

### Thoughts from the Editor...

Recently, the government of Canada released the following Statement:

Yes, I spent the first half of my life clinging to the traditions of the passes the following statement:

"For the first time ever, there are now more people in Canada age 65 and over than there are under age 15, according to Statistics Canada."

I guess it shouldn't surprise us. Our generation was part of that post war tsunami of children born and commonly referred to as The Baby Boomers. Those of us riding that population wave were certainly kept mindful. It was suggested we were the harbingers of overpopulation, overcrowding of educational facilities. Our sheer numbers put a stress on society.

But we were also comfortable in our largess. There was an excitement about it. We struggled through the rigidity of the fifties, and embraced the freedom of the sixties. Traditions, such as the normalcy of marriage and the expectation of children were challenged.

While my life still revolved around church activities, while I still mostly opted for the more traditional life goals, secular society and secular thinking eventually permeated our society, our churches as well. There were changes within churches that were very positive. Less legalistic approaches to living out our faith challenged blatant judgmental-ism and self-righteousness.

But Morality {Secular} is the tendency to pour out the baby with the bath water. Many in my generation still embraced marriage and children, but many didn't. Many married and chose to have no children, or very few. Our family of four children was an aberration even then and at times looked upon as contributing to world overpopulation. I was sent a sympathy card when I was carrying my last child.

Yes, I spent the first half of my life clinging to the traditions of the past. It was safe there and reasonably predictable. It took the tragedy of my husband's death in 1993 to turn my world upside down. It took deep pain and isolation and a dark journey to eventually rebuild and rethink all that I had ever believed and trusted.



Ada Mallory. Editor

So while I am part of my generation by default, in hindsight I have consistently been somewhat out of step with it. I was 'old' when I was young and I am 'young' when I am now becoming old. Pain has been a harsh but effective teacher for me. God has opened my eyes and heart to the eyes and hearts of others.

This Summer Edition of **The Burning Bush** marks my three year anniversary as Editor. I remember how I cried tears of joy and thankfulness when I was accepted to be the new editor. God had brought me to a place of perfect fit. I had much to learn in terms of technical skills, but my heart was and still is, with the people of St. Andrew's, a people who accepted me warmly and unreservedly, from the beginning. I have always seen this as a ministry- a ministry of family unity and joy.

In my twenties and thirties, I used to worry that I might die young. I realized sometime back that I was too old to die young anymore. And it made me smile with gratitude at how blessed I am to live today, still able and eager to have God make use of my time, my days.

As for the future, it is in the hands of God, and not those of Statistics Canada. It is my comfort. Ada Mallory, Editor

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### From the Minister's Desk...

# **MOORE'S**

COFFEE-HOUSE.

House lately erected by Mrs. Finkle, next door to Johns & Finkle's, respectfully informs the public, that he has taken great pains to furnish it in every respect to merit the best of custom. Gentlemen travelling may rely upon having good accommodations and attendance.

Their being attached to the house a cood yard and liables. Teamsters can have suitable accommodations.

Soups every day from 12 to 1 o'clock. Seven or eight genteel boarders can be attended to.

J. MOORE.

Kingston, Feb. 1, 1817.

317. 35

# When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. Acts 2:1

During the season of Pentecost, we remember how the Holy Spirit was sent to bind the disciples of Jesus into the Church, the living body of the Living Lord. During the season of Pentecost, we also remember how the Holy Spirit moved out from Jerusalem to raise up communities of faith across cultures and continents, even here in Kingston.

The season of Pentecost in this year of grace 2017 will be particularly joyful for us at St. Andrew's, as we celebrate 200 years of witness as a people of Christian faith in Kingston.

The completion of the first house of worship, the arrival of the first minister, the ordination of the first elders will all follow in 1822. But we will begin our 200th anniversary celebrations, marking the Church not in terms of its building or its ordained leadership, but rather as the work of the Holy Spirit inspiring and moving ordinary people to faith and witness. We will mark our 200th anniversary from the summer of 1817 when certain residents of Kingston were gathered in the

newly opened Moore's coffee house on Store (Princess) Street, and there pledged, to become the core of a new Christian community in this growing town, a Presbyterian congregation.

Already a wonderfully updated and enlarged edition of our congregational history, The Rock and The Sword' by Brian S. Osborne, has been published and is available from the church office. Already banners have been hung outside, inviting friends and neighbours alike to celebrate with us. Already the 143rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has gathered with us in thanksgiving. Already eight floor banners are prepared to tell stories of this congregation and its history as visitors explore this sanctuary over the summer weeks.

But our year of celebrations will begin in earnest with a 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend in September.

'The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad' (Psalm 126:3) - with these words of the psalmist, we will gather on Sunday September 17, 10:30 a.m. It is often said that we acknowledge God best in retrospect, that when we have the opportunity and discipline to look back over time and experience we are able to trace most clearly the hand of God's providence and calling. Well, with 200 years of retrospective, our praise of God will be full to overflowing, and our gladness also!

Be sure to invite all friends and former members to join us.

On Saturday September 16, 6 p.m. we will enjoy a

banquet in St. Andrew's Hall. The turkey-and-all-the-trimmings will be catered and served by Ramekins, the choir will entertain, The Honourable Peter Milliken will share personal perspectives on Kings Town and Christian Faith.

Tickets are available at cost for \$15, and any additional contribution will assist another to attend.



**Andrew Johnston** 

St. Andrew's began by the work of the Holy Spirit in a coffee house on Princess Street. And the recent resurgence of coffee houses on Princess Street makes me think ...

Even as we celebrate our great heritage as a community of Christian faith and service, might we also greet a resurgence of the Spirit among us, and through us?

Your Minister, Andrew

# Church Family Photo Album 1...





**Sword Demo Vendors Table** 

**Available Board Games** 

**King Con is Kingston's preeminent festival of comics**, gaming, sci-fi, fantasy, and other exciting forms of fandom. (Fandom is the state or condition of being a fan of someone or something.) This year, **King Con took place from Saturday, April 1 to Sunday, April 2**, with the bulk of the programming offered at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.



Left: Banner made by Anne Marie Gabrini & Fern Houston for the General Assembly and our 200 year Celebration.

**Bottom:** Induction Service

The Rev. Cheryl Horne with Sarah and friends after her induction to Old St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Colborne, Sunday April 2

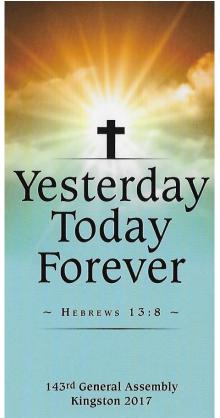
Left to Right: Andrew Johnston, Aime Delacretaz, Rose DeShaw, Don Hay, Cheryl Horne & Daughter Sarah, Donna Delacretaz





# Presbyterian Church in Canada

# St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kingston welcomes The 143<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly!



The 2017 General Assembly will begin on Sunday June 4 at 7:00 pm with worship and the celebration of communion in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kingston, Ontario. The Assembly will continue to meet at Queen's University from Monday until mid-day on Wednesday June 7.

