

HELP US BY SAVING YOUR:

Used Postage Stamps – for Leprosy Relief
Campbell's Soup Labels – for Education Programs
Zehrs Cash Register Tapes – to convert to cash
Aluminum Cans - to Habitat for Humanity

*All of the above can be placed in the appropriate slots
in the container at the Welcome Centre and the Aluminum
Cans placed in the appropriate holder in the Church Hall*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
WILL BE HELD AT ST. ANDREW'S
ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
MARCH, JUNE, OCTOBER AND DECEMBER.

The '**INSPIRE**' is a monthly communication resource of:

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.standrewsguelph.com

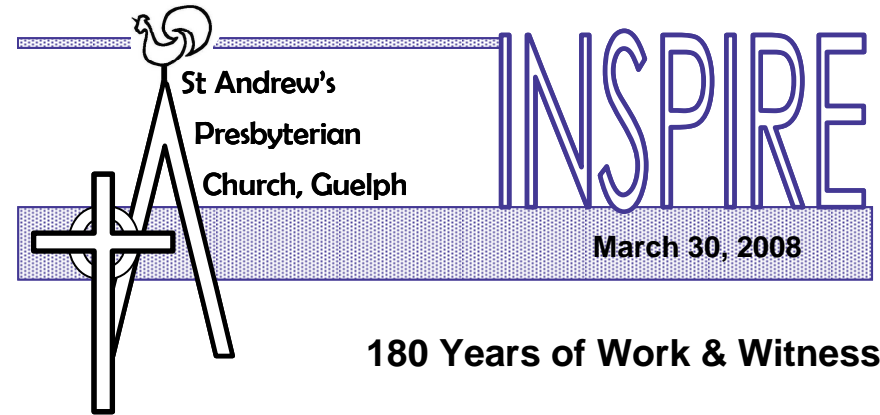
Pastoral Staff

Rev. John Borthwick
Karen Dimock
Fred Gingrich
Angie VanWingerden
Matt Foxall
Jenny Emerson

revjohn@standrewsguelph.com
Student Minister
Director of Music
Executive Ministry Assistant
Youth Team Leader
Church School Team Leader

Sunday Services

10:30 a.m.



180 Years of Work & Witness

This month begins our celebration of 180 years in the city of Guelph. I'd like to use my space to share with you about some of the exciting opportunities coming up this month. I look forward to seeing you there.

On Tuesday April 1st at 7:30PM, the **Guelph Historical Society presents a history of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church** in our sanctuary with guest speaker, Wilma Welsh. There is no cost for this event but you do need to RSVP so that adequate refreshments can be prepared.

Our **HOMECOMING WEEKEND** kicks off on Saturday April 26th with **Doors Open Guelph**. Our church will be one of the featured sites in the day long Doors Open program. Tours will be provided (we are still looking for tour guides and hosts, if interested please contact Anne Holman: anneholm7017@gmail.com)

In the evening of the 26th, we are looking forward to a **Celebration dinner** at the Cutten Club beginning at 6:00PM (tickets still available – call the Church Office to reserve yours). Following dinner, we will be entertained by a duo from the Guelph group The Great Wooden Trio (www.greatwoodentrio.com). The after party follows our entertainment with informal music and dancing into the wee hours of the night.

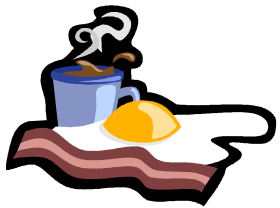
On Sunday morning (April 27th) we will continue our **celebration in worship and music**. Our guest preacher is well known to the congregation as it is ME (Rev. John). Our music program for the day will be glorious as always. We will be dedicating our new Pew Bibles (you can still donate to their purchase by marking the third line of your offering envelope – Pew Bibles – Memorial Fund).

Following worship we will adjourn to the outdoors to dedicate a 'burning bush' in our garden and then return to the Church Hall for a reception.

There are lots of things happening around St. Andrew's. We hope to see you there. Bring a friend along so that they too can experience St. Andrew's: A Place to Call Home.

Yours in Christ,
John.

Breakfast @ St. Andrew's: A New Inclusive Initiative



You are welcome to **Breakfast @ St. Andrew's**, an inclusive breakfast program for all ages, genders, and people. Breakfast will be served at 8:30AM in the Church Hall. Our guest speakers will begin just after 9:00AM and we try to conclude around 10:15AM. The cost for a catered

traditional breakfast is \$8.50/person. Suggestions for topics or guest speakers are always welcome. Please contact Rev. John if you know of someone or would like to suggest a topic for discussion. Won't you join us and bring a friend too.

