

# Awareness



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BARRIE, ONT.

AUTUMN 2017

## From the Minister...

I dare say we all watched with interest and not a little trepidation as Hurricane Irma had her ruthless way with many islands in the Caribbean, and then the entire state of Florida and points north toward the end of her catastrophic run. We are, quite frankly, mesmerized by the awesome power of weather when it puts all its weapons together in one terrifying show of force. At this writing, some eighty-six persons are known to have died along its path, and we can assume that that number will yet rise. The total cost of repair or replacement in its wake is a number so large and incalculable as to make your head spin.

And here we are, we human beings, living as though we have total control over our lives. Hah. The fact of the matter is that we are creatures, mere mortals in the grand scheme of creation, and we have gotten too used to "punching above our weight" when it comes to controlling matters of our destiny.

Through the God-given resources of our creativity and intellect, we have indeed found a way to better our lot in this modern world through design and invention, expertise and consultation, and what we have achieved is by and large, good. Potentially good, at least! But our reality, on a day when hurricanes are bearing down on those who have little means of self-defence and protection, is that we are suddenly dependent on resources and capacities beyond our means, and then made all the more aware of our limitations.

If you followed the aftermath coverage with any attention to detail, perhaps you were struck, as I was, by the number of times that survivors (who had stayed in their homes instead of evacuating) spoke of how their faith had held them together, somehow trusting God to see them through this "hell on earth"

scenario they were facing. But it's tragic how often we reserve the claiming of God's presence and care for only those times where we have no choice but to relinquish any false sense of control because we simply don't have it! Hey there, all people of faith! Newsflash: God's will and desire is to be present with us in every moment of our life's journey, not just when we can't manage it ourselves anymore! God has made us co-creators in this world for the explicit reason that we might grow in grace and in relationship one with another, not independently of each other. Our loving God is an unapologetic advocate of "community," long ago forming a "people" of faith in Israel and establishing in Jesus Christ a church "family" of which each of us is an integral and important part.

So let's rejoice in this good news, just as we celebrate "World-wide" Communion on the first Sunday of October every year. For all the world is God's community, and so we are God's people, every single day, finding comfort, hope and strength in all of life's moments, together!

Your minister and friend,

*Rick*

Rev. Dr. Rick Horst



## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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### Staff Directory

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## Focus on: *Living Day by Day*

Thank you!

This past June, Rev. Dr. Horst gave eight separate "Living Day by Day" small group presentations, benefiting close to 160 members of St. Andrew's Church family.

The presentations provided an update on the strategic planning for the future direction of our congregation as they relate to the building. He also discussed a challenging opportunity to sustain and enhance the life, mission and ministries of St. Andrew's.

Perhaps the most meaningful and enlightening part of his presentations was the sharing of his personal approach to giving. Twice in the last year he has re-examined his own finances and increased the amount he gives through PAR monthly. Some have since told us that they too have revisited and significantly bolstered their own tithes and offerings. We hope many others have already taken, or will take, this opportunity to reset their level of givings according to their ability to do so.

We are truly thankful to Rick for his honest and "lead by example" approach to Stewardship.

Sincerely,  
The Stewardship Team



Day by day,

Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:

To see thee more clearly,

Love thee more dearly,

Follow thee more nearly,

Day by day.

Richard of Chichester (1197 – 1253)

## Board of Managers

Vic Hood

The Board did not meet over July and August but is scheduled to meet at the regular time this month. Budgets have been monitored over this time.

The rental buildings are fully rented at this time. We continue to maintain and upgrade the buildings.

We have two or three Saturday work parties each year; anyone who would like to volunteer would be welcome. This is a wonderful time to get to know other members of the congregation. The work is not strenuous.

Parking lot maintenance has been completed, joining the lots of the church and 41/43 Owen Street. This has enabled a considerably improved flow of traffic within the lots.

The old expression was, "Poor as a Church Mouse." We do not have any mice, poor or otherwise, however, we acquired a pair of healthy and well fed chipmunks. They were live trapped and returned to a suitable outside location, which shall be kept confidential. Suffice it to say, they may be Catholic now.

A kitchen committee has been formed and is doing an excellent job.

The Board invites any questions or comments. Any member will be happy to discuss any concerns.



