

# March Issue 2016



**Coldest Night of the Year Team -  
"Happy Souls", in support of the  
Calgary Homeless Foundation.  
More details on page 8.**

## In this Issue:

- Super Fun Potluck Supper
- Annual Congregational Meeting
- Remembering our Friends
- Volunteers Needed
- Little Dresses Mission Project
- Honorary Degree for Rev. Barclay MacKay
- Inn From the Cold Cancellation
- Youth Event - Hot Seat
- Coldest Night of the Year Walk

### Editorial Team of NFTP:

Rhonda Mullan, Brent Harding, Norah Finlay, Fran Koenders, Terry Zimmer, Douglas Henrichsen, Judie Coleman, Rev. Kevin Lee

Articles may be submitted in the mailbox in the Karl English Lounge or emailed to [newsletter@standrewscalgary.ca](mailto:newsletter@standrewscalgary.ca)

NFTP Editorial Team may edit your submissions due to space limitations

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Newsletter Publication of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

703 Heritage Dr. SW

Calgary, Alberta T2V 2W4

403-255-0001 403-450-8246

[office@standrewscalgary.ca](mailto:office@standrewscalgary.ca)

[standrewscalgary.ca](http://standrewscalgary.ca) [Tiny.cc/stA-FB](http://Tiny.cc/stA-FB)



## Potluck Supper

Dance the winter blues away...



Welcome & Fellowship Team hosted a wonderful fun evening called, **"Fabulous 50's to the Swinging 70's Potluck Supper."** Pictured left are the Coles, who came as the famed 70's Rock Band, "Kiss".

Pictured on the right are Bill Judd and Pat Tritter, dancing to the 50's music. Below, the "Notables" also provided the music from the 50's and 70's. Bottom, Elaine and Ted Cantlon also got into the swing of things. Thanks to the W & F Team for a memorable evening!



## 109th Annual Congregational Meeting

### Reduced Budget for 2016 & Legacy Fund Resolution Accepted...

Despite the tough economic conditions in Calgary, St. Andrew's people gave generously in 2015 and finished the year with a very modest deficit of \$3,300. That was the good news delivered by David Townsend, who heads up our new Finance Team.

Looking ahead to 2016, the budget of the General Fund, which is the fund to operate the day to day activities of St. Andrew's, was cut by about \$23,000, in anticipation of continued economic difficulties. The reduction in our budget comes from two main sources: 1) All staff salary freeze, including the ministers, 2) 10% cuts to all team budgets.

On the income side of the budget, one significant change is the contribution coming from the South of Fish Creek Fund (SFC), which will contribute two thirds of the salary and benefits for the third ministry position and other related administrative and ministry expenses. In total, SFC Fund is expected to contribute approximately \$102,000 in 2016 towards the overall budget.

The Legacy Fund and the Memorial Fund will also contribute \$15,000 each for the new family ministry initiative in 2016. Overall, the financial picture looks healthy despite the economic uncertainty in the city. Speaking of the Legacy Fund, after extensive legal research and advice, the Legacy Fund committee and Session proposed the long-awaited "Resolution" document at the general meeting. After John Cuthbertson's presentation on the key points of the document, the congregation unanimously approved the new resolution as the guiding document on how the Fund will be managed and administrated. On behalf of the congregation, John McPhee was asked to sign the document. Mr. McPhee, former Clerk of Session of Trinity, was instrumental in the amalgamation which created the Fund.

We are grateful to God's faithfulness and thankful for the generosity of the people of St. Andrew's! We continue to ask for your generous support in the upcoming year. Thank you!

Rev. Kevin Lee

# Remembering Our Friends...

## Chris Groundwater

1932 – 2016

Chris was born in Longhope, Scotland in 1932. He was a marine engineer with the Merchant Navy of Scotland and travelled much of the world. In 1959, he married Nancy, the love of his life, in Aberdeen, Scotland. In 1960, they immigrated to Canada to start a new life. He worked for Home Oil and Shell Canada and continued to do engineering consulting work for many years after semi-retiring. Chris was at his happiest with family at their cabin on Kootenay Lake, or on their boat on Vancouver Island. A mentor and friend to many, he served on the Pincher Creek Hospital Board for new hospital construction and, in Calgary, taught boating courses for the Canadian Power Sail Squadrons.

## Bob Merchant

1931 – 2016

Bob was born and raised in Montreal. In 1962, he married Wilhelmina "Willy" Visser, and they started their family together, having two children (Wendy and Scott). Bob and Willy were married for almost 50 years and built a life together filled with family, friends and much joy. Bob lived an active life and loved the outdoors. A successful jockey at a young age, he ran a ski school in Montreal before making a career change to Bell Telephone and later to AGT in Calgary. After moving west, Bob shared his passion for skiing with his children, supporting them in alpine racing. Camping was another favorite family activity, and many happy years were spent at the cabin on Buffalo Lake. Bob had an unconditional love for family. Characterized by a sharp wit, a kind heart, he was always up for an adventure.

