

## **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 '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**

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#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. John Borthwick

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

The Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer

Minister in Association

Jenny Emerson

Church School Team Leader

Jacqui Foxall

Student Minister

Matt Foxall

Youth Team Leader

Fred Gingrich

Director of Music

Margaret Blatherwick

Administrative Assistant

Ross Rowat

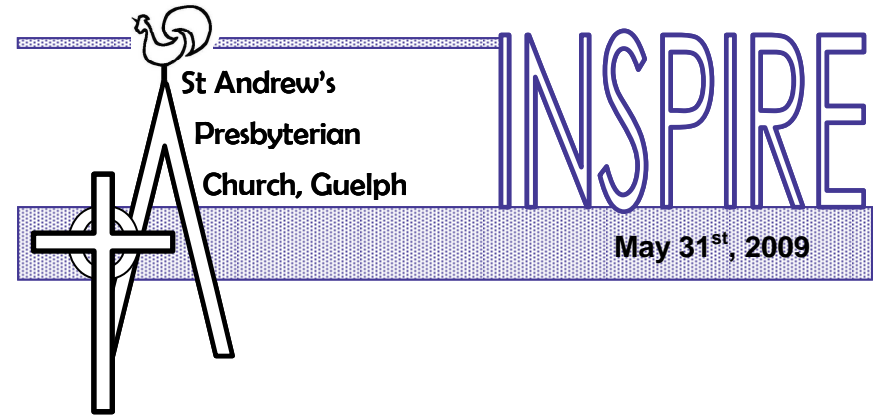
Clerk of Session

Jim Rife

Church Treasurer

#### **Sunday Services**

10:30 a.m.



## **Days of Summer Are Upon Us**

June is almost upon us... you can tell that folks are already dreaming of Summer activities and with such good weather lately some have got a head start. As you know, I declared a Sabbath a few months ago... many of you know that the Sabbath hasn't worked out as well as I expected or hoped (on a personal level). However, I'd encourage us again to think of ways to integrate the core principles of Sabbath into our Summer dreams and realities. Pray, rest and play are the pillars of Sabbath keeping. I'd invite you to consider ways in which you can allow these pillars to uphold your life into the coming months. There is something rejuvenating about Summer that can't be captured in any other season. Most people have a few days off or weeks of vacation. Plans have been made for months or the minute that the summer ended last year. This is a time of renewal, reflection and revitalization. I pray that this season will be just so for you and yours.

On a similar theme, we have decided to not offer our Wednesday evening worship services this Summer. We found it was difficult to get speakers and felt that we were adding to the already heavy burden of our leaders, community partners and friends. The idea of an alternative summer worship service will remain and we will look at it again next year perhaps in a different format. We are aware that these services were very meaningful to several of our members and hope that they will understand our decision.

This is the final edition of the Inspire until late August. Have a great Summer and may the peace of God's vibrant creation be an inspiration to your Summer days and nights. John

## Opportunities

### Monthly Financial Update as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

<b>Receipts</b>		<b>\$73,274</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Personnel	\$69,856	
Programs	\$8,981	
Property & Office	\$30,468	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$109,305</b>	
<b>Deficit</b>		<b>(\$36,031)</b>
<b>Amount Available to Offset Shortfall</b>		
Endowment Interest & Rented Property		<b>\$19,292</b>
<b>Cash Shortfall Year to Date</b>		<b>(\$16,739)</b>

### My Neighbour's House is Breaking Ground



This is it... in a few weeks, My Neighbour's House will finally break ground on Johnston Street. This has been a long and exciting journey and to finally get to this point is a great accomplishment. Through the media coverage about the project, St. Andrew's has become known in Guelph as a church with a heart for the community. We have developed partnerships with Habitat for Humanity and several church communities and continue to build bridges with other faith groups in our city as a result of our commitment to My Neighbour's House. So let's celebrate. There are still opportunities to help with the Build. Perhaps you would like to prepare snacks or treats for the volunteers for a day or two over the summer. Financial donations can still be made to My Neighbour's House and would be greatly appreciated. Also, clear your schedule for the evening of November 5<sup>th</sup> as plans are in the works for a celebratory dinner and fundraiser for Habitat at the new Delta Hotel. More information will be available in the coming months. Thanks for your ongoing support and prayer. And thank you St. Andrew's for making it possible for a deserving family in Guelph to have a place to call home.