## Staff Relations

Susan Stott-Hood

Alanna Haughton has accepted a contract full-time teaching position. This is a wonderful opportunity for Alanna, and we are thrilled for her. It has, however, meant that she has had to step down from her position as Program Coordinator. As Session and the Staff Relations Team review our Children and Youth Programs, Alanna has agreed to stay on in the role of teacher/leader of our Church School. We thank Alanna for her ongoing commitment to our church family.

## Givings Update

To the end of August, Givings to both our Operating Budget and to Presbyterians Sharing are right on target for the year. We thank you for your steady generosity and look forward to your continued and sustaining gifts as we approach the final quarter of the year. We look forward to a successful financial outcome for 2017, as a result of your on-going faithful giving.



## Membership

Welcome to our new members who joined on Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Neil and Barbara Morrison, Lorna Power, Mike and Kathy Sharp and Brenda Windrim.

Thank you to everyone for updating their information for our Directory in the spring and to Arna and Donna who worked with Barb Drummond to get the Directory out.

If you have changed your home or e-mail address or telephone number since then, would like your name included on our e-mail and/or mailing list, or know of someone who is ill, a person who would like a visit, or who has experienced a death in the family,

we would appreciate your letting the office and your elder know so that we can give support and assistance as a church family.

Thank you to everyone who ushered, greeted, and operated the elevator this summer. A special thank you to Arna for making sure that we have our welcoming ministry people in place each and every Sunday. If you would like to help with this important welcoming ministry, please speak with Arna Atkinson



## Life-Long Learning

### St. Andrew's Speaker Series

This autumn, St. Andrew's is hosting three outstanding speakers who will focus on current trends within their respective fields. The series will be held at **7:30 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.**

**September 27<sup>th</sup>** - Dr. Dorcas Gordon will introduce us to Current Trends in Biblical Interpretation. Dr. Gordon retired as Principal of Knox College in the summer, completing 18 years of service in that role. She is in frequent demand as a guest lecturer and workshop leader and continues to work with doctoral students at the Toronto School of Theology.

**October 25<sup>th</sup>** - Well-known CBC analyst Brian Stewart will share insights regarding Current Trends in International Relations. He is a Senior Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs (U of T) and remains a special guest on CBC Newsworld. He is the recipient of numerous awards in broadcast journalism and is a member of the Order of Ontario.

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Dr. Kerstin Mossman will inform us of Current Trends in Health Care. Dr. Mossman has devoted her medical career to enhancing the lives of seniors in the Barrie and Innisfil area. She is Assistant Clinical Professor at U of T and received the Award of Excellence from the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2015.

We are pleased that these three presenters are coming to St. Andrew's. Tickets are available from the church office or, for the first time, online at our church website:

[www.standrewsbarrie.ca](http://www.standrewsbarrie.ca). (Follow the prompts to Lifelong Learning - Speaker Series - Order Tickets.) The three-speaker package is a best value at \$25.

### CareNotes Ministry

The *CareNotes Ministry* display in the Gathering Hall has already been well used. Sixteen helpful booklets regarding issues of life and faith are available to church participants and community users of our building. Look for the *CareNotes* display and be blessed by the insightful and encouraging booklets. The titles and topics change monthly. Marilyn and Alex Carman are managing this ministry on behalf of the Lifelong Learning Team.



**Living the Questions** is a video-based study featuring presentations by 30 of today's leading religious voices. As the title suggests, **LTQ** does not attempt to offer answers to every question of faith. Instead, it encourages independent thinking and a sharing of differing points of view. Each session will begin with dessert, followed by a video introduction of the evening's topic. Participants will receive weekly worksheets to add to a binder as well as a devotional reflection for homework.

The program will be offered in three seasonal series (Fall, Winter, Spring). The Fall series begins on **Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** Themes include: *Taking the Bible Seriously*, *Stories of Creation*, *Lives of Jesus*, *A Passion for Christ: Paul*. Rev. Keith Boyer and Rev. Dr. Rick Horst will share leadership of the series.

To assist in planning (dessert and materials), pre-registration will be helpful. To register, or for additional information, please email: [lifelonglearn@standrewsbarrie.ca](mailto:lifelonglearn@standrewsbarrie.ca)

### Aging Gracefully

The popular *Aging Gracefully* program, led by Mary Helen Garvin, will be offered during the fall with dates to be announced.



