

# THE GOOD NEWS



## Pakenham Pastoral Charge

Fall 2024 / Issue 1

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### From The desk of Reverend Sheryl,

*The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap, showing that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him. - Psalm 92.12-15*

Every September it begins again – the look of our lives for the next 10 months or so. Even if our children are done with school, our activity clock is wired to the rhythms of the school year. Come June and the summer respite, we vow to make changes so that we have a life that is more fulfilling and satisfying. The term for this that has been floating around for a few decades now is flourishing. And yet, every September there is little if any option to make small changes that can make space for a flourishing life.

The psalmist believes flourishing is found in our life of faith rooted in God and God's calls for us in faithfulness. For the psalmist the matter is simple, just do everything for God and all will be well. The call to be only in communities of faith that are like our beliefs seems appealing and yet is so difficult to engage in because in today's era we live in a multi-world: multi languages, multi cultures, multi religions, multi genders, etc. The community we encounter in our daily life transects a multitude of realities and calls us to discern a path through while respecting our differences.

In Pakenham Pastoral Charge we are exploring varying modes of gathering that make space for spirituality and an opportunity for deeper connection with God. Spirituality and connection are as varied as the people who search for and practice it. In this newsletter (after a long hiatus) there are many opportunities for connecting with God and God's community of faith. Perhaps there's one that will appeal to you. I look forward to meeting you at one of these opportunities.

*Rev. Sheryl McLeod*

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## Worship Matters

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You may **notice some changes** in our worship services.

The first change is **our bulletin**. We have changed where you will find information like announcements, and our contact information. As well, we are working on the font, selection and size to make it easier to read.

The second, is a change in how we approach **sharing in the Lord's Prayer**. As our living faith continues to evolve, we become sensitive to the experiences of each other and how we acknowledge the relationship we have with God. We have long known that God is part of and beyond our particular understanding of the nature of God. This means that God is not any particular gender either, and we are part of God's gender. We know, that as society, we are searching for terms to understand our own identity with gender. To begin to reflect this in our worship service, you may notice the multitude of terms used to name God without indicating a particular gender.

Terms such as Ground of All Being, Source of Life and Light, Eternal One, Compassionate God, etc. When it comes to our beloved Lord's Prayer, calling on God without referring to gender is a bit of a challenge. For now, we begin with adding gender to begin to understand that God is beyond our complete understanding. When we begin with 'Our Mother and Our Father', you may find that it unsettles you – at first. This is normal and you are urged to be patient with yourself. Over time other terms can be used, like Our Parent, Eternal One, Source of Love. All will seem different, yet all are loving and desiring of relationship with God.

The third change is **how we share in worship**. For close to two years, we have been working on sharing our wisdom which is made up of learning and lived experience with each other. God works in and through all of us and together when we share, we reveal more of God's wisdom to each other.

At both Zion United and St. Andrew's United, **Sunday School is in Session** for the Seasons of Creation, Advent and Christmas. Come and join us for crafts stories and snacks for this lively time of the year.

***The only way to make sense out of change is to  
plunge in with it, move with it and join the dance.***

## Making Space

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Here are some **activities for connecting** and **deepening our spiritual connection** with God.

**OUR SENIOR CHOIR** has returned to weekly practices on Thursday evenings, generally from 7 to 9pm. Currently we are beginning practices as we prepare for our Fall Beatles Concert. **All singers are welcome**. We are in particular need of Tenor and Bass voices.



**Coffee Conversation** on Wednesdays from 10am-noon. Exactly as it says, this is a time to gather to connect, to share in our thoughts of the day and to learn what is happening in our community. *The fall dates are October 16, November 20 and December 18.*



**PYSANKY TIME** on Mondays in November (4, 11, 18, and 25) from 6:30 to 9pm. Originally practiced in the season of Lent in preparation for Easter – the resurrection of Christ. Now it is also practiced in November/December in preparation for Christmas – the birth of Jesus. The cost is \$20 for the whole series of evenings. All that is required is a kit which has a kiska and a beeswax puck, which can be purchased for \$17, if needed.



