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**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 'rinsed out' 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**

161 Norfolk Street, Guelph, ON N1H 4J8

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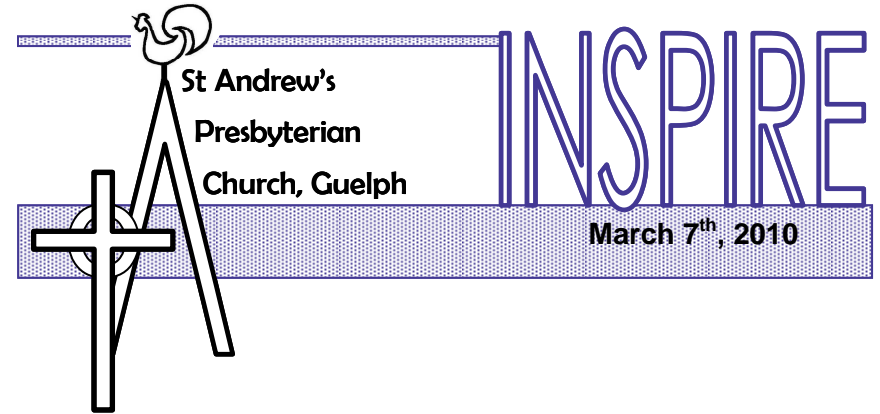
[www.standrewsguelph.com](http://www.standrewsguelph.com)

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. John Borthwick	<a href="mailto:revjohn@standrewsguelph.com">revjohn@standrewsguelph.com</a>
The Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer	Minister in Association
Matt Foxall	Director of Youth Ministry
Jenny Emerson	Church School Team Leader
Barbara Molengraaf	Knox Placement Student
Fred Gingrich	Director of Music
Margaret Blatherwick	Administrative Assistant
Ross Rowat	Clerk of Session

#### **Sunday Services**

10:30 a.m.



## **A Requiem for an AGM**

I went to a funeral on Sunday. Or at least it felt like one. The dirge and requiem played loudly. I think I saw some of you there too. Annual meetings in churches are always challenging. It is one of the only times in the year that we are forced to talk about things that we'd rather not talk about... money. We all acknowledge that we need it, that it is necessary in order for our congregation to function as vibrantly as it does... but could we just not talk about it. But we do and we get through it and in the end it sometimes feels exhausting. I wonder if where it all goes wrong is that we only focus on the numbers. The dollars and cents. Things not adding up completely right. Too much red and not enough black. It is an accountant's dream and an artist's nightmare (really, red and black paints a pretty bleak picture!) I'm thinking that in future we need to spend more time celebrating what those dollars and cents have represented this past year. Thanking people for their generosity and rejoicing in what has borne fruit in our community as a result of the hard work of so many of our people. You have made a significant difference in the lives of a variety of people throughout our global village this past year, St. Andrew's. Families who have been comforted by your care as they have dealt with life's challenges. You've brought joy to those who have desired to celebrate life's many passages. Young people who we know and are getting to know have encountered Jesus and are finding their lives changed as they grow deeper in their relationship with Him and see that relationship modeled in others around them. Indeed, there are too many ways to count the difference your gifts of time, talent and treasure make in the lives of those here and abroad. So let us sing the requiem so that the 'lux' (light) might shine more brightly with the new dawn. Thank you for a fantastic 2009! John.

## Shared Values @ St. Andrew's

These shared values are the soul of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church reflecting our Christian faith. These values are the cornerstone of our journey as a church community. They express that which we wish to become and how we go about becoming them. All our decisions and collective actions are measured by how such activities embody and bring life to our shared values by God's grace.

### Living Faith

We believe that faith is a journey not a destination. We embrace change and meet its challenges with creativity and playfulness. We expect that the Holy Spirit will change us in the process.

### Welcoming

We work hard to make our community feel like a place to call home. We see the image of God in all people, everywhere. Differences are valued and safe and open dialogue is honoured.

### Joy

Following Jesus is something to celebrate. We believe it is the best way to live. We rejoice that we can express with gratitude and worship our acceptance of God's invitation to this way of life. We happily affirm that God is making everything new and we are a valued part of it.

### Love

We believe that we were created to live deeply with one another, to carry each other's burdens, to share our possessions, to pray for and confess our sins to each other, to suffer and to celebrate together. It's in these honest, loving relationships that God transforms us into the people we were meant to be.

