



CONNEXIONS

JUNE / JULY 2020

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL NEWSLETTER



OUR NEW NORMAL

Summer
@ Home



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Dear Friends,

Looks like our Covid-19 season is more of a marathon than a sprint! Things will not be returning to “normal” for us anytime soon. Last week Rev. Jared and I were on a call where Premier Kenney and Dr. Hinshaw addressed about 1000 faith leaders from across Alberta on the stipulations for Phase One reopening of our places of worship on June 1st. Among the various requirements are a limit of 50 people, no singing, no children’s programs, no food/beverages, no physical contact, socially distant seating, the wearing of face-masks at all times, a register of names of those present, screening of worshippers for illness and recent travel, etc... In our subsequent discussions at St. Andrew’s we have decided not to re-open on June 1st.

Your leaders remain concerned about the risks associated with regathering in person—especially for those in our community with higher risk factors. Worship is a public event—how do we know that everyone who attends has been carefully social distancing? How do you turn away those who show up after the limit of 50 is reached? (It could require up to five services per Sunday to accommodate our average worshipping congregation.) We feel that at this time the quality of our online worship allows us to maintain a meaningful worship experience together—in a safe environment for all. Later in June when/if the province launches Phase Two of the re-opening we will reconsider the new stipulations for places of worship and discern the best course for our ministry as we **Grow. LIFE. Together. With God.**

As we have discovered at St. Andrew’s, this is not a “wasted time” or a “pause time” in terms of ministry. This is a “pivot time.” There are people in distress and difficulty who need our care, support and encouragement. We are helping to meet those needs in a variety of new ways. The opportunities of sharing hope and faith with those beyond our immediate congregation have grown exponentially—whether through our social media ministry or weekly worship. Some people are especially grateful that online worship is available—not just on Sunday morning—seven days a week. Some of our services have received well over a thousand views. We are reaching more people every week in ministry than ever before. I am so grateful for each of our St. Andrew’s staff members who have been working so diligently in this new season. God is using St. Andrew’s for great good as we pivot and find new and creative ways to **Grow. LIFE. Together. With God.**

I want to thank you personally for your continued loyalty and faithful giving that financially sustains our ministry in this challenging season. It takes extra effort on your part to pivot and give electronically, by mailing a cheque, or by signing up for PAR. Yet St. Andrew’s is a real community and when there’s a need—people pull together to do what it takes. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

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Summer OF Wisdom

A NEW SERMON SERIES

Join us in June, July, and August
as we seek spiritual guidance
for everyday living
in the Wisdom Literature of Proverbs,
Song of Songs and Ecclesiastes.

Come explore what it means
to live wisely in such a time as this.

Pastoral Care at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church: Connecting with You

During these unsettled times we are devoted to reaching as many people as we can by as many different means as we can. In addition to low-tech approaches (telephone and cards, principally) we are also using high-tech video and Zoom calls to help reach out to people. We are grateful to Rev. Fiona & Garry, who developed the "Through the Window" series that showcased our members talking about their favourite hymns, scriptures, as well as giving them a chance to share how and when they became connected with St. Andrew's. This series wrapped up on Pentecost Sunday. These videos went out with our regular emails to those who sign up, and are archived at our YouTube channel:

(Click Here)

The church website www.standrewscalgary.ca remains a good place to connect people and resources.




*In Loving
Memory...*
LINDA HAINES

Linda Haines, mother, grandmother, aunt, friend, community member, Elder, and Child of God passed away on Saturday, May 31st.

Linda will be missed by many, her St. Andrew's family included. Over the years, Linda has served in so many ways: Elder, Stephen Minister, member of Ministry Resource & Accountability Team, Personnel Team, and the ConnXions Newsletter Team. In the past month, she had also volunteered to serve on the newly formed Communications Team.

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Wonderful Wellness Wednesdays

We credit Barbara Grant, Spiritual Health Practitioner at Wild Rose United Church, for the name of Wonderful Wellness Wednesdays, or WWW. This weekly program on wellness, available via Zoom at 10:30 every Wednesday morning, focuses on aspects of the Eight Dimensions to Wellness (spiritual, physical, environmental, social, mental, financial, emotional and intellectual). Geoffrey facilitates the sessions. Guests include: Diane Dalkin, President of the Reader Rock Garden; Barbara Grant, Spiritual Care Practitioner; Shana Barbour, Program Coordinator, Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society; and Katherine Ylitalo, independent art curator and former University of Calgary professor. Each guest speaks about wellness from their perspectives and experience.