## News and Events



### Annual Congregational Picnic

**Location:** Front lawn of Church property following the service

**Date:** Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Please bring food for the Pot Luck Table (Desserts & Salads). Burgers, Sausage on a bun & hot dogs will be supplied. Please bring your own plates, utensils & lawn chairs. Cost: \$3.00 per person or \$10.00 per family. Invite a friend along & enjoy. Lots of fun & activities for all ages including Pie Judging contest.

### ***Mark your calendar in advance*** ***Annual Corn Roast***

Date – Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Location – Duff's Farm

Further details will be provided in early September

### **The Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer, Minister in Association**

During the worship service on Sunday May 24 the Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer was recognized as Minister in Association for St. Andrew's Guelph. The Rev. John Borthwick announced that this was approved by the Session, and by the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. Rev. John stated that the full designation of this voluntary position was "Minister in Association in support of the whole people of God in their daily life and work." Dr. Bob acknowledges that most of his ministry as a Pastor and a Christian Educator has been inspired by a portion of Paul's letter to the Christians at Ephesus implied in this title:

*“It was [Christ] who gave (gifts) ..... some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare / (equip) God's people / (the saints) for works of service / (ministry), so that the Body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness / (full stature) of Christ.” Eph 4:11-13 NIV / (NRSV) (in order to shed light on the main words- 2 translations are used).*

Dr. Bob believes that God gifts every Christian. He thanks God for His trust and the challenges given to enable him to develop these gifts. He served congregations in Saskatchewan and Ontario, before being called by the Presbyterian Church to start Crieff Hills Community Retreat & Conference Centre, where he served for 24 years. Throughout his first 36 years of ordained ministry he studied and taught in various fields related to congregational life and lay leadership. He also served on many boards and committees both civic and church (national & international), in various capacities, including many years on the Wellington County Board of Education. He had the privilege to be the North American Representative on the World Collaboration Committee of Christian Lay Centres & Academies, and a Representative on the Sub-Unit of Renewal & Congregational Life of the World Council of Churches. These opportunities provided him with invaluable experience in International Ecumenical Consultations on lay education and adult faith development with other church leaders from every continent. These consultations engaged him in learning experiences in Trinidad, Senegal & Gambia, Nigeria, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Egypt, Crete, Spain Cuba, the USA, and Canada. He also had the privilege to be part of the planning and design of several International Lay Leadership Training Programs.

He then brought all those experiences together with concentrated academic study for a Doctor of Ministry degree. Within the discipline of congregational renewal, his thesis-project focused on “A Curriculum or Process for equipping the laity for the work of ministry in daily life in the world”. Over the last 10 years he has served as an Interim Minister in five

people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff.

Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives

and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets. One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore.

There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.')

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Democrats. Jesus also had twelve opossums.

The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead. Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.



that we covered over the last 2 ½ years. I want to personally thank the folks that have turned up to the Thursday Morning Trail Party over the years. I've appreciated being stretched by their insights and questions. I have noted time and time again that The Bible Trail has been one of the most meaningful endeavours I have had the privilege being a part of at St. Andrew's over the last seven years. Thank you again for making it a great opportunity for spiritual nurture and growth.

In honour of The Bible Trail, I'd like to share this email that a member of the congregation sent me that outlines a child's book report on the whole Bible. Enjoy, Rev. John.

### **The Children's Bible in a Nutshell**

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.



Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's

Presbyterian congregations in southwestern Ontario. During this time he used some of the gifts for ministry that he had been developing. Dr. Bob stated that he was now looking forward to using these gifts of God in order to assist the people of St. Andrew's to recognize and develop their God-given gifts in order to serve others in their daily life.

