



Keep in Touch!

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

A Note from our Intrepid Treasurer:

After 2 months, I feel like I can actually breathe again! It's certainly been a struggle trying to find our new normal for day-to-day life balancing kids and school and work, not to mention all the sadness of the last few weeks. I appreciate your patience with me.

I have attached the financials for the end of April along with a report. Financially we are holding our own thanks to PAR. I do worry about when Shannon starts and how that will look if we are still limited to gathering numbers, BUT I HAVE FAITH! It will work out



Some Highlights:

- ◆ our Canoe fund has taken a hit. It is down 10% from the end of 2019 at \$382,138.
- ◆ envelope and PAR givings consistent with last year only down \$40 over 2019 at \$36,982.
- M&S is \$6,195, down \$340 from 2019
- ◆ Occupancy costs are down at \$14,139.
- ◆ Our net is a shortfall of \$4,562. I would remind you that \$1500 of that shortfall is future Benevolent expense and \$2,633 are internal loan repayments. Adjusted shortfall is \$429.

From Healing Pathway ministry group of First United Church in Ottawa Ontario.

Dear colleagues and friends in Nova Scotia,

Our hearts have been heavy for you as we've witnessed the devastating, unprecedented series of traumatic events that have hit your communities hard and fast. They cry out for a compassionate response from us. Our Healing Pathway group began distance healing prayer for Nova Scotia a week ago.

We have also invited Healing Pathway groups in this region and across Canada to join us in sending God's healing light and love to all those affected by these horrific tragedies. We will do this each Saturday at noon for 15 minutes.

Several groups, and whole congregations in Ontario, Alberta and BC have responded that they will be offering this distance healing on Saturdays throughout May. We hope you will feel the support as you minister in these challenging times.

We will start by speaking a collective 'prayer of intent' out loud at noon, then join together to visualize sending God's light and healing compassion to all those affected! Our intention is to help hold, comfort and steady all in this tragedy.

Prayer - *God of compassion and healing, we come together with one heart and reach out to our brothers and sisters in Nova Scotia. We join our hearts with theirs and offer Spirit's healing light and love to all those affected – the victims, families, neighbors, RCMP, first responders, communities, leaders and others. May your generous grace and mercy, sustain and comfort, bless and hold, and help heal all brokenness ... that all may know inner peace and restoration, and find their way home again.*



Feel free to share this with others in the United Church or other denominations who might wish to join us,

Peace & Blessings: Rev Sharorn Moon



These Boots were Made for.....

The St. Andrews Walking Club (virtual), who have 13 members of record. They walked a total of 131.7 km in their first week of participation. (as of May 1.) Why not consider joining them?

Contact Glenn Ross at gaross@ns.sympatico.ca

Superheroes Among Us

When the WHO decided to declare 2020 “The Year of the Nurse and the Midwife” to mark Florence Nightengale’s 200th birthday, as well as to recognize the contributions made by these professions and to highlight the risks associated with nursing shortages, perhaps little did they know ...

Some refer to nurses as “Angels with Stethoscopes” who presently work on the front-lines or have chosen to do so in the past, always exhibiting respect, compassion, competence and love. Our church family can be grateful for the selfless contributions of at least 12 of these superheroes among us!

We can each thank all our nurses, either by saying a personal ‘thank you’ to those we know, or helping to keep everyone safe by following our Nova Scotia Health Directives.

THANK YOU, Nurses!

Not All Superheroes Wear Uniforms

Forced to self-isolate during Covid-19, Wanda Langille turned to her trusty sewing machine and began making protective masks. When cutting fabric became too difficult for Wanda’s arthritic hands, Wendy Davison became her teammate as ‘fabric cutter’. To date, 200 masks have been produced. Half have been ‘purchased’ by donation and half have been donated to the Food Bank for use by clients. The Food Bank has benefitted from \$500. thanks to Wanda’s and Wendy’s efforts!



Deanna Clark, Pastoral Care Team

Composed and Presented to Saint Andrews

Richard C. Baker, an educator, composer and churchorganist in Toronto, has family roots in CumberlandCounty, NS.

During several of his 1970’s Christmas visitsto his parents at their retirement home in Truro, Richard was guest organist at Saint Andrews.

He composed a hymn tune called *New St. Andrew’s* and presented it to the church in recognition of our rebuilding.

The letter from him on March 10, 1980,confirms the gift. The original page with the music score is preserved with the letter in our archival collection.

The *New St. Andrew’s* music was added as a one page sticker inside the back cover of our *Voices United* booksin the church sanctuary.

With the music are the words of *Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation*,

a 7th or 8th century hymn, translated from Latin by

John MasonNeale, 1818-1866.

You might hear the hymn tune, *New St. Andrews*, during one of our virtual worship services.

