

News and Events

A Multi-Faith dialogue on the Historical Jesus

Saturday, May 24 2008

9:30am to 3:00pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Guelph

161 Norfolk St.

To register call 519-822-4772

Registration Fee: \$30.00 per person, or \$50.00 for 2 people
(Includes refreshments and lunch)

Guest Speakers include:

John S. Kloppenborg – Professor and Chair of the Dept. and Centre for study of Religion, University of Toronto

Ilana Barbut- Guelph teacher of Hebrew Language, Jewish History Laws and Customs

Sean Michaelson – Director of St. Ignatius Institute Catholic Studies Program

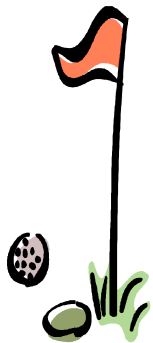


The 'NEW' Bible Trail begins!

We did it! After 20 months of focusing on the Old Testament, we are now about to move on to the NEW. For those who are new to our congregation, The Bible Trail was launched in September 2006 as a way of increasing our understanding of our sacred scriptures. Our plan is to read, discuss and hear sermons on every book of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation over two and a half years. On Sunday May 25th (after some of us get back from Israel), we will be turning our attention to the first Gospel, Matthew, as it appears in the New Testament. You might want to get reading now because we will be looking at all four Gospels in four weeks. The **Thursday Morning Trail Party continues on May 29th (Matthew) and will continue until June 19th**. We start at 10:00am and depending on discussion conclude around 11:15am. Hope to see you there. If you are interested in starting your own Trail Party, let us know so that we can advertise it and get others on The Trail. By this time next year we will have read and preached the entire Bible. Join us on The Trail.



Attention All Golfers!



Make sure and mark Saturday, June 14, 2008 on your calendar – we're having a Golf Tournament! Just in time to complement our 180th Anniversary celebrations, we are holding our first ever day devoted to the duffers in our midst. **All proceeds raised will go to "My Neighbour's House"**, our multi-faith Habitat for Humanity build.

Be sure to pick up your registration brochure at the Welcome Centre – space is limited to 108 players – don't be disappointed that you're not one of them. The tournament will take a "Shotgun start, best ball" format, so this day will be fun for all, whether seasoned golfer or novice. And even if you don't golf, plan to join us for the dinner afterwards, and enjoy a fabulous steak dinner among friends.

Our goal is to make this day a huge success, to raise a "bunkerload" of funds for Habitat for Humanity and have a great time doing it. Of course, in order to make that happen, we need people power. Don't worry if you don't golf – it's not a pre-requisite! **We need people to help obtain sponsors and gifts, volunteers for the day of the tournament and in the days leading up to it, and of course enthusiastic folks to come out and play! If you can spare some time to help keep this event "on par", please contact Marnie Kerr at 519-823-9990 or by email at kerrm1@sympatico.ca.**

So, be sure to get the word out, plan your foursome, and start warming up that swing – we'll see you on the links!

Marnie Kerr, Tournament Chair

Thanksgivings & Concerns

April 27-May 3 is **Volunteer Appreciation Week**: St. Andrew's would like to thank all our volunteers for their service and hard work throughout the year! We couldn't do it without you.

"THANK YOU - two little words that mean so much - my sincere thanks go out to everyone who supported Graeme, Haylie and I in the Supercities Walk for MS on April 13th - your donations, prayers and fellow congregational walkers helped to make this day a HUGE success! Guelph broke a city WALK record this year, raising over \$175,000 with more than 800 people participating - the most ever in Guelph - in an effort to help eradicate Multiple Sclerosis. Your generosity helped our family to raise over \$1600.00 for this event, which is so close to our hearts. Thanks so much, Marnie Kerr."

We mourn with family and friends of **Agnes Jean Carter** who passed away on April 9th. A service to celebrate her life was held on Sunday April 13th. *'Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted.'*

Opportunities

Taking Care of your "Place to call Home"



On Saturday morning, May 3, the Board of Managers is holding a Work Party to clean up the grounds and prepare the St. Andrew's buildings and properties for the summer season and warm weather.

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We are seeking volunteers of all ages - we can find a job for you! Please bring work or garden gloves, rakes, shovels and wheelbarrows. NOTE: Malcolm Harwood, a St. Andrew's member, will be bringing heavy equipment (tractor) to spread the gravel and grade the parking lots (you may have noticed all the gravel scraped into high piles at the end of the parking lot). With rakes and shovels, you can help smooth out the edges of the spread gravel. *Please do not park your vehicles in the church parking lots so that Malcolm has room to manoeuvre his tractor.* Refreshments will be available for all the volunteers. Questions? Please contact Mary Visser Kerr at 519.763.6489

Chalmers Community Services Centre is looking for volunteers to work at the Friday Fair Share Food Shelf from 8:00am to 12:30pm. Duties will include set-up, distribution of food, clothing, and household items, interacting with guests in a friendly, supportive manner, and assisting with clean-up. Volunteers must maintain the confidentiality of guests. Please call Diana at 519.822.8778 or e-mail chalmerscentre@rogers.com for more information.