### Hope

We believe that to be a part of God's work in restoring the world we are to offer hope in whatever way we can. Hope is created when our passion and compassion meets the needs and hurts of those we encounter. We are an oasis of hope in a world that desperately needs to drink deeply of its waters.

### Partnership

Jesus modelled that we are not on this journey alone. We believe that we do our best when we work together. We seek to build lasting relationships of mutual respect and trust throughout God's creation.

## News and Events

### Accessible Parking

The decision at last Sunday's AGM was to NOT proceed with the construction of accessible parking spaces until we understand the implications of the City's ongoing Norfolk St. construction. Further discussion of this issue will take place after the City work has been completed. In the meantime, the approximately \$6,000 presently in hand for this initiative will be retained in trust until a final decision can be made.

Should the ultimate decision be for the church to make no expenditure related to accessible parking, the donors of the \$6,000 who can be identified will be asked for further direction about the use of the donated funds. It is likely that alternative suggestions for its use would be offered at that time.

Virginia Gillham, Chair of the Board of Managers

### Michael House – Baby Bottle Drive

St. Andrew's will again be participating in the baby bottle fundraiser. Baby bottles will be available March 14 as well as a sign up sheet.

Here are the Gospel texts that we will be studying in worship and on our Thursday morning Trail Parties in the coming weeks: **March 14<sup>th</sup>** – **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**; **March 21<sup>st</sup>** – John 12:1 – 8; **March 28<sup>th</sup>** – **Luke 19 & 23**; **April 4<sup>th</sup>** – John 20:1-18



We meet in the church parlour on Thursdays at 10AM. All are welcome.

## Royal City Ambassadors

The Royal City Ambassadors is a men's chorus that has sung in Guelph and surrounding communities for over 40 years. We sing four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style, raise money for our charity "Harmonize for Speech" and have an annual show at the River Run Centre. This year it is on Friday, March 26 and Saturday, March 27. It is called the Bumpy Road to Gold and is filled with good fun and fine singing. Tickets may be purchased from Dr. Bob or Rick McDonald or at River Run Box Office. See posters on the bulletin board.

## Committees and Groups

### Reception of New Members



If you are interested in "JOINING" our congregation by profession of faith or transfer of membership, we would be happy to welcome you into our church family. Our minister is available to discuss this opportunity more fully with you at your convenience. New members will be received in worship on **Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup>**.

## Opportunities

### From the Library...

The Book Club selections for March and April, Good to a Fault, and Things Fall Apart are displayed and identified on the table just inside the door of the Library.

Readers who read The Great Gatsby for the February Book Club discussions, and other fans of F. Scott Fitzgerald, may be interested in: Everybody was So Young, by Amanda Vaill. This book is a biography of Gerald and Sara Murphy who were contemporaries and friends of Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway and others. It is also a recent addition to the library.

Virginia Gillham, Church Librarian

## Youth Ministry Update (Grades 6 and higher)

Here is a quick look at what is happening in March:

### Youth Drop In

Join us on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> as we watch the movie "2012" up in the youth room. The Drop In will start at 4pm and will be done at 7pm. Dinner will be provided. Please invite your friends.

Join us on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> we watch the movie "The Blind Side". The Drop In will begin at 4pm and finish around 7pm. Once again dinner will be provided. Friends are more than welcome to join us.

### Youth Lock In

Join us on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm as we once again kick off the March Break by locking ourselves into the church overnight. As usual we will be going to Laser Quest in Kitchener following dinner. Pick up is on Saturday at 11am. The cost of the event is \$20 per person. Please let Matt know if you are planning to attend. Permission Forms will be available shortly.

### Youth Group

Regular youth group continues on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> (During March Break) however due to the youth retreat there will not be youth on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

### Youth Class

There will be NO youth classes during March due to March Break and the Youth Retreat.

### Youth Retreat

Once again the Youth of St. Andrew's will be venturing off to Crieff for another exciting weekend of fun, food and fellowship. The Retreat runs from March 26-28 and the cost is only \$45/person for the entire weekend. If you are interested in going there are still a few spaces left so don't delay. Pick up your forms and return them ASAP.

