

Please visit our website <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>
for any updates and information

The Gift of Love



Quote

“Love is not something we give or get; it is something that we nurture and grow, a connection that can only be cultivated between two people when it exists within each one of them—we can only love others as much as we love ourselves.”

(Brene Brown, “The Gifts of Imperfection”, 10th Anniversary Edition, p.36)

Scripture

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1 John 4:8

Ponderings

Our book study participants are diving into the wisdom of Brene Brown, that we hope will help us continue on the journey to live more whole-heartedly. Though it is not an overtly religious text, it does speak a lot to how we live out our faith in our thinking and actions.

The core values or three pillars of her ideology are to live with courage, compassion and connection. Inevitably, these values make a lot of connect with our experience of love; within ourselves, with others and in the Divine. In faith, we believe that God places the seed of love within us, and the Divine encourages us to nurture it so that we can share love with others and our world.

In these ways, we can discover a trinitarian formula for love that helps us to understand the diversity and complexity of this emotion, state of being and meaningful relationship component. God is the Source of Love, Word of Love and Spirit of Love. I relate even more to the idea that God is Wholly Love, the Revelation of Love and the Energy of Love in our universe. I see these things as both being separate from us and within us. Certainly, there is a deep connection between us and the Great Love.

This talk of love is triggering a lot of ear worms for me.... I am playing in my head that offering song we sang in Sunday School “Love is Something, that if you Give it Away”. All of a sudden, the Beatles lyrics “All You Need is Love” are on my tongue.

Love is the essence of everything, the purpose of living, the creator of meaning. Everything else is just about understanding what love is, how to nurture it and share it. Like faith, it sounds simply but is really an ongoing process, an intentional mindset, a lifelong journey.

May we find ways to be kind to ourselves and love ourselves this week. For this is the beginning of experiencing God in our midst.

Rev. Natasha Pearen

Fun Music

Love is Something that if you Give it Away...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAKh94vBqos>

A bit of a camp song that you might remember from your youth with a nice message.

Prayer

May God be each of us this day and help us to feel worthy of love.

You created the world out of love

and it is your will that our days be filled with love, light and life abundant.

Allow us to nurture your love deep within us

and let go of the guilt and shame

that can get in the way of fully loving ourselves just as we are,

perfectly imperfect. Amen.

Reflective Music

MV 81 Love Us Into Fullness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wd3e8wUCPx4>

Events and Announcements

Helping our Neighbours - Update on Rossignol Family

The Rossignol family of Tower Hill, a community close to St. James, has been dealing with serious health issues since 2021. Last April, Mark (father) was diagnosed with a rare benign brain tumor. Since May 5, 2021 Mark has had 3 surgeries (SJRH) in 6 months, spent almost 2 months at Stan Cassidy Rehab (Fredericton), and had surgery in Halifax. On January 10, 2022 Mark began what is expected to be 6 weeks (5 days/week) of radiation treatments at SJRH. Daily travel is necessary

If you are interested in making a contribution to the family, please contact Karen Dempsey (466-1376), Betty Gatta (466-0186), or Sharon Hannan (466-1435). Due to dietary restrictions, we are suggesting cash or gift cards (gas/Superstore/Giant Tiger).

If anyone is willing to help with the driving, please contact Karen, Betty or Sharon.

Wesley congregation may contribute thru e-transfer or church envelope to Wesley United specifying "family".

Zoom Worship Link - Jan 16, 2022 10:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7092753988?pwd=YVIFbTVrU2pZd3lRNlNmL1ZtaTlnUT09>

Meeting ID: 709 275 3988 Passcode: 3527

Call one of these #'s to join by phone with audio only +1 587 328 1099,

+1 647 374 4685 or +1 438 809 7799

Wesley Annual Reports Due by January 21st

Reports will be compiled and available by the end of the month online

Wesley Annual Meeting Postponed

The meeting will take place in person when it is safe to do so, not date is set yet.

Book Study

"The Gifts of Imperfection"

Tuesday at 10: 30am on Zoom January 18th

(Please read guideposts 1&2 for our second session!)

Scotch Ridge and Oak Hill Annual Meetings

These meetings have been rescheduled for Feb. 1st 7:00pm at Scotch Ridge Hall and Feb. 6th 12:30pm (following worship) at Oak Hill Hall.

St. James Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday February 20th.

Reports are to be submitted to Karen Dempsey by February 13th. Thank you!

. 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

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

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

Minister - Rev Natasha Pearen

email: rev.natasha.nb@gmail.com or cell phone 506-898-0390