## Mission & Outreach

Mary Helen Garvin

While the Mission and Outreach Team has been inactive over the summer, our Mission breakfast in May was a very informative and interesting event. Rev. Gordon Timbers who spent three months in Palestine with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) was our speaker. The Middle Eastern food served for breakfast was enjoyed by all who attended.



We have big plans for this coming year. Our first event is **Mission Awareness Sunday on October 15<sup>th</sup>** when Rob Shropshire, from our National Office, will be our guest speaker. Rob is responsible for the Refugee sponsorship and Special Projects portfolio with Presbyterian World Service and Development. He has been extremely helpful to our Refugee Sponsorship Team here at St. Andrew's.

Readers may recall that we were planning a trip to the Six Nations Residential School in Brantford for this autumn. We have had to postpone that trip to next spring because of repairs that are being done in the school. This trip is part of a larger project to help us to understand more about the Indigenous culture in Canada. It will include a preparation study workshop; an opportunity to participate in the Blanket Exercise (you will have to come and see if you want to know what that is about!!); the bus trip to the School and Woodlands Cultural Centre; a debriefing meeting; and an opportunity to share with the larger congregation. We have received a grant from Justice Ministries in The PCC National Office to help us with the project. Later this fall, dates for the activities involved will be announced and a sign-up sheet will be available for those who wish to participate.

Our Mission Moments during Sunday services will focus on Canada Ministries this fall, helping us to see where some of our Presbyterian Sharing dollars are being used.

We can always use new members on our team, so if you are interested, please contact the interim Chair, Mary Helen Garvin.



## Pastoral Care

Arna Atkinson

The Pastoral Care Team continues to reach out to those in the St. Andrew's Church family through greeting cards, telephone calls and in-person visits. If you, or someone you know of in our congregation, could use the support of the Team please let us know.

At this time, the sympathy of St. Andrew's is extended to Sherry, Joyce, and Jasmine Phillips on the sudden passing of Chanelle (Shawn) Phillips at the end of July.

## Women's Missionary Soc.

Kathy Tutty

The ladies of the WMS meet at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month for study, mission projects and fellowship.

The Day Apart will be held at St. Andrew's, Barrie, on **Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup>** from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The theme is *Encourage One Another*, and the presenters will be Alexis McKeown and Colleen Wood. The fee for this event will be \$15, which will include a lasagna lunch. There will also be a Craft Table available. All are welcome to attend.

It is time to renew, or subscribe to, the WMS' **Glad Tidings** magazine for the low cost of \$16.95. If you are interested in receiving this publication, please contact Betty Grant.

At our November meeting we will be collecting toiletry items for Youth Haven. This is one of our local Mission projects.

If the work of Missions is of interest to you, please join us.



## Awareness

Thank you to Ellen Millar, our *Awareness* Editor, those of you who submit articles, and the team in the office who get it ready for distribution to the congregation. And thank you to those who are having your *Awareness* delivered by e-mail.

If you too want to receive your *Awareness* electronically please e-mail Barb Drummond in the office at [barb@standrewsbarrie.ca](mailto:barb@standrewsbarrie.ca) to let her know.

## Stewardship



Shane Mayes

### Rejoice and Give Thanks!

You will have often heard the saying, "Count your many Blessings" but have you considered giving thanks for those blessings with a special financial gift to St. Andrew's?

Do one or more of the blessings listed below apply to you?

- "I am mortgage free or on target to get there"
- "I enjoy my work"
- "We can afford to eat out when we want"
- "I am fortunate to have a pension indexed to inflation"
- "We have finished paying for our children's education"
- "I got a promotion/raise at work"
- "I have a second-generation cottage for us to relax in"
- "My house is worth 30% more than it was last year"
- "I have stocks with unrealized capital gains upon which I can escape paying tax and also receive a large tax refund by donating them directly to the church"
- "Retirement has been less expensive than I anticipated"

- "I got a bonus at work"
- "We don't think twice about grabbing a 'Tim's'"
- "I have a new car with no or lower payments "
- "God gives me strength to get through difficult times"
- "My business is doing well"
- "My Florida home was spared by Irma"
- "My family is happy and in good health"
- "Downsizing has meant lower costs and/or a larger nest egg than we need"
- "My children make more money than I ever did; I don't need to build an estate for them"
- "I like the life God gave me"

What other blessings do you have to celebrate?

