



Port Stanley United Church
239 Colborne St
Port Stanley, Ontario N5L1B9
Tel: 519-782-4268
*e-mail: psunitedchurch@gmail.com
www.portstanleyunitedchurch.com
Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Stewart

January * February * March 2025

S
A
F
E

in
the
H

A
R
B
O
U
R

*A Message from Rev. Elizabeth
Happy New Year!*

I hope this edition of “Safe In The Harbour” finds you well.

In Methodist churches [around the world], the first worship service of a new year often includes a Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service. This service reaffirms the Covenant between the Christian worshippers and God, and names the ways how that Covenant affirms and denies that relationship. Wesley’s journal for August 11, 1755, describes a practice that is a means of “increasing serious religion.” The practice involves joining in a covenant to serve God with all our heart and soul. He developed “a manner of doing it acceptably to God,” and from that came the Covenant Prayer.

The prayer is a constant reminder of the mutual agreement between God and those who seek earnestly to serve God. It provides a “gut check” and causes us to consider the costs of discipleship along with the joys and delights of serving God. Without explicitly saying it, the prayer reminds us that the one we follow went to the cross, and that the new life and hope we carry is bigger than us and requires more than we can ever fully offer. The prayer asks us, “Do you understand the implications of your baptismal vows, your discipleship and membership vows, ..., and are you still serious about doing this?”

The prayer pulls out of us our very best and reminds us that our ministry together is not a part-time job or a side vocation, but a way of life, a pathway toward Christ, a vigorous and difficult and rewarding journey with Christ’s people into the world. What we do really matters and doing it faithfully and fruitfully requires a great and joyful willingness to go places we would never go on our own. It’s quite a prayer, and not for the weak of heart!



UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

JAN. 5 - Food Bank Donations

JAN. 16 - Lunch and Learn 10:45 AM

JAN. 25 - Trivia and Pie Auction

FEB. 23 - Worship and Annual Meeting

John Wesley's Covenant Prayer for Today



I was once mine.

From this point forward, I am Yours.

Make clear my purposes in life.

Place me among my loved ones and expand my heart to love all.

Help me to think the things You want me to think,

say the things You want me to say,

and do the things You want me to do,

even if it means I am belittled, ignored, or criticized.

Give me people to encourage, serve, and love.

Give me times of peace and rest so I can love and be loved by You.

Let me be a light to a dark world so people can see You working in me.

Make me humble and remind me that everything I have is because of You.

Thank You for times of happiness and prosperity; they are a gift.

Thank You for Your presence and promise in days of sadness and hardship



Our Annual Congregational Meeting



Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 23, immediately following a short Worship Service.

Prior to this meeting there will be an Annual Report distributed to the congregation. You are asked to review it and bring it with you to the meeting.

At this meeting we will be looking to fill positions on several Committees. If you feel that you would like to be a part of one of these Committees and learn more about how our Church serves here and in the Community please consider joining a Committee. New ideas are always welcome!

Some of the Committees are: Trustees

Unified Board

Worship/ Design Committee

Connection Committee

Outreach Committee

“Fun- Raising” Fellowship

Social Media





Community Outreach

Frankie and the Fairlanes November 23, 2024



*Our Port Stanley United Church was really 'rockin' that night.
We had a good turnout of about 90 people. But more than a hundred tickets were sold. We made a good profit of approx. \$1250. Thank you Colleen Rodgers for your help with making this happen! And to Mary Nethercott for helping with refreshments.*



Members of the band are Michael "Frankie" Lambert, lead guitar and vocals; Gary Lee Robb, Keyboards; Ron Diamond, Drums and Daryn Bee; Bass, Sax and vocals.

Dreams Come True Music Studio Concert

Oct. 26, 2024



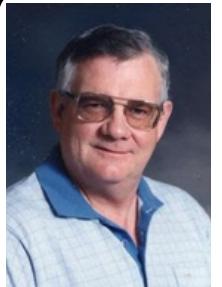
What a wonderful group of young people who came to entertain us. They are all a part of the music program led by Allison O'Connor. "Dreams Come True Music Studio is an inclusive music program for people of all ages and abilities. It is an opportunity to experience the world of music in a fun, safe and supportive environment," Thank you to all who came out to enjoy and support these wonderful young people.



IN MEMORIAM



Tom Haskins, a long time member of our Church, as well as the Dexter United Church passed away on Nov. 17th. He along with his wife Margaret, who passed away in the Spring, were faithful members for many years until they moved to St Thomas. Tom, although often soft spoken, had a great sense of humour and always had a sheepish grin on his face. Over the years both Tom and Marg contributed to the work of the Church, whether it was in the kitchen, serving on Committees or helping with programs. Tom and Marg were also long serving members of the Lions and Lioness, serving this community. They will be missed!



Haskins, Thomas Frank of St. Thomas, passed away on Sunday, November 17th, 2024 at the age of 84. Beloved husband of the late Margaret K. (Clark) Haskins and dearly loved father of Clark Haskins (Jeni), Karen Walsh (Mike) and David Haskins (Karen). Cherished grandfather of Calia Solsken, Jeffery Haskins (Ellen) and Sydney Haskins and Taylor Haskins.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are so appreciative of our Sunday School Teachers!!!

