

News and Events



Rev. John is under forty!

For those who missed it, our own Rev. John was one of forty locals under forty who received the Guelph Mercury's inaugural 40 Under 40 award. This distinction honours a selection of the community's most dynamic citizens under the age of 40. "At a time when the established churches are often marginal to community life, John has succeeded in making his church relevant and responsive to local and global needs," wrote former colleague Lucy Reid in support of his nomination. Borthwick's friendliness and enthusiasm since he became a pastor at the church five years ago have made it "a place to call home" — the theme of the 180th anniversary celebrations — writes church member Anne Holman, who nominated him for 40 Under 40.

The 'NEW' Bible Trail!

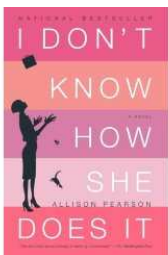
For those who are new to our congregation, The Bible Trail was launched in September 2006 as a way of increasing our understanding of our sacred scriptures. Our plan is to read, discuss and hear sermons on every book of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation over two and a half years. The **Thursday Morning Trail Party starts up again on Sept. 11th with Acts.** We start at 10:00am and depending on discussion conclude around 11:15am. Hope to see you there. If you are interested in starting your own Trail Party, let us know so that we can advertise it and get others on The Trail.



Invite a Friend Sunday – September 14th

On Sunday September 14th, we are kicking off the fall season with an encouragement for you to invite a friend along to church. This is a part of our 180th Anniversary celebratory theme, "A Place to Call Home". We hope that your friends will think of your 'church' home as theirs too.

Friday Brown Bag... and Good Food, Good Book, and Good Nite...



I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT: THE LIFE OF KATE REDDY, WORKING MOTHER
by Allison Pearson

On **Friday Sept. 19th**, our book clubs continue at their usual times. **The Brown Bag** starts at 12:15pm in the Parlour and all you are required to bring is yourself and a bag lunch. Rev. John provides the engaging conversation.

Good Food, Good Book, and Good Nite begins at 6:30pm in the Parlour. Seating is limited and reservations are necessary. Dinner is provided at cost. There is always a space available for newcomers. As with FBB, reading the book is not a requirement. Rev. John offers leadership at this group too. Please reserve your spot at the table by calling the Church Office (519.822.4772) or for more information, contact Rev. John.

Upcoming Titles for the Book Clubs: The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards (October) and The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls (November).

Breakfast @ St. Andrew's: An All Inclusive Time Together



You are welcome to **Breakfast @ St. Andrew's**, an inclusive breakfast program for all ages, genders, and people. Breakfast will be served at 8:30AM in the Church Hall. Our guest speakers will begin just after 9:00AM and we try to conclude around 10:15AM. The cost for a catered traditional breakfast is \$8/person. Suggestions for topics or guest speakers are always welcome. Please contact Rev. John if you know of someone or would like to suggest a topic for discussion.

Won't you join us and bring a friend too.

Upcoming Speakers:

On Saturday **September 20th**, we begin the fall season with our own **Kate Borthwick**. Kate will speak about the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network, and will attempt to answer those burning questions such as, What are the LHINs, What do LHINs do? And, why would I care about the LHINs?

Her Bio: As Executive Assistant to the Board and CEO of the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network, Kate holds a Honours BA in Economics from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Master of Health Administration (MHA) from the University of Ottawa. Kate has more than 10 years experience as an administrative professional having worked in private companies and health care organizations including the Etobicoke CCAC and Wellington-Dufferin CCAC.

Saturday **October 18th**, our guest will be **Dr. Larry Harder** who will speak on "Landscape and Meaning: Examples from Israel, Palestine and El Salvador." Larry is Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Guelph.

And on Saturday **November 15th**, **Diane Nelson**, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Wellington County will speak to us. Diane will highlight the work of Habitat as well as celebrate with us our 180th Anniversary project, 'My Neighbour's House', a multi-faith Habitat build scheduled for the summer of 2009.

Thanksgivings & Concerns

We celebrate with those couples married over the summer at St. Andrew's:

Tyler Ingram and Lindsay Harkness on June 7th

Jeffery Ferringo and Jodi Knox on June 21st

Daniel Letts and Jessica Spira on August 9th

Tony Vander Heyden and Nalini Toolsie on August 9th

'What God has joined together, let no one separate.'

We also celebrate with the families of those who were baptised this summer:

Lochlyn Edie Skylar Odell, Nadia Tetje Elisabeth Devries, & Taryn Marika Spencer.

We mourn with family and friends of those who passed away over the summer:

Eveline Ostrander, Henry French, Edwin Feast & Jessie Hower.

'Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted.'

Opportunities

Attention all University of Western Ontario and Fanshaw Students: New St. James Presbyterian Church in London, Ontario welcomes you to attend our Sunday morning worship services at 10:30 am. Students are also invited to join our College and Career group who meet at 5:00 pm on the first and third Sunday of each month to enjoy a meal, time of fellowship and short study. Contact Heather Schmidt at 519-601-3106 or hschmidt@newstjames.com for more information.

