Fire From The Bush



SBYTERIAN CHURCH 865 2nd Avenue West, Owen Sound • 519.376.7886 • www.standrewsowensound.org

BECOMING WHOLE IN JESUS CHRIST

February 2020

Interim Moderator's Message

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Chuck Moon

Dear friends at St. Andrew's,

Goodbye...but not just yet!



My work as an interim moderator came to an end of the last year, but then I was reappointed by the Presbytery to complete the task I was given. The apostle Paul and the writer of Ecclesiastes share how important it is to finish well. Philippians 3:14 --'I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.' Ecclesiastes 7:8 – 'Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.'

I would like to believe that God is giving both me and the congregation a chance to finish well the interim task we have begun. Thank you for your faithfulness and love toward St Andrew's congregation and its ministry.

There are two major interim works remaining:

- 1) Help the search committee and the congregation to select a new minister and help the transition of the new minister into the congregation
- 2) Fostering / ensuring a healthy, fair and safe environment where everyone is protected and respected. During the last two years, we (the session) worked diligently on how to deal with any complaint or any small issue without ignoring it. Nonetheless, unhealthy or questionable behaviors and actions (such as emotional outburst, belittling and humiliating others) toward employees or volunteers or members of the congregation will not be ignored and will be thoroughly followed. We welcome and appreciate diverse opinions, concerns and questions, but unhealthy and harmful behaviors toward another human being will not be ignored by the session and the congregation.

I would ask for your prayer and blessing on our journey ahead. Thank you for your support and prayer.

Session

Respectfully submitted by Laurie James & Bryan Barbour - Co-Clerks of Session

Session members attended a special meeting in November conducted by Chuck. At that meeting both seasoned and new members were given instruction on being an elder. We studied parts of the Book of Forms and had discussions on important situations that we might encounter when being an elder. We all found this very beneficial and hope to apply this new knowledge as we work on your behalf.

On December 8 we officially declared Ted Creen as our Minister Emeritus. A special service was held followed by a lovely luncheon put on by our hostess groups. We are so fortunate to have Ted in our church community.

We are planning to have another opportunity for new members to join St. Andrew's on February 23, 2020. If you are interested in becoming a communicant member, please speak to either Bryan Barbour or Laurie James. When it comes time to vote for a new minister, only communicant members may vote.

As you know Chuck Moon was appointed as our Interim Moderator for a period of 2 years. A new moderator was to begin in January. At the end of December, it was decided by Presbytery to extend Chuck's time with us until we have a minister in place. We are very thankful that Chuck agreed to this extension.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the annual meeting. It will be held on Sunday, March 8. There will be only one service on that day. A meeting to discuss the finances will be held at 9:00. Our regular 10:30 service will be followed by a luncheon by our hostess groups. Following the luncheon, we will conduct our Annual Meeting for 2020.

Come grow with us!

If you are interested in becoming a communicant member on Sun. Feb. 23, please speak to either Bryan Barbour or Laurie James.

Did you know?

When it comes time to vote for a new minister, only communicant members may vote.

Do we have your updated information on file?

Make sure we have your current email, home address, and phone number to ensure you are not missing out on upcoming events, updates, and what is happening at your church. Stop by, call the office or email Diana to make sure your information is up to date. **diana.vandermeer@standrewsowensound.org** or 519-376-7886.



Do you receive our weekly email? Keep up to date with what is happening at St. Andrew's and our community. Subscribe through our website or talk to Diana at the office.



Easter Worship Schedule

Lent: February 26- April 9, 2020

Sun. Apr. 5 - Palm Sunday

Worship at 9 & 10:30am with Rev. Ted Creen

Fri. Apr. 10 - Good Friday Service

Worship at 10:30am with the Choir

Sun. Apr. 12 - Easter Sunday

Easter Sunrise Service
7:30 am at Inglis Falls with Rev. Ted Creen
Easter Breakfast at 8:15am
Easter Worship - 10:30am Rev. Ted Creen

Sunrise Service at 7:30am at Inglis Falls. All are invited to greet our risen Lord early on this Easter morning. Ted Creen will lead the informal services with readings, songs, and prayer celebrating God's triumph over death. Join us back at St. Andrew's for a hot breakfast and fellowship after (approx. 8:15am).

