

# Our Life Together



The Newsletter of the Parishioners of St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Grimsby, Ontario

"Christmas is fast approaching. And now that Christ has aroused our seasonal expectations, he'll soon fulfill them all!" St. Augustine

## The Season of Advent

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor..."

These are the words with which Jesus announced his self understanding. There is a wonderful flow to this flowering of Jesus' self understanding as it is described in the Gospels.

First of all, Jesus hears the preaching of John the Baptist and Jesus is moved to be baptized. During the baptism, Jesus has a vision of the heavens opening and he hears the Voice of God: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

From this experience, Jesus is then 'driven' into the wilderness, where he undergoes a purifying trial of discernment, where he encounters deep temptations.

He emerges from this trial convicted and clear concerning the meaning of his life and proclaims: "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God has come near; turn around, and believe in the good news."

Advent is the Season of the Nearness of the Kingdom of God. It is the season of discernment in which we too are drawn by God's Holy Spirit to consider the meaning and purpose of our lives.

There is a sense of 'getting our house in order' to receive the Holy Child whose birth inaugurates the Coming of the Kingdom – within our hearts, within our world. Advent means 'approach.' The Kingdom is coming near to you.

The Advent call of the Church is for all of us to place ourselves in that same flow of self understanding which Jesus experienced – to know that we are each God's offspring and that God is well pleased with us. Advent is the season in which we 'turn around' to behold the miracle of God's compassion born in our own hearts.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon you and God's Holy Spirit has anointed you to bring the good news of care for one another. My prayer is that you will once more give your heart to this call to compassion for the world and for your neighbour. The same Spirit which moved Jesus to baptism is moving in your own life to help you 'turn around' and toward the miracle of your own significance and purpose.

May you hear the call of Advent this season!

In the Spirit of the Advent call.

Max +

Rev. Max Woolaver  
max@standrewsgrimsby.com



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Photo by Max Woolaver

### From the Editor:

We are always accepting submissions for the next edition(s). The Editor reserves the right to publish and/or edit all submissions.

Please submit your articles, photos, and/or announcements to:  
**info@standrewsgrimsby.com**

Please note that all submissions should be no longer than 1 page typed with or without photos (subject to clarity).

This newsletter is available in colour in PDF format or b/w in print format, if you would like to subscribe please contact the church office at **info@standrewsgrimsby.com** or call the church office at 905-945-8894 to have your name added to the email/ mailing list.

**Deadline for the 2017 Easter Issue  
April 2 2017**

## THE SILENT SERMON

Anonymous Submission

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the minister decided to visit him - it was a chilly day. That evening, the minister found the man at home all alone sitting by a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for the minister's visit, the man welcomed him, and led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The minister made himself at home but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more.

Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The minister glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more, with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

With that, the minister smiled at his host, shook his hand, and let himself out.



## Jessica Rose Clout ..... your new St. Andrew's Church Administrator

Submitted by: Sanjoy Acharya

Unless you've been out of town, or hiding under the proverbial bushel, most of you have already met our new Friend and Administrator Jessica.



For those who have not, I'd like to introduce Jessica, with her husband Dan and 18 month old Braxton, the apple of her eye.

Many of you know Jessica's parents Pat & Craig Hore, long time (10 o'clock) parishioners at St. Andrew's. Pat and Craig were both employed in the local Steel Industry.

Jessica is a local girl, born and raised in Grimsby. She went to the Grimsby Secondary School ... right behind our parish hall. Then for a period of 6 years she was in St. Catharines, where she went to Brock University at the top of the hill to get her B.A. in Sociology. Following that Jessica trained in Business Sales and Marketing at the Niagara-on-the-Lake campus of Niagara College. Dan works in the Millwrights Union, and lately with the Toyota Estimating department.

St. Andrews for ever! She was baptised, married to her sweetheart Dan and Braxton was baptised here!

Jessica's business training and solid Anglican background is probably what qualifies her as a "shoe-in" at St. Andrew's, both as a Sunday School teacher and Administrator.

In her school days Jessica took part in dancing and cheerleading. She still teaches dancing classes, just ask and she will tell you when and where. Jessica's previous employment history shows positions at a Beamsville commercial printer and the Welland Heritage Council.

Jessica places great importance on feeling grounded in her faith and surrounded by her family and church family. She is a faithful follower of the Anglican Church and is grateful for the steady support provided by both Church, local community and friends.

When I asked Jessica if she has a favourite piece of scripture, hymn or carol she gave me:

*"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God..." (Romans 8:28,).*

This means God can turn our tragedies into triumphs. God can turn our setbacks into comebacks. God can turn our disappointment into our destiny!

It only remains for us to welcome Jessica to her position as Max's chief helper and the "go to" person for all your questions about St. Andrew's Church. I am sure we all wish Jessica, Dan and Braxton many years of happy association with our and Church family.



# Starfish Niagara

Submitted by: Gillian Wood



In a developing world, **education is the key**. With your help we have managed to give a handful of children **HOPE** at a public school in Nicaragua. Only the poorest attend public school. The school system is notorious for its under-qualified teachers and lack of facilities.



