

# ST ANDREW'S EASTER NEWSLETTER



**Of first importance is that all our meetings will take place online only.**

**The Church Building is Closed to the public  
until further notice.**

**In this newsletter you will find instructions about joining in Worship through YouTube, and participating in Prayer, Discipleship Groups and Board meetings through Google Hangouts.**

Greetings Church Family & Friends;

We know you have all been anxiously waiting for the next newsletter from our little Church.

It has been a very mild winter compared to some other years and for that we can give "Thanks to the Creator." We can now the sidewalks and roads clear of snow, and that is a sure sign that we will be seeing green grass soon, the maple sap is running as well. A dear church member reminded me why God makes the weather the way it is: **he is in control and he is the only one who knows what kind of winter we need to take care of this wonderful world he created.**

The AGM meeting was well attended this year and it was a pleasure to see that the church members took the time to attend, it was an encouragement for the Board of Directors to see that the church members are also interested in how the church is run. "OR" it could have been because of the wonderful chilli that was served. Thank You, Nancy and Jacque for taking this on.

In other news, I am sad to report the passing of Peter Dezso Beda on February 18<sup>th</sup>. In his 95<sup>th</sup> year. Peter was a member of our Church though he had to move to the Rockland Manor. Peter was a kind, gentle and generous man who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

On a brighter note, another member of Rockland Manor; Mrs. Helene Archer turned **100 on March 4<sup>th</sup>** and celebrated with family and friends on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>. with cake and refreshments to the singing of the barbershop quartet "Tour de Four". Helene and her husband Vic both attend our church service at the Manor on the last Thursday of every month.

## From the Pastoral Care Team

**Temporary Measures only:** We will no longer be doing home visitations, however we will be calling and praying with our shut ins, if you are in need of anything that we would be able to provide, we will do our best to comply to their request. [care@rocklandchurch.ca](mailto:care@rocklandchurch.ca) or leave a message at (613) 446-5576.

On Sunday Rev. Brian referred to the book of Philippians 4:6-7 as a place to reflect on during times like now.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. "

# News from Pastor Brian

God is good, all the time! Sometimes we believe this easily, because times are good. But God is good even when times are bad. As disciples of Christ we share in the hardships the world experiences and into this world we are sent as messengers of hope, peace and salvation. Can you see that now is the time to SHINE as lights in the world? People are afraid – we can bring comfort. People are alone – we can bring encouragement. And the more you dedicate yourself to blessing others, the less you will be afraid and alone. We have prayer and telephones, scripture and Facetime, spiritual songs and ‘Hallmark’ cards. Use everything you’ve got to ‘reach out and touch someone.’ (virtually, of course!)

But we want to support you! Email [care@rocklandchurch.ca](mailto:care@rocklandchurch.ca) to request prayer or support, send us updates, or just to touch base.

Sign in to <https://hangouts.google.com> and send an invite to [brian@rocklandchurch.ca](mailto:brian@rocklandchurch.ca), and I can add you to one of our video small groups – hangouts works on smart phones, computers and tablets. It works best if you have a webcam, but you can listen in, talk if you have a microphone, and interact by typed comments if you don’t.

**Worship can’t be stopped. It is our greatest strength, joy and duty.** You can follow our services on YouTube by going to [www.rocklandchurch.ca/LW](http://www.rocklandchurch.ca/LW) at 10 on Sunday Morning, (but you can also watch the service later at the same website.)

Our Covid-19 Response page will continue to be updated as we get new information:  
<http://www.rocklandchurch.ca/st-andrews-news/93-newsflash/379-covid-19>

We can continue bringing relief and deliverance for as long as this plague lasts. Do you remember what Mordecai said to Esther when they learned about a horrible plot to kill all the Jewish people in Persia? “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, . . . who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14) God has uniquely prepared each of us to be a true friend to the lonely and the sick at such a time as this. It is time to shine!

## From the Worship Committee

For Easter Sunday morning, we are hoping to strip away the purple mantle and the crown of thorns from the cross, replacing them with pots of fresh blooming plants, daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, crocus, lily of the valley, and we invite each one of you to contribute.

If we are still practicing Social Distancing, let’s place the flowers in the sunshine at the door of the Pangborn hall, to cheer up all our church neighbours and our dear Rockland Community.

Jacquie and Barb.

# From Stewardship:

*How to Live a Life of Thankfulness and Joy*

For this Easter Newsletter, I will be referencing one of Reverend Brian Wilkie's Sunday sermons, the Bible, and a few other resources. I always listen intently to Reverend Brian's Sunday messages. Some of you may have noticed me taking notes. I like to keep notes because his sermons are filled

with words of encouragement and of God's love for each and every one of us. Brian's sermons are a constant reminder of what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ. On Sunday, 8 March, Reverend Brian said something that really caught my attention. He said "God is calling me to joy in a society that is filled with anxiety". He reminded me yet

again, that the Kingdom of God is joy, and that my life should be filled with the glory of God. For the past year, I have been reading the Verse of the Day, and wouldn't you know it, on Monday, 9 March, following Reverend Brian's Sunday sermon, the Verse of the Day was taken from Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. I read and prayed, lead me in the way everlasting, several times.