Our final breakfast for the season will be on **Saturday April 19th** with **Sgt. Debbie Bodkin** (note change in speaker). Her topic is: "Again, On Our Watch... the Crisis in Darfur"

Here's her bio:

Debbie Bodkin has been a Sergeant with the Waterloo Regional Police Service for 20 years. She has had 3 overseas experiences:

In 2000 with NATO and the United Nations in Kosovo where she functioned as a Scenes of Crime Officer working at body exhumation sites and in the morgue during autopsies.

In 2004 with the U.S. Organization, Coalition for Internal Justice in Chad where for two weeks she traveled to Refugee Camps and interviewed the victims who had fled from the atrocities occurring

in their home country of Sudan. The results of these interviews were used by the U.S. State Dept. to declare what was happening in Darfur as genocide.

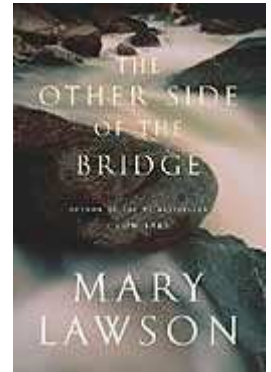
In 2004/2005 she worked with the United Nations Commission of Inquiry for Darfur in Sudan as an investigator. She lived in Darfur for three months, searching out victims, witnesses and suspects of the horrific crimes occurring and interviewing them in order to complete the report for the United Nations. The United Nations Commission report was released and stated that Crimes Against Humanity were happening in Darfur with some involvement by the government of Sudan.

Friday Brown Bag... and Good Food, Good Book, and Good Nite...

featured book...

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BRIDGE
by Canadian born author **Mary Lawson**

On **Friday April 18th** (**NOTE DATE CHANGE**), our book clubs continue at their usual times. **The Brown Bag** starts at 12:15pm in the Parlour and all you are required to bring is yourself and a bag lunch. Rev. John provides the engaging conversation.



Good Food, Good Book, and Good Nite begins at 6:30pm in the Parlour. Seating is limited and reservations are necessary. Dinner is provided at cost. There is always a space available for newcomers. As with FBB, reading the book is not a requirement. Rev. John offers leadership at this group too. Please reserve your spot at the table by calling the Church Office (519.822.4772) or for more information, contact Rev. John.

This marks the end of the Book Clubs for this season. Look for the Summer Reading List in the June Inspire. The Book Clubs will return in September. Also, look for "GodandU@themovies.uni" to start in September... more information in August.

The Trail continues!

As of this publication, there are only two more books of the Old Testament to go. 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. Looking ahead, we will be relaunching The Trail starting in May with the four Gospels. Look for more information next month on how to get on track. The **Thursday Morning Trail Party continues on April 3rd (Zechariah) & April 10th (Malachi)**. 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. Keep on trekin'.



SPECIAL EVENT FOR BIBLE TRAIL TREKERS!



Trail Party Tea

Thursday April 17th @ 10AM

Anyone who has been participating in The Bible Trail since 2006 is welcome to this celebration.

Certificates of Achievement will be presented to those who attend.

RSVP to the Church Office 519.822.4772

On **Sunday April 20th** we will be *celebrating the Hebrew Scriptures* in the service of worship. Starting in 2006 we began our journey with Genesis and on April 13, 2008 we concluded this leg of the trail with Malachi. What a profound accomplishment. **Our guest preacher will be Dr. Brian Irwin**, professor of Old Testament at Knox College (Toronto) who will share with us the value of Christians knowing the Hebrew portion of our Holy Scriptures. L'chaim! To Life!

Women's Retreat 2008 March 7-9, 2008

Eight women along with spiritual guide Rev. Susan Shantz from Tobermory United Church participated in our first women's retreat weekend at the Swanton cottage near Tobermory. Amid the natural splendor on the Lake Huron shore, Rev. Susan explored with us different ways to experience prayer: thru movement, the psalms, scripture pictures and quiet space and time. We had free time to enjoy the outdoors, share troubles and joys and eat. It was a great time of relaxing and getting to know one another better. Just two quick highlights of the weekend: Knolly tobogganing using an empty box, and Alison's beautiful art.

HELP NEEDED FOR "DOORS OPEN" @ ST. ANDREW'S

St. Andrew's is a venue for **DOORS OPEN** Guelph on **April 26, 2008** to help celebrate our 180th anniversary.