Resurrection Worship at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.

Our Easter morning worship services will be an engaging blend of Easter Lessons, hymns, and songs.

Board of Managers

Respectfully submitted by David Edwards, Chair - Board of Managers

The Board of Managers continues to meet monthly with the Session under the leadership of Rev. Chuck Moon. After mutually important topics are discussed, each group then continues with their individual meetings. This format is very important to ensure that both groups develop a close working relationship and maintain good communication.

Since my last report, the Board of Managers conducted its Giant Garage Sale on November 9. Thank you to all for your assistance in donating goods, setting up, and selling for this sale. It is always a good fund raiser and it helps to recycle your unwanted goods and "treasures". It is also a very valuable service to the community. This year we raised a total of \$1462.80.

At our November meeting, The Board approved a grounds renewal project which included the removal of the overgrown trees along the north side of the church and the rear of the building. It was a difficult decision to remove these trees, but they presented a security problem and there was concern that the roots would damage the foundation. The proceeds from our garage sale paid for part of this project with the balance coming from Harvest Happening funds. On a routine check the City works department found that one of our eavestrough downspouts was connected to a sanitary sewer. The board contracted Muzzell Plumbing to fix this problem. We have to pay this bill (\$500) and then we will be reimbursed when the bill is taken to City Hall.

At our December meeting, the budget for 2020 was discussed and will be presented at the Annual Meeting. The insurance policy was discussed and approved for the period December 2019 to December 2020. The Memorial Christmas tree will become an annual part of our Christmas celebrations. This year \$760 was

donated in the memory of loved ones. The Board finalized details and processes for our new electronic lock entrance system. Almost 80 keys have been replaced by electronic cards or fobs. Whenever the Church is unlocked or locked, the event is recorded with the user number. The fire department does have access to special keys if required. The Board appreciates Diana and Heather's input and leadership in this project. Installation of the new video security system was begun in December after the purchase was approved by the Board. The original quote for a security system was \$10,000 plus installation. Thanks to Doug Barwell, an excellent system was purchased on a Black Friday sale at a cost of approximately \$2,300. Again, the Board appreciates the support of Harvest Happening funds in paying for this project. The system is being installed by the Wednesday Morning Work Crew under the direction of Doug Barwell and Ed Renaud. This system has already proved to be valuable in recording an "incident" which took place in the office area in December.

The Board would like to thank Ann Kelly and Bruce Price for their years of service and dedication to the Board as they retire from the Board. We are currently looking for two replacements. If you wish to serve on the Board, please contact me.

The members of the Board of Managers are: Don Armstrong, Kathleen Barker, Nancy Bettridge, Cam Breen, Craig Breen, Dave Edwards, Dave Howell, Lyle Love, Jan Middleton, Nancy Robinson, and Peter Struthers.



Search/Transition Team

Respectfully submitted by Laurie James & Bryan Barbour – Co-Clerks of Session

As we reported to all of you, back in September the Transition Team received approval for our Congregational Profile from Presbytery. Once the approval was made, we immediately put it on our website, the PCC website, and provided paper copies for anyone that was interested. Soon afterwards, we began to receive applications from all over Canada and beyond.

Once several applications were received the team met to discuss the merits of the applications. We compared them to the needs and goals outlined in our Ministry Models and our Profile. We then compiled a short list for further consideration and possible follow up. The team met to select appropriate questions for our candidates. We discussed how we would assess their responses in light of our needs and goals.

Potential candidates are being interviewed in February. We hope to narrow it down to one candidate for your consideration. Hopefully, by April we will have a minister come to St. Andrew's to preach for the call. Please keep the Search/Transition Team in your prayers as we now head into what we hope are the final stages of this, our long journey.

