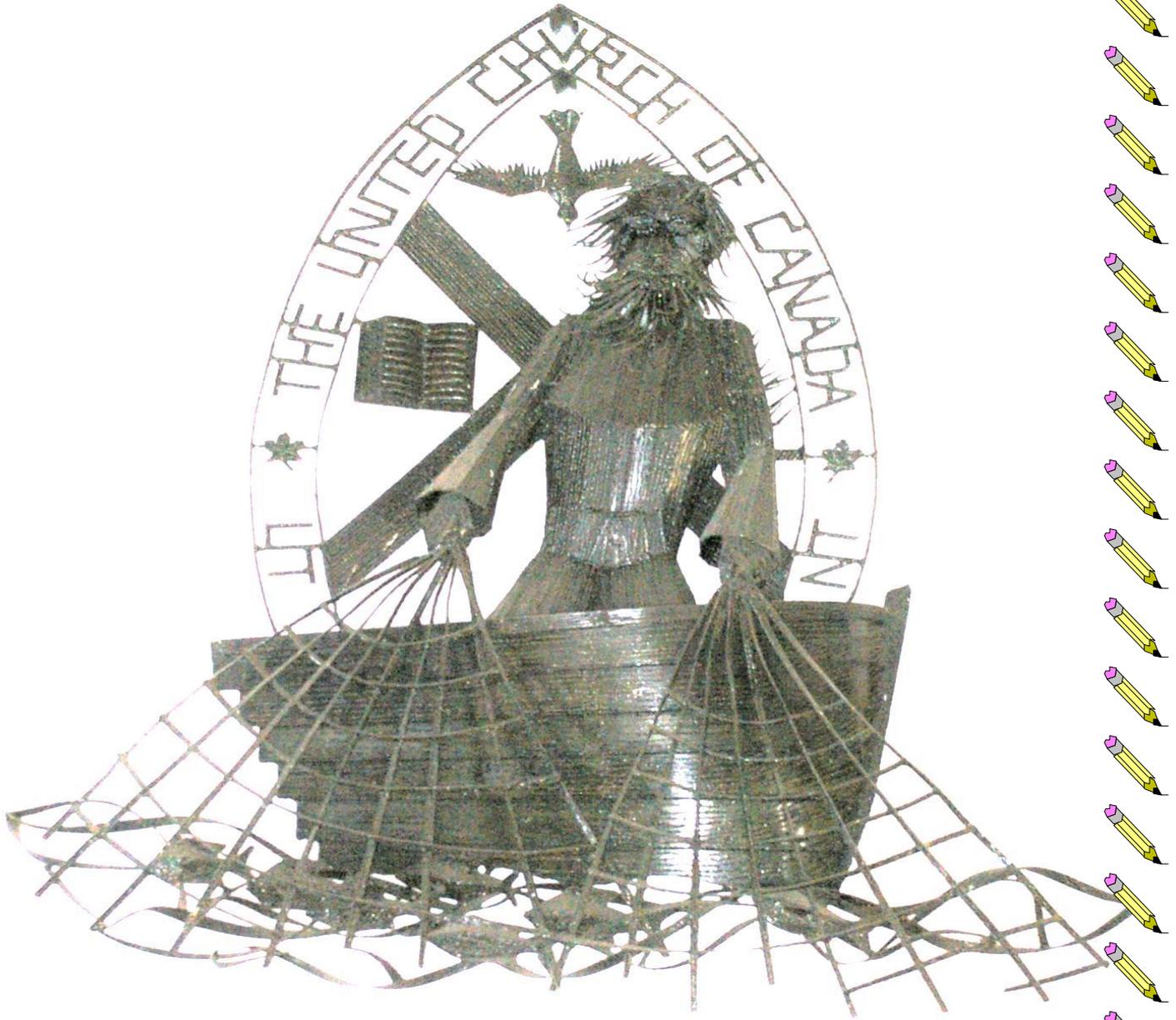


FALL 2020 EDITION

THE APOSTLE



St. Andrew's United Church

479 UPPER PARADISE ROAD, HAMILTON, ON L9C 5E2

MINISTRY TEAM: Laurie White & Ken MacDonald

EDITORS: Barbara and Don Brockway; Linda Clark

Message from Minister, Ken MacDonald

These have been difficult times that have affected us all. Our feelings can include:

- Discouragement about how long this has lasted.
- Helplessness that there is little we can individually do about it
- Fear about how this will change our lives forever
- Stress being confined with family so long and sometimes resulting violence
- Anger about the economic stress that is faced
- A loss of being able to think clearly about the future.