The front foyer of the church will be newly decorated to welcome visitors but we need **TOUR GUIDES**. The shifts will be 10 am-1pm and 1pm-4pm. Guides will take guests through the church giving information about our history and the church.

May Goodwin will train guides and will give written information so it will be at your fingertips!

I need at least 14 guides/ greeters for the day. I encourage all to consider this-young people are especially encouraged-you will learn great information about St. Andrew's plus the training and tours give you credit for your volunteer hours.

Please call: **ANNE HOLMAN 519.822.0153**



Baby Shower

Sunday May 4 at 2:30pm in the parlour - Everyone is invited to a baby shower for our Executive Ministry Assistant, Angie. Angie is expecting identical twin boys mid-May. Call Mary Rife at 519-822-7858 to RSVP or if you can help with the shower.

Karen's Graduating!!!

Karen Dimock, our Knox College Student is FINALLY graduating! I only use that expression to capture how any theology student must feel after three years of intensive study. We want to celebrate Karen's achievements in two ways and we need your help.



First, it is tradition in the church for home churches to provide their student with their first ever clerical vestments (big words meaning... robe). If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Karen's robe, please speak to either Paul Pennock (519.824.4008) or Angie in the Church Office (519.822.4772).

Second, some of us will be in Israel during Karen's Convocation (we bad) but we'd like some people to organize a trip to Toronto in order to show our support for Karen on her special day. Knox College Convocation is on Wednesday May 14th at 7:30PM in Convocation Hall, University of Toronto. If you are interested in coordinating and/or participating in this trip, please let Angie in the Church Office know as soon as possible.

Well done, Karen... now just hand in those final papers and the real adventure begins. May God continue to bless your future ministry.

Joys & Concerns

We celebrate with:

Cynthia Menyhart and **David Spencer** who are rejoicing in the birth of their daughter Taryn Marika Spencer on March 7th.

Angus and Kathleen McGillivray who are pleased to announce the birth of their first grandchild born on March 11th. Todd and Margaret have named her Maren Elizabeth Ruth McGillivray-Stubbs.

Thank you so much to my church family for cards, phone calls, visits, food and especially prayers while I was in hospital and since returning home. It is reassuring to know that we are a congregation that cares. Lovingly, **Pauline Sanderson**

EDUCATION & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Spiritual Mentoring Online Course: Begins March 31
SPACES STILL OPEN! STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Roberta Clare

In this course, we will explore the characteristics and skills of Christian mentors and practice some tools we can use to mentor others in our churches, workplaces, and local communities so we can pass the torch.

Registration Fee: \$100 (Course material not included.)

Serving as a Ruling Elder Online Course: Begins April 21 -
May 30, 2008

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Instructor: Rev. Karen Horst

This course focuses on the role of the ruling elder within The Presbyterian Church in Canada and its congregations and courts. It is for anyone interested in eldership: new elders looking for some orientation to their ministry, potential elders considering a call to eldership, and current elders wanting a refresher. Registration Fee: \$100. (Course material not included.)

For more information Contact: **Elder's Institute-**
www.eldersinstitute.ca or **C.J. Swanton** and **Mary Rife-**
Education and Training Committee.

Sheep Manure for Anishinabe - PLACE OF HOPE

Anishinabe in Ojibway means "the place of hope." It is also the name of a facility operated by the Winnipeg Inner City Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Canada to provide spiritual, social and psychological services, as well as employment training, to the most needy in that community, typically native people suffering from alcohol and/or drug abuse.

Thanks to the vision of the Rev Margaret Mullin, Anishinabe uses a holistic approach based on the overarching rule of respect for yourself, others and property. The philosophy of the medicine wheel – figure out where you are now, where you want to be in the future and focus on that first step – is used to help tenants, no matter their race, culture or religious background to examine their whole life and bring them to wellness and wholeness.

Place of Hope works with men and women between 30 – 50 years who have been unemployed for a long time, have completed an addiction program and are in a 12 step program to maintain sobriety, who do not have any outstanding criminal charges and are enrolled in Place of Hope's "First Steps to Employment program". In addition to employment counselling the Staff includes a full-time Minister, a parish social worker and parish nurse. There is a drop-in program that provides free telephone, free Internet access, television, shower facilities, a clothing bank and emergency food. Ministry is available every Sunday and if a person seeks spiritual guidance, Reverend Margaret and the staff are available to guide them. Place of Hope also provides fully furnished bachelor apartments for 19 people, at \$320 per month, as well as emergency space. Rev Margaret's goal is to have at least 2 of 3 tenants stay for the three years and leave with a job, and the skills to keep that job and live life to their fullest potential.

