



The Voice of Saint Andrew's



Volume 2020 Clang 2 May 1



Keep in Touch!

Despite our building being closed, our communication tools are still in place— phones, email , and mail.

Update on St. Andrew's Finances as of March 30, 2020

General/Operating Revenue (3 months) - \$43,182. (\$4k less than ytd 2019)

Church Operating Expenses (3 months) - \$52,425. (\$817. more than ytd 2019)

During the first three months of the year, St. Andrew's experienced a \$9,243. operating shortfall between what we took in and what it cost to heat and maintain the building, pay salaries, and endow the services the church provides. At month end we had \$8,436. operating cash in the bank. There are several current liabilities, but nothing urgent at this time.

We wish to extend our appreciation to everyone for their continuing support for the operating needs of our church and its ongoing work during these difficult times.

For anyone who is not on PAR, it is still possible to donate by dropping your envelope in the locked mail box at the King Street entrance. This mailbox is being checked each day and Janice will ensure that all givings are processed in the usual manner.

Dave Clark, Secretary, Board of Stewards and Trustees

Response to the tragic events of April 18-19

Many, if not all Saint Andrews folks were affected in some way by the tragic violence in our area. Some of us took part in the candle vigil on Monday Ap 20. In association with First United and St John's, we added our bells to a national expression of support to those affected. St John's struck 22 tolls and played *Amazing Grace* at noon for several days, First United tolled its bell at 4:19 each day, and the St Andrews chimes tolled 22 times and played *Abide With Me* at sunset.

We received these cards of support—Janice has placed the originals on the notice board for when we return to our building:

From 1st Metropolitan United Church in Victoria BC:

To a United Church congregation close to our hearts, even if far from our location:

The prayers and support of our entire congregation are sent to the people of St. Andrew's united Church.

Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon

From the Ministerial Team at St. Andrew's/Wesley United Church, Vancouver:

Hope you find comfort in knowing those you loved are now peacefully at rest with God.
You are in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

LOGC gets moving —and eating— in Support of the Food Bank.

LOGC has set up the St Andrew's Walking Club (virtual). They sent out email messages already, but if you didn't get them, or have misplaced them, simply send an e-mail to Glenn Ross at gaross@ns.sympatico.ca. Walking make one hungry—the fantasy dinner was another of their projects—they sent info about that as well which you can access at the website—standrewstruro.ca

They also inspired Wanda Langille to devote some of her time and energy to sewing masks; she exchanged them for donations to the Food Bank, and as of last week \$200 was on its way there.

"Appreciate all the opportunities today offers!"

Your Pastoral Care Team appreciates this opportunity to say Thank You and Congratulations.