## Roy Arrell

1935 – 2016

Roy was born in London and served in the R.A.F. during WWII. In 1956, he married Patricia Anne Gilbert, and they had three children. Roy was a draughtsman by trade, and after immigrating to Calgary he was employed by Fluor Canada. At St. Andrew's, Roy was active in the Heritage Seniors, serving on the Seniors' Committee and participating in carpet bowling, aerobics and the Walking Club. He also volunteered with Side-By-Side.

## Margaret (Marjorie) Gray

1921 – 2016

Marjorie grew up in Calgary, attending Stanley Jones and Crescent Heights schools. She entered nursing but developed tuberculosis and spent 18 months in the A. H. Baker Sanatorium. She married Andrew in 1943 and followed him to Camp Petawawa. They returned to Alberta after the war and moved to Lethbridge, where they brought up their three children, moving to Calgary in 1964. Marjorie loved her trips to Britain and Europe, as well as more adventurous travels by light aircraft, but her fondest memories were the summers spent with the family on Gabriola Island. Her hobbies of knitting and reading, as well as her dogs and cats, were always an important part of her life.

**Our thoughts and prayers** go out to Caroline Bain and family. Her father (who was Val Hall's cousin) passed away in February.

## Volunteers Needed

*Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18*

*No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.*  
— Aesop

Here at St. Andrew's we have many, many places for volunteer help. Some jobs are big, but most are small, and would take up only a small amount of your time. There is actually something for everyone. When we use the gifts God provided to us, we are, in fact, being his hands — just as he wanted us to be.

**Small Volunteer Projects....** From tidying up a room, to painting, sanding, varnishing...planting or watering plants....if you like to tinker with household jobs, perhaps you could find something you would enjoy from the sign-up sheet.

**Counters** — be part of a team that counts the collection after second the second service. Usually takes an hour or less, and is a very integral part of the church's needs. Teams are generally required to take a turn about every two months or so.

**Be a Coffee Host** — sign up once, or once a month — up to you! Everything you will need is provided, and we would be pleased to show you how the coffee pots and dishwasher work, if you are uneasy about it. Those who sign up for early church make the coffee, tea, and do the set-up (sugar, cream on table). You can serve after the 9:30 am service or the 11:15 service. So simple!

**A Nursery Volunteer** — like children? Missing your grandchildren? Well sign up today to spend 45 minutes with the wee ones in the nursery. A paid staff member is on hand each week so you won't be alone.

**Office Help** — this is where it's a bit tricky. Sometimes we can provide lots of notice, and sometimes it is last minute. You can answer the phone sometimes (not often do we need that)....but mostly it is folding papers, stuffing envelopes, putting on stickers, or stamping.

**Special Events** — Different things happen at different times during the year. Do you want to help with the men's breakfast? Do you want to be an usher or a greeter? How about being at the Welcome Desk? Maybe you would like to read the scripture once in a while. There are always special things to be done around Lent, Easter, special services, and Christmas. And don't forget the wonderful annual bazaar!

As you can see, there are many ways to help St. Andrew's, and in doing so you will feel great about yourself, and will be able to turn former acquaintances into fast friends. If you are interested in any of these activities, please just drop me a note [rmullan@standrewscalgary.ca](mailto:rmullan@standrewscalgary.ca), call me at 403-255-0001, or drop by the office. We can hook you up with what you are looking for — so think it over, and then — call me!

Submitted by Rhonda Mullan



## Heritage Seniors

**Registration \$20 -  
September to August**

### **Mondays**

Aerobics 9:35 am  
Carpet Bowling 10:30 am  
Yoga & Stretch 10:30 am  
Bridge 12:30 pm

### **Tuesdays**

Line Dancing 10:30 am  
Art Class 9:30 am

### **Wednesdays**

Music Makers 10:00 am

### **Thursdays**

Aerobics 9:25 am  
Stretching 10:30 am  
Carpet Bowling 10:30 am  
Floor Curling 11:00 am

### **Saturdays**

Card Social 7:00 pm (Monthly)

### **Coming Event**

Monday, March 7 @ Noon  
Catered Seniors Luncheon  
Tickets \$12  
Call Ron or John



# Little Dresses Mission Project

Changing Lives One Dress at a Time...



