

Saint Andrew's
United Church

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VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

AUTUMN 2011

Regular Calendar:

SUNDAY:
10:00 AM Worship

MONDAY:
9:30 AM
Bible Study
(2825 Laurier St.)

6:00 PM Alpha

TUESDAY:
9:45 AM
Office Hours

WEDNESDAY:
10:00 AM
Étude de la Bible
(En Français)

7:30 PM
Bible Study

THURSDAY:
10:00 AM
Office Hours
7:00 PM Choir

Check our online
calendar for
changes to this
Schedule

[www.rocklandchurch.ca/
calendar](http://www.rocklandchurch.ca/calendar)

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Fall and Redemption

This fall at Rockland Saint Andrew's is all about the redeeming work of Jesus Christ.

Worship: Our regular **Sunday Services** are a great chance to get together with a caring group of Christians for worship, learning and mutual encouragement. In our **Sunday School**, the children learn, play and worship in their own way, as they build friendships together.

Learning: We have several mid-week bible studies, each with a different emphasis.

On Monday mornings a group meets in a local apartment building to study God's word one book at a time. Currently they're looking at Paul's first letter to the Corinthians with its emphasis on getting along with all of God's people. This study is always ready to welcome newcomers.

On Wednesday morning a new venture is "**Teach Pastor French**," a French language bible study, with the dual aim of learning from the Word of God and helping Rev. Wilkie develop his French language skills. If French is your first language, or if you want to spend time in a practical second language experience, come on out and join us.

Our flagship Bible study is Wednesday nights. This year in the **Bethel Bible Series** we begin an overview of the whole Old Testament. Many people have questions about the first half of the Bible, and this is a great place to ponder such issues.

Community: All our weekly gatherings put a high value on developing deep friendships, yet there are some events that really focus on bringing us closer together:

Our **Men's Breakfast** brings men from all the area churches together for good food and friendship on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Quilters unite to teach and encourage each other monthly on the first Saturday.

Service: The world's most friendly **Bridge Club** meets weekly, and reaches out every second week to the elderly with lunch and games at the **Social Club**.

Evangelism: We love to share the love and encouragement we've found in Jesus, and our **Alpha Course** is one of the ways we focus on that.

See inside for more information.

We hope that what we are offering can be of great service to you.



Fundraiser

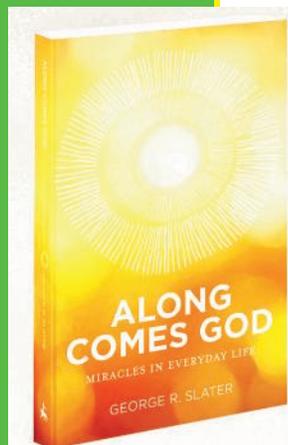
St. Andrew's Church, Pangborn Hall,
739 St. Jean Street, Rockland

Saturday September 17, 5:00 pm

The cost is \$10.00/adult; \$6/child 5-12 years of age
or \$30 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children.

Call Lorraine at [613-446-4163](tel:613-446-4163) or Nancy at [613-446-0166](tel:613-446-0166)

Book Review: *Along Comes God*



George Slater is a former United Church Minister with a deep faith, who has worked many years in psychotherapy. He's compiled a highly readable collection of everyday stories concerning God's action in the world. George grew up in Ottawa, and found faith in Dominion-Chalmers United Church. I got to know him when, in his counseling practice, he was able to help a family member almost thirty years ago.

You might be intrigued by the story that Don Cherry contributes to the book, but I was delighted to find our church history teacher, Bert Hopkins, featured in one account.

My own dad has been meeting in a small study group with Dr. Slater so I shouldn't have been surprised to find one of the stories from his days as a Sabre pilot with the RCAF.

Long before I found the tales with a personal connection I was really captivated by this

collection of vignettes from people's lives told (mostly) in their own words. George's contribution is to order these stories in an engaging progression from simple "coincidences" to more and more clear testimonies to the grace of God in Jesus Christ.

Along Comes God can be ordered from Salem Storehouse in Ottawa or online from

www.alongcomesgod.com.

Review by Rev. Brian Wilkie

"We are a grateful people, who share our joys and bear each other's burdens every week"

Special Times of Worship

Come join us for a special service on September 25 at 10:00 am. We'll be enjoying a presentation of lively Gospel Music from "Papa's Friends," a group of Barbershoppers from Ottawa's Capital City Chorus.



Don't forget Thanksgiving, a special time of celebrating the blessings we have in our lives. We are a grateful people, who share our joys and bear each other's burdens every week, but even so, the Thanksgiving harvest festival is a great time to focus on God our provider. Thanksgiving Sunday is October 9.