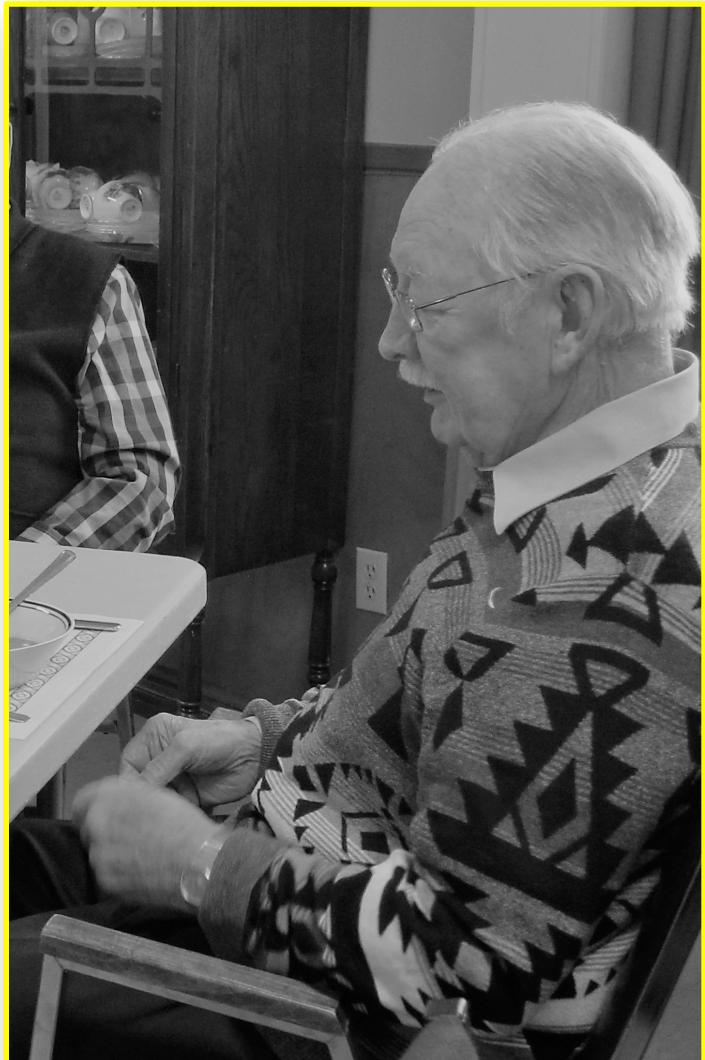
- ◊ Thank you to Keith, Merv, Katherine B. – and especially Ken H.- for ensuring that we have access via internet to Sunday services.
- ◊ Thank you to Janice for keeping us informed by e-mail and Canada Post.
- ◊ Huge thanks to ALL in our congregation who are living their faith by caring for others in countless ways.
- ◊ Congratulations to our in-coming ministry personnel, Shannon MacLean, as she officially graduates from the Atlantic School of Theology on May 4th. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Class of 2020 graduates are invited to celebrate at Convocation 2021, on Saturday, May 9th. We send our prayers and blessings, Shannon, for your graduation and for all your tomorrows!

Deanna Clark

NEW BOOK RELEASE

In the midst of the covid pandemic, Garth Coffin has released his book entitled *A Boy From Cherry Hill*.

It is about his early life, growing up on a farm in PEI, being educated in a one room school, and winning a scholarship to study agriculture at university. What follows is a series of employment opportunities that came along at just the right time to enable him to build a career that ultimately brought him back to the Nova Scotia Agricultural College as Principal in 1997. He talks about how he met his wife, Mary Catherine "Trinkie" Hooker, and how they raised three children while moving eight times. The book concludes with a chapter on his personal interests including music, photography, travel, and his hockey career. It is printed by ASE Printers in Bible Hill and is distributed by Garth and Trinkie from their home in Upper Onslow. People may find this book a bright spot in an otherwise gloomy environment.



Regional Council 15

Annual Meeting 2020 To Be Held By Zoom

There is still much uncertainty around when groups will be allowed to gather in large numbers. The region will meet via zoom video Conferencing to conduct the business of the region, including accountability reports, election of General Council Commissioners, remit vote, approval of the 2019 Audited statements and the approval of the 2021 budget.

The business of the annual meeting will be on June 10, 2020 from 6:30pm-9:00pm (Atlantic) by zoom video conferencing. More details will follow.

The Executive has also approved a gathering on November 6-7, 2020, in person in the form of a Festival of Faith: a Memorial Service, Jubilarians and retiree banquet and the Celebration of Ministry Service. Please check the **Annual Meeting web page** <https://ucceast.ca/regional-council-15/annual-meeting-2020/> for reports and information regarding the meeting.

Please know that we continue to hold you all in our prayers as we work through these possibilities. Please do not hesitate to be in contact if you have questions or concerns.

Youth Forum Meeting a New Way – VIRTUAL YF

Because we are not sure how the world will look in May, Youth Forum will be online for the FIRST TIME EVER!!