Missions and Outreach

Respectfully submitted by Katherine Kingsbury

Statistics

Deaths: Joan McKay, Jim Lamb,

Thanks for your wonderful generosity in support of White Gifts. A total of \$2900.00 was received. This amount will be donated equally to local and international charities.

Local recipients include CMHA Grey Bruce, United Way of Bruce Grey, The Women's Centre Grey Bruce and Grey Bruce Pregnancy Centre. Support to international causes will go to Sleeping Children Around the World, Presbyterian Cropshares and Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Friendship Kitchen

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Sargeant and Nancy Robinson

Friendship Kitchen wrapped up 2019 in style with a beautiful, tasty turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Our menu consisted of roast turkey (roasted to perfection) dressing, creamy mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, turnip, fresh rolls and cranberry sauce. Followed by a couple different cakes. We had wonderful animated conversation and I shared the Christmas Story and two heartwarming Christmas short stories. There were about 9 of us that shared this beautiful Christmas dinner on December 20th.

At the end of January our group had a delicious homemade soup lunch.

Friendship Kitchen has really evolved since it started 3 years ago. We have a wonderful, caring, fun group of ladies and we have gotten to know each other very well over the years.

Unfortunately, we lost two very precious members of our group last year: Sandra Barker and Betty McCaw. They added so much to our group and are deeply missed.

We hope to continue in 2020 with more delicious meals, some more lively conversations and fun road trips in the summer. Stay tuned, ladies, for updates this month and the upcoming year. Take care and Happy New Year to everyone.





Rev. Ted Creen's Minister Emeritus Celebration in December



Congregational Nurse

Respectfully submitted Bev Wilkins (bevwilkins@bmts.com/519-376-7886)

HI and WOW!

Check out the photo. Dee Renaud and I took the same photo 2 hours apart. We then each submitted it without the other's knowledge to a daily devotion that many of us subscribe to: My Daily Minute/norvalunited.ca. It went on to be featured for over a week by Rev. Paul. When you look closely the "burning bush" is actually the sun spotlighting on a bush covered in ice delivered by wind and waves at the Meaford Harbour.

What an amazing illusion...a gift of wonder and awe!



It is just another example of how imperative it is that you and I slow down and observe and absorb the wonder that is around us every day. We could all have driven and roared by -but no -we stopped and captured this joyful shot.

So......This is my Congregational Nurse message this edition:

BE STILL AND HEAR ME....SEE ME.....I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS.

Other buzz words that are being bantered around in media and print are mindfulness, meditation, still retreats and yoga. AHA!! We already know this state of mind. We call it PRAYER. DO you practise contemplative prayer or functional prayer or a set of memorized phrases learned by rote? It has been quoted that prayer is "God Therapy". I like that term.

BE STILL...TALK WITH GOD. THAT'S RIGHT TALK WITH HIM.

He is your friend. His Spirit dwells within you. He awaits your conversation. Sometimes, we don't remember that a conversation also includes being quiet enough to listen. I can be guilty of this one. I don't always stay still long enough to listen. We are to listen and hear his direction and then have faith and courage to trust 100% and OBEY. It is our nature since we ate the apple that we continue to seek wisdom. Many answers are in the Book of Proverbs . I am reading it slowly this month. WOW The health benefits are proven. Your heart rate slows down to steady. Your breathing is deeper and hits the bottom of your lungs to do their oxygenation to heal. Your brain is able to focus and solve the situation. Thank you, Lord!

Your soul fills up with promises and wisdom. You no longer feel alone! Your Friend God hears you.

You are not alone. You are never alone!

"Prayer leads you to new paths; to hear new melodies in the air. It is the unceasing recognition that God is wherever we are, inviting us to come closer and to celebrate the Divine Gift of being alive." Henry Noewen

CONGREGATIONAL NURSE CALENDAR 2020

Monthly Educational Seminars

- Feb.14: Heart Health latest research and treatments 3–4:30pm *Bring your own best Hallmark Love Story
- Mar 12: Open Line Forum Bring your questions and articles and we will share
- April 16: Latest Info on Marijuana Edibles, Pain Control, MAID updates, Alzheimer's research and Mind/Body therapies
- May 31: St. Andrew's presents **CELEBRATION OF PRAISE** at 3 pm. St. Andrew's is hosting this year's ecumenical service. There are over 26 churches in our city, and we are inviting them to partake and join together with the theme of VISION 2020. This is the 4th annual celebration and it switches from east side to west each year. May we see the commonalities that we share. That is our commandment. Mark your calendars. You are the hosts!

