

St. Andrew's Quarterly

DECEMBER 2023

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“And just like that this year is at the end! But don’t we say that at the end of each year?”

This is how I started my submission for last year’s Christmas edition of our newsletter, and I just have to use it again! Did this year ever blow by fast?!



We are on the cusp of starting our Advent series, and hopefully this series will help give each one of us a better perspective on Christmas, as we will be trying to counter

some of those things that try to steal our Christmas spirit and the peace, hope and joy the birth of Jesus should be bringing us. Stealing our Christmas spirit, it sounds a lot like the Grinch, doesn’t it? Therefore, this will be our theme for our Advent series this year: How the Grinch tries to steal Christmas. Rev. Larry Skinner would be sharing with me in bringing you this series. It kind of feel like the old days again before he retired ☺

On another note, thank you for the past year. It is such a privilege to serve at St. Andrew’s. As you know I have been away a couple of weeks ago to a Renewal Fellowship retreat in Toronto. Everybody in attendance were ministers from congregations of the PCC. We had time designated for small group discussions during which talks would always move towards what it happening in congregations. In many of these discussions, as challenges and concerns in congregations were shared in a safe and trusting space, I couldn’t relate to many of the things shared. We are blessed, and I am blessed for being able to minister at St. Andrew’s, and our family is blessed to be loved by St. Andrew’s. So, thank YOU for being instrumental in making St. Andrew’s so special.

Merry Christmas
Carel

Session

Submitted by Hugh Clugston

St. Andrew's celebrated their 161st anniversary on the weekend of October 14 and 15, 2023. On Saturday, Mr. David Randall presented a concert of gospel music in the afternoon. Approximately 90 people attended. On Sunday, our former minister, Rev. Larry Skinner was our guest minister. A fellowship "lunch with Larry" was enjoyed following the worship service where Larry and Nancy Skinner renewed acquaintances with many former friends.

During the week of October 22, Rev. Carel Grundlingh attended a Gospel Coalition in Indianapolis, U.S.A. This is a conference for church workers held every two years. It was attended by 6000 people from 44 countries.

On November 5, a remembrance of those from our congregation who fought in the 2 world wars, was included in our worship service. This was augmented by Joy Rutherford of Teeswater playing the bagpipes.

During the week of November 5, Rev. Carel Grundlingh attended a Pastor's retreat sponsored by the Renewal Fellowship of the PCC.

On November 12, sixty-three Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were collected by the children and Christiaan Grundlingh led the dedication prayer.

On November 19, Honour in Song presented "Priceless". The congregation joined them for lunch following the service.

On November 26, Rev. Carel Grundlingh led a communion service for the residents of Nine Mile Villa in Lucknow.

UPCOMING Events

December 3, 2023
Communion Service

January 16, 2024
Session



Anyone wishing to access the Prayer Chain, or receive notice from the Prayer Chain please contact:

Church office	519-357-2011,
	standrewspc@hurontel.on.ca
Nancy Campbell	519-523-9614

Fellowship Ministry Team

Submitted by Nancy Campbell

*"Give unto the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.*

-Ps. 29:2 NKJV-

How quickly our year 2023 is coming to a close! Our fall season was a very busy one with several exciting activities.

Coffee Hour on September 24 was well attended. Everyone was excited to share their happenings over the summer.

Saturday, October 14th realized the culmination of preparation and excitement for the Dave Randall Gospel Music Concert. Our team was involved in promoting the concert with posters placed in churches and businesses in our area as well as sources to give wide spread exposure. We knew God was in control each step of our planning and we trusted Him for His blessing. Around one hundred people experienced a Holy Spirit-filled afternoon of gospel music. A free will offering of \$1093. was received and, after expenses, around \$ 500. was given to the General Funds of our church. It was an inspirational afternoon for all attendees.

On Anniversary Sunday, October 15th, the Fellowship Team provided a lunch of sandwiches, squares and cookies following the worship service. It was a great time to visit and reconnect with Larry and Nancy.

