

Introducing Messy Church

We are now in the process of getting ready to introduce Messy Church to our community members in our Preston location. Lots of groundwork has been laid so far with the help of Steve Jones, Nancy English, Session and our Christian Education Committee. We have lots of planning to do yet before we begin offering this program. We are excited to introduce this exciting program to you AND to tell you that we have received a \$4000 grant from the Knox's Galt Fund through Presbytery. Our Session has also committed \$1000 toward this program.

Here's a quick highlight of the program. We will keep you up-to-date as we proceed with our plans.

What Messy Church Is

- Messy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality.
- It can be in-person, in-a-bag, or online!
- In person, it meets at a time (and sometimes in a place) that suits the community — but not usually on Sunday mornings
- It typically includes a welcome, a creative time to explore the biblical theme with activities, games and crafts; a celebration time involving story, prayer, and songs; and a sit-down meal together at tables. All parts are for (and should include) people of all ages, adults and children.
- It's all-age.
- It's fun.
- It's a church for people at all stages of faith journey and of any age.
- It models and promotes good ways of growing as a family: a nuclear family, an extended family, and a global and local church family.
- Its aim is to introduce Jesus, to give an opportunity to encounter Christ and to grow in faith.
- Most Messy Churches meet once a month, although a few meet more frequently or more occasionally.



SMALL GROUP HIGHLIGHT

Today we are highlighting our **Hospitality Team**.

As the new year begins we want to build our Hospitality Team with the goal of having a coffee/tea fellowship after every Sunday morning worship service and being able to help with other times when we have potluck lunches, etc.

Our Hospitality Team leaders are Brenda Holm and Jean Godin. If you have any questions about what is required please speak with either lady. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the sanctuary

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our Hope Clothing volunteers for taking their time this week to sort, tidy up, and organize Hope Clothing. We were closed to shoppers this week so that we could start 2026 off with a better organized, tidier space.



Thank you to Sylvia Brooks for being a faithful office assistant on Tuesday mornings.

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

Organist:	Martin Bohl
Worship Assistant:	Angie Gibson
Beadle:	Vern Platt
Greeter:	Lynn Platt
Sunday School:	Wendy Seunath
Tech Team:	Laura Einwechter, Jacob Marsh & Dylan Smith

This Week at St. Andrew's Hespeler

Monday: Women's Empowerment Group 1:00 pm
Tuesday: Hope Clothing 9:00 am—11:30 am
Tuesday: Women's Empowerment Group: 1:30 pm
Wednesday: Mobile Food Market 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Thursday: Hope Clothing noon—2:00 pm
Thursday: Food Bank noon—2:00 pm
Thursday: CNT (Cambridge Community Table) 5:00 pm

Some important upcoming events

Jan 18: TODAY: First Anniversary Celebration, with potluck lunch
Jan 31: Puzzle Swap
Feb 22: First Sunday in Lent
Feb 22: A Year in Review Celebration
Feb 22: Annual General Meeting
Mar 29: Palm Sunday Parade
Apr 5: Easter Celebration
May 24: Pentecost Party



St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church January 18, 2026 First Anniversary Sunday



St. Andrew's
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Church
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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: Adagio by A. Corelli

Welcome

Call to worship

L: Come, people of God, remember the faithfulness of the Lord.

P: We remember and give thanks!

L: From generation to generation, God has been our dwelling place.

P: We rejoice in God's steadfast love!

L: Let us worship the One who was, and is, and is to come.

P: We will worship the Lord with gladness and sing His praise forever!

Hymn #491 God bless your church with strength (Tune #274)

Opening Prayer

L: Faithful God, on this our first anniversary Sunday we gather to remember Your goodness, to celebrate Your provision, and to renew our commitment to Your mission. You have been our refuge in times of trial, our joy in seasons of blessing, and our guide through every change. Bless this time of worship, that we may honour the past, celebrate the present, and step boldly into the future You have prepared. In Jesus’ name, **Amen.**

Laying Down Our Burdens

Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:1-11

L: I waited patiently for the LORD;

P: he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

L: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

P: Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

L: Happy are those who make the LORD their trust,

P: who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

L: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.