GOOD GRIEF GROUPS *they run weekly for 6 weeks

GGG #12 - Port Elgin Presbyterian starts Tuesday, April 7 at 4- 6 pm – Dates: April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5 + 12 GGG #13 - Owen Sound starts Wednesday, April 8 at 4-6 pm – Dates: April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6 + 13 Please call Diana or me for the Owen Sound sign up.

NUYU Group

We meet monthly with those who have been through a bereavement group and have a check-in time. It is wonderful to see the progress as we all companion together and change into the new You. We are never the same after a death. We all appreciate life more. Next meeting is Feb. 14 after the info meeting.

SPIRITUAL CARE VISITORS

We have 4 wonderful weekly visitors who faithfully visit hospital patients when they have identified that they are adherents to St. Andrews. We are alerted by the Spiritual Care office staff. Please let Diana know if there is someone in the hospital that we do not know about.

WEDNESDAY MORNING DROP IN.....YOU ARE WELCOME.

I am always in on Wednesday mornings and then do nursing home visits in the afternoon for those that I have been asked to see or have met when giving the lesson on behalf of St. Andrew's in the OSVMA rotation for visiting.

LEARNING 101

Thanks for all your visits and consultations. In the last 2 weeks of January I have been getting some sunshine and also attending a 3-day seminar in Phoenix on "Exploring the Spiritual Roots of Disease." I will report in the next issue.

Fourth Friday

Respectfully submitted by Maureen McLaren - (519) 372-0622. Email maureen.mclaren@hotmail.com

Happy New Year! I hope everyone has a enjoyed a great festive season! Happy 2020!

Fourth Friday is a group of 55 plus, which meets once a month (Sept - Nov, Jan - June), for a catered lunch and entertainment. The cost is \$12.00, cash only please, bring your own dishes. If you would like more information, or to be put on our call list, please call Maureen McLaren, (519) 372-0622 maureen.mclaren@hotmail.com

Upcoming calendar:

February 28 Music with Bernie Donville and Friends

March 27 Poverty Task Force, Speaker: Jill Umbach

April 24 NeighbourWoods North Project, Speaker: Lloyd Lewis

May 22 Order of Good Cheer, Speaker: Lyle Love

June 26 Music led by Bryan Barbour

Trivia!

What is a didgeridoo?

2) Malbec is a type of coffee or wine?

3) The abbreviation TKO in boxing, stands for what?

*answers at the back!

Praise Team

Respectfully submitted by Steve Warner

As tempting as it is to make some pun about "2020", and "great vision", I will refrain. I hope everyone can see what I'm seeing. We can't lose sight of what's ahead of us and need to keep looking forward to a bright future, eyes wide open. (Ok, I'll stop...lol)

We've had 5 months now of this new season for the praise team and the 9am service, and it's been exciting to witness the energy in both the team and the congregation. (If you haven't been to the 9am service before, or it's been a while, come check it out!) I am personally very thankful for the team's support, their willingness to stretch and grow, and their courage in embracing new technologies and systems which increase our effectiveness.

We count ourselves privileged to provide worship leadership to a gathering of people that are so enthusiastic, offering constant encouragement, and always willing to try something new. (We love when you smile at us!!)

In addition to our regular roster of vocals, piano, keys, and guitar, we've also been privileged to occasionally have the addition of some lovely string sounds, from Donna Steinacher on violin, and Ruth MacLean on viola when she was our visiting minister during January.

Not to be missed, our great team of tech personnel work tirelessly to support the team and the service with sound and video. Thanks Ed, Doug, Wayne, and Marilyn! We are looking forward to some new equipment arriving this year which will take things up a notch both in sound, and the quality of video projection.