"Jesus Christ – the same yesterday, today, forever" from Hebrews 13:8 is the chosen theme. This focus upon Christ provides the foundation and the exhortation for our unity. (Artwork provided by Bryan Babcock Design.)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church along with the Presbytery of Kingston are hosting this General Assembly and are looking forward to welcoming participants to Kingston.

#### **REGISTRATION:**

Registration information is sent directly to those attending the General Assembly (commissioners, young adult representatives, student representatives and resource people). Registration forms are also available at presbyterian.ca/ga2017 for those who wish to complete them electronically. Details for registering at the Assembly will be in the Book of Reports.

#### **BOOK OF REPORTS:**

The Book of Reports contains the reports to the General Assembly from the various standing committees. It also includes the agenda and information relating to this Assembly.

### The Book of Reports is now available. It will be offered in the following two formats:

- a single pdf file for download from presbyterian.ca/ga2017
- printed format for \$30 (taxes and shipping will be added) [order directly from Parasource using the online order form at presbyterian.ca/order or by phoning 1-800-263-2664 and ask for the 2017 Book of Reports (product number 2017050701)]

VISITORS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY The General Assembly is open to the public. Visitors requiring accommodation at the university are to contact Terrie-Lee Hamilton for availability and further information.

### **INQUIRIES**

Contact Terrie-Lee Hamilton (416-441-1111 ext. 225 or thamilton@presbyterian.ca) if you have questions relating to arrangements for General Assembly.

At the morning service in a Presbyterian Kirk in the North, a visitor from the South had made his appearance. It was soon evident that he was accustomed to a less severe atmosphere during worship, and from time to time disturbed the normal calm by exclaiming 'Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!'

This went on for some time until an old Elder moved forward to the interrupter, tapped him on the shoulder and warned him, 'Luik here, ma mannie, we dinna praise the Lord here.'



## St. Andrew's Church Usage Committee

Many folks may be unaware of the many activities that occur in various parts of our church outside of Sunday church services. This chart, created by the Booking Co-ordinator of the Usage Committee, Greg Matthews, gives an overview of scheduled events. These events of course do not even include the ongoing ministries of Special Meals, served late Sunday afternoons by teams from several churches, and The Mess, an Open Arts

Studio that provides a safe gathering place for creative minds.

Date (2017)	Type of Event	Group	Room(s)
02/04	Documentary Screening	Inter-Church Refugee Partnership	St. Andrew's Hall
02/17	Baking	Christine Yott	Upstairs Kitchen
02/27 thru 03/02	Music Exams	Kiwanis	Sanctuary, Chapel
03/03	Dancing, singing	Teresa Steele	St. Andrew's Hall
03/08	Organ Lessons	Renata van Vliet	Sanctuary
03/14	Interview	JC Kenney	Polson Davis Room
03/18	Organ Exams	RCCO	Sanctuary, St. Andrew's Hall
03/22	Interview	JC Kenney	Polson Davis Room
03/28	Song rehearsal	Bottletree	Sanctuary
04/01	Community Event	King Con 2017	St. Andrew's Hall, Polson Davis Room, Gill Hall, Computer Room, Chapel
04/05	Dance Exams	Rob Roy Dancers	St. Andrew's Hall
04/11	Presentation	Mary's Talks	St. Andrew's Hall
04/22	Awareness	Guardians of the Children	Outside Lawn
	Confirm	ed Upcoming Events	
06/03 06/07	Demonstration	Taoist Tai Chi	Outside Lawn
06/17		Open Doors Kingston	Whole Church
06/18		Open Doors Kingston	Whole Church
06/21		National Aboriginal Day	Sanctuary, St. Andrew's Hall
06/23 06/24	Backup location in case of rain	Skeleton Park Ars Festival	St. Andrew's Hall
12/08	Concert	Live Wire	Sanctuary



Greg Matthews, Booking Co-ordinator Church Usage Committee

Usage Committee Members
Andrew Johnston
Greg Matthews
David Jackson
Robert Reid

St. Andrew's owes much to these committed members. Many long hours were spent securing occupancy of The Manse and negotiating a rental agreement satisfactory to all parties involved.

Many thanks to all!

After 20 years of shaving himself every morning, a man in a small southern town decided he had been doing that long enough. He told his wife that from then on he'd let the local barber shave him each day.

The man went to the local barber shop which was owned by the pastor of the local Baptist church. The barber's wife, whose name was Grace, shaved him and sprayed him with lilac water. "That will be \$20.00," she said. The man thought the price was a bit high and wondered how he'd continue to foot such a bill, but he paid for the service and went to work

The next morning, the man looked in the mirror and saw that his face was as smooth as it had been when he left the barber shop the day before. At least I don't need to get a shave every day. The next morning, the man's face was still smooth. Two weeks later, the man was still unable to find any trace of whiskers on his face. He couldn't understand it, so he returned to the barber shop.

"I thought \$20.00 dollars was high for a shave," he told the barber's wife, "but you must have done a great job. It's been two weeks and my whiskers haven't started growing back." The woman's face showed no surprise.

"Well, of course," she said. "You were shaved by Grace. Once shaved, always shaved."

### Alberta Saunders, Reticence in Action...

by Ada Mallory, Editor. From an interview.

She was lovely. She smiled warmly as she welcomed me into her home. Maggie, her beautiful little blonde and ever-on- guard dog, greeted me somewhat more vociferously.

Alberta Saunders became the new **Clerk of Session** for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of Kingston just a few short months ago. She was reluctant to become the subject of an interview for *The Burning Bush* when I approached her. I knew Alberta to be a private person, so I was not unduly surprised at her response.

But I was confident that she would give it serious consideration and would base her final decision on whether it was the responsible thing to do, that her reluctance might be based on her natural reserve, and that as Clerk of Session, it might be beneficial for the people of St. Andrew's to know her just a bit better.

The role of Clerk of Session in the Presbyterian government tradition, is not an insignificant one. "This elected person takes minutes for the Session and maintains all of the church's ledgers of membership, births, baptisms, deaths, and elders. However, the role takes on a special significance well beyond its stated duties. In leadership and influence across the congregation, the Session Clerk is a partner with the Minister and often speaks for the Congregation and Elders in offering words of guidance and encouragement to the Minister as well as being the key to marshalling resources and support to implement the Minister's projects." (Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia)

Asked how she feels about finding herself becoming Clerk of Session, Alberta characteristically replies, "surprised and humbled". And yet as our discussion progressed, she acknowledges perhaps the many "seasons of her life" have quietly helped prepare her for this position.

Alberta Saunders was born the second of two daughters to a Free Methodist Minister and his wife. Their pastorate was in Napanee and the parsonage ("for lack of a better word") in which they lived as a family, was on the second floor of a local feed store. Alberta recalled her father sharing how he had felt the call to the ministry early in life, but it was only after he had experienced a personal and spiritual recommitment to serve God, that he went back to school and eventually became an ordained minister.