**SANCTUARY MEDITATION** will be offered on Mondays in December (2, 9, 16, 23) from 4:30 to 6:30pm. The sanctuary will be open and available for a time of quiet meditation during a season that is filled with expectation and activity. You can come for all or part of the time, whatever fits in with your life.

## Films for Thought

Like book clubs everywhere, this occasional adult movie club is an opportunity to watch a movie and then discuss its themes. We will meet on Mondays from 6:30 to 9pm, in Stewart Hall. There will be popcorn and beverages. This fall there are two movies we are going to see.





- ~ The first film was **The Creator** shown on Sep 23, 2024.
- ~ The second film will be the first film in the documentary series: **The 8<sup>th</sup> Fire** scheduled for Oct 28, 2024.



Here's what's coming




St. Andrew's ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
OCTOBER 20, 2024  
Join us at 11:00 am at St. Andrews  
Guest speaker Roy MacGregor  
Pot-Luck Lunch to follow



**THE BEATLES**  
*come to St. Andrew's*

Sat Nov 23, 2024  
7:30 pm

with Peter Brown  
St. Andrew's Choir  
and community friends



Some time in the new year, there will be a service where we will have an opportunity to share our **favorite quotes**. Please save any quotes you come across to share at a service in *January 2025*.

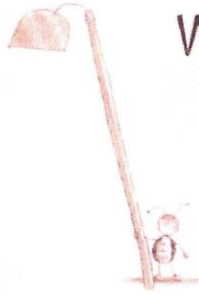
***Every day is a good day!***

**Confirmation Classes** will be offered in the spring of 2025 between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday. Look for more information in our first 2025 newsletter coming out in January 2025.



**SEASON 2 of CAMP OMNIA**  
August 19 to 21, 2025  
from 9 am to 4 pm.  
The theme for Camp this year is  
**“God’s Beloved”**

# FOR FUN



When there's a long row to hoe,  
remember: He's still in charge  
of the garden.

Gardening is a delight to the senses as well as the soul.  
Here are some things that make the job a little easier:

Rototiller	Shovel	Gloves	Pollinators
Pitchfork	Weed cutter	Spade	Lopper
Fertilizer	Water	Wheelbarrow	Trowel
Rake	Sunshine	Honeybees	Dibble
Compost	Garden hose	Butterflies	Trellis
Mulch	Rain barrel	Seedlings	Flower pots

Y M G D O C K R C M U X S E E B Y E N O H T  
E M L E W A S E A W O R R A B L E E H W L D  
P U O P C I L W A T E R U Q Y I O Y Z M G S  
F L V A U B R Q U W E E D C U T T E R L A S  
L T E D B M M D G C P O H T R A H D A F R E  
O F S I Z L I Z G H S G W X G Q X K A V D E  
W I D D N O J I G R O S C K Q R E E B V E D  
E X E E B V X U N F C G E F R Q F U A H N L  
R R Y F Q R I W J C Z G I I T O N I U K H I  
P O L L I N A T O R S V P N L S F F W M O N  
O R A F K N R E Z I L I T R E F H H G I S G  
T E A K M T A P B S K J L H S S R C C D E S  
S L S U N S H I N E C W E Z Y P I E L T P W  
R L Z T R R P T T P D X V B G C A L T U I H  
Y I C T A F R S R O Q V O R C C U D L T M P  
O T A K B O O T O O N X H E I Q E P E E U F  
Z O E B T P G I W O W W S P J M K L B I R B  
N T A O M B L N E X M E U P F S P M H M Y T  
W O Y O C P Q U M E W F L O W U K E L K M H  
D R C R R A I N B A R R E L G S B W Q V I V

# OMNIA Updates

Family Events hosted by Pakenham Pastoral Charge

SEPTEMBER 2024 EDITION

## Pumpkin Carving Party!

**Date: Sunday, October 27th**

**Time: 2-4 PM.**

October brings Halloween and our annual Pumpkin Carving Party at St Andrew's. This is a fun filled family event with carving, snacks, and scary music.

**Plan to carve your pumpkin with us this year!**



## FREE SKATE + BOARD GAMES!

**Date: Saturday, November 16th**

**Time: 6-9 PM**

Sharpen those blades for the first "Free Skate" of the season, sponsored by St. Andrew's. Afterwards board games and hot chocolate await you at the Church Hall.