He concluded by quoting a scripture referred to in the recent St. Andrew's Prayer Calendar:

*"Each one should use whatever gift he/she has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)*

### **Michael House Bottle Drive**

We have again been invited to participate in the Michael House Bottle Drive. There is a sign up sheet in the welcome centre if you wish to participate. Please see Margaret Blatherwick or Heather in the office to obtain a baby bottle. This campaign runs from May 10, 2009 (Mother's Day) until June 21, 2009 (Father's Day). Thank you in advance for your help with this drive.



### **An End to the Cornshare Project**

After years of hard work, the farmers who have completed the bulk of the work to support the Cornshare Project for Canadian Food Grains Bank have decided to draw it to a close this year. Here is an email from the lead contact for the project: "I hate to share bad news but I've been putting this off long enough and maybe to many of you it's no surprise that we are not going to be growing a crop to donate to the Canadian Food Grains Bank. I'm really sad to be writing this letter, it makes it so final. Maybe with some strong leadership we'll be able to continue another year. I would like to thank you for all of your support. It has been a joy working with you and growing the crops in our community for such an

important cause. I hope that you still continue to support the CFGB. Yours Truly Ed Tollenaar.” Thanks to St. Andrew’s and various other church partners over the years, a crop has been donated to help alleviate hunger throughout our world. Thank you for your support of this project and it is our hope that many of you will continue to support CFGB in your own personal way into the future.

### Notes from the May meeting of Session

- Members of the youth and Matt Foxall, our Youth Team Leader met with the Session for dinner and conversation. Following dinner, we had a chance to engage the youth in a dialogue about our core values for St. Andrew’s. Session members found the time very meaningful and appreciated the youth taking time to share their perspectives and opinions. Look for more opportunities to engage our draft core values in September.
  
- Our meeting began with viewing the newest communication tool of The Presbyterian Church in Canada: PCCConnect TV. This short television news program is produced by our denomination’s communication office and highlights what is happening across Canada and the world in the name of Presbyterianism. St. Andrew’s Guelph will be featured in the coming months. PCCConnect TV can be viewed on the web at: <http://www.presbyterian.ca/pccconnect/tv>
  
- Session received for information a couple of draft documents from the new Mission and Outreach Coordinating Committee. These were a draft terms of reference and a first attempt at a revision of the Mission Policy from 2005. The members of the new committee are Rick McDonald, Knolly Toolsie and Kathleen McGillivray with The Rev. John Borthwick as a resource to the committee. A further revision of the committee’s mandate and guiding policies will be presented to the Session in June for approval.

### The Friday Brown Bag Recommends... The 2009 Summer Reading List

Mary Doria Russell’s *The Sparrow: A Novel*  
Jodi Picoult’s *Nineteen Minutes*  
Daoud Hari’s *The Translator*  
Geraldine Brooks’ *People of the Book*  
Mary Swan’s *The Boys in the Trees*  
Bernard Schlink’s *The Reader*  
Rudy Wiebe’s *Peace Shall Destroy Many*  
Tatiana De Rosnay’s *Sarah’s Key*  
Timothy Findley’s *Not Wanted on the Voyage*



The Friday Brown Bag & Good Food, Good Book, and Good Nite return on Friday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm & 6:30pm respectively with **Bernard Schlink’s book and now Oscar winning movie, The Reader**.

As always, thanks to those who have joined us over the past year for our book clubs. With a good dose of laughter and lively curiosity, I would suggest that our times together have been deeply spiritual and tremendously enriching to our corporate life. Newcomers are always welcome... as well as suggestions for books.

### Committees and Groups

#### THE END OF THE TRAIL

After 2 ½ years, we have come to end of The Bible Trail. My deepest appreciation to those of you who have stuck with it from the beginning, joined up mid stream, or perhaps got as far as Genesis 20. It has been a fantastic journey and I believe that we have been transformed by it. At least, I know I have. Some have suggested that we should start over again. While I appreciate the suggestion, it might be a bit much to ask of us at this point. I think that it is best that we go deeper into some of the books.