Little Dresses for Africa (LDFA) is a non-profit, Christian organization, which provides relief to the children of Africa and in other countries where there is a need. **Simple dresses are made out of cotton fabric and distributed through orphanages, churches and schools to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy!**

The 185 dresses that were sewn at the work bee in September, and by Elly de Nooij's quilting ladies and others, were delivered to Disaster Aid Canada in Victoria, BC. in November, and were distributed to girls in the Philippines. Ladies have continued to sew the kits that are available in the Foyer and another shipment of dresses will be delivered in March.

As well as many dresses for our mission project, the September bee fostered a great deal of fun and fellowship for the participants. We will be having another work bee in April, and ask everyone to bring their smiles, their enthusiasm and any completed kits.

If you can help please sign up for the work bee that will be held in Trinity Hall

**Saturday, April 23**

**9 a.m.**

Coffee will be on at 8:30, so you can come earlier!

We need volunteers...

- o to cut fabric and trim (bring scissors).
- o to iron material and trim (bring an iron and ironing board).
- o to sew dresses at the work bee (bring sewing machine and whatever else you need which may include thread, scissors, extension cord, straight pins).
- o to package kits that can be sewn at home and returned (everything will be supplied).

***Sign up at the Sign-Up Centre in the Foyer.***

*For more information please contact Judie Coleman*



## Lenten Season

### Journey to the Cross

In Lent, we journey with Christ in a season focused around the way of the cross. It began on Ash Wednesday with two notable symbols of "ashes" and "sackcloth". Ashes remind us that we are ruined, since ashes are the remains of a process where something is burned and charred beyond recognition. Wearing sackcloth reminds us of our humble identity and is an expression of our impoverished state and sorrow.

Come and join us for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Services;

#### Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 24, 7:30 pm

#### Good Friday Service

Friday, March 25, 10:30 am

#### Easter Services

Sunday, March 27, 9:30 & 11:15 am



A very **big thank you** to all of you who donated baking for this year's Christmas Cookie Plates. The list of names is too numerous to itemize, but you know who you are. Thank you.

Thank you to all the ladies who came out on Saturday morning to help assemble the plates: Olive S., Pam L., Barb E., Jean S., Margaret B., and Lynn H. Also a big thank you to Lois K. for her mentoring.

A special thank you to the Shawnessy branch of the Calgary Co-op for donating all of the bags for packaging the

cookies.

Lastly a very sincere thank you to everyone who helped deliver the 78 plates.

May you all be blessed as you have blessed others through this very worthwhile mission project.

*Submitted by Rita Elliot*

## Inn From The Cold

### IFTC Board Cancels Community Inns



Here is an excerpt from the **Calgary Herald** report by Reid Southwark on February 24, 2016.

*"Inn From the Cold had offered homeless Calgarians temporary shelter at participating churches and community halls for 19 years, but the charity shuttered the community inn program, taking many church groups by surprise. Officials with the charity told a frustrated crowd of roughly 160 people at a downtown conference room that Inn From the Cold has refocused its efforts on helping homeless children and families. They have been staying at the group's larger shelters where they receive a range of assistance. An average of 15 single men and women had frequented community inns over the past year. There have been concerns that volunteers who oversaw these church shelters were at risk of abuse by guests with mental illness, addictions and behavioural challenges. These concerns were among the charity's reasons to end the community inn program...Brad Grant, chairman of Inn From the Cold's board, said throughout the night that the charity had failed to properly consult with volunteers running the community inns about its decision to end the program."*

St. Andrew's partnered with Southwood United Church to host the Inn four times a year on months with five Sundays. As it was reported in the last month's issue of the NFTP, it takes many volunteers to host the guests. Although we are disappointed with the decision, we will continue to look for ways to partner with others to serve the needs of the most vulnerable neighbours in our city. Please continue to pray for the clients and the staff of the IFTC.



## Happy Birthday...

Happy Birthday to our very own **Bill McAuley** who will be celebrating his **95th** on March 16. He is still enjoying life in his new surroundings at Wentworth Manor! Thanks be to God!



Also, we congratulate **Tom and Chris Millar** on their **60th** wedding anniversary and Tom's **86th** birthday! Tom and Chris were married on Tom's birthday, March 17.

**Holy Smoke Cafe**  
**Saturday, March 19th**  
**5:30 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**Trinity Hall**

**Volunteers are needed:**

Set-up/Table Setting - Baking/Cooking/  
 Kitchen Prep Clean-up/Dishwashing



If you can help with any of these activities, please contact  
 Bob Fuenning.  
 Sign-up sheet in the Foyer.