Parish Nursing, is it for US?

This information was printed in a recent mailing to the congregation but we felt that it should be highlighted again in this format.

As you may have read in the Guelph Mercury recently (August 25th), the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) has granted funding to see parish nursing ministries started in local congregations throughout the region. The LHIN will initially pay the parish nurse's half-time salary (approx. 20 hours per week), but the congregation will gradually take over that responsibility over the period of 2-5 years. It just so happens that members of St. Andrew's leadership team had been in conversation about this opportunity over the summer months. We are continuing to explore its value to our congregation and discern if this is something that we are being called to embrace.

Parish nurses are registered nurses who function as staff members of a local congregation and work in partnership with its minister and members to establish and maintain a health and healing ministry. Parish nursing is a non-invasive, preventative approach to keeping people well physically, mentally and spiritually.

Parish nurses:

- are health educators who might coordinate health promotion seminars, offer a blood pressure clinic, or provide information and literature on health issues;
- are personal health counsellors who offer information about diet, exercise and healthy living;
- are health advocates and interpreters who support one's journey through the medical system with warm presence, reinforcement of the medical regimen through explanation of the purpose and expected results and through prayer;
- are system navigators assisting people to navigate their way through the health care system through referrals, and providing links with community health partners;
- also coordinate and motivate congregational participation in health and healing through training, mentoring, and supporting members to become actively engaged in the ministry to others; and,
- express and embody how faith and health are linked to one's overall well being.

What CAN'T I expect from a Parish Nurse?

They work with community health partners like the Community Care Access Centre, Public Health and many others but not instead of them. So, primary hands-on health care will continue to be done by those partners and not a parish nurse. For example, you would NOT expect the parish nurse to change wound dressings, administer vaccinations, or do physiotherapy.

Are we being called to this ministry?

If you think that St. Andrew's should embrace this opportunity, let us know. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Centre where you can add your name to the list of folks who believe we need a parish nurse. Or tell your connector, a member of Session or Rev. John, that we should actively pursue this opportunity. In order to participate in the LHIN funding opportunity for 2009, we need to make a decision by October. The Session will be invited to explore this opportunity at its September meeting and would greatly benefit from your feedback.



Meet Aman Majak with Piath, Ruai, & Machut.

Aman and her husband began attending St. Andrew's with their children in summer 2007, not long after they moved to Guelph from London, Ontario. They originally came to Canada as refugees from Sudan, and the children were born in Canada.

Unfortunately Aman's husband was made redundant from his job with Cargill's last year, and has since moved away, leaving Aman to cope on her own without his practical or financial support.

Those of us who've had the opportunity to get to know the family in church, or through the nursery or church school are amazed and impressed by Aman's courage, strength and resilience as she copes as a single parent with no transport, no family/friend network and with three lively pre-schoolers, who've taken a long time to adjust to her leaving them, though that is changing as Ruai begins SK in September.

Although 'financially challenged', Aman tries to save enough to send a few hundred dollars each month to her family in Sudan! Her mother trained as a deaconess in the Anglican Church, but is not working; in part because of persecution of Christians and also because she cares for a disabled husband (he was shot many years ago) and her large family, including grandchildren. It is ten years since Aman last saw her family.

So why did they come to St. Andrew's? Because of a strong Christian background, it was important to find a faith community after they moved to Guelph. They drove downtown, were unable to find parking at the Baptist Church and drove on to St. Andrew's, which seemed appropriate as they had worshipped at St. Andrew's in Cairo after they first left Sudan. For Aman, the Christian community is more important than the denomination! Was it coincidence that brought her to St. Andrew's Guelph? or was it God's leading?

We welcome Aman, Ruai, Piath & Machut!

Janet Dalgleish

Committees and Groups

Youth Ministry

TRANSFORMATION FRIDAYS — 6:00pm

"Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed..." (Romans 12:2)

Beginning Friday September 5th, Youth Group will be meeting every Friday night—friends are ALWAYS welcome! Our first gathering will be a welcome back party and a Guitar Hero 3 Tournament. The following Friday, September 13th will be the kick off to a 13 week program entitled "Friendship First" which combines the holy act of eating together (come on, Jesus did it all the time!) with learning about friendship—and more importantly, friendship with God. And yes, we'll still have Sports Break!

Passport to Faith: Confirmation 2009

For the first time in many years we will be confirming youth in Grades 6 and up into the membership of the congregation. The Passport to Faith program is a blended program which, in addition to engaging young people in the core beliefs of our faith, promotes regular church attendance, develops a servant heart, and encourages true fellowship within the Body of Christ. For more information you are welcome to attend one of our information sessions on Sunday, September 7th, 2008 at either 9:45am or 11:30am.

Getting excited? Want to help out? This can be done by volunteering for Transformation Fridays or Youth class on Sundays, helping with cooking at the youth retreat, or assisting with baking goodies for the fundraising sales. Most of all, we ask you to PRAY for Youth Ministry—the young people and their leaders—as God blazes a trail in their lives throughout 2008-2009.

Matt Foxall, Youth Team Leader