### Volunteers

Youth Ministry is always looking for new volunteers. If you enjoy working with teens and could spare some time on Tuesdays, Fridays or Sundays please speak with Matt.

families and communities. In the “Living Faith” document of the PCC section 3.2 “Jesus Christ: Truly God” it states, “To call Jesus Christ the Son of God is to say that he is God of God, Light of Light begotten, not made. To see Jesus is to see God incarnate. To know the Son is to know the Father.” (3.2.2.)

Dr. Diane Komp of Harvard Medical School tells the story of one of her Down's Syndrome patients with whom she was eating, at a restaurant. The restaurant had music and a little dance floor. Her friend loved to dance, but Komp had had a hard day and didn't feel up to it. But then the young man found a partner, another Down's person named Grace. And they danced, and danced, and the young man was so pleased and excited afterwards. He said to Dr. Komp, “she's amazing Grace, she could dance all night.” And that is like the grace that comes from God through God's Word, my friends; it dances all day, all night, and forever.

This is our goal in reading the Bible together in small groups – to *read believing* – and to celebrate in concert.

May the Grace of the Triune God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit live in you.  
Dr. Bob



## Book Clubs (Friday Brown Bag and Good Food, Good Book and Good Nite)



Our book club title this month is **Good to a Fault by Marina Endicott.**

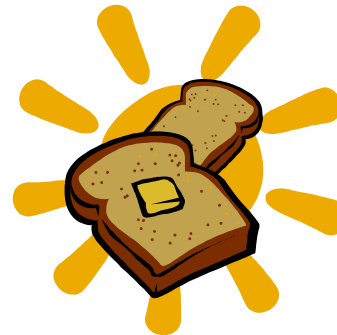
The book clubs will meet on **Friday March 19<sup>th</sup>** @ 12:15pm for a brown bag lunch and at 6:30pm for dinner (please sign up for the dinner at the Welcome Centre). All are welcome and even if you haven't read the book we believe that you will find the conversation engaging and interesting. Tangents are a key to learning.

### Upcoming dates and titles:

April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Note date change) – **Things Fall Apart** by Chinua Achebe

### Breakfast @ St. Andrew's

Our next Breakfast is **Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am** in the church hall. Cost is \$8/person. Our guest speaker will be **Scott Young** from Wall-Custance Funeral Home. Scott will speak to us from his years of experience as a funeral director about the changes he has witnessed in funeral practices. Join us for an interesting discussion on how these changes in practice and tradition have affected our experience of grief.



### Saturday Night Suppers

The next dinner St. Andrew's & Kortright will be hosting is Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Further information will be available shortly.

## READ BELIEVING

In a PCCWeb Daily Devotional at the end of last month, Rosemary Renninson from Australia wrote, “no matter what Bible versions, libraries, or study aids I may have at my disposal, the most important questions for me are, “Do I *read believing*?” and “Do I *believe* these are the actual words of God?”” ... “When reading the Bible, if we are focused on this truth that He is indeed *the living God*, yes, we can and do read believing that these are the actual words of God.” To *read believing* is a problem for many people today. In fact unbelief about Jesus Christ has been around for 2000 years. The gospel writers record many occasions when unbelief about Jesus as the Divine Son of God was rampant among the Jewish religious leaders, and even among some of the Jewish cities in Galilee where he had performed great miracles. One such occasion was in Matthew 11 where Jesus pronounced woe on these unrepentant cities. Matthew reports, “At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him’ (11:25-27). Jesus affirms that those who recognize him as the divine Messiah do so, not on the basis of superior religious status or individual intelligence or shrewdness, but by revelation, as a gift from God the Father who chooses to give His revelation to babes – those who are open and unpretentious. It is to the simple people without time, ability, or interest in deep religious learning, who have no religious basis for claiming the knowledge of God, to whom the divine revelation is given as sheer grace. Such people *read believing*!

In all the Gospels the word of God attests to Jesus as the beloved Son of God, for example (John 1: 14) “And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only

son, full of grace and truth.” And verse 17-18, “The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.” But still people doubted, and sometimes even the disciples as in John 14: 8-11, “Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.”

But soon these followers were believed and even gave their lives for the truth of this belief, like the apostle Paul who wrote, “... may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross” (Colossians 1: 11-20).

