

GIVINGTUESDAY™

Dear members and friends of St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

On Tuesday December 2nd, St. Andrew's is launching its annual *GivingTuesday* campaign. *GivingTuesday* is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following the U.S. Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, *#GivingTuesday* kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

Our *GivingTuesday* campaign this year has a two-fold purpose. First, we'd like to minimize as much of the budgeted deficit we forecast for 2025 as a means by which to establish a strong financial footing going into 2026. In support of this, we have the commitment of matching funds to double the impact of your gift. Currently, the first \$7,500 donated to this campaign will be matched! All moneys raised from this campaign will be designated to the General Fund. The second purpose of this campaign is to increase our collective awareness of where our financial gifts to St. Andrew's are used.

We will highlight these uses of funds on the first three Sundays of December. On the fourth (and last) Sunday in December, we will celebrate both the results from our *GivingTuesday* campaign and the entire year 2025!

Please prayerfully consider your response to our 2025 *GivingTuesday* campaign.

Instructions for making 2025 *GivingTuesday* Campaign Gifts:

- *GivingTuesday* Campaign gifts can be made online at www.standrewshespeler.ca by using the "Donate Online" button. Once on the donation site, choose the **Giving Tuesday Campaign** as recipient of your gift.
- *GivingTuesday* Campaign gifts can also be either sent via mail to the church office or placed on the Sunday morning offering plate. **Please do not send cash via external mail.**
 - If making a *GivingTuesday* Campaign gift using your Offering Envelope, please clearly mark the amount to be designated to this campaign on the envelope so that it can be distinguished from your regular givings.
 - If not using your Offering Envelope, please ensure the outside of the envelope you do use clearly indicates
 - (a) **your name**,
 - (b) **your address** and
 - (c) that the amount inside is to be **designated to the *GivingTuesday* Campaign**
- All one time *GivingTuesday* Campaign gifts of \$20 or more will be receipted for tax purposes if a proper name and address is supplied.



Advent Outreach Collection

During the season of Advent we will once again be collecting toiletries to stock St. Andrew's Pantry. Needed items include: shampoo, soaps, deodorants, shaving supplies, toothpaste and toothbrushes, cleaning supplies, Kleenex and toilet paper. Let's try to fill the space under the Christmas tree (at the front of the church) from next Sunday, November 30 until Christmas! Thank you for your support!

Let's Be the Hands and Feet of Jesus!

We believe we are called by God to serve the people in our community. Currently we do so in a variety of ways. Hope Clothing provides good, clean clothes that are either new or gently used to anyone in our community free of charge. We provide food once a month with our St. Andrew's Pantry. We partner with the Cambridge Food Bank to host an off-site location two times per month. The House of Friendship partners with us to enable connections with our community and the Hespeler Outreach Worker. And this past Thursday we hosted our first Cambridge Neighbourhood Table, a free meal for members of our community. We are currently building relationships and connections with Preston organizations to explore serving the Preston community as well. By contributing to the Giving Tuesday Campaign you help bring all of these services to the Hespeler and Preston communities.

Sunday School is going on vacation for December 28 and January 4. We will resume on January 11th. On December 28 we will be celebrating our Giving Tuesday Campaign results and we would love it if the children and families wanted to come and help us make a big noise! This is the Sunday that wearing pj's to church is acceptable! There will be quiet activities in the Family Space for children.

Next Week's Sermon:



St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church December 21, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Advent



St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
Cambridge, ON
N3C 2A9
519-658-2652

Rev. Scott McAndless: smcandless@standrewshespeler.ca
Joni Smith: jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca
Email: office@standrewshespeler.ca
Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca
Clerk of Session: st.a.hespeler.cos@gmail.com
Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship. We will meet in person at 10 am. Or join us on Zoom or Facebook Live. The Zoom link will be posted on the website.

Prelude: Fughetta by J.S. Bach

Welcome

Lighting the Candle of Peace (Ray Czerwonka & Carol White)

Voice 1: An angel of the Lord declared, "God is with us" — this is the greatest gift of love.

Voice 2: Yet even at Christmas, love is often measured by gifts and material things.