P: Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

L: Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

P: Then I said, “Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.”

L: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;

P: see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

L: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

P: I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

L: Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;

P: let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

Gospel: John 1:29-42 Read by Elaine.

Letter: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful,

by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn: #475 I am the church! You are the church!

Family Time

Life and Work of the Church

Celebration of our Generosity

Offertory: We’ve Only Just Begun (Sung by Jane Bennett)

Sermon: Paul’s Anniversary Card to Us

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

Hymn #477 Your hand, O God, has guided

Benediction

Choral Response #755 Go ye, go ye into the world

1. Go ye, go ye into the world, and make disciples of all the nations.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you there!

2. Go ye, go ye into the world, and take the gospel to all the people.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you there!

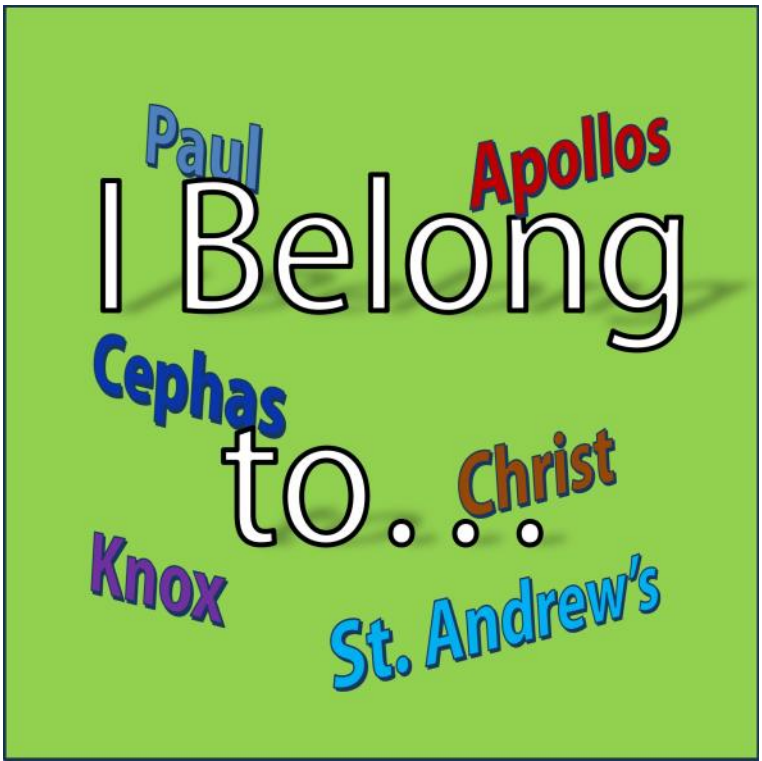
3. Go ye, go ye into the world, and tell the story to all believers.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you there!

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Postlude: Old Hundredth by J.C. Bach

Next Week’s Sermon:



Planning for the Annual Meeting. **All reports and now due and financial books to be audited should also be submitted.** Send to smcandless@stnandrewshespeler.ca

Happy Anniversary!

Today is our First Anniversary as an amalgamated congregations. We celebrated our “wedding” on year ago on January 19, 2025. Today we celebrate in worship and in fellowship. Please plan to stay and join us downstairs following worship with a put luck lunch. Everyone is encouraged to stay and eat, even if you were not able to contribute to the meal. An attendant will be standing by the elevator following the benediction to take anyone downstairs who needs assistance.



Mission Moment: January 18

In July of 2025, with support from Presbyterians Sharing, two active young adults in The Presbyterian Church in Canada attended the Starpoint Youth Festival, a biennial five-day event hosted by the Reformed Church in Hungary. Today, Christian youth spaces can feel scattered and isolated, and Starpoint provides an environment for youth to

congregate and spiritually grow in community. Over 3000 participants from over nine countries gathered for worship, discussions about mental health, and recreational activities and concerts. The two young adults returned from Hungary renewed as Christians who aim to share what they have learned in their local communities.