Questions about life? Try Alpha

Alpha

The Alpha Course

There is still room for more in Alpha! Alpha examines 'Questions of Life' in a friendly, open atmosphere.

The Alpha Course meets Monday nights at 6:00 pm. Each Monday of the ten-week course will include dinner, a video presentation and an open discussion between participants about their views on the topics.

Come and see what Alpha has to offer to you.

We've just started our autumn program, so join us now!

Look for the Alpha Marriage course in 2012!

Why do people go to Church?



These days lots of people believe in God but don't go to any church. Sometimes they wonder why there even is a church. According to God, the Father of Jesus Christ, His will

A church is not a building, it's people gathering to serve. is that we love Him with all our heart, mind and strength, and love our neighbours as ourselves. He calls us to gather together to help one another achieve both these goals.

As a community of people seeking God, we gather to worship Him, to learn about His ways and to serve Him in the world. We spur on one another to love and good deeds, and make known to others His love

and helpfulness.

Like any group of people, churches have problems that require us to practice patience, kindness and mercy. The church is not a hotel for perfect people, it is a hospital for people wanting to become better.

If you already belong to a group of Christians seeking to help each other grow in faith and love, we encourage you to persevere with them. If you don't currently have a church, we'd love to have you join us on this journey.

“Simply call and I will be pleased to come and visit.”

Our Returning Retiree

Dear Friends,

What a joy it is to be back home at Rockland Saint Andrew's. Some of you were here when I retired in 1999, and I do get quite excited that I now have the opportunity to renew and, I pray, make even deeper our friendships.

Many of you are new since my retirement, and getting to know you is exciting for me. I must say

that Rockland has grown so much that I have trouble finding some of the new addresses. However, let it be known that “you can run but you can't hide.” I will find you!

Seriously, it is my hope to be able to visit each family during this year. If you have something you wish to discuss, please don't wait for me to show up. Simply call and I will be pleased to come and visit. If you

know someone who you believe would benefit from having a visitor spend time with them, church member or not, please let me know.

I ask God to bless each and every one of you,

Love, in His name,

The Rev. Neil Baxter, Minister of Spiritual Care and Counselling

Rockland Saint Andrew's is Growing

When this congregation went on its own after sharing ministry with churches in Cumberland and Navan-Vars, it took great faith to budget for a half-time ministry in a congregation of 25 people. Over the last 6 years, that faith has been rewarded as the congregation has more than doubled and the budget grows toward self sufficiency.

God is blessing us as we seek to be a blessing to others. More than growing in numbers we are growing in faith, love and understanding,

We hope that all our readers are experiencing more and more of God's presence and power in their lives. If you're looking for more opportunities to develop your faith, please join us, and we can grow together.



God clothes the fields with beautiful flowers, and He is blessing us as He teaches us to bless others.



Rockland Saint Andrew's United Church

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Rockland Saint Andrew's United Church is devoted to proclaiming Jesus as the Son of God and Saviour of the whole world. We seek to be knitted together in love, and to worship, learn and serve together, sharing the good news of God's love and salvation with our community.

We hope you find us a friendly, caring congregation, and that you will join with us as we grow in hope, faith and love together.

Serving Jesus in Rockland since 1885



Cambodia Mission Trip

During the last half of July, Rev. Brian Wilkie travelled with a team of Christians from Orleans and Rockland to Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

"The seventeen of us helped at a 'Summer English Camp' operated by a Christian residence for university students.

"During the morning we taught a conversational English curriculum to students who have already taken some English at the university. In the afternoons we went out with small groups of students to give them opportunities to speak English with us in real life situations.

"Through the school year the residence is provided as a safe place for young Christians to live while attending university. Poor students from the countryside have few options when entering the city for an education. The director of the residence is a Christian minister who teaches English at the university. He invites any interested

students to join them at the residence during the summer for this English Camp.

"In the evening, the visiting Cambodian students have the option of attending the Christian worship services and religious events that are part of the daily life of the



resident students.

"Our work as a team was to support and encourage these Cambodian Christians as they reach out with practical help and witness to their compatriots. We also

gained a fresh perspective on our own faith and God's power.

"I hope that after being exposed to this intercultural mission experience, I am better prepared to help our congregation envision how we can have closer relationships with the missions that we support through developing our own short-term mission program."

Due to the hard work of a number of people in our congregation, Saint Andrew's raised about \$1500 towards the costs of this trip.

Thanks to everyone involved!

We are planning a Cambodian Missions evening for late October, so that some of the adults and youth can share what they saw and learned in Cambodia. Look for more details soon.