Growing up as the child of the pastor had its special challenges for Alberta. She pondered matters in life, and was somewhat given to worrying. She was sensitive as a child, reluctant to be in the limelight. She attributes much

of personal growth during her childhood and youth to her father, a father who quietly guided her through many of the issues that people's expectations could put upon a minister and his family.

Alberta describes the atmosphere in their home as she was growing up as loving, strict but with structure and with known boundaries. Her happiest times, on reflection, involved unsupervised play times outdoors. But it was her mother's frequent absences in hospital due to health concerns, that caused Alberta her saddest moments. During a time of no health care coverage, these episodes also created considerable financial stress on a family already living with an income dependent on church collections.

Alberta recalled a significant event that occurred during one of these particularly difficult times, how neighbours had taken up a collection to help them out. Her young mind and heart was deeply touched by this gesture, and she learned in a very real way the importance of leaning on faith in God's provision, on faith in the goodness of others.

Scholastically, Alberta maintains that language/arts disciplines were consistently her strengths, and scientific ones not so much. Growing up in the home of a minister whose office was also there, books and reading were a large part of her life. But she learned



Alberta Saunders with 'Maggie'

more than just about books as a result of this. Having congregational members visiting her father's office with their various concerns, also taught Alberta the importance of kindness, empathy and strict confidentially, all characteristics that would serve her well in life.

Alberta went on to graduate from Carlton University in Ottawa and subsequently teachers' college. It was her father who officiated at her wedding to David Saunders, a man she had met during church activities in an Ottawa Methodist Church (and with whom she eventually had two sons).

When teaching in Ottawa, Alberta taught elementary grades first and eventually, on moving to Kingston, she achieved her goal of teaching middle schoolers at Calvin Park and Welborne Avenue Public School.

Speaking fondly of those years, she expanded on how her personal philosophy helped her, help her students. Her sensitivity, partly innate and partly refined through life as a pastor's child, her ability to emphasize with others, was balanced by her belief in the power of making one's choices while understanding the ensuing consequences. Alberta recalls the love and safety of her childhood home, which though strict, had known boundaries.

After eleven years teaching at Welborne Avenue Public School in Kingston, Alberta became Vice Principal for a year and later a Board Office English Consultant for Frontenac County Board of Education. Following this she became principal of Frontenac Public School, and returned to Welborne Avenue Public School as principal. The last four years, prior to her retirement, she worked once again at the now Limestone District School Board as a supervising principal.

Retirement has not been a time of rest for Alberta. She views this as just another "season" in her life, a season of new growth, new challenges. She worked with the Hon. Peter Milliken's office part time as a Constituency Assistant as well as for fifteen years as a Kingston General Hospital volunteer (and remains still on the Board of the Auxiliary):

- involvement in several Teddy Bear Fundraising campaigns for pediatric and neonatal units in KGH;
- liaison person in ICU
- Secretary of the Board and the Board and Council
- Chair of the Constitution Committee and a member of the Finance Committee

Alberta's involvements, only a few of which are listed here, all reflect her caring but disciplined nature. She has a quiet wisdom, giving careful thought before speaking and is that person you might seek out for help, in complete confidence.

"Great is Thy Faithfulness", one of Alberta's favorite hymns, reflects clearly her gratitude for and acknowledgment of God's work in her life:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy Faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Written by Thomas Chisholm; Music by William Runyan.

God has transformed Alberta's reticence, her quiet reluctance to stand out, and brought her to another season in her life, that of Clerk of Session.

"I feel my faith is the core by which I operate. While we can proclaim our faith all we want, it means little unless we live it." Alberta Saunders

### Courage Under Pressure...

Devotional Thoughts by Ron Axford

As we remember with heartfelt appreciation for what Jesus accomplished for us at Calvary, let us see the contrast between our Lord and those who determined to destroy him. The Prince of Peace, the essence of justice and righteousness, suffered the most severe injustice that has ever befallen anyone. He took our place just as He did for Barabbas. How ironic that Jesus, although exonerated, was put to death for the sins of which Barabbas was guilty!

Every aspect of Jesus' trial was illegal;

- The outcome was predetermined- no 'innocent-until-proven-guilty'. John 11:49-50, Mark 14:1-2
- False witnesses were sought to testify against Jesus. No objection was raised as they gave contradictory statements. Matthew 26:59-61
- No defense was sought or allowed. Luke 22:66-71
- The trial was conducted at night, contravening the religious leaders' own laws. Mark 14:53-65
- Caiaphas, the high priest, put Jesus under oath, but then incriminated Him for what He said. Matthew 26:62-62-67
- Cases that involved serious charges, such as this one, were to be tried only in the high council's regular meeting place, not in the high priest's home. Mark 14:53-65

The religious leaders were predisposed to the death penalty. It became an obsession with them, so they would do whatever it took to accomplish their goal.

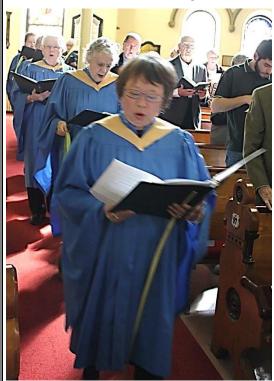
Thankfully however, there is evidence that even in the Sanhedrin, there were two members of the council who were followers of Jesus. There were seventy members. Sixty-eight voted for Jesus to be put to death.

Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea courageously voted against it.



Ron Axford, Professor Emeritus

# Church Family Photo Album 2...





### Palm Sunday Cantata 'No Greater Love'

The Choir of St. Andrew's led us in worship Sunday April 9, introducing the Holy Week through a series of readings and choral pieces including 'All Glory, Laud and Honor', 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross', 'Go to Dark Gethsemane' and 'My Faith Looks Up to Thee'.





As part of our joint service and our St. Andrew's Easter Service, each of the six congregations was asked to provide wax for a large white candle (3"diam. 4'tall). People were asked to bring in stubs of white candles, or whole candles and make a mental note of the occasions on which the candles were lit. Many thanks to Nancy Hancock who worked so hard creating this final Easter Candle- beside which Wendy Worling stands.

### Church Thoto Album 3: Spring Cleanup at St. A's...



Above Left: Martha Vignacourt & Isla, Elaine Coderre Middle: Veteran worker Annabelle with broom Right Upper: Kathleen Houghton with young helper Right Middle: Brian McLean & Pat Coderre Seems (some of) our helpers are getting younger yearly!









Derek McCormick.
Nice green thumbs, Derek!



Peter Trudeau ready to sweep you off of your feet...



Andrew Johnston & Jonathon Vignacourt A rake & an axe. Step aside when you see these guys a-comin'!

# Social Flanning Committee presents... Mary's Talks: Talk a Sign of Awareness



The first **Mary's Talk** for 2017 featured guest speaker Jessica Sergeant on Tuesday, May 11, 2017 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kingston at 7 p.m.

"I'll be covering four things: deaf people as a cultural and linguistic minority, American Sign Language, deaf gain, and language deprivation," Sergeant said. "I'll also be sharing stories about my childhood as well as how language deprivation has had an impact on me as a child."