Reaching Us

As always, if you have a need, or you know of someone else who does, please feel free to call the office at 403-255-0001. You can also contact our Interim Pastoral Care Leader, Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins at gsimmins@standrewscalgary.ca.

"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes it's the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow."

(M. Radmacher from Text4Hope.

Text COVID19HOPE to 393939 to subscribe.)

We are here for you, to provide a sympathetic ear and a safe place to talk.

Judie Coleman
Pastoral Care Coordinator

Geoffrey Simmins
Interim Pastoral Care Leader



**Health Matters:
Facts from Your Nursing Team
Summer Smarts
by Alice Williams**

With the arrival of warmer weather, we are all going to be spending more time outside. Unfortunately, we are not alone; bugs such as ticks, mosquitoes, wasps and bees are also starting to show up after the long, cold winter. In Alberta, the risk of a person getting Lyme disease from a tick is considered low, although in the last few years the incidence of bites has increased so it is important to have the information to protect ourselves.

Cover up as much skin as possible when you are out in wooded or grassy areas. Wear a hat, long-sleeved shirt and pants with the legs tucked into your socks. It is a good idea to wear light-coloured clothing, so ticks are easier to identify. Check all family members and dogs after an outside trip.

Seek medical attention if you experience a round-shaped rash that spreads around a tick bite site, fatigue, headaches, fever and sore muscles.

A mosquito transmitted virus causes the condition of West Nile disease. 70-80% of people bitten experience no symptoms at all or only mild reactions such as fever, headache and body aches. Immediate medical care is urgently required for symptoms such as a sudden severe headache, stiff neck, nausea and vomiting, drowsiness and confusion.

Bee, wasp or hornet stings may produce local reactions or in more extreme cases an allergic reaction.

Localised pain, redness and swelling are common. Severe allergic reactions can occur with symptoms not associated with the sting site. Having itchy hives, swelling of the face, throat or tongue and difficulty breathing are known as an anaphylactic reaction and can be life threatening. Always carry Benadryl in your first aid kit in case of a severe reaction until you can get medical help. Persons with physician - prescribed injectable epinephrine for a severe sting reaction should have their emergency kit with them at all times.

Summer is a time for family fun. Make sure to protect yourselves, while enjoying all the healthy benefits of outdoor living; keeping in mind to implement social distancing.



In Memoriam

Sincere condolences go out to:

Tom McIntyre, whose brother-in-law, Sandy, died February 20 in Scotland. He leaves his wife, Lily, Tom's sister and two grown sons.

Ruth and Harry Eisenhauer on the death of their son, John, on February 24.

Marlene LaMontagne on the death of her grandson, Ryan Heck, on April 11 in Italy.

Linda Ripley and family on the death of her mother, Carol Olton, on April 13. She also leaves a son and grandchildren.

Elaine Cantlon and family on the death of her father, Earl, from Covid-19 in Ontario on May 18. He also leaves a wife, Norma and Elaine's three sisters close by.

Our condolences go out to Amy, Raf, Isabella and Evan Komierowski. Amy's father, Wayne Dunfield, passed away on May 17th.

Spiritual Moments by Lorie Nielsen

It was December 18, 1990 and Flemming and I were living in the Kensington area of Calgary. We had just returned home from an evening of pre-Christmas festivities. There was a message on the machine from my sister, Sharon, in Fredericton. I listened in disbelief to her voice telling us my dad had just had a heart attack and was in the hospital in Perth-Andover, N.B. where he and my mum lived. Sharon was already at the hospital, leaving her husband Paul, and their three children at home.

The next day Flemming drove me to the airport, and with tears and a heavy heart I said goodbye. In Fredericton, a friend of our family drove me for over two hours to Perth-Andover. My dad looked so fragile. Along with my dad, my mum was in the hospital on another floor. She had suffered with depression all her adult life and a few weeks prior had been hospitalized once again.

”

A family strengthened
by the Lord.

My sister and I were so worried, and we didn't know how my dad's heart attack would affect her. We spent each day visiting them both and struggled to keep it together for both of them. On the morning of Christmas Eve, dad's doctor said he was "cautiously optimistic" about his condition. My sister was torn between staying with me or going to her family. I told her to please just go to Fredericton and spend Christmas with them.

She didn't want to leave me alone and I said, "I'll be fine, don't worry. Anyway, Velma (a good family friend) is going to spend the night with me, and she'll probably invite me for Christmas dinner."