If you've been wondering what it would be like to play or sing with the team, or help with the tech crew, well... wonder no longer! Chat with me about coming to a Thursday night rehearsal and sitting in with us, just to get a feel. We are especially looking for male vocalists, guitarists (including Bass), as well as orchestral instruments.

Keep your ear to the ground for an upcoming interdenominational event happening in the Spring!

Library *Respectfully submitted by Dee Renaud, Church Librarian*



Did you know that Dee is usually at the library every Wednesday morning? She is here for your questions, to offer recommendations, and to hear any suggestions for future additions to the library. She might even waive the 5¢ fee!

Our library is full of amazing books, movies you will want to watch repeatedly. Another added perk – as long as you return them – no late fees! Come on down during office hours or on Sundays to find a book/movie that will transport you to another reality for free!

Lenten Lunches

Respectfully submitted by Dee Renaud

Join us on Wednesdays at 12 noon from February 26th to April 8th for a Scripture reading, short devotion, prayer and a hymn, followed by lunch! Lunch includes soup, rolls, cheese, dessert, tea and coffee. Cost by donation.



RUMMAGE SALE



St. Andrew's Spring Rummage and Garage Sale will soon be upon us. Saturday, May 2nd is the date in the calendar. Make sure to keep your eyes and ears open for more details. Clean out your closets, try on your spring clothes and donate those that don't fit any more. Hot items are jeans! Jewelry, tools, children's clothes, household items, sheets, blankets, etc. are also items that sell well. Please bring your donations in to the church during that week and drop them off in the C.E. Hall.

Pantry

Our Pantry continues to be open Tuesdays and Thursdays. During the month of December, we had 38 visits with 4 new people. During January we had 76 visits with 5 new. Many of the recipients of the pantry are familiar faces but we continue to see many new visitors. Thank you to each one that gives to the pantry, making it a reality each week. Whether it is knitting mittens/hats, providing freezer meals, or bringing in gently used winter clothing – everything is appreciated. Thank you to Katherine Kingsbury and Daniel McMeekin who are here each week to meet and make connections with these individuals, and Brenda Neilson for stocking us up each Monday.

STAQOS Report

Respectfully submitted by Janet E. Price 376-6581

STAQOS Report

The St. Andrew's Quilters, Owen Sound, can be found most Wednesdays, having fun in the Chapel, from 9:00 am to about 2:00. Coffee and treats with the staff and 'work crew' happen punctually at 10:00 a.m., and some of us bring our lunch, others leave when they need to. YOU could join us too! If you are a novice quilter, we would be happy to show you the rocking stitch and provide a project to practice on. Bring your thimble!

If you like to sew but not necessarily quilt, perhaps you would like to join us for a work day (more realistically it's a play day) when we get together and sew on projects. If you give me a call, I can put your name on the list of volunteer sewists and then we can let you know when we are planning a project day...we don't always plan far enough ahead to get the details in the weekly bulletin. We might even be able to give you a name to carpool with, given that parking near the church can be an issue.

If you have a quilt top that you would like to have quilted, please feel free to call me for details.

Sandwich Makers

Respectfully submitted by Joan Burlington

With your ongoing monetary donations and bread, tinned meat and fish, etc. we can make 8 loaves for Union Place every Tuesday morning. Tins can still be left in the kitchen (marked box by fridge) and bread with

the office staff. Union Place's daily drop-in brunch program and support services is a much-needed local community resource. With the recent passing of Jim Lamb, we recall and treasure Jim and Sheila's help and friendship to our group.

Ministry with Children at St Andrew's

Respectfully submitted by Pat Bell

Each Sunday morning when our faith community gathers for Worship, whether at 10:30 or 9 am., faithful volunteers are ready to welcome any children who arrive. The dedication of Penny Fenwick, Barb Fawcett, Nancy Robinson, Cynthia Welsh and Sharon Nettle to providing Sunday School is a Godsend! Please continue to pray, bless and give thanks for their ministry.