I hope there is support from family, friends, the church and God in these times. In darkest times the Psalmist offers words of consolation:

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Psalm 43:1-3

May God be with you in these challenging times. Ken

Message from Minister, Laurie White

Hi Friends: September always feels like a new year.....and this new year brings a lot of challenges with it for sure. A "back-to-school" like we've never seen before.....families struggling with no break between work and home.....and struggling with not enough work, or no work. Folks feeling cooped up. Uncertainty galore. And where is this all leading us? We need to soak in the words of our United Church creed deeper than we've never let them soak in before:

"We are not alone". "We live in God's world".

And we need to turn to the sources of our faith. Here's a website that I've been pointing our families to.....full of help and support. Articles about resilience and self-care, well-being, strength we find in our stories, talking to our kids about what's going on and also some spiritual wellness practices. Check it out.



And we need to remember that:

"We are called to be the Church....."
"to celebrate God's presence"
"to love and serve others".



We're all on this journey together. Figuring it out together. In this Apostle you'll see some of the ways we're trying to do that, but in between there are lots of cracks and spaces for new ideas and new ways. Let's throw our hearts and minds wide open to hear what God might be saying in the midst of this. Let's keep talking and reaching out to one another. Because in this place and in our time...

"We the Church"

Love and Prayers,
Laurie

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Covid-19 BUILDING ACCESS PROTOCOL

St. Andrew's-sponsored Small Groups and Rental Groups

Room Bookings:

All groups must book meetings/gatherings through the Church Office Administrative Assistant; Contact Information: Josie 905-383-7411 or standrewshamilton@hotmail.com

At time of booking the following information must be provided:

- Group Name
- Group Leader/Contact Person's Name and Contact Information
- Building Access Date(s) and Times
- Church entrance(s) to be utilized
- Number of group participants (Government and Public Health directives regarding size of gatherings will be strictly adhered to.)
- Which room is being reserved (C.E. Hall, Meeting Room)
- NOTE: Due to sanitizing concerns, there is no Kitchen access until further notice.
- Proof of Liability Insurance, if required.

As a follow up to each booking, a copy of the "St. Andrew's COVID-19 Access Protocol" will be forwarded to the Group Leader/Contact Person.

Entering the Church Building:

Masks - are mandatory within the church building, in accordance with the City of Hamilton By-Law #20-155 and the Provincial COVID19 Guidelines.

Social Distancing - The required 6-foot social distancing is to be maintained during gatherings.

Hand Sanitizing - is mandatory. Sanitizing materials are available at every entrance and are to be used by every person upon entering the church building.

Sign-In Sheet Process – No one is exempt from performing each step of this process.

Individuals must record: date, name and phone number upon entering the church building. For larger groups, the Group Leader/Contact is responsible to complete a "group" sign-in sheet, providing all necessary information for each participant. This listing is to be kept for 30 days.

Individuals must read the posted COVID-19 Symptom Screening (canada.ca) document and indicate his/her compliance in the designated box on the Sign-in Sheet.

- If you are experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms, please leave the church building and contact Hamilton Public Health Department (905-974-9878) a.s.a.p. and notify St. Andrew's office (905-383-7411) of any positive test results.

When Someone Shows COVID-19 Symptoms

- Anyone showing symptoms or answered YES to any on the COVID-19 Symptoms document can be refused admittance.
- At the discretion of the Group Leader/Contact, attendee(s) showing symptoms of COVID-19 symptoms during the gathering can be asked to leave the church building, to self-monitor or self-isolate and to contact Public Health for direction at 905-974-987 and/or asked to be tested or see their Doctor and provide proof of health for re-attendance to the church building.
- If the Group Leader/Contact has any concerns or instances within the church, he/she may also contact Public Health for infection control, with prompt communication sent to all involved attendees

Other General Instructions

Washrooms Access – Limited to one person at a time

Meeting Room doors are to be propped open during gatherings.

Fans – Ceiling and portable fans cannot be used as they increase air movement and potential spread of COVID-19 germs.

All personal equipment must be removed at the end of the gathering (e.g. yoga mats, sewing machines, prayer mats, etc.).