In 2007, Anishinabe established a "manure fund" that received almost \$1000 in donations in exchange for first-quality, well-rotted sheep manure from the Duff Family Farm. Anyone who gardens knows that this is the gold standard for fertilizer! To obtain your sheep manure, contact Glen Duff at 519-856-9935 to arrange pickup directly at the Duff farm in Rockwood, or visit Mary Rife's Plant Sale on May 17. In both cases, please bring your own containers. At press time, it's unknown when the snow will leave or gardening season may actually arrive, but mark May 17 on your calendar now, and keep tuned to the bulletin and Inspire for updates.

Plant Sale – Saturday May 17, 2008



Fundraiser for Anishinabe Place of Hope in Winnipeg. The sale will be held at the Rife home at Arkell Road, Guelph from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Hundreds of perennials to choose from! Donations of labeled plants and assistance at the sale are greatly appreciated. Call Mary Rife at 519-822-7858 for details.

MISSION CAPSULES: GHANA

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* . . . support The Reverend Marion Barclay MacKay and The Reverend Dr. Donald W. MacKay and their work at the Presbyterian Church of Ghana's Nsaba Lay Training Centre (NLTC). This past year Marion wrote a manual on communications skills for the Basic III level lay course, while Donald wrote a manual on pastoral care and counselling for the Basic II level course.

In the Event of Emergency

You can leave messages on the church office phone anytime. Messages are checked regularly including on weekends. In a pastoral emergency, please call your elder, connector or a session member and/or leave a phone message with the church and the minister will return your call as soon as possible.

FOOD DRIVE

April 6, 2008 will be the next date for collection, but you can drop it in the cart any time! All food collected is given to the Guelph Food Bank and Fresh Start.

A cash donation would also be greatly appreciated. (You may use 3rd line on Offering Envelope).



A big heartfelt **THANK YOU** to John, Karen, Fred and the choirs, for leading us in such meaningful Easter message services.

Many of us from the congregation feel privileged to have been a part of all of these services.

To Fred, the Senior Choir and the Handbell choir - The preparation and hard work involved in all of the practices etc, by Fred and both choirs leading up to these services, has not gone unnoticed by those of us who have had the privilege of attending them. The musical arrangements, so carefully chosen, were so uplifting. With regard to the Tenebrae Service - I remember being there for the first Tenebrae several years ago and each one has been an equally moving experience. The Easter Sunday music – what I can say? There was no mistaking the message – Alleluia, Christ has risen! Thank you.

To John – I could not begin to say how humbling an experience it has been to be a part of your Easter messages to us. Your Good Friday service brought to life our Lord's journey to the Cross in such a meaningful way by touching all of our senses. Thank you.

To Karen - Your Easter Sunday message of the power of the resurrection, taking us from grief to joy, going from darkness into the light, and our acceptance of one another was evident in your message to us. Thank you.

Over all of this period we have had time to reflect upon what the Easter message truly means for all of us on our faith journey – and once again this has been my favourite, and most loved, time in the Christian calendar. Thank you.

In closing, I would just like to say that we are indeed privileged at St. Andrew's to have such wonderful leadership. Thanks be to God!

Christine (Orme)

(This is a copy of the original letter sent to the Music and Worship Committee.)

Historical Jesus Seminar – Saturday May 24, 2008 from 9am to 3pm.

Speakers: John Kloppenborg(U of T): The Historical Jesus
Ilana Barbut: The Jewish Perspective
Father Sean Michaelson: Jesus of the New Covenant

Meet Jesus from 3 new perspectives. Mark this on your calendars now and watch for more details in the next Inspire. Call Clarence Swanton for more details 519-822-5557

Saturday Night Supper

The next Saturday Night Supper will be on April 26, 2008. Yes the same night as the Anniversary Dinner, we require help with dessert – Fruit Crisp, or monetary contribution, as well the sign up for volunteer help will be posted in the foyer after worship on Sunday. It will be held at Royal City Church on Quebec Street.

SNS Coordinator: The Outreach Committee is looking for a coordinator for the Saturday Night Suppers. Description of the position is available. If interested please contact Rick McDonald at 519-821-5200 or email clga@clivegen.org

Advance Notice of the **Annual Yard Sale** – in August at St. Andrew's. Start saving your good conditioned unwanted items now!

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 _____