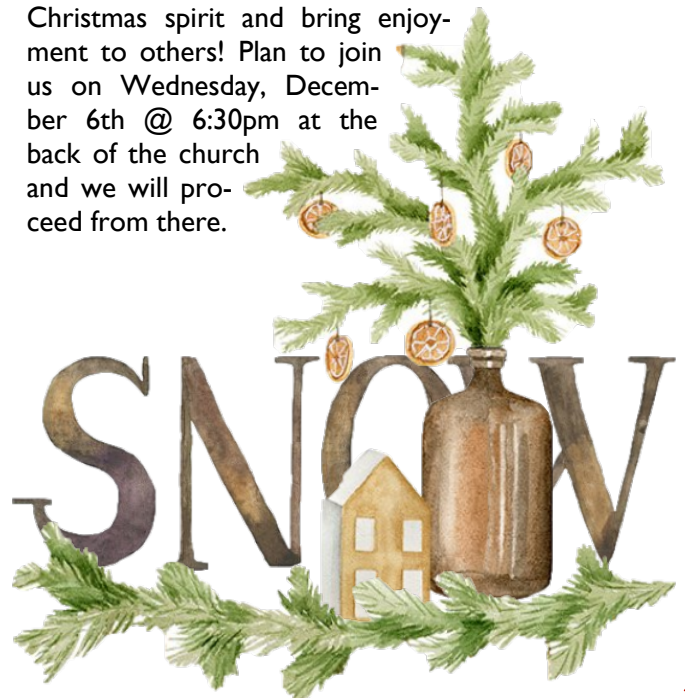
" Reaching Beyond Our Church Walls " seems to be growing steadily with between 85 and 95 meals served on an average Wednesday. The need is very great and we try to plan for around 90 too 100 meals to make sure we have enough to meet the needs. On October 25th we served 6 crock pots of Hamburger Stew. We used 11 lbs of hamburger, 6 loaves Texas Bread, 20 lbs. potatoes, 9 lbs. carrots and a treat bag was included with each lunch.

Our next lunch is on December 13th. Since the hamburger stew was so well received we decided we would serve it again. It provides a very healthy nourishing meal. We especially thank Terry and Dale Taylor for their donation of 20 lbs. of hamburger which will be used for both lunches.

Very little of our food ingredients come from the Salvation Army food bank as they struggle to meet the needs of their clients so we so gratefully appreciate the monetary donations in the "Loonie" jars and food donations. Without your assistance and prayers it would be difficult to provide a nourishing lunch.

On November 19th, Honour In Song lead the worship service. The Fellowship Team provided a Pulled Pork luncheon for the members of HIS, their families and the congregation. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet these talented youth.

Again this year we are planning an evening of outdoor Christmas Carol singing. We would love to have you join us. What a glorious way to get into the Christmas spirit and bring enjoyment to others! Plan to join us on Wednesday, December 6th @ 6:30pm at the back of the church and we will proceed from there.



Worship Ministry Team

Submitted by Shelley Sullivan



Today, October 30th, while this is being written, the very first snowflakes are falling down. This year has gone by so quickly and it is hard to imagine that Christmas will soon be upon us. And what a glorious time of year Christmas is, with the birth of Jesus Christ to celebrate once again.