**Bring your friends out to this evening of fun for all ages!**



## OMNIA NIGHTS!

**Date: last Wednesday of every month**

**Time: 6-8 PM**

Once a month we would love to reconnect with our OMNIA Campers, their parents and all our Church families. To facilitate this we created OMNIA Night. Join us for a light meal with your family, followed by a social time for the grown-ups while the children play games, sing songs and make crafts just like at camp. A variety of fun activities are in the works for all ages. **Let OMNIA Night be your monthly family ritual!**



## CHRISTMAS MOVIE!

**Date: Saturday, December 7th**

**Time: 1 - 3 PM**

Following the Santa Clause Parade on Saturday, December 7th walk over to St. Andrew's to enjoy a Christmas Movie with your family and friends. **There will be lots of popcorn for sharing!**



SEPT

### Upcoming OMNIA Nights!

25

Dinner @ 6:15 pm!

OCT

30

Dinner @ 6:15 pm!



## Fridge Notes

to December 31, 2024

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### Sunday Worship Services

- Sep. 29    Worship in a Different Vein
- Oct. 06    Worldwide Communion Services
- Oct. 13    Thanksgiving Services
- Oct. 20    St. Andrew's Anniversary Service with pot-luck lunch following
- Oct. 27    World Food Sunday with Coffee Time at St. Andrew's
- Nov. 03    Guest Minister
- Nov. 10    Remembrance Worship Service
- Nov. 17    Worship in a Different Vein
- Nov. 24    Reign of Christ with Coffee Time at St. Andrew's
- Dec. 01    Advent 1 – Communion Worship Service
- Dec. 09    Advent 2
- Dec. 16    Advent 3 – White Gift Service
- Dec. 22    Advent 4 – Carol Sing Service
- Dec. 29    Christmas 1 – Joint Service at Zion at 9:30 am

### Mid-Week Worship Service

**CAMP OMNIA for the Whole Family / 6 to 8 pm**

- Sep. 25    Peacemaking – the many aspects of
- Oct. 30    Dress Up – Halloween – All Hallow's Eve
- Nov. 27    Preparing for Christmas
- Dec. 25    No Service as it is Christmas Day

### Special Worship Services

October 20

The Anniversary Service for St. Andrew's United Church at 11am. Our guest speaker is Roy MacGregor. Following the service there will be a pot-luck lunch in the dining hall.

Dec. 18

Stillpoint Service at 7 pm

A service of finding peaceful respite in the midst of the Christmas bus-i-ness.

## Fridge Notes ... cont'd

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### Meetings (in Stewart Hall)

- Oct. 02 St. Andrew's Worship and Life Committee Meeting at 10 am
- Oct. 09 St. Andrew's Executive Council Meeting at 7:30 pm
- Oct. 16 Camp Omnia Meeting at 10 am
- Oct. 16 PPC – Official Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- Nov. 27 Camp Omnia Meeting at 10 am

### Events

- Oct. 05 St. Andrew's United Church Anniversary Supper. Dine-in and Take-out. Dine-in seating at 4:30 pm & 5:45 pm. Reserve by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> through Arlene (613- 762-7181) or Patricia (613-256-4267). Cost: Adult - \$25, Child - \$15.
- Oct. 27 Halloween and Pumpkin Carving at St. Andrew's from 2-4 pm.
- Nov. 16 Skating and Games from 6-9 pm at the Stewart Community Centre and St. Andrew's Dining Hall.
- Nov. 23 Beatles Concert in St. Andrew's Sanctuary at 7:30 pm
- Nov. 30 Fashion Show featuring clothing from Laura from 2-5 pm.
- Dec. 07 Santa Claus Parade and Christmas Movie from 12:30 pm at St. Andrew's

### Office Hours

Our office administrator, Suzie Walden will be in the office on Wednesdays. Rev. Sheryl will be in on Wednesdays as well. If you want to see Rev. Sheryl on days other than Wednesday, it would be helpful to make an appointment.

**Rev. Sheryl** will be **away** from the pastoral charge from **November 2-9, 2024**.

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