

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS...

News and Inspiration from St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown, ON

Thursday, December 12, 2024

## St. Andrew's United Church News from the Pews

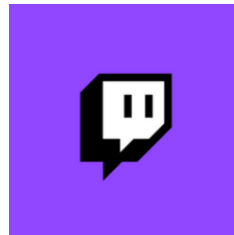


St. Andrew's United Church  
89 Mountainview Rd. S. Georgetown ON L7G 4T9  
www.standrewsuc.ca (905) 877-4482



One License: #738674-A  
CCLI License #2633008

**We stream our worship services Sundays at 10 am  
on Facebook Live, YouTube, Twitch & 100.3 FM  
Click on the icons below to connect!**



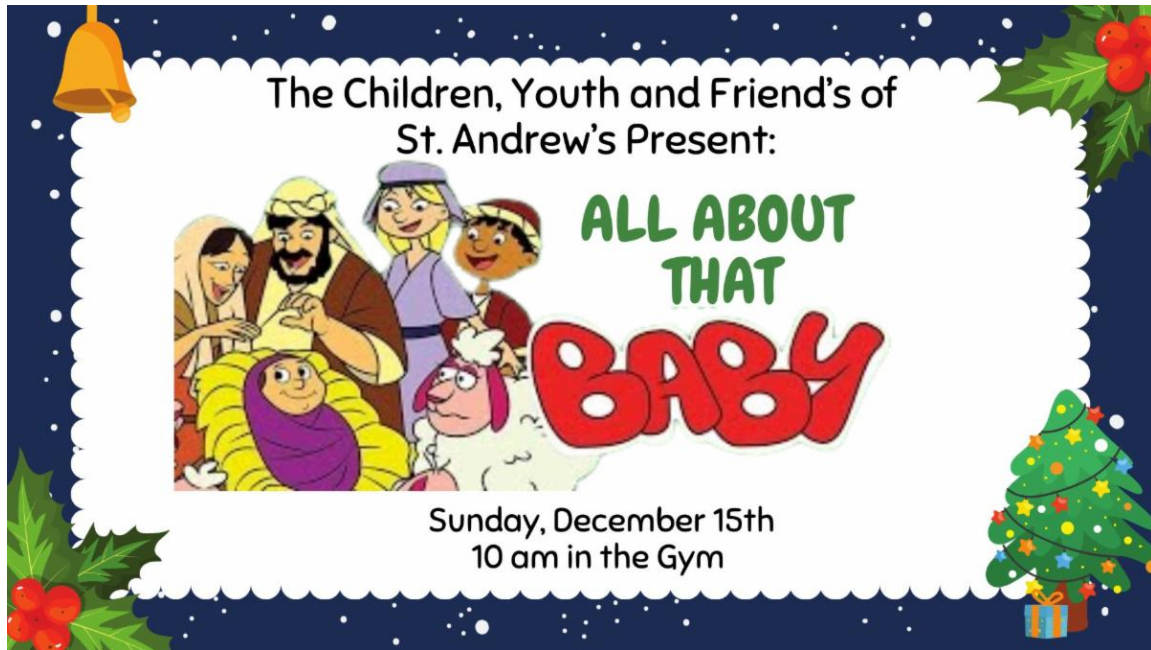
## St. Andrew's United Church

### Worship This Week



Thank you to Rev. Kate for leading us in worship this week! Our children have

been hard at work on our Christmas Play! Please join us this Sunday for a fantastic show!



The Children, Youth and Friend's of  
St. Andrew's Present:

ALL ABOUT  
THAT  
BABY

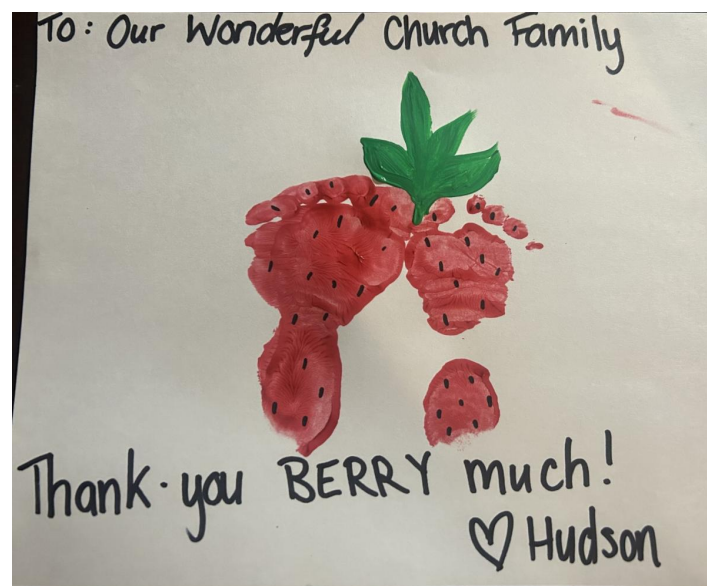
Sunday, December 15th  
10 am in the Gym



## Humour Corner

**How did Joseph and Mary weigh baby Jesus at birth?**  
They had a weigh in the manger.

## Membership Announcements



**Thank you!**

We just want to take a minute and thank everyone who helped us after Hudson's tumble on Sunday. He is doing great, just a few bumps and bruises. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family!  
With love from Rachael and Hudson

**Coffee Time**

Reminder that there will be no coffee time this Sunday as the children will be putting on their Christmas play in the gym. This is always a special treat that you do not want to miss!!