"Language deprivation became a hot topic discussed in the deaf community the past three years. It's an epidemic worldwide and I want to focus on that. I also want to change society's perception of how deaf people are viewed to become more positive."

Mary's Talk was named after Mary Fleming, who was a Kingston city councillor from 1988 to 1997 and was an advocate for a variety of issues, including child care, affordable housing and municipal amalgamation. David Jackson, husband to the late Mary Fleming, is the founder of the event. The talks are anticipated to happen a few times a year and will highlight different speakers who advocate for various social interests and concerns as well as local issues in the Kingston area.

Sergeant met Jackson a few times the past couple of years. She had a

presentation topic that she wanted to share and was invited by Jackson to become a part of the Mary's Talk series. "Jessica has been an active part of the deaf community for several years. She is passionate about people and has a story of personal struggle that should be heard," Jackson said.

Sergeant, 36, has been deaf since she was a baby and is both culturally and linguistically deaf. She didn't have access to learn American Sign Language until she was 11 years old. Her parents wanted her to attend Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf in Belleville earlier, but she said the poor integration of school board policies did not

support that. She has experienced firsthand the effects of being language deprived as a child and how that has affected her later years.

"What I want for people to realize is that American Sign Language is deaf people's natural language and that they easily acquire language via American Sign Language. This begins by recognizing deaf babies as a cultural and linguistic minority and giving them full access to this language from birth. There are insurmountable barriers that parents face to ensure their deaf child has access to American Sign Language," Sergeant said.

Saturday, April 15, marks the 200th anniversary of the introduction of American Sign Language, which started and

developed at the American School for the Deaf in 1817. "Canada can set an example to the world that sign language and spoken language are equal," Sergeant said.

Babies who can hear are encouraged to use American Sign Language for perceived benefits of communication ease, yet deaf babies are denied their human right to it.

"It's largely because of an ideology that to hear and/or speak is the only way to acquire language, communicate and 'be successful," Sergeant said.

Currently, there is a strong Canadian cultural belief that deafness is

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'abnormal' and is something to be fixed.
Sergeant wants to share a counter narrative by showing that Canadian society does benefit from having deaf people, something she commonly refers to as 'deaf gain'.

Sergeant delivered her viewpoints using American Sign Language and using two American Sign Language interpreters at the event to translate to English for the audience.

Article written by Taylor Bertelink, for The Whig Standard May 10, 2017 Edited from original.



Jessica Sergeant seen here with David Jackson, President of the Social Planning Council

The Social Planning Committee, operating out of St. Andrew's, exists to raise awareness about social needs and opportunities in Kingston and area and to engage citizens and community partners in planning and action that will improve the well-being of the whole community.

E-Mail: spc@spckingston.ca

Website: http://www.spckingston.ca

Website: http://www.spckingston.ca

# 200 Years in the Making. The Beginning...

From the St. Andrew's Chronicles:

An Account of Presbyterianism before 1879 in the Belleville, Hastings County & Quinte Area

by Gerald Boyce

The story of related events in the area is seen through the saddened by news of the eyes of an imaginary chronicler, who recorded his **observations and impressions.** Although the chronicler is fictional, the events and persons he describes are as correct as historical research can make them. {Taken from Preface by author, Gerald Boyce.}

Sunday, September, September 22, 1822- Attended service today in the new Presbytery church, St. Andrew's. It is an ornament to the town of Kingston, being a twostoried building, surmounted by the octogonal belfry, topped in turn by a spire and weather vane. I believe it to be the town's second stone church and the largest place of worship in Kingston. Reverend John Barclay is the minister and had a full sanctuary to hear his exhortation on Ephesians 5:2: "Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering..." Mr. Barclay counselled his congregation to "cultivate a general spirit of meekness, gentleness and forebearance, and charity".

After service, I dined with the minister. He is a young man, less than 30 years of age, but possessed of a quiet, determined character and an intense love for his fellow man. He grew up in Perthshire, and was the son of the parish priest there. On September 26, 1821, he was ordained to the parish charge of St. Andrew's Kingston, by the Presbytery of Edinburgh.

Friday, September 29, 1826- Our congregation is much

untimely death of the Rev. John Barclay of Kingston. He was called to his Master on the 26th, exactly five years to the day of his induction to the charge. His loss will be felt greatly by the people of Kingston and ourselves.



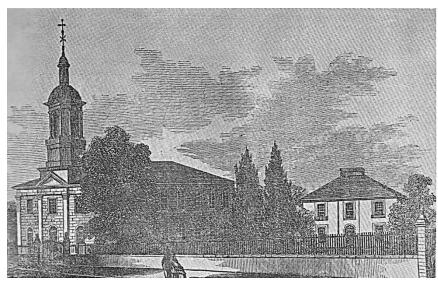
Rev. John Barclay

At the time of his death, Mr. Barclay was engaged to be married to a young Kingston lady and had obtained household furnishings in preparation for this marriage. The cause of his death is believed to be overexertion. I suspect his continuing difficulties with the Anglican rector may have overtaxed his strength.

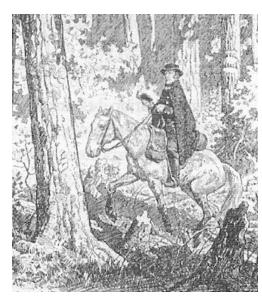
Notes from Editor: Rev. Barclay was ultimately buried "in the Scotch Burial Ground- subsequent names for which have been Frontenac Park, McBurney Park and of course, Skelton Park. "

Also, according to **The Rock and Sword** by Brian Osborne, Rev. Barclay's untimely demise was brought on by a "fatiguing journey through an immense wilderness, travelling under a burning sun to the London District to assist some Scottish settlers in their application for a minister."

{Further sources suggest that he died of 'the fever'.}



St. Andrew's Church and Manse, Kingston; from an early woodcut

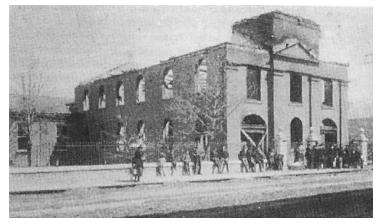


Spreading the Gospel in the Wilderness

We are not makers of history. We are made by history.

Martin Luther King Jr.

# A Disaster! And a beautiful Rebuilding...



A mass of still smouldering ruins

On April 9, 1888, the *Daily British Whig* opened its coverage with the dramatic words, "St. Andrew's was destroyed by fire yesterday morning."

The fire had broken out at 3:00 a.m. when heat from furnace pipes had ignited the timbers of the belfry. Patrolling policemen and local citizens had smelled the smoke and raised the alarm.

The sexton was found to be asleep in St. Andrew's Hall.

Within an hour of the discovery of the blaze, only the walls were left standing, it being noted that they had been erected "too substantially to fall over."

Some onlookers attributed this disaster to divine

intervention and a judgment on such modernist developments as instrumental music and the celebration of that "popish" festival of Christmas. Others were heard to "express gladness, for it would give an opportunity of securing what they had long desired, a new "edifice".

