

# The Salt Newsletter

## *Special Advent & Christmas Edition*

### Coming up in December

Dec. 11 - A Festive Coffee & Conversation following worship & making of Christingles

### Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Service

11:00 p.m. Holy Communion

### Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. Worship

### In the New Year

Jan. 8 - Holy Communion

Jan. 16 - 4p.m. Session



### *“Emmanuel”*

A name for Jesus the Messiah given to us in Matthew's Gospel is a name that offers comfort and good news ~ Emmanuel meaning “God is with us”.

The best thing about that promise contained in the name is that it is not conditional! It is not “God is with the rich, the happy, those who are whole, those who are righteous, those who are like us, or live our kind of lifestyle, or vote the way we vote, and think the way we think”. Those conditions would suggest that God is then “not with” others in this world. There is no “if” added nor is there fine print suggesting some conditions apply.

Again Emmanuel is not a promise with conditions but from the very beginning a promise to all. That is especially good news to us when we feel we don't measure up or don't fit in - God is with you. It's good news for those who are going through times of trial, darkness, sadness - God is with you too!

God did not enter the world to be with the perfect, or a select group, or even those on his side. Nope! He entered to be with us all.

May this season be a reminder that God is with you, with us, with all!

Happy Christmas and Blessings to you in the New Year!

*Rev. Jeffrey M. Murray*



## *Women's Bible Study*



The Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. We have been meeting in each other's homes on a rotating basis. We have welcomed a new member to our group recently. New members are always welcome, please speak to any member of our group for information/details.

This fall we have been working on a study on the book of *Romans—Good News that Changes Everything* by Melissa Spoelstra. We are really enjoying our time together delving into the book of Romans. There is lots to think about and digest.

Why don't you prayerfully think about joining us?

Respectfully submitted by Beth Cockburn-Savoie for Barb Jardine, Heather Payne, Jean Scobie and Linda Trentini.

## *What is a Christingle?*

It is a symbolic object we make to help us celebrate and symbolize Jesus Christ as the Light of the World in our Christian faith. It is composed of an orange, a white candle, red tape or ribbon and small sweets on cocktail sticks. Christingle services originated in Moravia, in Germany in the 18th century, and now, in the United Kingdom, are a part of the yearly traditions over the Christmas period in many churches.

The orange represents the world. The red ribbon or tape around the orange is for the love and blood of Jesus Christ. The white candle reminds us of the light that Jesus brings to the world. The little marshmallows and fruits stuck into the orange with cocktail sticks are meant to show the four seasons as well as the fruits of God's earth. When we light the candles, we spread the light that Jesus Christ brings to the world, that gives hope to people living in dark times.

The Christingle is usually made by children to help teach them about Jesus. But at St.A's, we can all join in making the Christingles on December 11 during Coffee and Conversation, and have a brief service when we dim the lights, light the candles and have a prayer of thanks for the one who is The Light of the World.



# Atlantic Missionary Society AMS



*The shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'*

*Luke 1:15*

## **145<sup>th</sup> AMS Annual Meeting September 17, 2022**

“A New Way Forward” was the theme and not only were we making use of technology but were also looking at how our Society can continue to exist and flourish. (From Nov. Presbyterian Message) Rev. Wan Tae Oh spoke at the online meeting and with his wife, Nam Soon Song had a team ministry at Hartsville Presbyterian, PEI last summer. Their PowerPoint presentation on the history of mission work in Korea will be included in the next *Message*.

## **Christmas Sale**

Our Christmas Sale was held on Sunday, Nov. 27th following the worship service. The proceeds of \$435 will be divided evenly and given to the Tantramar Breakfast Program and the Sackville Food Bank. Thanks are extended to those who brought items and to those who purchased them. We hope it added to a feeling of fellowship and expectation on the first Sunday of Advent.

We meet on a Saturday morning each month at 10:30. Please join us !

*The women enjoyed preparing Christmas cards to send to all of the church children, along with a memento, at the November meeting. A kitchen shower was also held. We enjoyed our September meeting at Open Sky Co-operative*

## Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church

### Income Statement Overview: January 1- October 31, 2022

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Budget Revenue, Main & B&R:      | \$121,025       |
| Budget Expenditures, Main & B&R: | <u>\$96,369</u> |
| Net <b>gain</b> /loss:           | \$24,656        |
| Total Budget, Main + B&R:        | \$111,849       |
| % of Total Budget spent:         | 86%             |
| % of Year gone by:               | 83%             |

Our overall finances look healthy at this point in the year. We have had two congregant's full year donations up front, an unexpected bequest, and the CEBA loan money to help us. In addition, we have held a drive for the ROOF FUND, which has brought in over \$13,000 from congregation and friends. Combining this with the CEBA money and the bequest, we have over \$40,000 right now to set aside for the roof. Once we have a firm quote and roofer, we will decide whether we need to raise more money for it or not—we want one that will not blow off!

### Breakdown by Account, January 1- October 31, 2022

#### Operating Account

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Revenue:               | \$82,809        |
| Expenses:              | <u>\$86,598</u> |
| Net <b>gain</b> /loss: | (\$3,409)       |
| Budget 2022:           | \$111,849       |
| % of Budget raised:    | 82%             |

#### Building & Reserve Account

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Revenue:               | \$37,836 |
| Expenses:              | \$9,771  |
| Net <b>gain</b> /loss: | \$28,065 |
| Budget 2022:           | \$12,000 |
| % of Budget raised:    | 315%     |

The B & R Account is bloated right now with all the moneys mentioned above, which will go towards our new roof. But some funds in B & R are having to be used for the shortfall in Operating (loss of \$3,409 there). We need to keep "Local" (Operating) donations UP!

#### Memorial Account

The Memorial Account has a balance of about \$5,600 now, of which \$1,080 is, at present, the amount reserved for the Benevolent Fund. \$8000 was spent from this account for video equipment, but the fund recovered with donations upon the passing of Bertha Fillmore.



**Extra to Budget In-come and Out-go***As of October 31, 2022*

| In-come:             |        | Out-go: |
|----------------------|--------|---------|
| Presbyterian Sharing | \$2765 | \$2460  |
| PWS&D                | \$4315 | \$3315  |
| AMS                  | \$1812 | \$1562  |
| Sackville Food Bank  | \$120  |         |

These donations are submitted at the end of each quarter, so "In-come" will equal "Out-go" by the end of 2022.

*Anne Miller, Treasurer*

***Board of Managers***

Season's Greetings to all from you Board members. Since the Congregational meeting the Board has arranged for: Cleaning of the air exchanger, Tuning of the Piano and Organ, Pressure washing the Church and painting of the outside entry, Carpet Cleaning in both the Church and the manse, Elevator inspection and its telephone line repaired. Two windows in the Manse have been replaced and two more require replacing. A major project for St Andrew's is the re-shingling of the roof and any required structural repair. We have received two estimates for replacing the Church roof, which will be studied by the Board. Budget time is coming up soon and other new projects will be considered at that time. The Board is the work of many individuals coming together to keep St. Andrew's and the Manse running efficiently. We appreciate your support in this on-going mission.

Paul Bogard, Barbard Jardine, Kirk Meldrum, Mona Meldrum, Art Miller, Alex Whitla - Secretary, Anne Miller - Treasurer, Linda Trentini - Chair.