Over 5 years we have built a computer room and stacked it with laptop computers. Given the school a reliable supply of clean water, built a kitchen to cook wholesome and nourishing food, recondition a school garden to grow vegetables, planted fruit trees, rebuilt their toilets and so much more...

The children there are so keen to learn; they crave books and writing materials. Many of them believe a further education promises the opportunity to provide for their parents and family. This

February 15th - 24th, 2017 we are travelling to a new region in Nicaragua to build a kitchen for a school of 350 children who get a meal provided for them from the government each day but at present cook it on a circle of bricks on the dusty ground.



This will be our 6<sup>th</sup> visit to Nicaragua. If you are interested in a wonderful experience helping to encourage education in one of the poorest countries do consider joining us.

While in Nicaragua, we will be visiting the school in Masaya where we will see your sponsored students and check on the computer room, water tank, kitchen, washrooms and storage shed and the other work we have done on past visits, and then go to the new school to help build their new kitchen.

**Our SOUP SUPPER will be held once again in St Andrew's Church Hall on January 28<sup>th</sup> 2017.**

Please note the date, tickets go fast.

Talk to Peter Carr- Locke or Gillian Wood if you would like more information.

## FUND RAISING

Submitted by: Gillian Wood

Some church members of have asked me about Fund Raising, which activities are for St. Andrew's budget and which for Outreach, and what our Outreach is.

I have been involved in many fund raising activities over the past 14 years, some with the intention of giving the money to specific groups and some for St. Andrew's projects such as the Air Conditioning, the Fireside Room, the new Kitchen stove and now repairs to the Steeple.

Some activities, Peach Peeling, Turkey Dinner, Winona Men's Dinners and Pancake Supper raise money directly for St. Andrew's Fund Raising budget line. The Holly Lane Bazaar, Yard sales and Receptions are organised by the ACW and the members decide twice a year where to send those funds. ACW has averaged about \$9,000 a year. This is usually divided between St. Andrew's, Local Agencies and World-wide needs.

The Outreach committee holds events specifically for their projects. It is sponsoring Refugees and has prepared dinners for the Migrant Workers at St. Alban's Beamsville. They regularly take food to GBF and St. Matthew's House in Hamilton and the gifts from the Christmas Angel tree. They hold Seniors' Teas, make Friendly Visits and give Christmas gifts to those who have difficulty getting to church. Parishioners also donate to PWRDF through the church.

The Prayer Shawl ministry does not raise funds but they give very generously of their time and money to help others.

Most of these fundraising activities are organised by approximately 20 people with much appreciated help from many others.

The Nicaraguan Gala is largely organised by a different group of people who have a serious interest, even a passion for this work, to the extent that they are prepared to spend a considerable amount of their own money and vacation time to visit Nicaragua. Although we have raised considerable sums of money at the five Galas and are most thankful for all the help we received, we trust that everyone has enjoyed the evenings and felt they received good value for their contributions.

Looking at Vestry reports for the last 5 years:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fund Raising Budget	8,821	8,615	?	9,717	10,307
ACW	6,450	10,206	9,649	9,210	9,200
Outreach	1,955	1,594	?	?	?
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$17,226	\$20,415		18,927	19,507
Nicaragua	\$ 11,862	\$ 9,978	\$ 9,418	\$ 5997	\$11,682

I apologise if these figures are not completely accurate, they are the best I can find from my Vestry Reports. I also apologise if I have omitted some important Fund Raising and Outreach.

As you can see, thanks to the hard work and generosity of St. Andrew's people approximately two thirds of what we raise is spent locally. We also give hundreds if not thousands of hours volunteering with local organisations as well as for St. Andrew's.

I think we can be proud of our achievements.

# Life at St. Andrew's

Photos Submitted by: Sanjoy Acharya, Gail Campbell, Ruth Emerson & Max Woolaver



# Announcements

**Thank you from the Stewardship committee for your response to the information package you received early in October. The Corporation and committees are working toward curtailing expenses, but at the same time keeping our properties in repair and the programmes in both the Parish and beyond viable. Thank you for your continuing support of your Church and its' mission.**

## **EUCHRE 2017:**

Last Friday of every month. 7 - 10 p.m., \$5.00 per person includes snacks/refreshments & door prizes. For more info see Pat, Susan or Sheri.

## **ANNUAL WOMEN'S EUCHARIST AND DINNER:**

ALL St. Andrew's women are invited to join us on Tuesday Dec. 13th at 6.30pm for a Eucharist in the Fireside Room followed by a catered Roast Beef dinner. The cost \$15. Please contact Gillian 905-309-7798 [gillian.wood@sympatico.ca](mailto:gillian.wood@sympatico.ca) if you will attend and if you will need a ride to and from the church. We would love to see you on this social occasion.

## **FAMILY MOVIE & DINNER NIGHT:**

Saturday, December 17th. Doors open at 5:30 pm, pot luck dinner at 6(ish). Please bring your favourite dish (or dessert) and enjoy the evening. We are showing "The Christmas Carol" Movie/dinner is free, goodwill offering gladly accepted.