Of course those who do not “*read Scripture believing*” will still deny this truth even today. But our challenge, as Christians, is to “*read believing*” and live in this truth in our

## ***Fighting Over Jesus: James Versus Paul***

**Led by  
Dr. Barrie Wilson**

***Where: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church***

***When: Saturday, March 20th, 2010***

***Time: Doors open at 10:00 a.m.,  
seminar starts at 10:30 a.m.***

***Cost: \$20 per person, pre-registration required;  
Contact the Office at 519.822.4772***

***Seminar Leader: Barrie Wilson, Professor, Religious Studies, York University, Toronto and author of the recent best-seller, "How Jesus Became Christian". This workshop will appeal to those who are prepared to think critically about Biblical material and who are open to new ideas and alternative interpretations***

***Seminar Description: New writings such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Gnostic gospels have given us a better basis for understanding the complexities of early Christian movements. For one thing, we can now put Jesus' first followers in Jerusalem in clearer perspective. Who was James (Jesus' brother)? How did he and his community understand Jesus?***

***For another, we can see how truly different Paul was. He developed a concept of the Christ that differed from the Jewish expectation of a Messiah. He was at odds with Jesus' first followers in Jerusalem. He vehemently rejected Torah. More than that, the later Book of Acts presents a different picture of Paul than Paul presents of himself. So who was this talented, complex, tormented person...really? Was Paul a faithful follower of Jesus? Or was he a religious genius who inspired a new religion?***

***Should we continue to view early Christianity through "the eyeglasses of Paul" or is it time for a different way of seeing? Come explore these and other questions as we journey into early Christianity.***

## **Mission and Outreach @ St. Andrew's UPDATE**

As you know we determined that our mission focus for 2009-2010 was around the theme of Sabbath. Specifically the areas of prayer, play and rest and mission opportunities that addressed those areas. In the early fall, we spoke about the prayer of Afghan girls who wanted to go to school. We responded overwhelmingly to the PWS&D One Campaign. Then over the Christmas season and into the new year, we let you know about the North South Partnership for Children that seeks to address the needs of remote First Nation communities. We responded to a request for money to purchase canoes for youth programs. We believed that the youth of the North needed a chance to play and so we accepted and responded to that request as we were able. Finally, we partnered with our Women's Missionary Society in their efforts to come alongside the community of Jobat, India. Again, we responded to the need to support the building of a youth hostel so that young people can have a place to rest. Once again, St. Andrew's has been a shining light in places where darkness was attempting to take hold.

Also, as many of you know our own Margaret Evans is a volunteer missionary at the Shauri Yako Community Children and Youth Centre in Kenya. We have already begun to support her work there. In January, Mary Rife organized the shipment of several parcels of children's clothing to the centre. Also, some money was sent to Margaret so that she could purchase a keyboard to enhance the centre's music ministry. Finally, the WMS are planning on shipping some pneumonia vests to the centre to help keep the babies warm on cold nights. We would continue to encourage you to pray for Margaret's ministry.

Thank you for your on-going support of mission and outreach opportunities.

The Mission and Outreach Coordinating Committee

# Holy Week @ St. Andrew's



**Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30AM**

## PALM SUNDAY

A service commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem.

**This year we are introducing events every evening of Holy Week in order to mark Jesus' journey to the cross more meaningfully. We hope you will join us.**

**Monday March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00PM**

## HOLY MONDAY

In partnership with members from St. James Anglican, we will view the movie, *Food, Inc.* at St. Andrew's.

Discussion will follow.

**Tuesday March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00PM**

## HOLY TUESDAY

Brief Meditative Service of Worship

**Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00PM**

## HOLY WEDNESDAY

Brief Meditative Service of Worship

**Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00PM**

## TENEBRAE SERVICE

featuring St. Andrew's Choir

**Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 9:00AM**

## GOOD FRIDAY

A service expressing the stark reality of the Cross and Jesus' Last Words

**Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00PM**

## EASTER VIGIL

Note Location: St. James the Apostle on Paisley

A service that joins the anticipation of the Resurrection in a joyous and triumphal way

**Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30AM**

## EASTER SUNDAY

A service celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ

with the Sacrament of Holy Communion



**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**

**161 Norfolk Street, Guelph**

**(corner of Norfolk and Suffolk Streets)**

**519.822.4772**

[mailbox@standrewsguelph.com](mailto:mailbox@standrewsguelph.com)

## COMMUNITY LENTEN HYMN SING

St. George's Anglican Church

99 Woolwich Street, Guelph

**Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup>**

**3:00PM**

Featuring...

Guelph Church Choirs