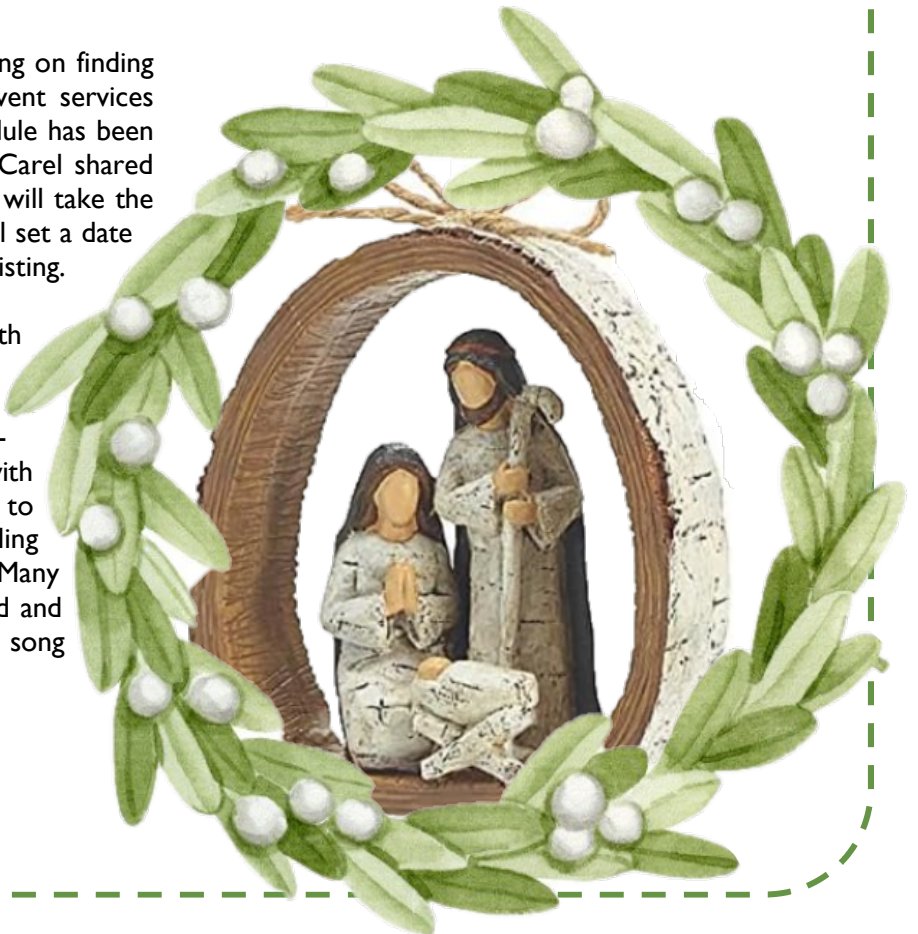
In regard to Christmas, Shelley is working on finding readers and candle lighters for the Advent services throughout December. The music schedule has been completed until the end of December. Carel shared his Advent theme for this year and Bev will take the lead in decorating for Christmas. She will set a date and inform other volunteers who are assisting.

We are very pleased that Coleson Smith has agreed to lead the Youth Praise Team for another year. In regard to visual and sound support, one of our volunteers is taking a break from helping with visuals for now. Nathan Laidlaw was able to purchase and repair the broken holding device for the pulpit microphone. Many thanks to all our music teams and sound and visual volunteers who provide praise in song for Sunday worship.

Bev provided a copy of the financial statement to the end of October, 2023. The expenses total to date is \$3,521.03 of our \$6,500. annual budget. Budget submission for the Board was discussed and reviewed for the Board; it was agreed that one minor adjustment be made although it will not affect the annual budget amount. Carel suggested that the Honour in Song group be able to practice in the church as needed. Everyone was in agreement.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

- Luke 2:11 -



Social Committee

Submitted by Deb Currie

The Social Committee had a very successful Apple Pie Fundraiser in October due to a very hard working crew and the overwhelming generosity of our congregation.

A profit of \$580.90 was made. The monies raised will go to restocking the kitchen and purchasing some new kitchenware.

The team has provided luncheons for three funerals held at our church in the past three months.

The Social committee is teaming up with the North of 50 team to have a Christmas luncheon (turkey and all the trimmings) on Thursday December 14 at 12 noon. Free will offering. The lovely Catherine

MacDonald will be providing us with a selection of Christmas music.

We would like to thank all the extra volunteers who have assisted us throughout the year.

We wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday Season.



Submitted by Lorraine Clugston & Vena Grundlingh

blessing Powerhouse with snacks since we started this year. The children enjoy all the treats.

Discipleship Ministry Team

Library

We have the following new books in the library:

•**Experiencing Grief** by **H. Norman Wright.**

In an easy to read 85- page book, Norman Wright walks us through the experience of loss of a loved one. This is a practical and healing guide for those on this journey.