There is never a better time than now to give back to God; to make a real difference in the life and mission of your church.

Please prayerfully consider giving St. Andrew's a generous gift in celebration of one or more of the many blessings you have received.

## Gift Cards

Betty Boyington

More good news for the Gift Card Fundraiser program! As of September 10<sup>th</sup>, you have purchased \$84,750 worth of gift cards, which represents a profit of \$3,985 for St. Andrew's General Funds. Since we started the program, you have purchased over \$1.5 million worth of cards - over \$75,000 profit for the church.

For those who are not familiar with the program, we purchase gift cards from President's Choice, Sobeys and Metro in bulk, at a discount. All you have to do is see us any Sunday during coffee hour and you can purchase them from us at face value. What can be easier?

### Just arrived.

We are offering the Ultimate Dining cards once again this year. These cards are great gifts for all your friends and family or just as a treat for yourself!!



## Stitchery Group

Cathie Blair

We are a group of ladies who meet the first Wednesday of the month from 1:00—3:00 p.m. Some of us knit, some of us crochet, and other crafts have been brought to do as well. We are a small group and would love to have more ladies join us. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet we can show you how. We, along with some other members of the congregation, have also been making prayer shawls and lap blankets. We have given out 30 shawls and blankets so far and are always looking for help to make them. At the moment, we can supply you with wool to make these projects. Please contact Cathie Blair or Betty Grant if you have any questions.



## Refugee Team



Ruth Millar

We are pleased to report that we completed our financial sponsorship for the El Ali Family on July 26<sup>th</sup>. With the assistance of Gloria Evans from the Georgian College Employment Resource Centre, we helped Ammar to find a full-time job making metal roofing. The three older children attend elementary school and Siham continues to learn English at YMCA Newcomer Services (while Fatima attends its child care). Ammar and Siham have worked diligently to learn how to manage their affairs and become independent. We are very proud of their accomplishments and wish them well for their future success in Canada.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> we also completed our financial sponsorship for Asmaa Alasaad. She is persevering to find her way in Canada, learn English, and get employment. Her brother, Anas, arrived May 18<sup>th</sup> and is being supported by Burton Ave. United Church. Asmaa's mother, Hamida, received permanent resident status in Canada on July 4<sup>th</sup>, and her father will arrive in Canada at the end of September. We have also agreed to co-sponsor with Burton Ave. United Church her brother, Ahmad, and are waiting to see if this is possible.

Congratulations to our Refugee Team members who have worked hard over the past year and a half to sponsor and assist these newcomers to Canada. They are: Brenda Cripps, Rick Horst, Joan Jarvis, Colin McLarty, Ruth Millar, Don Miller, Don Tutty, Kathy Tutty, Laurie Watt, and, at the beginning of our journey, Shirley Arthur and Carolyn Frid.

Thank you to everyone who gave time, money, clothing, furniture, toys and books, household goods, and other things as they were needed. We have appreciated your ongoing prayers, support and encouragement.

Thanks, as well, to YMCA Immigrant Services in the Bayfield Mall for their help and support, excellent English as a Second Language program, and their kind, caring and loving Child Care program.

And a special thank you to Rob Shropshire of Refugee Sponsorship and Special Projects, Presbyterian World Service & Development. Without his help, none of this would have been possible.

## Men's Fellowship

John Kenzie

The St. Andrew's Men's Breakfast Fellowship continues to meet on Saturday mornings once a month for breakfast, friendly conversation and a guest speaker. The purpose of the group is to give the men of our congregation an opportunity to get to know each other better.

We continue to have a wide range of speakers. In September, Al Byrnell spoke about Lyme Disease, which he has been fighting for ten years. Our October breakfast will be on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday is Thanksgiving. Kyle Nudds will be talking about Home Medical Alerts. For the November 11<sup>th</sup> breakfast our speaker will be Aaron Weston from Northern Protocol Inc., a computer service company.

