that.

In addition, the inside of the church is to be painted and windows replaced. Our little church is going to look almost brand new. Thank you to all who have contributed to making these plans come to fruition. And a special thank you to the Tennant family, especially Tom Tennant, who have made it possible.

Reverend Paul McLenaghan will be back with us in September and will remain with us until Presbytery can find a permanent minister. We are so very fortunate to have him with us. Have a great summer Rev. Paul and Ruby. We look forward to your return in September.

Respectfully submitted, Gayle Barks, Chair

A Special THANK YOU

A special Thank You goes out to Randy Tennant for overseeing the completion of recently completed work on our new step and walkway leading to the church.

Goals & Objectives Committee Report:

Wheelchair accessible washroom update. Finally some headway is being made on getting this long overdue project underway.

The committee (Gayle Barks, John Fleurie, Owen Wiseman, Paul Reynolds, Marjorie Kellow) met on April 01 to discuss our major goals and objectives. By April 28 we had received a set of drawings showing what was needed. May 11 & 12, 2 local contractors were shown through the church and asked to submit their estimate on what the job would cost. We received the final estimate on June 11th. At present we are now ready to accept one of these estimates after we finalize the scope of the work needed to be done and get a contract in place.

We will keep everyone posted as the work progresses.

Respectfully submitted by J. Fleurie in Gayle's absence



New walkway and steps

Worship Committee

With the change in the season, so comes change at St. Andrews.

While Rev Paul McLenaghan is on vacation this summer, arrangements have been made for the following Pulpit Supply.

July 5 & 12 – Rev David Bauman

July 19 – Dave Henderson

July 26 – Peter Rumhor

August 2 – Doug Tennant

August 9 – Dave Henderson

August 16 – Harriette Davies

August 23 – Peter Rumhor

August 30 – Harriette Davies

Rev McLenaghan has been appointed by Presbytery to return in September and will remain with us until the end of June 2010. Hopefully the process of hiring a Minister for St. Andrews will be complete before the end of June 2010!

Emergency Pastoral Care for the month of July will be provided by the Rev Paul Evans, Deep River Community Church and for August, the Rev Richard Metcalf or the Rev Suzanne Nadon, Wesley United Church, Pembroke.

During the months of June, July and August, the musical contribution to our services will be shared by Snow Wang, our regular organist and Winnie Li, a former pianist with St. Andrew's.

The Worship Committee hopes everyone is blessed with a happy, healthy summer!

Outreach

Our Soup and Sandwich Luncheon, held every Wednesday, ended in the middle of May for the summer. We had a very good response with many regulars and visitors from Deep River to Pembroke, not to forget the Chalk River Community!

on the cold Wednesdays of the winter, the homemade soup specials really hit the spot. Each week a different kind of soup was served and a surprise to all The camaraderie with everyone made us feel like one big happy family!

Some weeks, compliments of an energetic baker, a dessert was provided; an added touch. A hearty "Thank You".

A special thank you to Gloria Waring, Iris Agnew, Jennie McMahan and Marjorie Kellow.

Spent computer cartridges, used stamps and eye glasses, and Campbell soup labels are items that are collected to be recycled.

Valu Mart receipts are collected and after a certain dollar value is reached, Valu Mart donates a cheque, which is, in turn, used to provide items used for the Soup and Sandwich Luncheon.

Funds collected through the Soup and Sandwich Luncheon are donated to St. Andrew's United Church General Fund and to the United Church Mission & Services Fund.

One of our most rewarding Outreach programs is support of a Foster Child. He is 17 years old, living in Senegal, Africa. He is supported through The Plan (The Foster Parents Plan).

Respectfully submitted; Elaine Tennant

Ten Commandments for the Open Range... Cowboy speaking that is.

1. Just one God.
2. Honour yer Ma & Pa.
3. No tellin' tales or gossipin'.
4. Git yerself to Sunday meetin'.
5. Put nothin' before God.
6. No foolin' around with another fellow's gal.
7. No killin'.
8. Watch yer mouth.
9. Don't take what ain't yers.
10. Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff.

Ministry & Personnel Report

The Ministry & Personnel Committee (John Fleurie, Tom Tennant, Vera Zadow) continue to verbally meet and discuss any and all issues that may arise.

Thanks to the Worship Committee, Rev. Paul has signed all the necessary documents to be able to continue as our minister until June 2010. We would like to thank him for postponing his retirement for another year.

Linda Chapman has been hired by Randy Tennant as our grass cutter and is doing an excellent job.

Kathy McGillis, our custodian, is also doing an excellent job. She has been advised that if she has any questions or concerns that she is to bring it to our attention immediately.

Respectfully submitted by
J. Fleurie, chairperson, M&P Committee

Bulletin Bloopers

Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off -- Let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: 'Break Forth Into Joy.'

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM -- Prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the Church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

Signs of the Times

These signs were appeared in front of churches in England...

Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed the snake, and the snake didn't have a leg to stand on.

There are some questions that can't be answered by GOOGLE.

Down in the mouth? Come in for a faith lift.

God You're Great

All services are different, we leave the repeats to TV.

As you pass this little church, be sure to plan a visit, so when at last you're carried in, God won't say "Who is it?"

Speak well of your enemies , after all you, made them.

Let us help you study for your final exams.

Almost 200 years old and still under the maker's guarantee.

God is perfect... only man makes mistakes.

We are the SOUL agents in this area!

The meek shall inherit the earth, if that's alright with you!

Happy Easter to our Christian friends, Happy Pass-over to our Jewish friends, to our atheist friends... Good Luck!