•**Calm Your Anxiety** by **Robert J. Morgan.**

For those living with anxiety, Robert Morgan shares what he learned about developing practices that put anxiety in its place, identifying and coping with triggers and cultivating a nearness to God that brings contentment.

Powerhouse

We have had a great start to our new year and we enjoy teaching the kids at Powerhouse.

Thank you to the Outreach Ministry Team for



On December 17th during our Worship Service and on Christmas Eve Powerhouse will be singing "Sounding Joy" in church. Please come listen to them as they sing about what joy sounds like.

Our next Powerhouse gathering after the Christmas holiday will be on January 14th 2023.

Merry Christmas and a blessed 2023 from all of us at Powerhouse!

Goforth WMS

Junior Congregation is the supervision of our children of St. Andrew's ages 3 and up to and including Grade 3 during the part of the worship service that includes the message, offering and closing. Goforth sends two adults to teach and look after these children and the schedule this year is drawn up by Nancy Campbell and Mary Campbell. At present, we are not supervising a nursery.

There was no Goforth meeting planned for October. Instead there was a Fall Rally of the Maitland Presbyterial held at Camp Kintail on October 25. This date happened to conflict with several other activities in which our Goforth ladies were involved. As a result, only five women attended the Fall Rally from our Wingham Goforth.



Merle Underwood, Lorraine Clugston, Marilynn Lapp,
Corrie Nixon & Shelley Sullivan.

Jean Aitcheson, from the Stratford Mission depot, was the guest speaker. Jean has set up a warehouse of materials available to different missions for short term mission trips. Goforth has contributed to this at various times and Jean has received the Order of Canada for her humanitarian acts.

Submitted by Lorraine Clugston

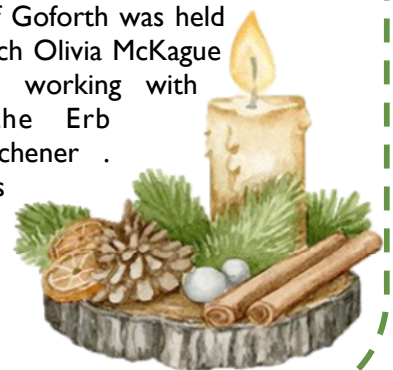
Each group of Presbyterial assisted various youth in attending Camp Kintail in 2023 and thank you notes were received from each youth. From Goforth, Avery Toll wrote, "Thank you for helping send me to Camp Kintail this summer. I went from August 8th - 11th. I had so much fun and enjoyed my time there. Thank you."

Each year, one group gets to present an honorary membership to one of their members. This year it was Goforth's turn. Lorraine Clugston presented an honorary membership of the WMS of the PCC to Marilynn Lapp and thanked her for her faithful service through the years.



Lorraine Clugston & Marilynn Lapp

A November meeting of Goforth was held on November 21 in which Olivia McKague shared her experience working with the homeless at the Erb Street shelters in Kitchener. A Christmas offering was received at this meeting.



Service Ministry Team

Submitted by Doug Conley, Grant Currie & Tom Hawkins

The Service Ministry Team will be meeting with the Minister; Church Secretary; Church Book-keeper; Church Custodian by the end of December 2023 to complete year-end reviews for the Board of Managers.

We would like to thank Reverend Carel, Vena Grundlingh, Louise Bloemberg and Joseph Smith for their continued dedication to St. Andrew's, Wingham.

The Service Ministry Team wishes everyone a safe and blessed holiday season.



Trustees

Submitted by Grant Currie, Margaret Stapleton & Arnold Taylor

The Trustees of St. Andrew's, Wingham, manage the funds that were received from the sale of the Church Manse.

In 2023 funds were transferred out of the Trustee account for the painting of the church roof (\$16,385.) and to cover a shortfall in the church general operating account (\$10,000.).

The Trustee's are in the process of reviewing options for reinvesting the remaining funds in the Trustee Account in order to optimize the rates of interest being received.

The Trustee's of St. Andrew's wish everyone a safe and blessed holiday season.