By August 1888, after several designs for a new church building had been reviewed and rejected, plans proposed by architect John Power were accepted and laid out for public consideration;

"The church will accommodate 800 on the ground floor; a gallery may be put in to accommodate 250 and the school room is so adapted that in case of need 500 more seats can be made available. The school room has been devised looking to increased accommodation being required in the future, and is well equipped with infant classroom and library. There is also a ladies parlor which can be used for the Bible class.

In the main building there is a minister's vestry and assembly room for the choir. The seating is arranged after the modern style of church building, and the acoustic properties of the building are expected to be very good. The heating and ventilation have had special attention. **The building will present a handsome appearance on Princess and Clergy Streets.**"

The new church was dedicated for worship on 16 February 1890 and people of all religious persuasions, together with the members and adherents of the Auld Kirk, tested the church's capacity.

Rev. John Mackie, 1890-1911

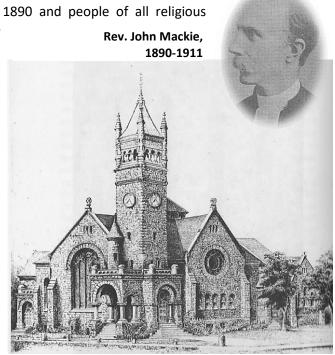
As the *Daily News* put it, "It must have delighted the hearts of all interested in the success of St. Andrew's Church to have seen the mighty gathering."

An hour before the commencement of the morning service, all 900 seats on the main floor of the sanctuary were taken, and the "massive division doors" were rolled back to accommodate another 600 people in St. Andrew's Hall.

The honour of dedicating the church fell to the Very Rev. Grant, D.D., Principal of Queen's and Moderator of the General Assembly.

This was followed by an organ voluntary on the church's new "powerful instrument," and a dedication hymn composed for the occasion by the Rev. Mackie and performed by the choir.

Page 2 Excerpts & illustrations from *The Rock and Sword* by Brian Osborne



A New St. Andrew's



# Presbyterian World Service & Development

### Help for Malnourished Children in South Sudan May 2017

Leaving home with three little children in tow and walking for three days wasn't an easy decision for Sarah. It was even harder knowing that making the journey meant risking being attacked by armed robbers or soldiers on the way, and only bringing what they could carry.

But Sarah didn't have a lot of choices. Sarah and her children live in South Sudan, a country that has been torn apart by continued conflict for the past three years. Sarah's hometown of Leer has been torched, civilians have been hunted down and killed, cattle have been stolen, and women have been abducted and raped.

Leer is also located in Unity State, where in February, 100,000 people were officially declared to be affected by famine by the United Nations. It was the first such declaration anywhere in the world in six years.

With that in mind, Sarah's decision to undertake a dangerous three-day walk with a baby on her back and two little ones behind her makes more sense.

The family arrived at a Protection of Civilians camp in the town of Bentiu in August 2016. Protection of Civilian camps formed spontaneously around United Nations bases when the conflict first began. They provide some protection to people who are scared for their lives.

Sarah and the children stayed there for many months, but the camp wasn't home, and it had its own challenges. So Sarah brought her family back home to Leer, hoping things would be better. But things weren't any better. It was only a month before fighting in Leer was once again so severe that Sarah took her three children and went back to the protection camp.

presbyterian.ca/missions foodgrainsbank.ca

Sarah watches as her youngest daughter Martha has her arm circumference measured. Arm circumference is one way of determining if a child is at a healthy weight for their age. Photo: World Relief Canada

The three-day walk and continued lack of food took its toll on the family.

When Sarah arrived back at the camp, she was deeply concerned for the health of her youngest child, Martha, only a year old. The little girl was visibly suffering from severe acute malnutrition; without immediate help, she would soon die for lack of food. That's when Sarah was admitted to a Canadian Foodgrains Bank program, supported by PWS&D. The program, implemented through World Relief Canada, provides Plumpynut, a special supplementary food that helps extremely malnourished children regain their health.

Through the project about 42,000 pregnant and lactating women and young children found to be below certain levels of malnutrition are receiving treatment through the specially designed high-nutrient foods.

Over the course of eight weeks, Sarah brought Martha to the clinic for screening to see if she was gaining or losing weight, and to receive a weekly supply of Plumpynut specially designed to help children like Martha recover. After eight weeks in the program, Martha improved. She is no longer close to death. Sarah says she can see the difference in her daughter. "She is now happy and playful again, with an increased appetite. I fear what might have happened to my daughter without this program."

Please make a gift today. With support from the Government of Canada through Canadian Foodgrains Bank, donations to this project are matched 4:1. That means that for every \$1 you contribute, \$5 of programming can take place. Please give today.



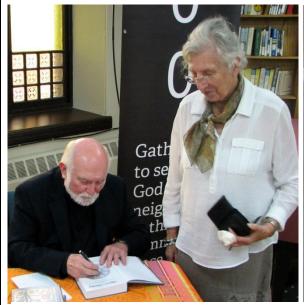


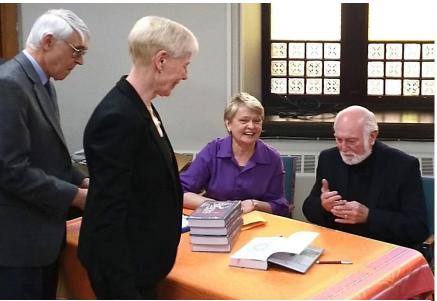
# Church Family Photo Album 4...



The concert performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Mikado Unstaged*, in which St. Andrew's own Music Director, John Hall, had a leading solo role, received a much-deserved standing ovation last night, May 6th, 2017 from an enthusiastic and appreciative audience at Sydenham Street United Church! John captured the character of the comedic Lord High Executioner of Titipu with charm, drama and musical congeniality, not to mention a perfect English accent. It was lovely to be able to enjoy "a delightful fix" of classic G&S right here in Kingston on a cold and rainy weekend.

### So much time, care and effort went into this production. It was wonderful! Submitted by Eva Barnes



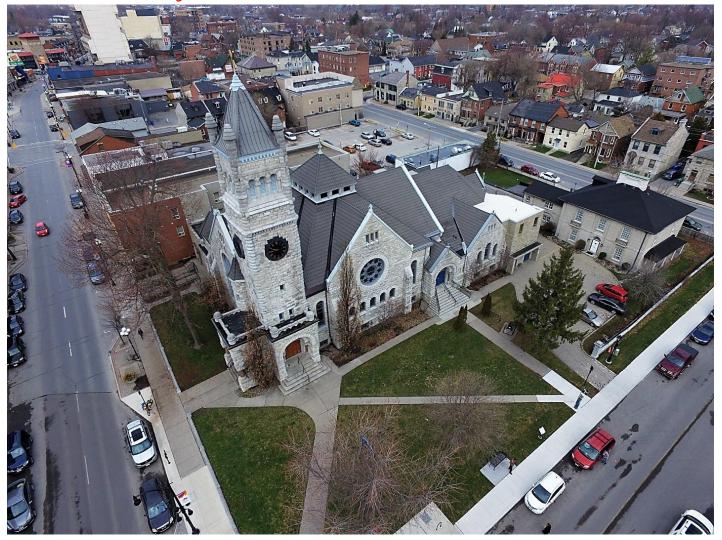


May 21, 2017: Professor Emeritus Brian Osborne signs the expanded and revised version of our congregational history *The Rock and Sword*. Due to a generous gift by Britton Smith, these copies were available for only \$25.00. On the left, Brian signs for Helen Acton; On the right for Philippe Gabrini & Alberta Saunders.