Theme: *Believing is Seeing*, subjects- social media and faith. We will look at our perception of ourselves and the difference between what we show online and who we really are. As well we will look at social justice in isolation, and hanging on tight to faith in a changing world. Our format will include large and small group meeting through an online meeting platform. If you need help getting to a computer, contact your local United Church Minister. Youth from all over Canada are invited to join us in this celebration of faith- cost \$20. If you have already paid for the full weekend Jenn Whittemore will be in touch with you to process your refund. See You Soon! Nathan And Alex To see an introductory video or register for Virtual YF click here. <https://ucceast.ca/58302-virtual-youth-forum-2020/>

The Chimes Newsletter - Another Important Connection

The Chimes is a great name for this Newsletter. We are reminded of the beautiful music which radiates into the community from the tower at our church building. It also reminds some of us that a publication of the same name was created by the congregation in the late 1970s and early 1980s. There was a need then to strengthen our connections with each other. Those were the years when our church facilities were being redeveloped into the more flexible and more efficient spaces that we enjoy using today. During the years of redevelopment, there was limited access to our brick hall and no access to the older wooden gothic style structure which was removed and replaced. (*Photo by Gordon Jones*)

Our beautiful chapel has become an important link to those earlier years. It supports the chimes, several memorials and plaques and it draws our attention to the long history of the congregation. The stained glass windows were created using glass pictorials and related designs selected from the former church building. The pews are original and were made in 1879 by the Fulton Furniture Factory of Truro. The chapel's communion table is from the previous structure.

Although there have been inconvenient times in our past and at present due to Covid 19, the people of Saint Andrews continue to keep in touch, worshiping and working together in new ways. The new newsletter will help us in this journey.



Dale Ells, Archives Committee

An Earth Day Greenspace Message April 22, 2020

What have we learned about reducing our carbon footprint in these interesting times?

Let's not lose sight of our need to address the really big challenge we face. As the young climate activist Greta Thunberg reminded us, "our house is burning". She could have appropriately added; "we need you to panic even more than you have done to COVID-19!". Instead of offering prayers and sympathies for the future generations who will need to contend with the looming climate change catastrophe, we need to act quickly to avert it as much as we can.

The problem with greenhouse gases is that you can't see them, nor has producing them been an obvious or immediate cost to most of us. In fact, curtailing use of fossil fuel may create hardship or at least inconvenience for us, driving our want to use it with abandonment and obscuring our need to use less of it. We may even question why greenhouse gas should receive so much attention, thinking what could I do about it, even if I wanted to?

Driving and aviation contribute about 10 and 70% of GHG from the transport sector, which is considered the planet's largest net greenhouse gas emitter. Carbon tax, highway tolls, airport charges are the sticks used to reduce use of fossil fuel. To date; however, mitigation strategies may have been ineffective partly because people are more motivated by carrots, which, unfortunately are less obvious than the sticks.

Until several weeks ago, we couldn't have imagined not driving wherever, whenever and not taking that flight for a vacation; but, public health measures, aimed at reducing unnecessary travel have reduced our emissions overnight. For the first time in recent history, they may actually have been reduced. Seeing our potential to reduce our emissions is an exciting discovery.

We've shown that it's possible to cut our carbon footprint by reducing unnecessary travel, a reduction; however, that would, be reversed quickly if people returned to old habits. We now have an unexpected opportunity to lower the expected rebound in greenhouse gas emission from a rejuvenating economy. Optimistically, efforts to stimulate the economy could even target developing the clean energy sector rather than subsidizing fossil fuel.

The bottom line

Rapid action to mitigate our negative environmental impact could be achieved if the threat it poses were to be treated as urgently as a pandemic. And well it should.

REFERENCE

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200326-covid-19-the-impact-of-coronavirus-on-the-environment>



Children, Youth, and Families

Spirit Quest continues to offer a weekly family worship experience through our Facebook page, where we also regularly share and communicate. Everyone is welcome to join our Facebook family; all you have to do is call Katherine Burris or send her an email. (burriskam@gmail.com)

We would love to welcome any other families you may know or be related to into our Spirit Quest circle as well. We're just a few clicks away!

Note: St. Andrew's Family Camp at Gittens Lodge has been postponed until April 24/25, 2021