## **SOUP SUPPER & SILENT AUCTION:**

Tickets for the Empty Bowl Soup Supper on Saturday Jan. 28th are now available from Dorothy Wood or Gillian Wood. \$40 for a handmade bowl, your choice of soups from 12 local restaurants accompanied by artisanal bread. Bid on some wonderful items in the Silent Auction. A ticket to this fun event will make a wonderful Christmas gift for the person who doesn't want more "things" All proceeds to help the children of Nicaragua receive an education.



## **CANADA 150th BIRTHDAY TEA & SILENT AUCTION:**

"Save The Date". Saturday, April 29th, 2 pm. Canada's 150 Birthday Tea and Canadian Auction. Guests may dress

in attire from their favourite period of Canadian History, if desired. We hope this to be a fun filled event for the Parish and Town of Grimsby, as well as a great fundraiser. Dates of ticket availability will be

posted in the Bulletin, and Facebook in the New Year. But for now "Save the Date" and prepare your apparel if desired.

## **FRIEND to FRIEND WANTED:**

Men & Women who enjoy listening and talking, can spare an hour every other week. Don't miss this opportunity to brighten up your life. Please see Judy Connor (905 945 8350)

## **FOOD BANK:**

Food for St. Matthew's House and the Grimsby Food Bank may be left in the basket by the Baptismal font or in the box in the Parish Hall lobby. This food is delivered monthly.

## **WED. EVENING SERVICE & BIBLE STUDY:**

7 p.m., every Wednesday in the Church. Bible Study follows the service in the Fireside Room.

## **MEN'S LUNCH:**

12 p.m., 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Fireside Room. Please call Jessica in the church office by Monday previous to ensure correct number of lunches.

## **THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:**

10 a.m., Thursdays in the Fireside Room.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST:**

8 a.m., 2nd Saturday of every month at Bogey's Restaurant at the Casablanca Inn.

## **GIFT CARDS:**

Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduations, Birthdays . . . looking for a meaningful gift? Gift cards supporting the educational needs of children through Starfish Nicaragua are available year round. For more information please contact Jane Malgo at: 905-309-6616 or by email at [janemalgo@gmail.com](mailto:janemalgo@gmail.com).

*Please note that regular announcements are posted each week in the bulleting insert, on the monitor and the calendar on the bulleting board in the Parish Hall.*

# Parishioner Business Directory

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**Ardun Jewellers**

Specializing in custom made jewellery and repairs.

**Pat & Rob Dunn**

905-945-9312  
14 Main Street West, Grimsby

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**Angela Bromley Shiatsu Therapy**

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**Angela Bromley**

905-536-2648  
abromley.shiatsu@bell.net  
www.bromleyshiatsu.ca

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**Canadian Service Industries**

Dry carpet, area rug and upholstery cleaning, clean and restore tile grout, all natural, non toxic.

**Roland & Melissa Fournier**

905-309-1026  
roland.fournier@hotmail.com  
www.CarpetAndUpholsteryCleaning.net

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**Norwex**

Reduce the use of chemicals in your home

**Jennifer MacEachern**

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jenmaceachern@cogeco.ca

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**Metcalfe Electric Ltd.**

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**Tom & Gwen Medcalf**

905-945-2151  
gwen@metcalfelectric.ca

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**Niagara Wealth Retirement Solutions  
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Since 1994, we have assisted our clients to properly prepare for and enjoy a successful financial life.

**Sean A. Straughan CFP CRC**

905-309-1123  
sean@niagarawealth.com  
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**Premium Home Services**

Heating, air conditioning and renovations - residential and commercial services.

**Rob Simmons & Dave Veinotte**

905-309-9074  
info@premiumhomeservices.ca  
www.PremiumHomeServices.ca

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**Royal LePage**

Realty Sales Representatives serving Lincoln, Grimsby and surrounding areas.

**David & Carolyn Webb**

905-945-1234  
allwebbsite@aim.com  
www.royallepage.ca

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We serve halibut, haddock, shrimp, hamburgers and much more.  
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**Lilly Kin**

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**Dorothy Wood**

905-945-3556  
pattonplace@cogeco.ca

Thank you to the above businesses. These ads cost a maximum of \$25 per year to help cover the cost of printing this newsletter. If you would like to be a part of the Business Directory in our next issue, please email your contact info to the church office at [info@standrewsgrimsby.com](mailto:info@standrewsgrimsby.com)

Disclaimer: St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Grimsby, Ontario in no way endorses or recommends the use of any vendors listed above and shall not be liable for direct, incidental, consequential, special, or punitive damages resulting from the use or inability to use the products or services of these vendors.

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**Did you know? St. Andrew's is on Facebook!!**

What a great way to keep up-to-date on upcoming events, post your own comments, get to "know" others and participate in our church community.

You can find our pages by heading to:

<http://www.facebook.com/standrewsgrimsby>

Don't forget to click on the "Like" button to become a fan, and receive updates in your newsfeed. It's a great way to connect with family and friends, old and new, on the internet. For more information, go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

**Next issue - Easter 2017**