Sitting at the table with Brian (who is finding all this autographing tiring), is Eva Barnes. A great & exciting event!

# Church Family Photo Album 5...







# **Easter Morning and Congregational Photo**

With joy we heard again the gospel of life known in the resurrection of Jesus.
With joy we celebrated all that this 'rising' means for us.

With joy we sang our souls 'in praise of love that doth abound'.

After the service, we had a congregational photo taken outside, thanks to Bill Smith and his drone!

### Persecution of Christians in Egypt...

by Geoffrey Johnston, Whig Standard, May 4, 2017

We live in dark and dangerous times. Far from being a progressive and tolerant era, the second decade of the 21st century is characterized by religious fundamentalism and murderous hatred of the "other," especially in the Middle East.

Ancient religious communities in a number of Muslimmajority countries are being pummelled by jihadists, persecuted by intolerant societies, and left unprotected by uncaring governments.

Meanwhile, adherents of political correctness in the West ignore the scourge of religiously motivated violence while advancing less-pressing causes. For example, in the wake of the Palm Sunday bombings in Egypt that targeted Coptic Christian churches, some Canadian politicians did their best to ignore the sectarian nature of the terrorist attacks.

According to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), approximately 85 per cent of Egypt's population is Sunni Muslim. And the bipartisan commission asserts that Christians make up 10 to 15 per cent of the population.

On Palm Sunday, the Islamic State carried out two suicide bombing attacks in Egypt, targeting Coptic Christian churches. The terrorist attacks killed at least 47 people and wounded another 120. In response to the terrorist attacks, President al-Sisi invoked a three-month state of emergency across Egypt.

Copts are members of one of the oldest Christian faiths. The ongoing persecution of Christians in Egypt takes many different forms, including attacks on Coptic Christian churches in Egypt on Coptic feasts.

There are an estimated quarter of a million Coptic Christians living in Canada. And members of the diaspora have expressed deep concern for Copts living in Egypt. Coptic Christians in Egypt feel more or less safe because of the assurances they have from the government, the military and the president, who are equally shocked at the events. But at the same time, they are fearful since those terrorists -- be they Daesh or Salafis or (Muslim) Brotherhood -- are everywhere and they continuously fight and attack the military.

"In large cities, Christians do not get the positions or promotions they deserve," a Coptic Church spokesman said. "The situation in the villages is different as families often discriminate and gang up on Christian families. There are regular reports of kidnappings of young Christian girls."

According to Hani Tawfilis, the spokesman for Church of Virgin Mary and St. Athanasius, a Coptic church located in Mississauga, the president of Egypt "is friendly with the Copts," because he needs their support. But according to the church spokesman, Copts do not receive fair treatment from the authorities. "When it comes to any conflict between Christians and Muslims, police will back up the Muslims no matter what," Tawfilis alleged.

According to human rights defender Karen Ellis, "the attack on Coptic churches in Tanta and Alexandria reflect a much longer history of recent large- and small-scale attacks: Alexandria on New Year's Eve 2011 that killed more than 20; December 2016 when an ISIS suicide bomber killed 30 at Cairo's Coptic Cathedral; and a series of murders and



Coptic Christians pray together in bombed out church in Egypt killings last February in Sinai that forced many Copts in the region to flee their homes."

In addition, Ellis, who is African-American and has studied the history of the persecuted black church, noted that "many human rights activists have written that the recent spate of attacks is in keeping with ISIS' larger message: those who do not accept the ISIS ideology must be crushed, or driven from the region."

According to a Coptic Christian source, Copts in Egypt remain true to their faith -- despite losing loved ones to sectarian violence. "They tell the world that they forgive the perpetrators, that Jesus had predicted that in this world we would have trouble," the Copt said. Tawfilis thinks that Muslim societies should face and correct the "wrong ideology" that spurs terrorism.

He added that the "persecution of Christians nowadays is not limited to the hands of their neighbours anymore, but also at the hands of external forces. The world has to wake up and stop political correctness."

Edited from original. Complete article at thewhig.com

"I went to church but the message never reached me," said our deeply conscientious editor of The Burning Bush. Ada Mallory, looking back over her life. For her, "church' in the beginning was called a 'meeting', 'held' in the strict Plymouth Brethren fellowship.

Her affable father, an adventurous North Sea fisherman, turned reluctant farm labourer when he emigrated from Holland with his family to Canada. Along with farm work came a drafty cottage with a pump and no indoor plumbing. Ada and her sisters shared the same bed in that first Canadian home sleeping crosswise like so many little logs.

Soon Ada's father accepted a job planting telephone poles in the Madoc area. The family moved to Wooler,

near Trenton. One day, when his daughters had been putting curlers in their father's hair on his rare day off, a Pentecostal pastor knocked on their door. Not blanching at the sight of a large fisherman with beauty parlor hair, the friendly minister invited them to join their congregation where hymn singing was accompanied by him playing the accordion. He, his wife and four sons, lived in a small apartment behind the church.

"All through my childhood I had a strong faith presence in my life," Ada said. "Jesus was my friend and

confidant." Held back in school till she learned English, Ada spent a lot of time alone, where she taught herself to read and still always has a book on the go.

When she was six years old, she met Lorne Mallory with whom she dated in her teen years and fell deeply in love. But mostly as a teenager she was employed in the United States, though she and Lorne kept in touch. Although she had been accepted for nurse's training in Connecticut, Ada returned to Canada when Lorne entered Queen's University. Always with the

lively curiosity that had drawn her first to nursing, she enrolled in the Medical Laboratory Program at KGH which promised the pursuit of investigations. Both graduated at age 21 in the spring of 1969, marrying in the summer.

Then Lorne accepted a job teaching high school in Noelville, a small French-Canadian village southeast of Sudbury. Ada had never taken French and found it very isolating till she was hired by a private lab in Sudbury, an hour's commute each way.

The family moved to Belleville and bought a house. During those 21 years, Lorne taught at two different high schools as their children were born: Jaimie, Jef, Susan and Stephen. The family became active in the Pentecostal church. Lorne was an elder and church

> treasurer. Ada taught a teenage Sunday School class and served as church librarian for seven years, working part-time in a lab as the children grew up. They attended a Christian elementary school where Ada served as PTA president for a term as well as on the school board. "I had a committed faith during this time," Ada remembers. "And I think of my children as my greatest

accomplishment."