Another Bible verse taken from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reads - "Be joyful always: pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Well, by combining Reverend

Brian's sermon, Psalm 139 and this 1 Thessalonians Bible reading, it became abundantly clear that I have to change my anxious thoughts to thankfulness and joy. Thankfulness, gratitude, and gratefulness describe a characteristic, a personality trait, a way of living. And here is an added bonus



I discovered . . . if I do choose to live a life of thankfulness and joy, I will live longer, sleep better, have more productivity and a happier life. Isn't it comforting to know that the way we choose to live our lives will allow us to pass the **SWAN** test and we will be able to **Sleep Well At Night!**

Getting back to that 8 March sermon, Reverend Brian also said that as obedient followers, we should all be a sign post for God! I read somewhere that people who are thankful express it, they aren't quiet about it. So let's radiate our thankfulness and joy and share it with others.

William Arthur Ward said that "Feeling gratitude, and not expressing it, is like wrapping a present and not giving it." This Easter and throughout the year, let's unwrap God's present and give it by being a sign post for Him.

Ray Lebeau / Stewardship Rep

# From the Fellowship Committee:

Our first event was the **Chili Lunch** served at the AGM meeting, which seemed to be the most popular part of the meeting... eating. We raised \$65.00 after expenses. Thank you, Nancy and Jacquie.

**Shrove Tuesday Supper** was Co-ordinated by Marie Miville and her team, 101 was the final count of people served, plus we had a great time mixing and chatting with fellow church goers and people from the neighbourhood. It raised \$1,175 for the church. Thank You Marie.

**The Ham Dinner in April is cancelled for now and may be held at a later date!**

Please, help us come up with a new name for the new dinner , that we will all want to attend after this Social Distancing period has passed.

Send all ideas to use at: [News@RocklandChurch.ca](mailto:News@RocklandChurch.ca)



## From the Treasurer

Whether we are here on Sundays or not, our financial obligations continue. Here are a couple of ways that you can continue to support the Church even if you are not able to attend Worship Services.

- ❖ We now can accept Interac E-transfers. for instructions see our website.
- ❖ PAR – Pre-Authorized Remittance; this is an automatic monthly payment system for donations to our Congregation. The payments come out of your bank account on the 20th of every month. Changes can be made whenever you want, but submitted by the 10th of the month for it to be effective that month. Enrollment Forms are available and Jane will help you fill them in. [Treasurer@rocklandchurch.ca](mailto:Treasurer@rocklandchurch.ca)
- ❖ Postdated cheques to be held by the treasurer and processed on the dates supplied.
- ❖ Make a Monthly offering instead of a weekly one.

## Thank you for reading!

I welcome all your comments, and I am looking forward to serving our church family with this new opportunity of being able to work on this newsletter, and serving the Lord by keeping everyone up to date on what is happening at St Andrew's.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you in his loving arms!

Barbara Ann Lorrain

March 16th, 2020

**Next Page:** Post the schedule of events a prominent place so you don't miss anything!

# Our Event Schedule for 2020

We know the COVID-19 Situation will come to an end, we just don't know when. We will update this schedule as May approaches, and we have a better idea of what will be possible at that time.



## ❖ May

- **Pea Soup Lunch – May 3<sup>rd</sup> after church service – Barb Lorrain**
- **Mother's Day – Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **Annual Yard Sale – May 18<sup>th</sup> – Jane Cooper is coordinating**

## ❖ June

- **June 6 The Big Give – we are still looking for a coordinator for this – are you willing to make a few calls?**
- **Spring Fish Fry – June 12<sup>th</sup> – team leader Jacquie**

## ❖ July/August

- **Hot Dog Lunch – July 19<sup>th</sup> – congregation to pitch in to run this, using up Yard Sale leftover hot dogs and buns**
- **Summer Cumberland Farmer's Market Breakfast – Jane will look into dates available and coordinate a team if feasible.**

## ❖ September/ October

- **Welcome Back – Corn Boil and Potluck, salads, desserts – September 13<sup>th</sup> – Marie Miville**
- **Fall Fish and Chips – Ad Mare Seafood Truck Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> team leader – Jacquie**
- **Meat and Turkey Pot Pies Project - work days starting in late October. Seasonal fruit pies will be baked and frozen as the main ingredients become available at a good price. Team leader Barbara.**

## ❖ November

- **Remembrance Day at St. Andrew's and in Rockland- Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**
- **Annual Christmas Bazaar (Nancy) - Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> – this will include St. Andrew's Nostalgic Jewelry Sale, crafts and artisans.**
- **Church Anniversary (118) - Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> - cake!**
- **Combined Ladies Potluck Christmas Dinner - 6 p.m. Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> (Nancy)**

## ❖ Advent/Christmas

- **First Sunday of Advent – Turkey Soup- after service –Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> (Barb) All Welcome!**
- **Private Music Recital in Sanctuary – Dec. 6th afternoon**
- **Service of Lessons and Carols – Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – followed by Dessert Reception/mulled cider**
- **Blue Christmas Service – Sunday, December 20th**
- **Christmas Eve Service – Thursday, December 24th**
- **Friday, December 25th – Christmas Morning**