

WINTER–DECEMBER 2025

Connecting with St. Andrew's

ST. ANDREW ANGLICAN CHURCH

Greetings Beloved, as we enter the season of Advent.

Advent is a time of anticipation, of waiting, of hope. It is a time set apart for spiritual preparation as we look forward to when Christ will come and renew the brokenness of the world. All around us, in stores and TV and culture we see a push to find happiness in material things. At the same time, the economy is creating financial hardship for more and more of us. The vicious commercial circle surrounds us and creates an unsustainable paradigm.

However, Advent and Christmas have never been about what we buy, but what we give and what we receive. Each of us have received the grace and love Christ offers, the blessings of the incarnation we celebrate at Christmas. Each of us in turn are called to give that grace and love to all whom we meet. This is our Advent preparation, the way we prepare spiritually for Christ's coming, by working with him to bring healing into God's world.

In this sacred time of Advent one of the most important gifts we can give is our time and companionship. The gift of your presence in the life of another is of greater value than any present in bright paper and curled ribbon. Our society suffers from increasing isolation, and people spend more time alone than ever before; online, stuck at home, separated from family.

This year try to give the gift of your time and presence. In the midst of the anticipation and hope of Advent, it may be a call or visit from you which someone is truly looking forward to.

May the spirit of Advent fill you with hope, joy, love and peace this holy season.

God bless,

Reverend Liz Richens

ADVENT CALENDAR

He will come like last leaf's fall.

One night when the November wind
Has flayed the trees to bone, and earth

Wakes, choking on the mold,
The soft shroud's folding.

He will come like frost.

One morning when the shrinking earth opens on
mist, to find itself
Arrested in the net
Of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.

One evening when the bursting red
December sun draws up the sheet
and penny-masks its eye to yield
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,
will come like crying in the night,
like blood, like breaking,
as the earth writhes to toss him free.
He will come like child.

Rowan Williams

SOUPER SUNDAY

Souper Sunday this year will be on December 7th. Make your favourite soup and bring it to the Hall before the 10AM service that day. Crock pots are highly recommended, but we can accommodate regular pots if need be. **Please be sure to include a note with the name of your soup and the ingredients.** If you would rather bring buns, that's great. Just 1 dozen is all you need to bring. We won't need anymore than 8 dozen buns, total. We will collect donations at the door. All proceeds will go to Agape Table.

Pam Green

ST ANDREW'S BAZAAR

November 1st was the day and a good day it was! St Andrew's Bazaar was in full swing!

The Craft Table was enormous with every craft you could imagine – beautiful handwork, whimsical creations, eagerly sought after kitchen towels, Christmas decorations – all done with care and thought for the Bazaar. The Bake Table was the result of much time spent in the kitchen – tarts and squares, shortbread and cookies, vinatarta and Christmas cake, pies and trays of dainties, buns and focaccia bread and more! And the jelly and preserves! It was wonderful! The Raffle Tables were busy and only seven of the 250 books printed remained unsold! The Treasure Table was, I think, the best yet! The Christmas ornaments, china, crystal and beautiful figurines. It's impossible to describe the treasures they had. You had to be there! And you were there!

Thank you everyone attending the bazaar and supporting St Andrew's. In four hours, (after much pre-work) the Bazaar raised over \$4,500! The Bazaar is a worthwhile venture – the fund-raising, the coming together for a positive outcome, the comradery while working. We'll need you to help next year to keep this great venture going!

Mark the date for next year, November 7th, 2026!

Doreen Pattie

WOODHAVEN FOOD BANK

Just a friendly reminder that the last Woodhaven Food Bank date for December will be held on **Saturday, December 27th**, in lieu of Thursday being Christmas Day.

Thanks as always to our dedicated teams of volunteers who show up faithfully every second Thursday, making this community event the success it is!

Doreen Pattie

ALTAR GUILD

Soon our Church will be filled with festive decorations, bringing even more joy to the Church. Opportunities for providing flowers are still available during this time. They will be displayed at the front altar, honouring or remembering loved ones. Choose your date on the Flower Calendar located at the bottom of the main Parish staircase. The Altar Guild will arrange pick up on the Saturday preceding and display on the Sunday of choice. Did you know that following the service, these loving arrangements are re-gifted to shut-ins and other members, bringing yet more joy in their sharing? Please contact Margaret Childs at childsjm@mymts.net for more information.

We would love to have you join our Altar Guild group. Each 3-4 member team works together to help prepare for services and events, as they arise. Chat with Audrey Pattie or Laura Frederick if interested.