In 1993, Ada called Lorne at one a.m. for a ride home after her shift at the laboratory. Lorne answered in his usual warm voice and they talked a

bit. But suddenly there was silence at his end. "Lorne? Lorne?" she said. There was no answer.

Ada hung up and dialed again but the line was busy. She tried to think what to do and then the phone rang again. Her 16 year old daughter was agitated. "Dad's lying on the floor. He's moaning and he won't answer me or wake up..." An ambulance was called. In the hospital it was discovered Lorne had a ruptured aneurism on his brain stem artery. Surgeries and procedures could not save him and Lorne Mallory died a month later. He had just turned 45 years old.

"It was life altering for myself and my children," Ada recalls. "I went through a period of deep pain, isolation and loss of identity. During that time both of my parents passed away within months of each other. Even



Here I am with my sisters and mother- dressed in our Sunday finery. I am the youngest of the three- standing near that little Church in Trenton. 1955.

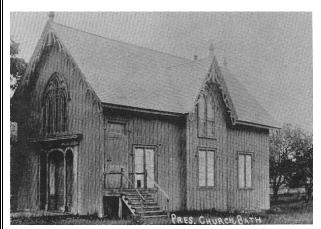
**the dog died."** Five years later, with all the children grown and gone, she sold the house and moved to Kingston.

"Spiritually I had become frozen. Rather than turning to God during this difficult time, I walked away from Him, afraid of completely unraveling. I built a wall around myself." She confesses. "I was only irregularly attending church. But I knew that God had not let me go."

By then Ada was involved with a Baptist church where she experienced a complete recommitment to serve God wholeheartedly again. "My love for others came back, almost overwhelmingly. I wanted to be of use in God's service," she said.

A pastoral transition causing deep divisions in the church caused Ada to look for another place of worship. "I found the peace I was seeking at St. Andrew's,' she says, happily. "I was accepted as editor of The Burning Bush, for me, a perfect fit. I became a member in 2014, an elder in 2015 and also serve on the Property & Maintenance committee as well as Personnel."

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, Ada is taking the **Healing and Reconciliation Tour** offered by the Presbyterian Church of Canadaa tour which includes Winnipeg, Kenora and Saskatoon, open, as she always is, to a deepened understanding of the joy of faith.



# Old-fashioned Interdenominationalism? The Layer Cake Church

At Bath, in Lennox and Addington County:

Originally built in the mid nineteenth century to house a Mechanics Institute and its library, this board-and-batten sided building was soon shared by a congregation of Presbyterians (who occupied the ground floor), and a masonic lodge (which took over the second

Subsequently the building was deeded

floor).

to the Anglicans, with the stipulation that the Presbyterians were to be allowed to occupy the ground floor for as long as they paid half of the upkeep of the building. The Anglicans used the upper floor as a parish hall and the Presbyterians continued to hold services on the ground floor until the advent of Church Union in 1925.

This sharing of its facilities led to it being called the **Layer Cake Church**. (This building, now referred to as **Layer Cake Hall**, is today a community library. from **The St. Andrew's Chronicles** by Gerald E. Boyce



Photograph from HistoricPlaces.ca

### St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kingston celebrates its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year!

- Throughout this summer, a series of eight pop-up banners dealing with various dimensions of our congregational history, will greet visitors to the sanctuary.
- Our anniversary year will formally commence with a banquet on Saturday, September 16, and the honorable Peter Milliken providing the address. The banquet will be catered by Ramekins, (turkey with all the trimmings) and tickets will be \$15.00 (and the opportunity to contribute to the sponsorship of others). A notice has been placed in the national *Presbyterian Connections* to invite former friends and members across Canada to join us.
- the Rev. William S. Morrow of Queen's School of Religion to preach on Queen's Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Rev. Deb Rapport of Arise Ministry, October 23, for Mission Sunday
- A combined congregational Hymn Sing on Reformation Sunday, October 29.

Sandi Dodds

by Sandi Dodds, presented at St. Andrew's, Sunday, April 30, 2017

Excerpts from "This Glorious Mess" ...

love, support and encouragement! by being together.

The way that we hold onto hope, in a world that feels hopelessly broken, is

... let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds... Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

**The Mess** is not a community of one sided dependency. We strive for a relationship based on reciprocity, genuine exchange, give-and-take! Here, we are a place where people trying to make healthier choices in their lives, can come and build relationships. Our lunch "prayer and share" time is an opportunity for trust to grow among this community.

Our mandate is to create art and build healthy relationships. In doing this we try to place equal emphasis on both justice and mercy. Our approach is directed at strengthening people's self-esteem and restoring selfrespect.

Phillip Yancy wrote the following passage in "What's So Amazing About Grace?",

At **The Mess**, we are a community of During the volcanic eruption of Mt. St. Helen's, intense heat melted away the soil, leaving bare rock coated with a thick mantle of ash.

> Naturalists of the Forest Service wondered how much time must pass before any living thing could grow there.

Then one day a park employee stumbled across a lush patch of wildflowers, ferns, and grasses rooted tenaciously to a strip of the desolation. It took a few seconds for him to notice an eerie fact: this patch of vegetation formed the shape of an elk.

Plants had sprouted from the organic material that lay where an elk had been buried by ash...

For me this paragraph illustrates what you, St. Andrew's Church, are in downtown Kingston. You are a "patch of green" both figuratively and literally.

The laying down of our lives, the dying to self and to personal agenda, is never easy but what is being planted here at the corner of Princess and Clergy is of eternal importance.

Thank you for sharing your faith, your church and your everyday lives...







The paintings to the right are samples of art work done in The Mess and are presently hanging in the Clergy Street foyer of St. Andrew's. They will be rotated with other works of art. Ministries such as this all start with someone's vision, someone's faith, someone's willingness to be obedient to God's direction.

Thanks for being that person, Sandi!



## Church Family Photo Album 6...





Left: The cross fully installed!
Great Job!

Top: The copper
St. Andrew's Cross
that had toppled
from the sanctuary,
about to be
replaced.
Are you holding that
or steering it,
Jasmin?

Right: Renewal of the Princess Street façade under way.





Left: Dorothy Fresque on her special day of celebration Congratulations, Dorothy!



### Morals and Ethics for (Christian) Dummies

by Philippe Gabrini

In our everyday life most of us are used to not thinking of morals or ethics. However, recently we have been faced with mentions of unethical behaviour from various political leaders. The good thing about this is that it pushes us to think about ethics.

In your high school studies did you have a course on Morals? Or on Ethics? I have the feeling that people are ill equipped to talk about these subjects and are a little shy to approach them.

I would like to help you have a perspective on ethics. Of course to do this properly, I would need to write a book! But we are Christians and, as such, we are already equipped with a set of beliefs, as well as a set of moral rules.