No food is permitted in the Meeting Rooms.

Individuals must understand the risk of illness associated with participating in a St. Andrew's-sponsored Small Group gathering.

Sanitizing Procedure:

Sanitizing supplies are provided in a container in the C.E. Hall and Meeting Room.

Surfaces to be sanitized include: table tops, chairs, window closures, church entrance door handles, meeting room door handles and locks, light switches, cupboard handles and any other touched surfaces.

Washrooms - Sanitizing supplies are available in each washroom.

- Wash hands upon entering the washroom.
- Surfaces to be sanitized by each person using the facility: toilet seat, flush handle, hand rails, stall door handle and lock, taps, soap dispenser, counter top and sink, light switches and any other touched surfaces.
- Wash hands before leaving the washroom
- Dispose of used paper towels safely in the garbage receptacle.

Group leader/contact person is responsible for ensuring all sanitizing has been carried out per the Sanitizing Procedures.

FAILURE TO CONDUCT PROPER SURFACE SANITIZING WILL RESULT IN THE GROUP BEING DENIED FUTURE ACCESS TO THE CHURCH BUILDING.

September 2020

Alain Beaudin, 289-237-7252
St. Andrew's United Church, Board Chair

General Announcements

Thank you for your patience during these difficult times and your support to staff and volunteers at St. Andrew's. We appeal to all members of our community to follow the recommendations of our health authorities.

We wish to continue to provide online worship services through the Fall. To this end, we require a volunteer or two to take over the compilation and editing of the Sunday service. If you are willing to help in this regard, please reach out to me, Alain Beaudin, alain.beaudin@rogers.com, 289-237-7252.

If you know of anyone in the St. Andrew's church family who does not have access to a computer, please notify Don and Barb Brockway... bdbrockway@rogers.com, 905-575-930, who will mail out this edition of The Apostle to them.

Worship: We recognize that many of you do not have the technological capability to view our online worship services. For those who can, the church website, www.standrewsunityhamilton.ca has the link to our YouTube Channel that shows our Worship Service on Sunday mornings. A 2 minute countdown to the service starts at 10:30 a.m. or 10:45a.m.

For those who do not have this capability, the service is shown on Cable 14 on Sundays at 11:00a.m., a week behind the online service.

Also, we are looking for folks who might want to submit a candlelighting or scripture reading video (help with content and wording provided). Please contact Ken or Laurie if you are able to help out in this way.

Help Wanted: St. Andrew's is in need of a new Needs Assessment. Everything will be on the table! Our work will be done by email discussion. If you are willing to help with this important work, please contact Tom Allin at tomallin@live.ca

Church Offering: The **easiest** way to make a donation to the church is through the **Donate Securely Online** button on the *Ways to Give* page on the website.

Alternatively, you could consider signing up for the **PAR (pre-authorized remittance)** offering program for maintaining your givings to St. Andrew's at this time, here is the link to download the form:

https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/form_par-authorization.pdf. It is also on the *Ways to Give* page.

Please fill out the form, attach a void cheque, and mail to the church office:

St. Andrew's United Church
479 Upper Paradise Road
Hamilton, ON L9C 5E2

or call the church office and leave a message for assistance.

Of course you could also simply mail in your offering to the church (at the above address) using Canada Post.

Coffee Hour Using Zoom

Did you know that you can join in a coffee hour on Sundays following the broadcast of the worship service? We gather using Zoom, but even if you don't have a computer, you can join in the discussion simply by calling a long distance number, and inputting the relevant meeting codes.

Here is the link to join via computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81943964639?pwd=M2VhYTlZcURTTEtEdmR0TU5TSFU0QT09>

And here is the 'meeting' information:

Meeting ID: 819 4396 4639

Passcode: 373799

To join by phone, simply dial one of these two long distance numbers:

+1 647 374 4685 or

+1 647 558 0588

And use the same meeting ID and passcode numbers.