I thought I would explain what it takes to organize the breakfasts. On Friday morning we decide what food we will have for breakfast and Ernie Cotton and Don Tutty go to Costco to get what is needed. At 2:00 p.m. on Friday we meet at St. Andrew's to get things ready for Saturday morning. This involves setting up the tables, cooking what we can ahead of time, and, if it is needed, setting up the projector. Of course then we have to do the dishes. We are usually at the church for about 1.5 hours. On Saturday morning we meet at 7:00 to get things ready for 8:00. We are usually finished cleaning up by about 10:00 a.m.

There is the ongoing work of getting speakers. It usually takes a few e-mails or phone calls with each one to work out details such as dates and what equipment will be needed. Don Tutty continues to do a great job of coordinating that.

Lastly there are the announcements that get placed in the bulletin and read before the Sunday services.

As you can see, it takes a lot of work each month to prepare for the breakfast. We are always looking for volunteers, so if you have some time to spare and would like to help lighten our load - and have a bit of fun at the same time - please talk to Don Tutty or myself. As well, please tell us if you know of any interesting speakers. Hope to see you at breakfast.



## St. Andrew's Art Guild

### Art for the Heart

Fall 2017 — Nature Embellished

The Art for the Heart Guild presents ***Nature Embellished*** for the fall 2017 program module. This 6-week program, taught by Marg Robertson, will allow participants to learn a method for **transferring** nature-themed images onto cloth, which will then be **embellished** with **needlework** techniques via hand work and/or machine to add personality!



Items used in this module will be:

\* FLOSS for EMBROIDERY \* BUTTONS & other NOTIONS for EMBELLISHMENT!

Participants will start with a photo transfer for practice and are then encouraged to bring in their own photo or select from pictures provided to transfer.

**All levels of skill welcome**

**Six Tuesday nights from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**October 10<sup>th</sup> — November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 47 Owen St. Barrie**

**Cost \$40.00 for all 6 sessions, supplies included.**

(Cheques payable to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church)

Registration is required – Limit of 15 participants

**Please register by contacting Sandra Chanko at [s\\_chanko@rogers.com](mailto:s_chanko@rogers.com)**



About the Artist: Marg Robertson has enjoyed working with different textiles all her life. She has tried her hand at sewing, knitting, crocheting, tatting, spinning and weaving! Marg has always enjoyed photography and continues to learn along the way. Margaret will photograph everything; if not her family, she takes joy in capturing nature. Now combining these two art forms she recreates her photographed images through textile design.



## St. Andrew's in Pictures



# Upcoming Events



## Church Services

- Oct. 1:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Communion (Worldwide)
- Oct. 8:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Thanksgiving Sunday
- Oct. 15:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Mission Awareness Sunday
- Oct. 22:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Oct. 29:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Reformation Sunday
- Nov. 5:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Remembrance Day Service
- Nov. 12:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Nov. 19:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Christ the King Sunday
- Nov. 26:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Dec. 3:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Communion; Advent I
- Dec. 10:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Advent II; Mitten Tree

## Calendar Items

- Sundays:** Collection of items for St.  
Andrew's Food Cupboard
- Mondays:** Centering Prayer, 7:00 p.m.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month:** W.M.S.,  
1:30 p.m.
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays:** Prayer Group Minis-  
try, 1:00 p.m.
- Oct. 10 - Nov. 14 Tuesdays:** Art Guild,  
7:00 p.m.
- Wednesdays:** Quilters, 9:00 a.m.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month:** Stitchery  
Group, 1:00 p.m.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month:**  
Organ Recital, 12:00 p.m.
- Thursdays:** Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month:** Men's  
Breakfast Fellowship, 8:00 a.m.
- Sep. 27:** Speakers Series, 7:30 p.m.
- Sep. 28:** Legacy Giving Seminar, 1:00 p.m.
- Oct. 3:** Living the Question Series begins,  
7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 14:** A Day Apart, 9:30 a.m.
- Oct. 25:** Speakers Series, 7:30 p.m.
- November:** Stewardship Month
- Nov. 16:** *Awareness* deadline
- Nov. 13:** Out of the Cold begins  
(Mondays through the winter)
- Nov. 22:** Speakers Series, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 25:** Church Bazaar, 9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 10:** Mitten Tree



## Christmas Bazaar

November 25<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Home-baked goodies

Hand-crafted items

Knitted & crocheted winter wear

And lots more!

Come out, do your Christmas shop-  
ping, and support St. Andrew's!