Save The Date for VBS- July 20 to July 24, 2020

Vacation Bible School for 2020 is in planned for mornings from Monday, July 20 to Friday, July 24 with a Worship Service on Sunday, July 26th. Again this year, we will use Holy Land Adventure type Group Publishing Curriculum called, "Wilderness Escape - Where God Guides and Provides". During the Bible Drama time the children will meet Moses. Please pray for wisdom as we recruit volunteers and get things ready. Also pray for God to prepare the hearts of the children who will attend.

Christmas Eve Service + Potluck





Guest Books for Visitors

Respectfully submitted by Pat Bell, Elder for Pastoral Care

Did you know St Andrew's has four Guest Books for visitors who come for Worship on Sunday morning? Three of the books are in the Sanctuary, one by each exit/entrance. The fourth is a new Guest Book to use for visitors to Sundays @ 9 in the CE Hall.

Please talk to someone you have not seen before and offer a "Warm St. Andrew's Welcome". Also encourage newcomers to sign a Guest Book so that we learn their names and celebrate their visit by sending them a card. There are "Welcome Bags" prepared to give to guests. Ask an usher. Thank you!

Flower Committee

Respectfully submitted by Gerry Langlois, Convenor

Many thanks to all the members of the Flower Committee for their dedication and creativity this past year. Jan Middleton, Rachel Kapteyn, Judy Penner, Ann Millard, Donna Strutt, Sheelagh Grenon and Ellie Breen have shared this responsibility for several years now. Ann Millard resigned from this committee in Dec. She will be greatly missed and we wish her well in her many other activities.

We would also like to thank The Work Crew and the Wiebe family who assisted us with the Sanctuary decorations at Christmas and Advent. We really need two more members on the Flower Committee. If you would like to join us, or

wish more information, please contact me.

Women's Missionary Society

Respectfully submitted by Pat Edwards

The WMS has a busy Spring ahead. Synodical is being held at New St. James Presbyterian Church in London on April 21 and 22. Bruce-Grey Presbyterial will be held in Dromore on April 30th.

Answers

- 1) Australian Wind Instrument 2) Wine
 - 3) Technical Knockout

Mission Awareness Sunday will be on May 3rd with Henry Reinders as our guest speaker. Henry is a retired farmer who is involved with the Canadian Food Grains Bank.

All WMS groups received a letter from Janet Brewer, Council President, to say that, due to finances, Colleen Wood, former editor of Glad Tidings, will finish her employment with WMS at the end of June, and Alexis McKeown will finish at the end of December. Sarah Kim will continue to work with the WMS. Our group would welcome any newcomers who are interested in mission work.

Financial Trustees Funds - Allocation of Interest

Busch Memorial Fund – interest to provide bursaries to post-secondary students.

Sloane Estate – interest used for "outreach"

Morris Estate – interest to be used for staff training, professional development, in-service, etc.

Manse Fund – interest to Board of Managers

Ruth White Estate – interest to Board of Managers

Judy Young Memorial – interest to Board of Managers for youth related projects

McKerroll Estate – interest split between Choir and C.E. Committee

Fred Miller Memorial Fund – interest only utilized to send children in need to camp.

Mildred L. Murray Estate – The interest from the \$20,000 cash legacy "is to be used by the said trustees at their sole discretion and as they see fit for youth work in the Counties of Grey and Bruce".

Sherry Fleming Estate – The stipulations of the will are as follows:

- a) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for children and youth programs of the congregation as the Christian Education Committee may from time to time select subject to the approval of the Session.
- b) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for the support of the Choir and for the musical undertakings and programs of the Choir
- c) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for the Flower Committee to assist in its program of care and decoration of the sanctuary and premises of the Church

Anne Nash –principal and interest to be utilized for time to time as necessary for the maintenance, repair, upgrading and enhancement of the physical building, equipment and grounds of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.



St. Andrew's is on Social Media!

Like or follow us on Facebook & Instagram to keep up to date with what is happening at your church.

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St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
- Owen Sound

Follow us on Instagram: st.andrews_owensound