'Side Door' Singing a New Tune

'Side Door' is an opportunity for contemporary worship at St. Andrews. We have been 'jamming' about one Saturday evening per month in the Church Hall and are ready to take the next step. If you are a musician who plays a chording instrument such as piano or guitar and/or a vocalist who is familiar with recent praise and worship songs, we would love to hear from you. Once we've established a core backing group, we hope to reach out to the whole congregation to join us in 'singing a new song.' For more info, please contact Peter Devries (519-823-7876 peterdevries@sympatico.ca) or Fred Ferwerda(519-821-3000 wilfredferwerda@mac.com).



Church School: The children and I, along with some great volunteer teachers have completed our first "**rotation model**" upstairs. A big THANK YOU to those individuals!! We studied Psalm 8...We explored the meaning of this Psalm through cooking-making soda bread, through dance and movement-by using full body socks, and through art- painting Van Gogh's starry night. We also had time to have popcorn and watch a selection of movie clips and then relate them to this Psalm. It was very successful and we are underway to start our next rotation learning about Mary and Martha and hospitality. There is always an opportunity for volunteers to come out and be involved with the children. It is only a 4-week commitment, curriculum is provided and you teach the same thing every week. How easy is that!!



If interested in helping out in this new vision for our church school children, drop me a note in my family folder or stop by and see me...I look forward to meeting with you and excited to our new adventures together. Blessings, Jenny Emerson.

Vacation Bible School Program volunteers needed: This "Under Construction" program links directly with our Habitat for Humanity initiative. I am hoping to run it the 3rd week of July. It is a 1/2 day program, and cost is yet to be determined. I would need volunteers to help run this program or it cannot go ahead. I would like to have a meeting after church on **May 25th, 2008**. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity to outreach to our community, please call me at 519.836.9102 or visit me up in the classrooms anytime. Thanks Jenny.

Committees and Groups

Break (and Bake?) Bread for CornShare - May 4 and 18

The Monkton Foodgrains Bank Growing Project (CornShare) is once again planning to plant crops to support the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB), and we are going to be selling bread, rolls, scones, oatcakes, etc to support them after Sunday services on May 4 and 18.

The Foodgrains Bank collects grain and cash donations, provides funds and expert advice for projects submitted by member agencies and their partners, manages the procurement and supply of food commodities, and engages in public policy and education activities related to hunger and food security. Food commodity prices have recently risen dramatically around the world, with some prices having doubled or tripled during the last year. These rising food prices are contributing to growing hunger and social and political unrest. Food production has not kept pace with rapidly rising consumption because of population growth, rapidly rising meat and dairy consumption by a growing Asian middle class (which requires greater amounts of feed grains), and an increasing use of grains for biofuel production. Rising energy prices are driving up the costs of producing and transporting food. Unfavourable weather has reduced production in some parts of the world. The increase in yields has also slowed in recent years.

Last year, CornShare farmed 44 acres of corn with a potential selling price of \$28,900, minus expenses of \$14,310. Last year, they were able to send \$30,000, raised the previous year, to CFGB, which with the 4:1 matching funds provided by CIDA (\$120,000), converted into \$150,000. This year, they plan on seeding 44 acres of soybeans and their immediate expenses include \$3,500 for land rent, and \$3,000 for fertilizer, seed and chemicals.

Do you have some favourite bread, roll or muffin recipes that you'd like to donate for sale in support of CornShare? If you do, simply bring them to the CornShare table in the Hall after the service on May 4 and 18. If you just like eating homemade bread and other goodies, please show up as well!

The Missions Committee

Women's Missionary Society Spring Rally

Monday, May 12, 2008

At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kitchener

7:00pm Registration

Theme: Is One Egg Enough

Presentation from the Mission Exposure Trip to India

This is an open meeting, everyone is welcome.

Free will offering will be used to purchase beds for the Hostel at The Jobat Christian School in India.

Fill out this part of the Inspire, cut it out and return it to the Church Office... entries will be drawn from a basket and the winner will receive a Special Prize...

Name _____

Phone _____

**CONGRATULATIONS to our First winner: Darlene LePage
Please pick up your 'prize' at the Church Office.**