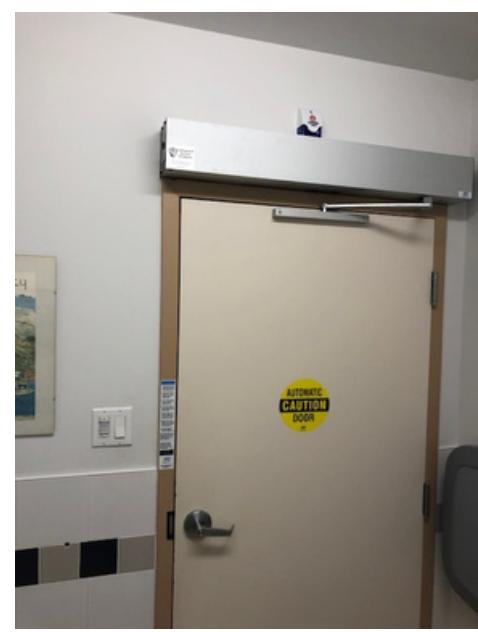
Nora Sanders, Don Bell, Colleen Rodgers, Susan Munro and Kelly Vandenbroek.

Seen here is Nora Sanders with the children who displayed their pictures at the Thanksgiving Service. Also pictured is our Musical Director, Lindsay Smith





**ON OUR WAY
TO
A
BARRIER FREE
CHURCH!**



All the doors have signage attached. There are Push Buttons to access the room.

The Bathroom will have an emergency Call Light as well as an Emergency sound and Call Button. There will be an Emergency horn and strobe light inside and outside the the bathroom.

*Any help you could give towards the cost of these renovations would be greatly appreciated.
Please note on your e-transfer that it is to go towards the Barrier-Free upgrades.*



LUNCH AND LEARN

Our First Lunch and Learn for 2025 will be Thursday January 16 at 10:45 AM . The guest speaker will be Greg Balch speaking about the "History of the Fur trade in Canada."

Please check the sign-up sheets if you want to volunteer to help out.



ADVENT SEASON AT PORT STANLEY UNITED CHURCH



*Lighting the Advent Wreath;
Charlotte Pehlke-Smith
and her daughter
and the Lockhart
Family
light the candles and
Rev. Elizabeth*



Our Wonderful Choir members::

*Cathy Graham, Marian Jones, Debbie Wiggin
and Kathy Taylor*



Our Angels and Kings arrive at the Stable

M,J. Lockhart did a wonderful job as our Narrator and Shepherd. Johny and Kaitie Sanders were Joseph and Mary. Thank you to everyone who took part in the pageant and especially the Sunday School teachers who made it possible.



CONGRATULATIONS

These two young ladies are Colleen and Glen Rodgers Granddaughters, Caroline with her team's Silver Stick trophy. She also won the goalie contest with three shutouts. Next photo is Isabel Rodgers, a gentle young lady who becomes a fierce competitor for her Panthers hockey team.

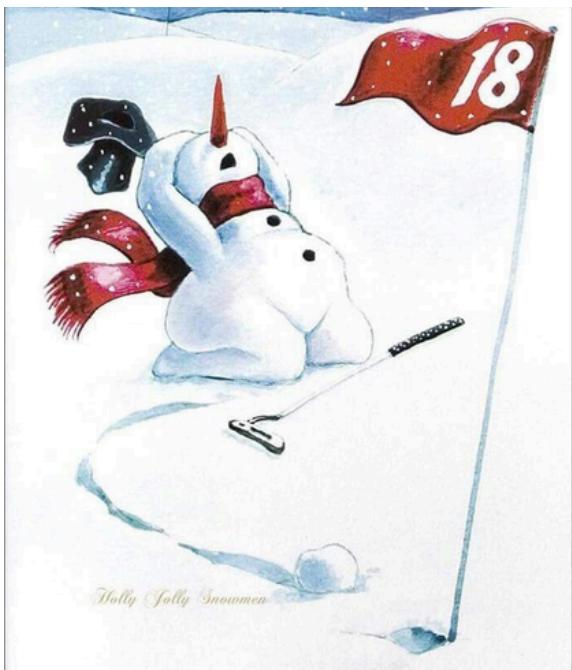


GAME ON

Many of our Church Family members will be heading to warmer climes in the next three months. We wish you all a wonderful time in the sun. Susan Munro and Steve Schneider will visit the Dominican Republic. Dave and Colleen McKee will enjoy the warmth in Florida. And of course we are thinking of our friends Bryan and Jennifer Rooney who have been spending their winter in Arizona.



For our Golfers.....



We feel your pain Frosty!!!!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

JANUARY

Ocean Lockhart - January 5th
Bob Nemett - January 18th

FEBRUARY

Feb. 22 - Steve Schneider
Feb. 28 - Gabriella Smith
Feb. 28 - Bruce Smith

MARCH

Mar. 13 - Rosita Morgan
Mar. 25 - Mary Nethercott
Mar. 30 - John Kruppe

Dave and Colleen McKee look forward to welcoming their first Grandchild in February. A Baby Boy!



WE

Wish you and your family a joyful, bright, healthy, prosperous and happiest new year ahead. !!

Happy New Year!

Bob and Sue Nemett