Reluctantly Sharon got on the bus headed for Fredericton. Then, just as I was leaving the hospital, I received a message that Velma was unable to spend the night with me. I had shed my share of tears during the past week, but I was at a low point, and about to shed a few more. Then before I could even start crying, a rush of emotion filled me with such strength, warmth, love and comfort; beyond what any human relationship can give, that I knew without a doubt I was in God's arms. I needed all that the Lord gave me for the days ahead, because my dad died within the hour and everything that we thought we were going to be doing changed instantly.

Sharon, Paul, and the children drove back, and my mum was released from the hospital. Flemming and the girls spent Christmas Day flying to Fredericton and we all spent time holding each other up. My mum was given the strength to deal with everything that was happening despite the difficulty and we got through it as a family. A family strengthened by the Lord.





A Minute for Music by Evan Mounce

If you tuned into the St. Andrew's live-stream service on Sunday May 10, you would have heard the beautiful playing of harpist Kristan Toczko. If you missed it, you should go back and have a listen!

Kristan is a friend of mine and she is married to Dylan Maddix, one of my best friends. They are a super-talented musical couple! I heard Kristan play the harp for the first time at their wedding on Prince Edward Island. Recently, my son Elliot and I had been watching one of Kristan's harp videos that she had posted on Facebook. I had the idea that it would be nice to share her music-making with the people of St. Andrew's on one of our live-stream services. Kristan has played with many orchestras; the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Thunder Bay Symphony, Windsor Symphony, Kitchener - Waterloo Symphony, Symphony New Brunswick, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Beijing Symphony, to name a few. I realized there was nothing stopping us from having Kristan play for St. Andrew's!

So, how did we make this happen? Kristan recorded these videos for us at her home in Sudbury, Ontario, and then emailed the video files to me. I sent them along to Britten Banerjee, our resident tech genius, and he was able to incorporate the videos into our worship service. Britten works behind the scenes Sunday mornings to run our live-stream and take care of all of the technological pieces so that you can experience the service live with us, thanks to Britten!

If you would like to learn more about Kristan, she answers questions from Evan on page 9.

To hear some of her music, check out her website: www.kristantoczko.com

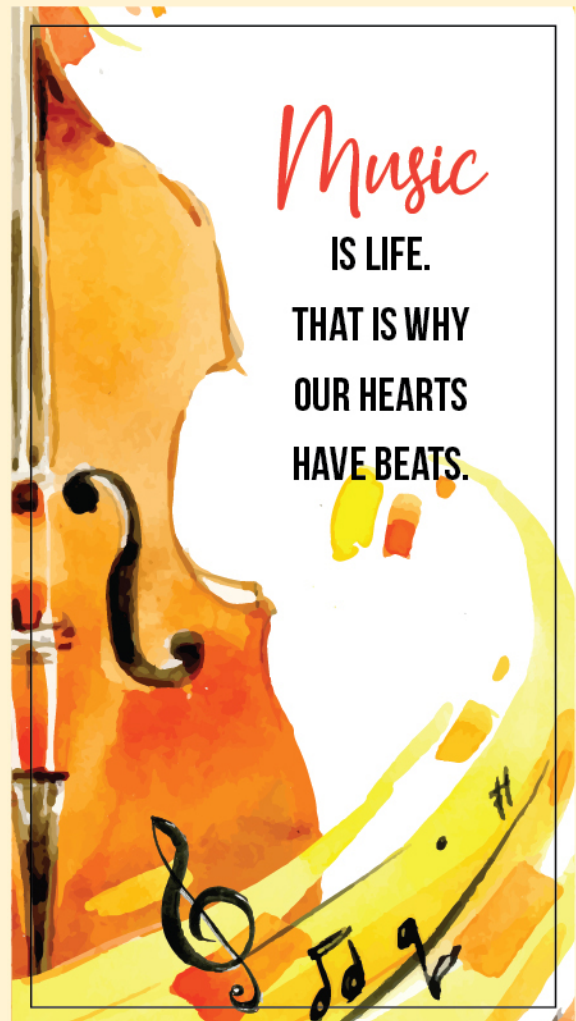
You can also find her here:

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/harpistKT/>

Youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/harpistKT>

Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/ktoczko>

Yours in music,
Evan Mounce



**Search Committee for Associate
Minister for Growth and Care
by Rev. Fiona Swanson**

Summer Greetings!

A quick update to let you know that the Search Team had its first meeting on Wednesday, May 13, by Zoom. The team was established to prepare St. Andrew's to take the necessary action following the retirement of Rev. Jan Hazlett.