Voice 1: But God's love can come through people: a king named David, a prophet named Nathan, and Mary and Joseph. In a baby, God's love was made real among us.

Voice 2: Can we believe that God's love is revealed through people? On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of love, a light for our world.

The candle of love is lit.

Let us pray together:
Living God, thank you for your deep and abiding love. May we see ourselves and others through your eyes, as we follow your way of love. Come, Lord Jesus.

Carol#135 Christians, awake

Prayer of approach:
L: Emmanuel, God with us, we praise you for your presence throughout the amazing universe you have made. The shining stars sing your praise, which echoes in the depths of space. The smallest snowflake and a baby’s tiny fingers reflect your intricate love for the details of every life. In Jesus Christ, you were born among us, one of a kind, yet one with a kind, to show us how your great love is lived out day by day. Inspire us with your loving Spirit as we move through Advent toward Christmas Day, so that our celebrations of love made flesh in Jesus will share the presence of your love with those who need it most. So may we live the praise we offer to you, Emmanuel, God with us, now and evermore. **Amen.**

Laying Down Our Burdens

Solo: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Jane Bennett

Responsive Reading: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
L: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
P: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!
L: Restore us, O God;
P: let your face shine, that we may be saved.
L: O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people’s prayers?
P: You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves.
L: Restore us, O God of hosts;
P: let your face shine, that we may be saved.
L: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.
P: Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
L: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
P: let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25
¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will

bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

Carol#144 ‘Twas in the moon of wintertime

Family Time

Life and Work of the Church

Celebration of our Generosity

Offertory: Advent Hymn by Thomas Tallis

Sermon: Matthew’s Version

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer
(... *forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...*)

Carol#141 Good Christians, all rejoice

Benediction

Choral Response to benediction (*Tune: Infant Holy #143*)
Stars were gleaming, shepherds dreaming; Oh, the night was dark and chill.
Angels’ story, manger glory; Shepherds heard it on the hill.
Ah, that singing! Hear it ringing, Earthward winging, praises bringing!
Christ, the babe was born for you. Christ, the babe was born for you.

Postlude: Two German Carols by Roger Wilson

- Some important upcoming events**
- Dec 21: Longest Night Service
 - Dec 24: Christmas Eve Carols & Communion service
 - Dec 28: *Giving Tuesday* wrap up celebration
 - Jan 18: First Anniversary Celebration
 - Feb 22: Annual General Meeting

Longest Night

Today, December 21, is the Longest Night of the year. It is our custom on this night to hold a extra evening service for those who are struggling to find cheer and comfort at this time of year. We also remember and take time to grieve the people that we may have lost. If this sounds like a service that would minister to you this year, please join us **at 7:30 pm** in the sanctuary. The service will include communion and candlelighting.

This Week at St. Andrew’s Hespeler

Today: Longest Night	7:30 pm
Tuesday: Hope Clothing	9:00—11:30 am
Wednesday: Christmas Eve	7:00 pm

The Church office will be closed between Christmas and New Years Day. Messages will still be checked.

Candles and Communion on Christmas Eve

Join us at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve (Wednesday December 24) for a service of carols, reflections on the coming of Emmanuel and communion.

We are grateful to those who were involved in worship this morning:

Organist:	Martin Bohl
Greeters:	Kathy Bott & Lynn Platt
Worship Assistant:	Joanne Waugh
Beadle:	Jean Godin
Sunday School:	Donald Paddock
Tech Team:	Laura Einwechter, Jacob Marsh & Dylan Smith

Mission Moment: December 21

Pakistan is listed among the world’s worst-performing countries in education indicators. Poverty, child labour, gender discrimination and harmful norms within a highly patriarchal society impede equal access to education, particularly for girls. In response, PWS&D is implementing a school feeding project with its partner in Pakistan to encourage girls’ school attendance in marginalized communities in Umerkot. Meena, a participant in the program, shares that receiving a goat as part of the School Feeding Project has become about much more than just an animal—it is a symbol of her family’s commitment to education and community well-being. “Providing milk to the school is my responsibility, and I take pride in doing it because I know it benefits not just my daughter but all the children in our village. Their health and future matter to me,” she shares.