Sign up sheets for coffee are posted for Jan/ Feb. Please take a moment to check them out.

NOTE: no coffee time Dec. 29th as it is usually a light Sunday for attendance and no one signed up.

Thank you to all who have faithfully helped with coffee, baking, set up and take down. It is much appreciated.

**Please Note**

For the four Sundays in advent, Kate will be unable to attend coffee hour nor stand and greet at the door. She is assisting another congregation in Etobicoke with their worship and leaving immediately following the service each Sunday.



# The Holiday Season at St. Andrew's



What an eventful week at St. Andrew's!

First, a special thank you to everyone who donated food, winter gear and gift cards to our Mitten Tree and Food Drive! A big thank you goes to our renters for their generous support of this charity initiative! Our Mitten Tree was overflowing, and all donations will be sent to Links2Care. Additionally, we collected an impressive 328 lbs. of food for the Georgetown Bread Basket.

On Sunday, we had the pleasure of celebrating Clive and Margaret Searle's 65th Anniversary. Thank you to Clive and Margaret for the delicious cake! Congratulations and best wishes from your St. Andrew's family!

We also want to express our gratitude to everyone who joined us on Sunday evening for our Christmas Concert: A Seasonal Celebration. Thank you to everyone for your donations, all proceeds will be donated to Cancer Assistance Halton Hills and GFORCe3 for the refugee family. A heartfelt thank you to our choir, soloists, instrumentalists, groups, readers, and tech volunteers for making the evening a success. Thank you to Wilf Gray, Marie and Bill McMaster for providing the delicious apple cider and sweet treats! A very special thank you to Sue Whaley for her dedication and hard work in organizing another fantastic concert and for filling our sanctuary with beautiful music every Sunday! It was a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season! If you were unable to attend or would like to enjoy the music again, you can watch the concert through the link below:

[St. Andrew's Christmas Concert: A Seasonal Celebration](#)

**If you have announcements to share or milestones to celebrate in next week's News from the Pews, please send them to the office by Wednesday.**

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## St. Andrew's Announcements

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### St. Andrew's Worship Schedule



**December 15** - Christmas Play and

The Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

**December 22** - The Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love

**December 24** - Christmas Eve, 7pm

there will be one family/candlelight service  
and communion will be served.



## ADVENT SMALL GROUP STUDY with Kate

"Advent Longing" what are you longing for? Join me for 3 weeks of study, prayer and reflection about how we can use longing as a spiritual gift, and bring Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to the world in practical ways.

Wednesday evenings,  
December 4th, 11th, and 18th  
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Zoom.  
Link available from Kate.  
revkate@bell.net



[Please click here to join the zoom meeting](#)

## Christmas Card Exchange at St. Andrew's

The mail slots for a Christmas Card Exchange are back! Save on postage and bring your Christmas cards for Church friends to church! Also, don't forget to check the slots once in a while for cards addressed to you!

## Poinsettia Memorial Donations

For a minimum donation of \$10, you can place an "In Memory of" notice. The money will be used to decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias this Christmas. There are Poinsettia Memorial Donation Envelopes on the Welcome Table



### Memoriam Fund for Poinsettias

This year, we will be accepting "In Memory" Poinsettia donations. For a minimum donation of \$10, you can place an "In Memory of" notice that will be added to the News from the Pews and Announcements in the coming weeks. The money donated will be used to pay for the Poinsettias with any remaining money going to our General Fund. There are Poinsettia Memorial Donation Envelopes available at the Welcome Table - please fill it out and put it in the offering plate. Donations can also be made by e-transfer marked with In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ in the message.

We would appreciate having donations in by December 15th.

## ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2024

It's hard to believe that it is this time of year again!

**The Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 9th.**

To all Ministries, Committees and Groups:  
**Please submit reports for the 2024 Annual Report to the office by Sunday, January 19th, 2025.**

**Email them to: [office@standrewsuc.ca](mailto:office@standrewsuc.ca).**

If you do not have a Chairperson for your committee, please assign a member or members to create the report. If you have questions, please contact the office. Thank you!

## Community Announcements



Please click [here](#) to view December's meal calendar, as well as more details about local food resources



### Afghan Refugees Update

The Afghan family supported by GFORCE3 has arrived in Georgetown and are very thankful for the support!

GFORCE has an obligation to support the family for the next year while they adjust to employment and life in Canada. St. Andrew's board has voted to support GFORCE3 as an outreach initiative. **That means we can accept and receipt donations and forward them to GFORCE3. You can mark your gift "Refugees" and every cent will be used for the welfare of these wonderful**



people.