Ken Burrill and Cathy Millar will be co-convenors, and Kevin MacFarlane has agreed to be Secretary.

Members: David Kurtz, Inge Murray, Clem McLachlan, Lorna Kearnes Andronikou, Kevin MacFarlane, Rev. Fiona Swanson, Thelma Wagner, Rev. Dr. Tim (minister), Dianne Ollerenshaw (Presbytery representative).

Please keep the Search Committee in your prayers as we work together to discern God's will for St. Andrew's.



**Spring Clean-up
From the Facilities Team
by Bob Shaw**

Saturday morning, May 2, 14 volunteers from St. Andrew's came together to SPRING CLEAN the outside areas of the church. The team got rid of all the winter gravel from the car park, and they cleaned up the flower beds and swept away all the winter leaves from the west end of the church. While keeping two metres apart, good humour was in abundance, and a donut and coffee break was also appreciated by all.


In Loving Memory...

**The Passing Of Carol Olton
From Linda Ripley**

We would like to thank everyone for their telephone calls, cards, offers of assistance and visits to our mom, both at our house and at the hospice throughout our mom's recent illness. We always knew she was a beautiful treasure and it was confirmed through the wonderful messages in the cards, texts and phone calls that we received. She was truly loved by the church, and what a wonderful, supportive church family we have.

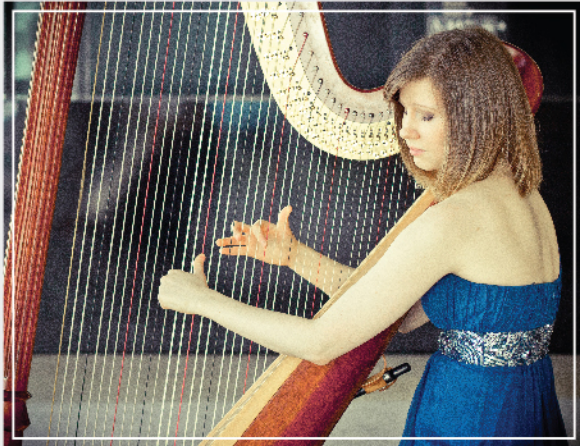
We would like to thank Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins for the graveside service he presided over during these chaotic times with Covid-19, and we will have a Celebration of Life at the church when times allow.

Thank you to everyone who reached out and are still reaching out to us. Your kindness and compassion have been immeasurable.

**Linda and Duncan Ripley
Kevin and Robyn Olton**



Don Koch and I are both very grateful, and we would like to thank the volunteers and team members who helped give our church a fresh garden environment.



Interview With Harpist Kristan Toczko by Evan Mounce

To further the connection we made with Kristan Toczko on Sunday May 10, I sent her a few questions so we could learn a bit more about her and her angelic instrument, the harp.

E: Can you tell me a bit about yourself?

K: My name is Kristan Toczko (pronounced touch-co), and I am a full-time professional freelance harpist. My work consists of various projects: recordings, orchestra, chamber and solo performances, and private teaching of harp and piano. Before the pandemic, I had opportunity to do a lot of travelling for performances, and I met many different people from all over the world.

E: How did you get started playing harp, and why harp?

K: I began playing the harp at the age of 9. My parents wanted me to learn an instrument, so I got to choose which one! That year I saw a harpist play at my home church (First Baptist in Moncton, N.B.). One day my mother asked me what instrument I would like to play, and I said, "I want to learn the harp!" Brushing that idea aside, thinking I would choose a more common instrument, she left it for another year before asking me again which instrument I'd like to learn. Without missing a beat, I said, "I already told you, I want to play the harp!" So, it was meant to be.

E: How does a harp work and how do you play it?

K: Harps come in many sizes. I started on a lever harp, which is smaller and with less strings. The harp I now play on most of the time is a full-size classical pedal harp, which has 47 strings and 7 pedals. If you are familiar with how the piano works, the strings you see on the harp are like the white keys on the piano, and for me to create the black keys on the piano, I need to move the pedals up or down. Most of the time people see my fingers keeping busy, but they don't see how busy my feet are as well!

E: What would be a musical highlight that you have had?

K: A musical highlight is hard to pick, as I have so many! But I think one of my highlights has been performing with the Lucerne Festival in Switzerland; and having the opportunity to work under the baton of the amazing Sir Simon Rattle. It was such a special and musical memory to work with musicians from all over the world in the beautiful city of Lucerne surrounded by mountains.