- Dale Ells, Archives

Committee

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

NEW ST. ANDREW'S 878787

Richard C. Baker 1949-



<p>1 Christ is made the sure foundation Christ the head and corner stone Chosen of the Lord, and precious, Binding all the church in one, Holy Zion's help forever, And her confidence alone.</p>	<p>3 Here vouchsafe to all thy servants What they ask of thee to gain, What they gain from thee forever With the blessed to retain, And hereafter in thy glory Evermore with thee to reign.</p>
<p>2 To this temple where we call thee Come, O Lord of hosts, today; With thy wanted loving-kindness Hear thy servants as they pray, And thy fullest benediction Shed within its walls away.</p>	<p>4 Laud and honour to thy Father, Laud and honour to the Son, Laud and honour to the Spirit, Ever three and ever one, One in might, and one in glory, While unending ages run.</p>

From the Latin, 7th or 8th century
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

This tune was composed by Richard C. Baker and presented to
St. Andrew's United Church in Truro in recognition of our
rebuilding. 1980.



STAY INFORMED ON
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)



novascotia.ca/coronavirus



Reopening Churches During COVID-19

The United Church nationally and through the Regional offices has provided guidance for the reopening of churches. They advise that Regional Council makes decisions on reopening for its areas of responsibility.

The **governing board (Church Council)** of each community of faith should consult with its local public health unit, provincial health ministry, and regional council.

The guiding principle is the safety of all who enter the building.

Phase I: Reopening the Building during the Pandemic

Church boards, committees, or staff groups may meet in person in **small numbers**, respecting **local restrictions**, and **with social distancing and masks**.

We are required to develop an opening plan that spells out provisions for safe opening for both St Andrews and our tenants/users.

Worship Guidelines

Generally, worship will continue to be held **online only**;
some exceptions may be made for outdoor worship with **social distancing and masks**

Communion

If communion is offered, best practices suggest the following:

- ◆ The officiant and servers use hand sanitizer before offering communion.
- ◆ Individual pieces of bread and individual cups are offered.
- ◆ Servers offer the bread and cup to each person, rather than each person taking them from a communal plate or tray.
- ◆ Each communicant places their empty cup into a separate receptacle.

Passing the Peace and the Offering Plate

Social distancing must be maintained.

- Offering a phrase or pressing hands together in a prayerful bow can convey the message of passing the peace.
- Passing the offering plate **should be avoided**. Place the plate in the church for people to drop their offering into, and have **gloves** available for staff handling cash or cheques. Now is the time to suggest that people [give through PAR](#).

Singing

- There should be **no congregational or choir singing**.
- Soloists must be at safe distances from each other and from the congregation.

Cleaning

After each gathering, it is important to thoroughly clean bathrooms, door handles, hymnbooks, pew Bibles, backs of pews, microphones, musical instruments, and all other highly used areas.

Over 60 or Otherwise Vulnerable?

- People **over 60**, those with **underlying medical conditions** that have **weakened immune systems**, and those who have **family members at home who are vulnerable** are encouraged to participate **only in online activities**.
 - Clergy who are in one of these categories should have a conversation with their Ministry and Personnel Committee to develop an alternate option where exposure to groups of people is limited and high-risk activities are avoided altogether.
- Ministry personnel who are at higher risk or who have family members at home who are at higher risk must exercise diligence in limiting their exposure to groups of people and higher-risk activities

The above will be modified/removed as progress is made under the guidance of public health authorities.
Most sources are agreed that many of these will remain in place until an effective vaccine is widely available.

New Email protocol for St Andrew's..Have you signed up?



There have been concerns expressed about the frequency of email messages from this, the St Andrews office account.

In an effort to accommodate both those who wish to limit traffic into their inboxes and those who value the contact that many messages provide, we are going to try a new email protocol.

A **new email address** has been set up to carry **formal as well as informal communication** from St Andrews.

Those who wish to continue to receive all formal and informal communication from St Andrews are asked to send an email to standrews3@eastlink.ca

to be added to the new list.

In future, the only messages from the officestandrews account will be of such information as council reports, important service and program announcements etc. (and for now, this newsletter)

We hope this arrangement, once any inevitable bugs are worked out, will work for everyone involved



Because you give...

over 120 organizations our Mission & Service donations support are making a difference in the lives of people in Canada and around the world in these challenging times. [Read stories](#) about how your gifts are hard at work right now helping those who need it most.

Because you asked for ways to give globally the United Church has responded. We are now **accepting gifts** to respond to those who are most vulnerable around the world.

Because your gifts mean the world to the people we reach out to, we have adapted our processes so that we can receive your gifts no matter how you give—whether by cheque in the mail, online or any other way—and ensure your donation is put to good use.

Because you give...

Lives are transformed and saved every day.
Thank you for giving.

May is **Asian Heritage** month in Canada, a time to celebrate and prayerfully reflect on the contributions of Asian Canadians to Canadian society. The United Church of Canada has a long history of ministry in Asia; Chinese and Japanese congregations took part in church union, and strong Korean and Filipino communities have taken shape since. The intercultural vitality of the church continues to expand today, through mutual recognition of ministries with The Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea and The United Church of Christ in the Philippines.