Local Showcase Series

THE SANCTUARY  
CONCERT HALL

Presents

**Fossil Rockers**

**Saturday, December 14th, 7:30 pm**  
(Doors Open At 6:45pm)

**The Fossil Rockers Christmas Concert**  
**in aid of Townsend Smith Hospice**

**The Sanctuary Concert Hall**  
at St. John's United Church  
11 Guelph Street, Georgetown, ON L7G 3Z1

Tickets available  
at TSCH.ca

**This event is a co-fundraiser for St. John's  
and for the Townsend Smith Foundation**

**Get Tickets**

  
St. John's  
United Church  
of Georgetown and Glen Williams  
Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds

The Mon. Dec. 16 Sounds of Christmas performance by the St. John's Choir and friends is now SOLD OUT. St. John's church office is maintaining a wait list, should some ticket holders cancel.

There are still tickets available for the Sat. Dec. 14 @ 7:30PM "Fossil Rockers Christmas Variety Benefit Concert". At the request of the band who will be performing for free, virtually all proceeds from this show will be shared between the Townsend Smith Foundation for the building of our new hospice and Cancer Assistance Halton Hills.



# BETHLEHEM AT BETHEL

Come visit the Bethlehem stable  
from 4-7 pm December 22<sup>nd</sup>

365 Queen Street, Acton

Admission: FREE

- Livestock, sheep, donkeys and more!
- Hot cocoa and hot dogs
- Popcorn over an open fire
- Wood-disc branding  
Campfires



*Candlelight Service*

**Bethel Church**  
365 Queen Street, Acton

Join us for a special candlelight service  
7 pm December 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Start the evening out with 'Bethlehem at Bethel'!*



**United Church Mission & Service Fund**

## **A Place to Thrive**

"Now I can help provide the support I had."

*Credit: The United Church of Canada*



Mission and Service partner Wesley in Hamilton, Ontario, operates safe programming for teenagers. Beasley Community Centre is one of the two main life-changing locations, offering resources, social opportunities, nutrition, and more.

For some, Beasley Community Center is just a building to pass while driving down Wilson Street in Hamilton, Ontario. For others, Beasley is a sanctuary, a safe place where they can truly be themselves and thrive. For Cyris, Beasley's meaning and purpose have gone through many seasons of change, starting as a young child and continuing today as he works as a summer student with the After School Program.

In 2010, when Cyris was nine years old, Dr. J. E. Davey Elementary School and the connected Beasley Community Center opened. Here, he attended Wesley's after-school program and recreational drop-ins almost daily.

Programs run by Wesley gave Cyris a place to spend his afternoons with his friends, particularly on the basketball court. "I loved being at Wesley. It gave me a place to be where I felt safe and comfortable," says Cyris. "I got in trouble in school a lot; it was somewhere I could just play and not think about the stuff going on at home or at school."

It was at Beasley that Cyris' natural drive to help others began to flourish into a fierce dedication to serving his community in meaningful ways. "I love being in my community," he proudly states.

Now, Cyris is 22 years old, and is attending the University of Ottawa to study Criminology with a goal of becoming a police officer. With this career, he feels he can give back and make a positive difference in his community while working in his hometown of Hamilton. When his school break rolls around, you can find him right back at Beasley working as a summer student at the same after-school program he participated in. "I love working with the kids, interacting with them, inspiring them, helping them," he says.

When asked about what motivates him to help others and work with kids, Cyris credits the influence of the mentors he had at Beasley and his mother, who has spent her life working with young children. He had older friends who started working at Wesley. In high school, while he was still attending the recreational drop-in programs, he decided that he would follow their lead.

"I love helping people; that's my biggest motivation," he says. With the kids at Beasley, "it's a full-circle moment, I was them at one point. Now I can help provide the support I had, and it feels pretty cool."

Through his work at Beasley, Cyris hopes to help the children he mentors see that they, too, can overcome obstacles and achieve their dreams. "Just follow your dreams, do what you want to do, do what makes you happy," he reminds them often.

Cyrus' work helping others is far from over, and he hopes the kids he works with



find their own versions of success and that some will return to help when they're older. He'll be there too—"I'll always be around. I can't see myself not being here. I'll keep my hand in it somehow. I love it here."

Your gifts to Mission and Service support programs that help children and young adults grow and thrive. Thank you.

## WAYS TO GIVE

We thank all those that continue to support our Church with your giving!



**CASH & CHEQUE**



**CANADA HELPS**



**SCAN ME for more details**



**ETRANSFERS TO  
standrewsgeorgetown89@gmail.com**



Our Charitable Registration Number is: 892633462RR0001

*Sent with love* 

Halton as we know it today is rich in history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the Anishinabe to the Attawandaron, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis - these lands surrounding the Great Lakes are steeped in Indigenous history. We acknowledge and thank the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for sharing their traditional territory with us.



We would love to share our News from the Pews! Please feel free to share with a friend...



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