E: Thank you, Kristan, for sharing your time and talents with us!



Session Update – March 2020 by Debby Dorcas, Clerk of Session

- Judie Coleman has agreed to serve as an Equalizing Elder at Presbytery.
- Live streaming Worship Services: We are continuing to learn about online worship; refining and improving all the time.
- Online Meetings: Session Teams, Youth Group, Choir, Side-By-Side, Bible Study, and Wonderful Wellness Wednesdays are some of the teams who have started meeting online.
- We continue to explore ways of reaching our members and friends and providing pastoral care for them during these unprecedented circumstances. If you know of someone who is in need for any reason, please be in touch with the church office, Judie Coleman, or Rev. Dr. Geoffrey.
- The Mission Team is having ongoing discussions about how we can serve our immediate neighbourhoods around the church.
- An Executive Leadership Team has been formed, to serve as a key support to the Lead Minister in emergent situations for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members of the Executive Leadership Team:

- Rev. Dr. Tim Archibald – Lead Minister
- David Platt – Stewardship, Planning & Finance
- Lynn Judd – Worship Team and Choir
- Kevin MacFarlane – Stewardship and AV
- Rhonda Wishart – Faith Formation (CE/Family Ministry)
- Rev. Jared Miller – As consultant on matters related to TheCreek, Family Ministry & Mission
- **Search Team** – Final approval was given on who would serve in the important search for our new Associate Minister of Growth and Care.

The following individuals were discerned as members:

- Cathy Millar, Clem McLachlan, David Kurtz, Fiona Swanson, Inge Murray, Ken Burrill, Kevin MacFarlane, Lorna Kearnes Andronikou and Thelma Wagner.

Given our COVID-19 season, Session also agreed that when the Search Team is ready to proceed to have the position posted, a full financial review would be conducted to confirm at that time, our ability to support such a call financially.



Cards of Care by Rev. Fiona Swanson

On March 13 (Friday the 13th) a pandemic was declared around the world. No one knew what was going on and suddenly churches were closed, and our world was upside down. Many people stepped up to do all sorts of things to help make it seem “normal.”

For me, I love to receive mail in the mailbox outside my house; you know, “snail mail.” So, I approached Rev. Dr. Geoffrey and Judie Coleman and we decided to send homemade, personally written cards to 210 people in the congregation to reach out and let them know they could count on St. Andrew’s to help them out and pray for them.

Thank you to our 14 card writers, and our card makers. It was a great way to brighten a dark situation.

The Facilities team
in "The Time of Covid-19"
by Donald Koch



For the past two months each of us has been self isolating at home, both to keep safe and to help "flatten the pandemic curve." The church building has been closed for worship and meetings, and many of us are now worshipping on Sunday morning by "live streaming" on our computers or TV sets; but having the building empty doesn't mean that nothing is going on there.

A dedicated Facilities team has been busy with individual members making daily security checks, both outside and inside, to ensure that the building is free of exterior and interior damage. Before suspending custodial service in mid-April, we arranged for them to thoroughly clean and sanitize the interior of the church building, as well as give the convection oven, gas stove and oven, as well as the coolers, a thorough cleaning.

Staff from the Facilities team has installed a new sump pump in the Inner Hall storage room. There are now five sump pumps installed to ensure the building remains dry during spring melt. Brad Chalmers has steam cleaned the upholstered chairs in the building. We have obtained competitive quotes for the replacement of the roof over the Karl English Lounge, which is at the end of its life. We will be proposing to Session that it be replaced this summer. These are but a few of the repairs and improvements that have taken place in preparation for when we can again return to worship in our church home on Heritage Drive. We hope that this brief summary will provide you with assurance that it will be in good condition when next we are able to meet together!



(Continued from page 2)

It is my hope that we will not just "hold the line" or merely "maintain" during this extraordinary season—but that we will actually thrive and emerge on the other side of this in a better place, spiritually. What do we want to be different—in ourselves and in our ministry—after this is over? I believe that we are being reminded that "Home is the heart of discipleship/faith formation." Our homes are our new worship centres. We are being challenged to take seriously our own responsibility for faith formation in our household. Homes are our new worship centres—but weren't they always? During the Reformation, our Reformer, Jean (John) Calvin challenged us to see every home as a "mini - monastery" for growing faith. A hallmark of Presbyterians until the mid-20th century was a disciplined practice of "Religion in the Home."