A definition: Morals are the rules that govern which actions are right and which are wrong. In our society moral rules can be numerous and varied. Thanks to our faith we have the Ten Commandments: this is an advantage as this gives us a good base for Morals. Let's illustrate further human society Morals with a few examples beyond the Ten Commandments:

- Treat others as you want to be treated (the golden rule);
- Tell the truth;
- Keep your promises;
- Do not cheat;
- Have integrity;
- Seek justice;
- Respect others;
- Be accountable and take responsibility;
- Have humility.

Another definition: Ethics is the branch of philosophy that deals with how that morality guides individual and group behaviour. Ethics is concerned with distinguishing between good and evil in the world, between right and wrong human actions, and between virtuous and non-virtuous characteristics of people. Individuals having a strong sense of morality may exhibit different behaviours in a group setting.

We can expand this definition of ethics by stating a few things that it is not:

- Ethics is not a matter of following one's feelings, as feelings may deviate from what is ethical.
- Ethics cannot be identified with religion, as it applies to the behaviour of the atheist as well as the religious person.

- Being ethical is not the same following the Trump's nepotism is amoral and unethical but is legal.
  - Being ethical is not the same Philippe Gabrini as doing whatever society accepts, because what society accepts can be unethical: Nazi Germany was a corrupt society.



Even if this is new to some of us, as Christians we should relish the fact that most religions advocate high ethical standards.

So, does this cover ethics for us?

Well, not really! While it is true that most religions have standards of right and wrong that prescribe what adepts ought to do (for instance: rights, obligations, fairness, virtues, etc.), in a way ethics is like our faith. And we do know that we have to work continuously at improving our faith. With respect to ethics, we do have to work at developing our own personal ethical standards. A constant re-examination of our own standards is also needed to make sure they remain reasonable and well founded. We have to keep studying our own moral beliefs and our moral conduct to make sure that our standards are always reasonable and based on solid ground.

As Christians, are we guaranteed to be ethical?

Sadly, no! We do have to work at it, but don't forget that, as Christians, we already do have a better framework in which to become ethical!

Nowadays, there are enough news about unethical situations of various orders and magnitudes to help you keep the subject in your mind, and to ponder about it regularly. And, to little by little, improve your understanding on ethics and how to integrate it better in your life.

Actually, the most important thing that you must do is simply to think about it! Be aware of ethics and it will make you a better human being.

You could also use this ethical point of view to help you rejuvenate your Bible reading:

Read King David's life (2 Sam 11), or the book of Ruth, or the parable of the shrewd manager (Luke 16), and you will find new insights.

Try it!

# The Lighter Side of Saints...



The big city denominal office had sent a female pastor to serve in an old country church- and the local elders were having a hard time accepting the new minister. But they wanted to be gracious, so the board invited the pastor to join them on a fishing trip.

Once at the lake, the group got into a boat and motored out some fifty yards from shore when the pastor announced apologetically, "I'm so sorry- I've forgotten my fishing rod."

So she stepped out of the boat, walked across the water to the bank, and picked up her equipment, and walked on the water back to the boat.

"Just like a woman," one of the elders muttered. "Always forgetting something!"



I CAN'T GO BACK FOR HER ... MY DOCTOR TOLD ME TO AVOID SALT AT ALL COSTS

A bride and groom had asked the bakery to inscribe their wedding cake with a Bible verse, 1 John 4:18. It reads, "There is no fear in love, but perfect fear casts out fear."

The cake decorator, however, misread the reference and beautifully inscribed John 4:18 on the cake. "For you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband."

A PASTOR, A PRIEST AND A RABBI WALK INTO A BAR....

Prior to a morning service, a church member noticed a passing driver flick a cigarette out of his window into some shrubbery on the church property. The bush smoldered then burst into flames.

The church member ran to the office, phoned the fire department, explained the situation, and asked for help.

"You mean to tell me there's a burning bush on the church lawn," the dispatcher replied, "and you want us to put it out?"

God called down to Moses and said, "I've got good news and bad news. Which do you want first?"

Moses replied, "Most merciful Lord, please give me the good news first."

"Well, Moses, the good news is that I've chosen you to deliver my people from bondage," God answered.

"I will force Pharaoh to release my children by causing years of pestilence in Egypt. There will be plagues of locusts and inconceivable devastation upon the land. Pharaoh's armies will chase you as you try to leave, but do not fear because I will part the waters of the Red Sea to aid in your escape."

"And the bad news, Lord?" Moses inquired.

God answered, "You will have to prepare the environmental impact statement."

A young boy and his friends were filling in a hole in his backyard when his neighbor happened to see them.

"What are you doing, boys?" his neighbor asked.

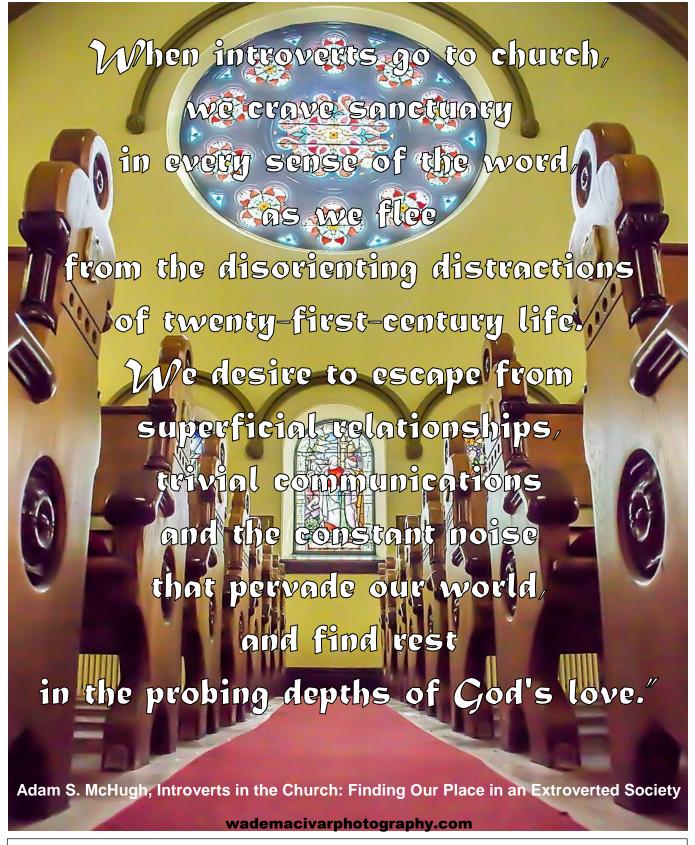
"We're having a funeral for my goldfish," replied the boy with a sob. "He just died and we buried him."

"That's a really big hole for just a little goldfish!" the neighbor said looking at the large mound of dirt.

"That's because he's inside your cat!" said the boy.

How many Choir Directors does it take to change a light bulb?

Nobody knows. Nobody ever watches the Choir Director. (Sorry, John!)



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kingston, 130 Clergy Street East, Kingston, Ontario, K7K 353, (Tel. 613-546-6316: Fax: 613-546-8844)

e-mail info@standrewskingston.org. Minister/Consultant: Andrew Johnston.

Editor/Production: Ada Mallory ada@standrewskingston.org