Laura Frederick

CREEKSIDE QUILTERS

It seems as if we have just finished the Bazaar Raffle Quilt and we have another on the frame! This quilt top is an older pattern and will of course, be hand quilted. As well, we are about to put a quilt on frame for quilting for 'Sleep in Heavenly Peace'. 'Sleep in Heavenly Peace' is a volunteer organization that builds beds for children who have none. The group also provides a new mattress and bedding and that's where we are going to contribute with the quilt. Have a look online and see what they are all about. We are very happy to contribute to some child having their own bed!

We will be busy with two quilts on the go, but this group always has a good time each Tuesday morning. We're always happy to invite anyone who comes to see what we are about, Tuesday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

Doreen Pattie

RUMMAGE SALE & BOOK NOOK

October brought us a copious amount of incoming donations as well as many visitors to both the Rummage Sale and Book Nook events. We've greeted on average 80 visitors at each sale, providing previously loved treasures while helping to gain earnings for St. Andrews Woodhaven projects. Our volunteer numbers remain strong, for which we are exceedingly grateful.

Following a short break during December, we'll begin again Saturday, January 31st. Volunteers are always welcome, even as an occasional helper (set-up Thursday mornings prior to sale dates). Contact Laura Frederick for more information – lmfrederick@shaw.ca.

Laura Frederick

MEN'S CLUB

Regular meetings of the Men's Club continue with consistent attendance. Our meetings are informal - no agenda, no minutes, informal business. We enjoy discussing topics of the day (which there is no shortage of), as noted by our most recent meetings which lasted nearly two hours. Coffee is brewed by Don & Ken who refine their expertise with every fresh pot!

If you are thinking of attending and would like more information, we welcome your inquiry. We meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. Should that be too early, come at 9:00 a.m. or so. You will never be late! **Our Christmas meeting is on Saturday December 20th.** We look forward to seeing you!

The Men's Club continues to set-up and dismantle the Parish Hall as requests are received. We are very fortunate to have Don Snuggs co-ordinate this effort for us. ***We appreciate and thank everyone for your help with this project!***

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

George V. Wright

CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROJECT

St. Andrew's applied for 6 families of the 4-5 member size this year. Two of those families will come from the Woodhaven Food Bank. A full list of hamper requirements will be posted on the bulletin boards again this year. It isn't too early to start shopping now for non-perishables when various items are on sale! Monetary donations will also be welcome and will be used to pick up the perishable items closer to the date the hampers are wrapped and packed.

December 14th—White Gift Sunday—Bring your food items and gifts to the Church. Following the service we will bring everything to the Hall. Assistance will be needed to sort everything from 11:30 am until about 2:00 pm.

December 15th—Wrapping, sorting, and packaging—Assistance will be required from 9:00am until about noon. Come enjoy a morning of Christmas carols and wrapping! A great way to get into the spirit!

December 16th—Delivery day—Assistance will be required in the morning for delivery.

We have 20 children to buy gifts for this year! They range in age from 6 months to 16 years old. There will be a sign up sheet for gifts that has some present ideas. Our elves are currently collecting these ideas so please stay tuned. The Christmas Cheer Board suggests gifts of no more than \$25.

The gender and ages of the kids are:

Female—Baby, 6, 7, 7, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17

Male—Baby, 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16

Susan Chadwick

MISSION AND MINISTRY

Here is a look at what has happened and what is coming up in the next few months:

Bulletin Board - Located in the Parish Hall for information on and updates on the organizations that we are active in. Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF), collecting stamps, glasses and hearing aids, West End 24, and 1JustCity are but a few of our ongoing projects! A listing of our ministries can be found on our Website under Mission & Ministry.

Foster Child through Plan International Canada - We continue to support our foster child, Hantz-Michael through donations collected at Coffee Hour. Get to know him by checking out the framed biography on display! Watch in the bulletin for updates on collection amount.