I'd like us to think about how we can personally emerge from this Covid-19 as different people. How can we be more intentional about making our own homes green houses for growing faith? What new seeds of spiritual growth should we plant? What new ways shall we find to talk about faith and encourage each other? What book might you read and discuss? What new spiritual discipline or faith practice will you try? We might just emerge from this unique season in a better place spiritually—as we **Grow. LIFE. Together. With God.**

Miss seeing you all (in person),
Dr. Tim

Happy 100th Birthday, Harry!

On July 9th, 1920, in Lower LaHave, Nova Scotia, Harry MacDonald Eisenhower was born. Harry's birthplace is just a 20-minute drive from Lunenburg, where the famous schooner that graces the Canadian dime, Bluenose, originated.

The Eisenhower family comprised seven boys and two girls. Harry's father was a cook on one of the many Lunenburg fishing vessels. All of his brothers went to sea, but Harry enrolled in Dalhousie University in Halifax, where he pursued a B.Sc.

Harry was already a militia man when the war broke out. He enlisted with the West Nova Scotia Regiment. The army recognised his potential as an officer but released him because of his age. He returned to school, but in August, 1940 he re-enlisted. Two months later, he shipped out to the U.K. as a full Lieutenant.

In 1943 Lieutenant Eisenhower arrived in Sicily, where he was Battalion Intelligence Officer. He was later mentioned in despatches for distinguished service in the battle for Sicily. In December, during the famous "Gully" battle near Ortona in mainland Italy, he was twice wounded, receiving what he would later call a "flesh wound." He recovered in hospital, then returned to the Regiment on the last day of the fighting in the Liri battle south of Rome. Not long after his return on May 23, 1944, Harry was sent forward to replace the commander of "C" Company, who had been wounded. In the late afternoon, he led that company in the Division's breakthrough of the German lines near Pontecorvo. To quote Major Bill Thexton in his book *Times to Remember - Recollections of Four and a Half Years with the West Nova Scotia Regiment during 1940-1944*: "It was probably their finest hour."

When the war came to an end, Harry, as its Commanding Officer, led the West Nova Scotia Regiment back to Canada and home. *As a footnote to Major Eisenhower's war effort, it is worthy to mention that he was honoured to write the Forward to Laurence F. Wilmot's book

Through the Hitler Line - Memoirs of an Infantry Chaplain.

Harry Eisenhower optimizes the motto of his Regiment: *Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful)*.

Back home, Harry decided to enter law school at Dalhousie. He took the last spot available and made the best of it; graduating second in his class and was chosen as Life President of his class.

Harry took a job with Eastern Trust Company. He was happily married to Lorna Wentzel, and they had two sons, John and David. When Eastern purchased an interest in a small trust company in Calgary, Harry was transferred there as manager. They arrived in 1951, and shortly after, the family was complete with the birth of a daughter, Janice.

Calgary was booming. It was not long before Harry decided to put his law degree to good use in the oil patch. Harry would soon join Dome Petroleum where he became head of its law department and filled the position of corporate secretary until his retirement in 1984.

Sadly, Lorna passed away in 1962. Harry was left to raise his young family alone, but his love of family and his faith came to the fore. To his good fortune, Harry reacquainted with his sister-in-law, Rosalie's good friend, Ruth Paterson. Ruth and Harry were married on September 23, 1963. Or, as Ruth might put it, "I married three kids, with Harry thrown in for good measure."

Harry and Ruth were early and active members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Harry also served as Treasurer of the Presbytery of Calgary Macleod for 20 years.

Those who know Harry know how gracious and humble he is. A very private man; thoughtful, generous and gentle. If you were to ask him, "What are you most proud of Harry?" you know you'd never get an answer. His daughter, Janice, knew: "His turkey dressing!"

(Continued on page 14)

Faith Formation (CE) Highlights by Rhonda Wishart

Since mid-April, St. Andrew's has provided a Sunday morning Bible story for children. Starting at 9:45 am on our St. Andrew's YouTube channel, Story Alive has been filmed by three of our church school leaders (Inge Murray, Lorna Kearnes Andronikou and Rhonda Wishart) using our Young Children and Worship materials.

Story Alive will continue through the summer in a slightly different format; with a leader reading a children's story from the Bible, followed by instructions for a simple craft that the children can complete on their own time. We encourage any families and church school leaders who wish to be involved in telling a story, to contact Inge Murray or Rhonda Wishart at the emails below.

Children's activity sheets for different age groups, designed for children to use during the service, are now being sent to families by email each Friday. The activity sheets are tied to the Sunday message, and they are intended to provide another means for the children to connect to St. Andrew's during their absence from regular church school.