Merry Christmas

Board Of Managers

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and your plans will succeed.*

-Psalm 16:3 -

It is with sadness that the Board of Managers acknowledges the passing of Jim Taylor, who has been an active board member for the past three years. Jim has overseen the maintenance of the exterior of the church and most recently he was instrumental in locating a company that was willing to paint the church roof. The board appreciated his tireless efforts toward this major project.



We thank the team who helped apply for a Grant from the "Leland and Thora Vance Fund". Notice has just been received that our application of \$ 30,000.00 has been accepted. God is so Faithful. These funds will be used to replace all the windows in the old section of the church. This will be our major project for 2024.

The Board of Managers is requiring four new members for a three year term beginning 2024, to sit on one of the three committees: Finance, Internal or External. The following is an outline of responsibilities for each committee.

Finance Committee:

- All Board members take their turn assisting with the counting and depositing the offering at Libro weekly.
- attend finance discussions with Bookkeeper
- attend 5 Board meetings a year along with special meetings.

Submitted by Ralph Campbell

Internal Committee:

- monthly safety checks including smoke detectors, emergency lighting
- check for dripping taps in all washrooms along with toilets running
- check for obstructions in hallways for Fire escapes
- yearly fire drills completed and reports filed
- check with caretaker for any issues
- assist with spring and fall cleanups
- attend 5 Board meeting yearly along with special meetings

External Committee:

- assist in acquiring a contactor for parking lot snowplowing and removal
- acquire someone to shovel snow off sidewalks and steps
- arrange someone to cut grass weekly as required
- arrange workdays for spring and fall cleanups outside
- arrange someone to trim shrubs and weed flowerbeds
- attend 5 Board meetings yearly along with special meetings

One person on each team takes the leadership. From the board, one person will be needed to be the vice -Chairperson to assist the Chairperson.

Please prayerfully consider how you can assist. To paraphrase Carel " There is no need to be exceptional to be on the Board"

" We all have gifts to share"

As chairperson I would like to thank all our Board members for their ongoing dedication.

*In all your ways acknowledge
Him and he will direct
your paths.*

-Proverbs 3:6-



Outreach Ministry Team

Submitted by John Mann

At the close of the year North of 50 Coffee hour donated \$40.00 to the Powerhouse snack program and Missions supported the high school group 5.1.5 which meets at noon hour at F. E. Madill.

At last report the Food Grains corn was still standing but should be harvested soon. Information will be passed along when received.

The North Huron Food Bank is in need of feminine health products as well as food items. They are currently serving far more families than before so the need for food is great.

Last year, during the month of December, we conducted our first Reverse Advent Calendar project and many of the congregation took part.

The Outreach Ministry Team will operate this programme again in 2023. Your gifts of food items in 2022 not only assisted the Salvation Army's Christmas programme, it also served to help restock their food cupboard after it was depleted by their Christmas programme. Our congregation also donated \$650.00 to their Backpack programme to help local children get back to school equipped and ready to learn.

Beyond our borders we were able to send \$610,00 to help Turkey recover from a devastating earthquake.

Our Outreach Ministry Team derived a great deal of satisfaction from our efforts and we would like to share that with you. There is a place for you on our team. Please join us and let us know how you would like to help out.

May your home be blessed with a happy Christmas.



Operation Christmas Child

Submitted by Lorraine Clugston

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox for a boy or girl in need. This year we had the opportunity to bring joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to 63 children through our gift-filled shoeboxes.

The boxes have been delivered to the depot in Hanover and are now on the way to Calgary. From Calgary, the shoeboxes will be shipped to millions of recipients who, after opening their gift, will then have the opportunity to participate in a 12-lesson follow-up discipleship program.

Thousands of people handle the logistics of getting shoebox gifts to children around the globe.

St. Andrew's is blessed to be a part of this outreach.



What's happening on **SUNDAYS**

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Powerhouse 10:00 a.m.

Junior Congregation

Following Children's time, children up to and including Grade 3 are invited to the Quilting Room for Junior Congregation. Toys, games and a snack will be provided.