1JustCity - Under 1JustCity we support the Pimicikamak Wellness Centre as well as other initiatives. Grace McKay and Pam Bann are the St. Andrew's contact for the Pimicikamak Wellness Centre site of 1JustCity. They deliver food and hygiene items donated by our parishioners on a regular basis for use of folks accessing this drop-in center's hot lunch and programming opportunities available 4 days per week

Christmas Orange Campaign - In the spirit of the upcoming season, your Mission & Ministry Committee is focusing to bring a little bit of Christmas to marginalized Winnipeggers in our inner-city area. As the mandate of 1JustCity's West Broadway site has recently changed, we are planning this year to provide our Christmas gift of Mandarin Oranges to folks who are supported by 1JustCity's drop-in site at the Pimicikamak Wellness Centre (the former Balmoral Hotel). This site provides hot lunches followed by programming options daily, Monday to Thursday. Our plan is to deliver boxes of oranges each Monday morning, for the first 3 weeks in December. Thanks to your generous donations, we provided 72 boxes of oranges for distribution to our less fortunate neighbours in Winnipeg's inner-city area last December! St Andrews is well known as the "Church who gives the oranges".

Arocha - St Andrews has put this ministry on hold for the interim, as we will focus on more "Green" initiatives in the future. We welcome anyone's suggestions for future ideas.

Alongside Hope - The need remains great. Grow Hope is helping to fill a devastating funding gap left by the cuts to USAID. These cuts are having a major impact on our partner, Church World Service. Recently, over 750 staff in Kenya had to be laid off, resulting in the near closure of their refugee resettlement program. Despite these difficulties, organizations like CWS continue to work to provide essential services for those in need. During a recent Canadian Foodgrains Bank visit to the Marsabit Project that Grow Hope is supporting, a participant shared a powerful reflection: "The food you provided gave us hope; the seed and tools you are providing allow us to grow hope." This profound statement captures the essence of the Grow Hope initiative: planting seeds of hope for a brighter future. There is still time to take part in this vital campaign! Fred Wiebe and his sons are willing to donate the proceeds from however many acres we can support with our fundraising. Our support for input costs for one acre are only \$300. Please encourage your parish to participate in this year's campaign and continue to invite parishioners to donate directly.

MISSION AND MINISTRY (continued)

Loving Hands - Our Loving Hands ministry supports West End 24 as well as the West Broadway Youth Program. Once again our congregation's support was dearly appreciated. We were able to make 15 female and 15 male bags containing items such as toothpaste, deodorant, and soaps, and with the gracious donation from our knitters and crocheters we were able to provide hats and mitts in each bag. All other knit/crocheted items will be donated to Agape Table, Food Bank and Rossbrook House. Some extra household items from our Rummage sale have also been donated to West End 24 as they assist in placing people in temporary housing.

Postage Stamps – Doreen Pattie has taken over the donation of Postage Stamps. She delivered one bundle of stamps to Charleswood United Church. They have a 'stamp person' who picks up the stamps and as he is knowledgeable, submits those of interest to auction. The money raised from this supports CUN's outreach program. This year they supported Willow Place, 1JustCity, Days for Girls, Charleswood schools, wildfire refugees and others. Last year, the stamps raised \$500. We feel this is a worthy place to take St Andrew's stamps as they have a process in place and a knowledgeable person to run the program. The person who was in the office where we took the stamps was very excited with the volume and was very grateful that St Andrew's is supporting this ministry.

Agape Table - Our dedicated group of volunteers continue to attend at Agape Table monthly where they chop meat and vegetables for the homemade soup, wrap pastries and sandwiches and fill the bags for distribution to the clients. Our last volunteer date for 2025 is Wednesday, December 17th from 7:00 am to 11:00 am. See the weekly bulletin for reminders and contact information should you wish to volunteer. We feel blessed to be part of such an amazing community working hard to help those less fortunate. Upcoming dates in the New Year are: Thursday, January 29th, Wednesday, February 25th and Wednesday, March 25th. Reminders will be posted in the Sunday Bulletins.

Thelma Wynne Project - All knitters and crocheters may want to commence making items for our next Baby Shower which will be held April 26, 2026.

Thank you! Without your support, these campaigns and programs would not be possible.

God bless,
Shelley Gorets

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



Some of us were able to take in the Truth and Reconciliation POW WOW at the Convention Center in September. We were in awe of the beautiful dress of many of the participants of all ages. We took some time to speak to some of the dancers about the ceremonial garb that was being worn and learned that each had a story to tell. We will share some of these stories in upcoming displays.

Our display at the back of the Church focused on Orange Shirt Day and on professional sports teams and their contribution to truth and reconciliation endeavors. Our Winnipeg Jets and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers are very involved in the movement towards truth and reconciliation – very commendable. Literature on the struggles aboriginal people in sports have to overcome is also available.