## Honorary Doctor of Divinity for the Rev. Marion Barclay MacKay Congratulations!

On Thursday evening, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the 149<sup>th</sup> Convocation of The Presbyterian College in Montréal, Québec, the degree of Doctor of Divinity (*honoris causa*) will be conferred on the Rev. Marion Barclay MacKay.

Marion has a long history with St. Andrew's. In 1979, shortly after being designated to the Order of Diaconal Ministries, she arrived in Calgary to work as a Presbytery Christian Education consultant. She worshipped at St. Andrew's, and was an active participant in Musical Friends and College and Careers, as well as a valued member of Session. She shared her expertise in Christian Education freely, and our Sunday School and youth programs were enriched as a result.

Marion did further studies in Virginia, and received a degree in Christian Education. Years later, she was to be the first Canadian to be honoured as Educator of the Year by the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators. She was ordained in 1997, and came immediately to St. Andrew's to become part of the ministry team. She ministered here from 1997 until 2005, working with the Rev. Karl English and the Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts respectively.

In 2005, there was standing room only as the whole congregation celebrated with joy the wedding of Marion to the Rev. Dr. Donald Walker MacKay. After some months of preparation, the couple went to Ghana to share their faith and expertise. They returned to ministry in Canada, and after Donald's death, Marion continues in ministry in Sydney Mines, NS.

Marion still has warm personal ties to our congregation, and we rejoice in the significant recognition that this honorary degree signifies. Congratulations, Marion! (Marion, pictured on the right with Barb English, Debby Dorcas and Kathy English Basaraba to her left) *Submitted by Barb English*



## Coldest Night of the Year

### St. Andrew's Team - "Happy Souls"



Calgary has a homeless population of approximately 3,000 according to the Calgary Homeless Foundation.

This year's walk was a huge success, as 587 walkers took part. Ninety-seven teams registered for the event, raising over \$121,000 for three agencies which support those without homes.

**Acadia Place** is an affordable housing complex with 57 units housing a blend of single adults, couples and families who were previously homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

**Feed the Hungry** is a Sunday night dinner program offering a sit-down meal for 500 guests in St. Mary's Hall, downtown Calgary.

**The Mustard Seed** is an organization that provides food, clothing and shelter. It also helps clients find homes and jobs and improve their overall health.

St. Andrew's Team not only raised nearly \$1,500 for the cause, but shared great fellowship with one another as they walked the 5K along the river on Memorial Drive.

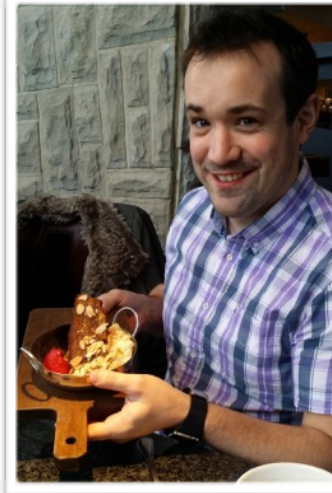
Thank you to the team members; Kevin Lee, Jan and John Hazlett, Pat and Duane Tritter, Usha Mohan, John and Jean McPhee, Evelyn and Alan Reimer, David Townsend, Jared and Beth Miller, Audrey, Roger and Shelby Cole. Also, thank you to all those who gave generously to support our team! Thank you!



The picture above are the three ministers, Jan, Kevin and Jared at the finish line.

## Youth Event

### Rev. Jared Miller on the 'Hot Seat'



"Can a Christian be possessed by demons?" That head-scratcher started Rev. Jared Miller's hot-seat grilling by St. Andrew's youth in February. Carl Murray's question had Rev. Miller silent while he pondered an answer. Rev. Miller pointed to passages of Scripture discussing what, in Bible time, would have

seemed very strange behaviour, but today we know as conditions such as schizophrenia. Eventually, though, Rev. Miller said that it was difficult for a Christian to be possessed. However, he told the group that Christians would do well to keep on top of the conduct of their own lives. "Angels and demons fighting is a great idea for a movie, but it's not what's really going on," he said. "There are things we have no control over."

There were several other questions during the evening that prompted Rev. Miller to pause. Eventually, the youth discussion moved into issues such as "which religion is the true religion" and ideas like "the rapture". Rev. Miller noted that the latter concept actually came forward in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century in the United States rather than from the Bible or the Holy Land.

With Bibles in hand, the group discussed passages of Leviticus, and Rev. Miller pointed out three types of laws discussed throughout the book – moral, purity, and ceremonial. If there was a spark to the evening, it was over passages in Leviticus that seemed to address tattoos. The resulting discussion highlighted the divide between young people who want tattoos and parents opposed to the idea. Rev. Miller admitted he has a small tattoo — providing ammunition for tattoo advocates.

*Submitted by Brent Harding*