

Session Notes

A caring congregation of Christian faith, welcoming all, praising God, and seeking to do God's work.

Session met on Tuesday evening, February 9th in the home of elder Hilary Dick and her husband Campbell. We continue to open with Bible study that is relevant to our agenda or time of year. Session reviewed feedback from the congregation regarding services and events over the past month. The many joys and concerns of the Congregation are shared and kept in our prayers.

Your Session continues with strategic vision and planning work to look at St. Andrews in the next 5, 10, 25, & 100 years. The single most important agenda item this month was the election of Elders to term service on Session. Voting closed on Sunday Feb 7th with 49 of 116 eligible members casting ballots. The ballots were counted by 2 elders on Feb. 9th and the members receiving the top 6 votes being identified to session in confidence. These members will now be contacted to determine their willingness to serve for a 6 year term. The identities of Elder elects who are willing to serve will be revealed at the ACM on Feb. 28th with an ordination and induction service planned for our next Communion service on March 7th. The Session has received no opposition to moving from life time service to term service on Session and thus we are proceeding with our request to the Presbytery of Ottawa for permission to implement term service at the Feb 16th meeting.

The Session has decided to move more purposely to reenergize our C.A. R.E. program. Fund raising continues toward our goal of \$200,000 with only \$72,000 left to go. Session will meet at a special meeting with the Board of Managers & the C.A.R.E committee chair on Feb 23rd. Stay tuned for more news on next steps.

The ACM reports have now been received and the ACM book has gone to publication. Thank you to all who submitted reports to make this happen. The book will be available for distribution on Feb. 21st. Please plan on attending the ACM to participate in the running of our Church!

Important dates to keep in mind:

- February 23rd, 2010 – Joint Board/C.A.R.E./Session Meeting.
- February 28th, 2010 - Annual Congregational Meeting.
- March 2nd, 2010 – Session Meeting
- March 7th, 2010 – New Elder Ordination, Induction and Communion.

March 15th -22nd – Rev. Doug Vacation

GRACEFIELD CHRISTIAN CAMP AND RETREAT CENTRE

WHAT: Retirement party for Alan and Dorothy Herbert

WHEN: Sunday February 21, 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Ottawa, 82 Kent Street

TO BRING: Drop in with your best wishes, appreciation, memories. Donations toward Herberts' travel plans are welcome.

IF YOU CAN'T COME: Send best wishes, short audio or video clips to: <http://www.tomkane.ca/gccrc/>

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Eric Lemke elemke1243@gmail.com or

Karen Hill karenhill56@gmail.com



Why Ash Wednesday Begins Lent

Ash Wednesday begins Lent to remind believers that only with God's help can they overcome their sin and suffering as human beings. As Jesus entered into the wilderness, he needed God to defeat the devil. In a similar manner, believers entering Lent, a season of facing sin, need a reminder of their mortality, Ash Wednesday, to encourage their reliance on God.

Meaning of Ash Wednesday

Jesus calls on God for help to bring him through difficulties in the desert. Ash Wednesday is designed to remind believers that they, too, are vulnerable and need God's help. Believers wear ashes on their forehead to remind themselves of their mortality as they journey into the Lenten season.

February 28

GIFTS OF LOVE AND PRAISE SERVICE

God has given us so many gifts and talents and on Feb 28th, there will be a opportunity to use them to praise God and honour him. The children and youth will be encouraged to use their talents in the worship service – singing, playing an instrument,

dancing , reading from the bible , being greeters, taking up offering etc. Please contact any of the following if you would like to contribute: Kim (831-3483) Marlene (836-4147) or Rev. Doug (831-1256)

LINGER LUNCH

As well, the Youth Group will be hosting a linger lunch following the service which will be a hot pasta meal including desert. A free-will offering will be collected which will be divided between CARE and a charity to be chosen by the Youth Group.



Following the meal will be the Annual Congregational Meeting. It should be a wonderful day and it is hoped all will come out and show your support, both to our young people as well as your Church.

NOTICES

Open-mic/coffeehouse, hosted by the youth and young adult ministry of Ottawa, **February 27**, 7-9:30 pm. at St. Giles Church, Bank and First.

"OPEN TABLE AT ST. THOMAS"

1619 STITTSVILLE MAIN STREET

Please join us for a community dinner

Saturday, February 20, 2010

(and the third Saturday of every month)

Doors open at 4:00 pm - Dinner at 4:30

Please enter by door at rear parking lot

EVERYONE WELCOME

Check bulletin board at rear entrance for more details

"Joyce Young's Freezer"

The P.C.W. came up with a wonderful solution as to what to do with the money donated to them by the family of Joyce Young after they catered her funeral reception. Since Joyce was always such an enthusiastic, dedicated hard worker for the group, what better idea than put it toward a new freezer. We think Joyce would have been really pleased.

REMINDER



TO KEEP OUR SHELVES STOCKED AT
THE FOOD BANK.
COFFEE - TEA - HOT CHOCOLATE