Since September of last year, the church school children have been actively engaged in a monthly mission learning experience in their church school classes. The pandemic has provided an opportunity for a much-needed community mission project for the children. This will help them to appreciate and engage with their compassion for others.

Youth: We are grateful for Carolyn Jerrard and David Kurtz, who have successfully managed to move their Thursday night youth group activities online, enabling a good-sized group of youth to regularly

connect with Carolyn, David and their youth group friends on line.

Grades 6 & 12 Gift Presentation:

The annual presentation of gifts to our graduating students in Grades 6 and 12 will take place during the church service on May 24. This year our Grade 12 graduates include Solomon Kangong and Ashley Cuthbertson, who will receive study Bibles. Our Grade 6 graduates include Sebastian Aburto, Janet Blaikie, Spencer Bridgemohan, Isabella Komierowski, Annika Thornborough and Braeden Werle. These youngsters will be the first at St. Andrew's to receive a T-shirt inscribed with our new Vision logo.

Contact: Rhonda Wishart, Convenor, Faith Formation, cuthberj@telus.net

Inge Murray, Coordinator Church School, cicsmurray@shaw.ca



(Continued from page 4)

Linda will be remembered by so many of us with love, affection, and admiration for the gifts she shared. She always gave careful thought to the work she did so well.

On Friday, June 5th there will be a private funeral service. Although we can't all be there to celebrate her life, we know that many of us will say a prayer for her daughter and son-in-law, Ruth & David Minions and their family, and we will smile as we remember all the gifts Linda shared with her faith family at St. Andrew's.

I Met A Man by Terry Zimmer

I met a man the other day, quite by accident. A neighbour had told me he was a good handyman, and he was honest and didn't charge an arm-and-a-leg for his work. Since we are always doing renovations on our old house, and needing help, I asked him to come around.

When he arrived at our door, he didn't look like much. His clothes were pretty rough, though not dirty, and his hair was neat but long, and he had a beard. I was not sure if I should let him in since I was alone in the house. So, I compromised by telling him my husband would be back soon. He just smiled and went straight to work.

I could tell by the cared for look of his tools, and the way he handled wood, that he was a real craftsman. My father had been like that. I was surprised and intrigued by his insistence on the best materials – his lack of wastefulness – his careful measuring so that every joint would fit exactly right. He seemed pretty strong too, as he carried the heavy panels easily, despite his medium build.

The fellow did not take a coffee break, so when lunch time came, and he still had not given any indication of stopping, I offered him a cup of coffee, and when he saw I was going to eat alone, he sat down at the kitchen table and took out a cheese sandwich he had brought .

He was not much of a talker, but there was something about his eyes. He looked straight at me when I spoke, and I felt he understood every word I said. In fact, I almost had the feeling he understood it BEFORE I said it. I found myself doing a lot of talking, more than I had planned to. He was so kind and intense, as though sitting there listening to my chatter about children and family were the most important things in the world to him. I remember thinking his interest was all the more remarkable, since he never mentioned a wife or a family.

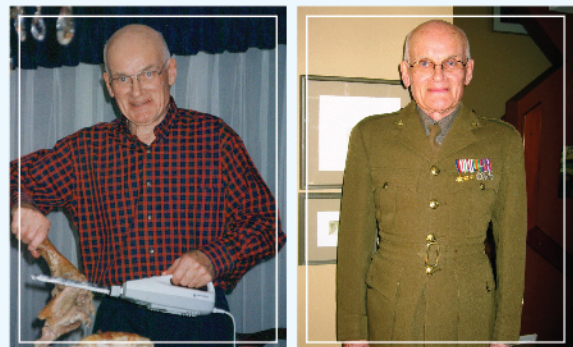
Although he did not talk much about himself, I gathered he was from a small town where most of the people farmed. He obviously did not have any higher education and did not seem to have travelled much, but he knew a lot of people. I had a feeling that he was destined for something else, he had an air of purposefulness and authority I could not quite explain.

Well, he went back to work, and when he had finished the job that day, I was really sorry to see him go. This quiet man was different than anyone I had ever talked to in my life. When the time came to pay him, I asked him his name.

He said it was Jesus.



