

Reflections

I was brought up in a small market town in south west Wales, similar in size to Saint Andrews, and lived there until I was 15. Narbeth, now known for its antique shops, was then a rather grey and dull place. But the weekly farmers' market brought noise and colour as farmers showed and sold their sheep, cows and poultry, and every so often there was a horse fair. Often at the weekend we drove a few miles to the beach for a picnic. Years later with small children of our own, my husband and I chose just such a town on the coast of mid Wales, Aberaeron, for our sabbatical year. And now, I find myself perfectly happy living in Saint Andrews – as my sister says, all the places I love are the same.



And I know why.

All these places are small communities but not too small, manageable, familiar and knowable. You have a nodding acquaintance with many if not most people. You can have several different circles of friends, and the services provided are quite adequate for most of your daily needs. In general peace reigns, with enough drama and incident to save life from boredom. But most of all, people care for each other. When my husband was ill people would stop me on the street to ask how

he was, and when he died, they brought casseroles and sent cards.

I have thought a good deal about community, its vital importance, during the past year. Most of us feel very fortunate to be living in such a relatively safe place and though our activities are certainly curtailed, the walkers among us are daily grateful. When it is snowy or icy, the streets and sidewalks are carefully cleared and on other days, there are numerous trails from which to choose. Even with masks on, we can greet many, recognising them from the way they walk. The housebound have been supported generously by fellow citizens. Few of us are truly isolated in the way in which many city dwellers must be, trapped in their condominiums and with Covid-19 widespread. Most of us can only imagine the kind of loneliness that so many feel elsewhere.



Meanwhile one great blessing of our age is zoom and similar technologies. Our church community continues to grow with zoom as Jane succeeds admirably at mastering its trickier aspects. My own life is enriched not only by zoom church but by zoom meditation, by an art group, a book club and regular cocktail zooms with family members. I still miss hugs and live music and physical interaction with others, of course I do, but it has been these weekly dates with fellow community groups that has sustained and enriched me, kept me positive. I always knew the importance of community, of belonging, sharing and giving, and I am deeply grateful for its continuing presence in my life.

Helen (Thomas) 🌻

Please WATCH FOR AN EMAIL FOR the Home Worship Service and ZOOM Service– also on the website <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>

Help Required

Wesley is looking for one or more people who would be interested in helping out with counting the weekly collection. It would only be a month or two (not together) a year. Please know that special attention to COVID are in place for everyone's safety. Please email lynnsml@rogers.com

Pharmacists to begin providing vaccines to people 85 and older.

FREDERICTON (GNB) March 11, 2021: The provincial government announced today that pharmacies will play a key role in the next phase of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Beginning today, New Brunswickers who are 85 and older may contact a pharmacist to set up an appointment to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments will be scheduled at nearly every pharmacy in the province, with the first vaccinations starting Wednesday, March 17. Vaccines will be administered by appointment only. At this time, appointments may be booked only by individuals who are 85 or older or by a family member or caregiver on their behalf. People who meet the criteria are asked to book only one appointment in one location.

A Medicare card will be required to book an appointment, however residents without a Medicare card are still eligible and should speak to a pharmacy. Appointments may be booked online if the pharmacy has an online booking tool on their website; otherwise, appointments should be made by calling the pharmacy. At this time, only pharmacies are accepting appointments.

MORE Little Steps in Addressing Climate Change

Return appropriate bottles, cans to a local recycler and get your deposit back. If you can't get excited about or don't need the deposit refund, donate it to help plant trees – through tentree: www.tentree.ca Tentree, a Canadian organization, accepts monetary donations to plant trees and sells environmentally-responsibly produced clothing, the proceeds from which are used to plant trees.

Tentree has 3 tree-planting projects in Canada – Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta/BC – and in 8 other countries around the world: Peru, Mexico, Madagascar, Haiti, Brazil, Nepal, Indonesia, Senegal. Their objective is to plant 1 billion trees by 2030; to date they have planted over 53.6 million trees.

[Rev Bob Johnson](#)

Events:

Please visit our website for the bulletins for our ZOOM services and our At Home Worship along with any other virtual or in person gatherings <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>

Friday, 12th March **10 – 11 am** **Zoom Coffee Break with Jane**

Please email Wesley and ask for ZOOM link; wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com

Sunday, 14th March **10 am** **ZOOM Sunday Worship**

Please email Wesley and ask for ZOOM link; wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com

Sunday, 14th March **Home Worship**

A Home Worship service provided as an alternative to In Person Worship [provided by email](#) or please see our website for at Home Worship and other virtual gatherings <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>

Tuesday, 16th March **4 – 8 pm** **Highland Dance**

Wednesday, 17th March **10:30 – 11:30 am** **Worship Committee ZOOM Meeting**

Wednesday, 17th March **3 - 5 pm** **St Andrews & Area Open Door Program**

Thursday, 18th March **7 – 7:30 pm** **Jane on Facebook Live**

Friday, 19th March **10 – 11 am** **Zoom Coffee Break with Jane**

Please email Wesley and ask for ZOOM link; wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com

Sunday, 21st March **10 am** **ZOOM Sunday Worship**

Please email Wesley and ask for ZOOM link; wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com

Sunday, 21st March **Home Worship**

A Home Worship service provided as an alternative to In Person Worship [provided by email](#) or please see our website for at Home Worship and other virtual gatherings <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>

Worship Dates for Diaries

ZOOM - March 14th, 21st and Wesley Sanctuary - March 28th - Palm Sunday

ZOOM - (Easter) April 4th and 18th and Wesley Sanctuary - April 11th, (Ali) - April 25th

Please check our calendar on our website for any upcoming events or changes to events

<https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/events/>

Dedications are most welcome remembering, honouring, celebrating a special person, event or season! Please email wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com with your request. Thanks!

Photos or any other requests to go with dedications – favourite flower or season etc.....

Please send all announcements to: WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com State if you wish them to go on the Bulletin, the COOP, Facebook page, Website, or all four! (photos can be placed on all but the bulletin) Thank you!

PRAYER REQUESTS: may be given to our Prayer Circle by

1. contacting Barb King davebarbking@gmail.com
2. contacting Sharon Hannan retired@xplornet.ca or phone 466-1435
3. by asking any of us from Wesley/St James community to pass on a request

Sent to you by

Wesley United Church, 77 William St, St Andrews NB E5B1W8 and
St James Pastoral Charge, 731 Route 745, Oak Hill, NB E5A3C7

In case of pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Jane Doull

call 529-3474 text 467-1494 email jvdoull@gmail.com

Any other matters please contact Barb Sheen, Chair of the Worship Committee on 469-4631.

Office email: WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com **Website:** <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Wesley-and-St-James-United-St-AndrewsOak-HillScotch-Ridge>