In November we were fortunate to have Reverend Canon Murray Still join us on in the Parish Hall. He shared information on the church, indigenous issues and the Sacred Circle. Canon Murray Still traces his heritage from Peguis First Nation and has served as incumbent within our diocese in Winnipeg. He has served on many programs to assist those aged out of Child and Family Services. As board chair Murray has assisted in bringing a change in governance to accommodate the way we offer services - The four Justice programs—Open Circle, CoSA, Touchstone and El Da'ad Ranch. He has led workshops on Indigenous governance and self-determination and has been the mission developer of Rupert's Land-Wechetowin Inc. He is very involved in the Sacred Circle. Reverend Still has also provided training in restorative justice and has been instrumental in creating studies in Indigenous Spiritual and Pastoral Care at the University of Winnipeg Faculty of Theology. Thank you all for coming to hear Rev. Still share his views.

In Feb, Reverend Tanis Kolisnyk will join the Mission and Ministry meeting to speak about the work that Wechetowin does in our diocese. Another book club is also pending, stay tuned!

Angeline Cara and Shirley Bender



DECEMBER EVENTS

	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
7th	11:30am	Souper Sunday	Parish Hall	Pam Green
8th	2:30pm-3:30pm	Caroling—Golden West		Scott
8th	6:00pm	Embers	Parish Hall	
9th	9:30am-11:30am	Creekside Quilters	Parish Hall	Doreen
9th	1:00pm	Corporation Meeting	Church Lower Level	
10th	1:00pm	Bible Study	Church Lower Level	Rev. Liz
10th	12:30pm-3:30pm	Over 60's	Parish Hall	
10th	6:30pm	Sparks	Parish Hall	
10th	7:00pm	Finance Meeting	Church Lower Level	Susan Chadwick
11th	12:00pm-6:00pm	Food Bank	Parish Hall	Lynne & Anita
12th	2:00pm-3:00pm	Caroling—Heritage		Scott
12th	12:00pm-8:00pm	Scrapbooking	Parish Hall	Private Rental
13th	10:00am-6:00pm	Scrapbooking	Parish Hall	Private Rental
14th	11:30am	White Gift Sunday + Sorting	Parish Hall	Susan Chadwick
15th	Time TBD	Gift Wrapping	Parish Hall	Susan Chadwick
15th	6:00pm	Embers	Parish Hall	
16th	Time TBD	Hamper Delivery		Susan Chadwick
16th	9:30am-11:30am	Creekside Quilters	Parish Hall	Doreen
16th	7:00pm	Vestry	Church Lower Level	
17th	7:00am-11:00am	Agape Table Volunteering	Agape Table	Laura Ryback
17th	1:00pm	Bible Study	Church Lower Level	Rev. Liz
17th	12:30pm-3:30pm	Over 60's	Parish Hall	
17th	2:00pm-3:00pm	Caroling—Sturgeon 2		Scott
17th	6:30pm	Sparks	Parish Hall	
18th	2:00pm-3:00pm	Caroling—Kiwans Metro		Scott
18th	5:00pm-9:00pm	Rental	Parish Hall	
19th	2:30pm-3:30pm	Caroling—Sturgeon 1		Scott
20th	8:30am	Men's Club	Parish Hall	George
23rd	9:30am-11:30am	Creekside Quilters	Parish Hall	Doreen
24th	4:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	Church	Rev. Liz
24th	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	Church	Rev. Liz
25th	10:00am	Christmas Day	Church	Rev Liz
27th	12:00pm-6:00pm	Food Bank	Parish Hall	Sue & Doreen
30th	9:30am-11:30am	Creekside Quilters	Parish Hall	Doreen
February				
17th	Time TBD	Ash Wednesday	Church	Rev. Liz

CONTACT US

ST. ANDREW ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Church is to learn and teach about God in Christ, through Scripture; loving God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and loving our neighbour as ourselves.

Vision Statement

To be a welcoming and nurturing community using our God-given gifts in service to parish, neighbourhood, and the world.

CANDIED PECANS

- 1 Cup White Sugar
- 2 tsp Cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp Salt
- 1 Egg White
- 2 tsp Cold Water
- 2 tsp Vanilla
- 4 Cups Pecan Halves

Preheat oven to 250°F. Combine sugar, cinnamon, and salt in a bowl. Combine egg white, cold water, and vanilla in a bowl, whisking until frothy. Stir pecan halves into the egg mixture to coat. Add the sugar mixture, and stir well. Spread in a single layer on a parchment-lined cookie sheet. Bake for one hour, stirring well every 20 minutes. Store in an air-tight container.