(Continued from page 12)



Harry always prepared Christmas dinner. The children would quarrel over who would get most of the dressing Harry stuffed into the festive bird. "He was very proud of that dressing", Janice recounts, "A couple of years ago, we hosted Christmas dinner and I prepared the meal. I asked Dad whether he enjoyed it. He said, 'It was very good. I especially enjoyed your dressing... It was almost as good as mine!'" **Harry Eisenhauer Semper Fidelis**

Submitted, with contributions from Janice Eisenhauer, by Jim Hope-Ross, a former Elder of Harry's and a fellow golfer at Canyon Meadows. Jim has ribbed Harry about his upcoming birthday, saying, "Harry, you'll be the only fellow I know who can shoot his age and not break 100!" Don't put it past him.

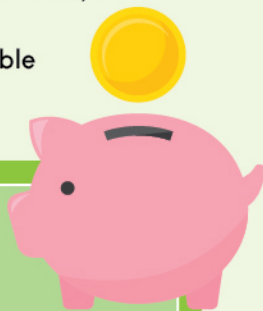
We Reach Out
The Ladies' Afternoon Guild (LAG)
and The Ladies' Evening Guild (LEG)
by Pam Livingstone and Inge Murray

Did you know that for the last six or more years, the Ladies' Guilds have been supporting various Student Emergency Funds? This year we donated to five high schools in our area. This is our way of touching the lives of some vulnerable young people, who are struggling and may need a helping hand from time to time. Their needs are varied and can include such items as transit passes, field trips, groceries or extra costs associated with graduation.

Most of the funds are generated through our Annual Yuletide Bazaar which is so generously supported by both you at St. Andrew's and the many guests from the community.

We are closely watching Provincial Guidelines announcements regarding large gatherings in the hopes that there will be a 2020 Bazaar. Please don't forget to continue working on your special crafts, jams, jellies and pickles over the coming months so we are all ready.

Your support in this is invaluable and much appreciated.



FINANCIAL UPDATE	
Total Givings / Income to April 30	\$164,747
Budget 2020 Plan to April 30	\$203,883
Ministry Expenses to April 30	\$191,237
Budget 2020 Plan to April 30	\$210,127

Thank You
by Cathy Millar



It is inspiring to see the ways so many of you have embraced our new Vision by coming together during the recent weeks to ensure we continue to grow life together with God, even in the midst of such challenging times.

We are called to be beacons of light and hope in troubled times and we are truly thankful you have remained faithful to this call. You have gone above and beyond to check on your neighbour, connect with someone living alone to let them know you care, provide meals, sew masks, make bag lunches for the homeless, and distribute Food Bank hampers to those who are struggling. You have donated \$850 in Walmart gift cards for households in need.

Our Benevolent Fund has been able to assist a number of individuals and families who are facing hardship and loss. As well, our younger families have been busy making paper flowers and cards for the Father Lacombe long-term care residents and staff. In all these ways and more you continue to support our Ministry and Mission with your prayers, your energy, your time and your financial gifts, and we say THANK YOU for your warm spirit of generosity.

These are challenging times for all of us and yet they have brought out the very best in us. While we cannot yet gather as a community of faith under one roof, our trust in God who loves us continues to strengthen us so that we can keep moving forward. Your generous, ongoing giving to St. Andrew's is now supporting a national ministry, growing faith, and offering hope every week during this global pandemic. **We truly are all Growing. Life. Together. With God.**









A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the June / July issue of ConnXions, put together by a production team of volunteers and a large number of contributors from the St. Andrew's family. I hope you enjoy the reading, and I would value your comments and suggestions, as well as your contributions to future issues.

We carry articles on many topics, but we don't cover "announcements" as we used to, because they are now handled in a much more timely fashion by publication in the MailChimp congregational email format.

If the foundation of a church is its people, St. Andrew's is on very solid footing; just take a look at our own centenarian, Harry Eisenhauer. He transferred from Grace Presbyterian Church on June 6, 1961, became an elder on March 4, 1962, and remained active until June 4, 2001. He is well known to many as a pillar of strength and calm wisdom. Happy 100th Birthday Harry!

GET SOCIAL WITH CONNXIONS

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EDITORIAL TEAM

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| Communications | Micheal McEachen |
| Team Member | Lorie Nielsen |
| Team Member | Barbara English |
| Team Member | Judie Coleman |



The church building is closed until such time as Alberta Health advises meeting together is once again appropriate.

Please watch for communications from St. Andrew's mailchimp congregational emails, and our website at www.standrewscalgary.ca to stay in touch with our latest updates.

At this time we are not scheduling 'in-person' meetings. However, ministry teams and groups are meeting through online Zoom meetings.

If you do not have computer access and would like to have a copy of Sunday's sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office at 403-255-0001.