What's on during **2023**

- **Prayer Meeting** Thursday 1:00 p.m.
 - **Goforth W.M.S.** 3rd Tuesday of the month 2:00 p.m.
 - **North of 50 Coffee Hour** 2nd Thursday of the month 10:00 a.m.
 - **Bible Study** by arrangement
 - **Session** by arrangement
 - **Ministry Teams** by arrangement
 - **Board of Managers** February 15, April 12, June 14, September 13, November 8
other by arrangement
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- **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** 1st Sunday of Mar, Jun, Oct, Dec.
 - **The Sacrament of Baptism** by arrangement
 - **Anniversary Service** 3rd Sunday in October

Minister	Rev. Carel Grundlingh carel.grundlingh@gmail.com	226 - 222-0051
Church office	Vena Grundlingh standrewspc@hurontel.on.ca	519 - 357-2011
Session Clerk	Dr. Hugh Clugston clugston@eastlink.ca	519 - 357-2754
Bookkeeper	Louise Bloemberg stand.treasurer@hurontel.on.ca	519 - 525-5891
Caretaker	Joe Smith	519-357-1056
Church Website:	www.standrewswingham.ca	
Facebook:	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Wingham	
Email:	standrewspc@hurontel.on.ca.	
Address:	PO Box 115, 281 Josephine Street, Wingham, ON, N0G2W0	
Office hours:	Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	

DEADLINE

Deadline for bulletin
announcements:
Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.

Teams Reported In This Newsletter

SESSION 2023

Rev. Carel Grundlingh (Minister)	
Hugh Clugston (Clerk of Session)	
Clayton Baird	Phillip Smith
Douglas Conley	Tim Sullivan
Grant Currie	Arnold Taylor
Bev Foubert	Jane Tolton
Tom Hawkins	Paul Tolton
John Mann	Merle Underwood
Joe Smith	

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Nancy Campbell (Chair)	
Kathy Armstrong (Secretary/Treasurer)	
Hugh Clugston	Verna Taylor
Liz O'Neil	Trudy Thomson
Joe Smith	Karen Webster

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

John Mann (Chair)	
Debbie Currie (Vice Chair)	
Paul Tolton (Secretary)	
Clayton Baird	Mary Campbell
Marilyn Baird	Fred Summers

SERVICE MINISTRY TEAM

Grant Currie (Chair)	Tom Hawkins
Doug Conley	

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Deb Currie (Chair & Team leader)	
Shelley Sullivan (Secretary)	
Doris Taylor (Treasurer)	
Clayton Baird (Team leader)	Marilyn Baird
Verna Hodgins	Trudy Thomson

POWERHOUSE

Vena Grundlingh (Organizer & Gr 4-7 teacher)
Heather-Lyn Smith (Gr 1-3 teacher)
Leanne Marks (Ages 3 - SK teacher)

USE OF THE CHURCH COMMITTEE

Clayton Baird (Session representative)	
Deb Currie	Mary Campbell

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Ralph Campbell (Chairperson)	
Grant Currie (Vice-chair & Session representative)	
Julia Norman (Secretary to the Board)	
Merv Baker	Erin Schiestel
Chris Hoeven	Don Schnurr
Murray Lapp	

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Carel Grundlingh (Minister)	
Shelley Sullivan (Chair)	
Merle Underwood (Vice-chair)	
Jane Tolton (Recording secretary)	
Bev Foubert (Treasurer)	
Tim Sullivan	Michaela Thorpe

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Phillip Smith (Chair)	
Heather-Lyn Smith (Vice Chair)	
Stephanie Bloemberg	Vena Grundlingh
Lorraine Clugston	Tanya Toll
Shannon Gillespie	

TRUSTEES

Grant Currie	Margaret Stapleton
Arnold Taylor	

GOFORTH WMS

Lorraine Clugston (President)
Bev Foubert (Secretary)
Karen Webster (Treasurer)

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

John Mann (Chair)	
Clayton Baird	Paul Tolton

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

Mary Campbell	Nancy Campbell
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