St. Andrew's Feast of Fiction Book Group

Here are the 2020-2021 books selected by the Feast of Fiction Book Group. You are invited to read, and join in the book group for any or all discussions on the 3rd Wednesday monthly at 2 pm.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 16 | Book: The Day the World Came to Town by Jim Defede |
| Oct. 21 | Book: Bear Town by Frederick Backman |
| Nov. 18 | Book: The Forgotten Homechild by Genevieve Graham |
| Dec. 16 | Book: Albatross by Terry Fallis |
| Jan. 20 | Book: Winter Garden by Kristen Hannah |
| Feb. 17 | Book: The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan-Philipp Sendker |
| Mar. 17 | Book: Our Homesick Songs by Emma Hooper |
| Apr. 21 | Book: Lady of the Lost and Found by Diane Schoemperlen |
| May 19 | Book: The Dearly Beloved by Cara Wall |

Announce Top Book of 2020/2021! Choosing books for 2021/2022

- meets online (zoom) or in person (locations to be announced)
- format is "drop in"come when you wish and you can!
- feel free to invite your book-loving friends!

Inside Out Church at St. Andrew's – Fall 2020

Planned events ... Most events will take place on a Sunday at 1:30p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, Sept. 13 Theme: Resurrection -- including Easter egg hunt

Sunday, Sept. 27 Theme: Creation – Nature Appreciation

Friday, Oct. 9 at 6:30 pm Theme: Thanksgiving and pizza (Laurie would get specific pizza order for each participant, and have it delivered packaged for each person/family. Bucket to throw donations into)

Sunday, Oct. 25 Theme: Pumpkins & Parables (pumpkin carving/decorating)

Sunday, Nov. 8 Theme: Peace & Remembrance

Sunday, Nov. 22 Theme: Hike and Awareness (location t.b.a.)

Sunday, Dec. 6 Theme: Light in the darkness (early evening/late afternoon); making candles

Sunday, Dec. 20 Theme: Outdoor Nativity (early evening/late afternoon)



Pre-registration Form for all "Inside Out Church" participants

We're so excited to welcome you to "Inside Out Church" outdoors at St. Andrew's United Church. As Covid-19 continues to evolve, we ask that you...

1. Sign-up for "Inside Out Church" no later than 48 hours prior to the event. You may sign-up on the St. Andrew's United Church website <https://standrewsunitedhamilton.ca/> or email Laurie White, whitelaurie1980@gmail.com.
2. All participants age 3 and over need to wear a mask, unless unable to for health reasons.
3. Physical distancing will be required and maintained.
4. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, and dress for the weather. All activities will be outdoors. An umbrella might be handy.....and Laurie is shopping for a snowsuit!
5. Go to the washroom before you leave home. The church building remains closed -- washroom for emergencies only.
6. Complete the following Covid-19 checklist for you/your family (to help keep everyone safe). If you answer "yes" to all questions, then we'll see you at Inside Out Church.

Covid-19 Checklist

Are you/your family experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19 (eg. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, or fever)? _____ YES _____ NO

Have you/your family travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days? _____ YES _____ NO

Have you/your family had close contact with a person showing symptoms or tested positive for Covid-19 in the last 14 days? _____ YES _____ NO

Have you/your family had close contact with someone with acute respiratory illness who has been outside of Canada in the last 14 days? _____ YES _____ NO

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Names & Ages of attendees to Inside Out Church: _____

Phone # _____

If you prefer, you can complete the checklist by email no later than 48 hours prior to the event. Contact Laurie whitelaurie1980@gmail.com

Other News

St. Andrew's Youth Group (and the Outreach Team) invites you to take part in our pre-Thanksgiving Drive-in Food Drive.

Saturday, Oct. 3, 11 am - 1 pm.

Front & back parking lots at St. Andrew's United Church

Drive in and donate non-perishable food for Neighbour to Neighbour &/or \$\$'s for either Neighbour to Neighbour or Eatery 541 (you choose)

- place donations in carts provided or
- pop your trunk, and volunteers will get your donations for you.
- put \$\$ donations into designated buckets.

See some photos from the last food drive held June 27, 2020, in collaboration with our friends from the Institute for Islamic Learning.



Neighbour to Neighbour Needs List:

rice	flour	cornmeal	sugar
all baking products	cereal	oatmeal	small peanut butter
dried beans	coffee & tea	halal products	vegetable broth/stock (halal)
#6 diapers	cleaning supplies	laundry soap	bar soap
Toothbrushes	toothpaste	tampons and pads	shampoo.

Items can be dropped off at Neighbour to Neighbour (28 Athens Street). Individuals are asked to arrive at the receiving door and ring the bell and they will be happy to receive your donation. Please stay safe and remember physical distancing when dropping off your donation.