

ANNESLEY UNITED CHURCH

82 Toronto Street South, Box 573, Markdale, ON

Office 519-986-3019 ~ Church 519-986-3147

ADVENT NEWSLETTER 2022

annesley@markdalecable.com ~ ~ ~ ~ <https://www.markdaleunited.ca>

YOU TUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/c/AnnesleyUnitedChurch>



COVID is unfortunately still with us, but exciting things are happening at Annesley. There have been many, many people working hard to safely provide meaningful services (in the sanctuary and at home), provide coffee and fellowship before the services, give comfort to people at home and in hospital, revitalize rooms in the building, organize concerts and fund raisers, restart Sunday school, plan for our future by finding ways for the building pay for itself...the list goes on and on! So many things are being done, and the people involved could always use your input and assistance. There are a lot of things that you can do, big or small, to help. If you have not been here lately, come for a visit to see the changes that are happening.

This summer, the Pastoral care Team and Outreach Committees made some calls to see how some of the Annesley folks we have not seen in a while were doing. One of the major themes in the conversations was that a consistent music program and a choir have been sorely missed. Of course, the pandemic rules did not allow for singing maskless for some time, but it is certainly one of the things that people have missed. On that note, we have exciting news – Brenda Dimoff, will be joining us on December 1st to be a music director and organist. She has a lot of experience with church choirs and is eager to restart a choir at Annesley, so will be contacting people very soon. If you have not been in the choir before, and would be interested in singing with them, you are very welcome to become part of the ministry of music here. Practices will be held on Sunday morning before the services, so you don't even have to come out on dark winter nights to take part! We hope to have things in full swing by the Christmas Eve service, which will finally be in person, after 2 years online! See more on Page 8 of this Newsletter.

The Christmas Basket Committee are collecting donations of food items each week in November and December for the Christmas baskets. The requested items each week are:

- Nov. 27 Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Dec. 4 Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Dec. 11 Canned vegetables & beans

**Cash or gift cards would be gladly accepted
Your help is greatly appreciated.**

Baskets will be packed Dec. 19th and 20th, and delivery will take place on December 21st

Upcoming Services

Nov. 27th

10:30 a.m.
Phyllis Fleming

Dec. 4th

10:30 a.m.
Phyllis Fleming

Dec. 11th

10:30 a.m.
Rev. Kathy Underwood
(Communion)

Thurs. Dec. 15th
Service of Loss, Healing
& Hope
Rev. Kathy Underwood

Dec. 18th

10:30 a.m.
Phyllis Fleming

Dec. 24th

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

The Markdale & District Food Bank

Has a NEW website.
(markdaledistrictfoodbank.org).
You may now also donate via e-
transfers.

They are also in need of more
board members, especially a
secretary but we've identified a
number of other skill sets that
would be useful. If you know of
anyone that would be interested
please let them know.

Each month they provide
assistance to 350 people (though
this increases in the winter).

TONIGHT

(Nov 25th)

Don't miss the

James Brown

Trio

(see poster on page 4)



IN MEMORIAM

George Ross Ryan	July 8, 2022
Joanne Timmins	Aug. 29, 2022
Reginald Robert Ries	Sept 5, 2022
Lois Kelso Henry	Sept 6, 2022
Randall Scott Madill	Sept 26, 2022

Congregational Emails

We are often unsure of what to do with news about one another, as we both want to share to support each other while still respecting privacy.

To that end....if you would like us to share news of illness or deaths in your family with the congregational email list, please email to annesley@markdalecable.com , and include the information, as well as letting us know what we can share.

As a congregation, we are seeking to hold one another up in love and prayer.



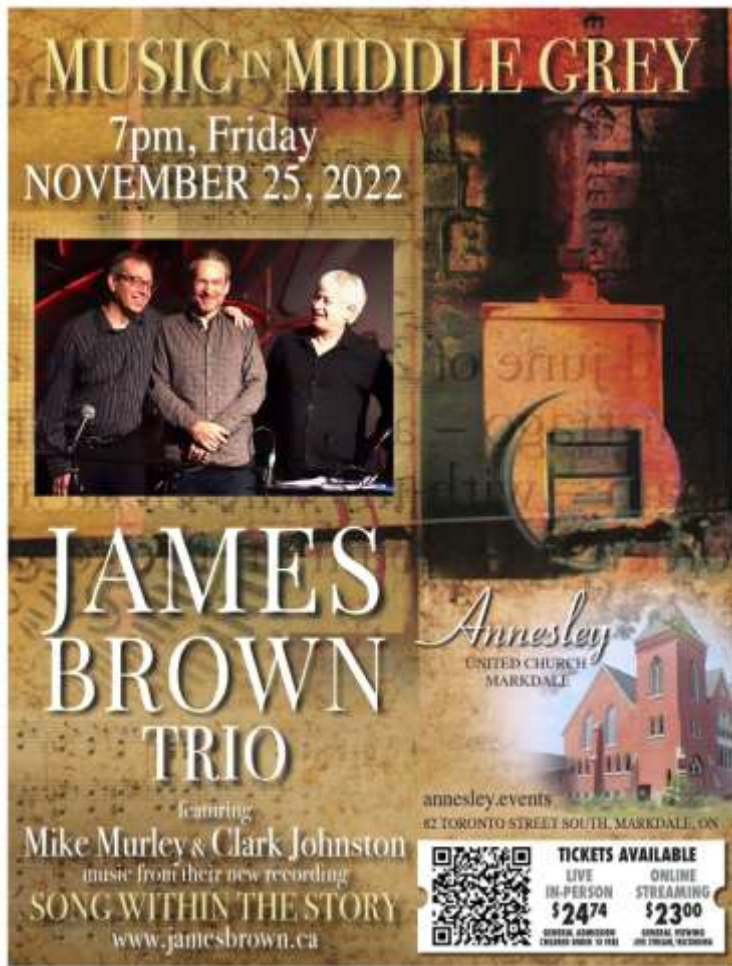
FLOWER POWER Annesley Church is practically *WORLD FAMOUS!* For its spectacular gardens and its fantastic gardening volunteers. Let's bring that flower joy into the church, especially at Christmas. We can do it! Sign up to donate a poinsettia, or see the amazing office staff to assist you with a donation to buy a plant. Remember: "Name Fame"

COFFEE TIME IS BACK!!!!!!

Come to church a bit early to pick up a coffee or tea and a cookie "to go"! Bring your own mug or travel mug. If you forget, a disposable cup will be provided. Choose a pew, safely social distance, take off your mask, smile and enjoy some hospitality with our church friends.

Note: *For the careful and cautious folks:* Sealed cookies.
For the fearless folks: "Free range" cookies.





Tickets can be purchased online (markdaleunited.ca), at Susan's Deli, Artemesia Cheese, Murray's Print Shop, at the church office, or at the door.

(From South grey.ca):

James Brown has received critical acclaim from CBC's Lauren Hancock, Producer of Saturday Night Jazz. His skills have been lauded by jazz writer and former Toronto Star editor Geoff Chapman and his modern jazz compositions have caught the eyes of several music industry rags, including The WholeNote and Making a Scene to name but a few. Beginning his musical exploration with rock guitarists and jazz players of the seventies like Jim Hall, Ed Bickert and John Abercrombie, Brown brought modern classical, neoclassical

and neoromantic influences to his craft. "I heard Bickert play at local clubs regularly in the 1990s and his style of playing was a revelation to me. As a classically trained musician who loved to compose, learning to improvise was irresistible," said Brown describing his early development.

One of Canada's most talented and versatile musicians, James Brown recently released his latest offering *Song Within the Story*. It's the fourth studio CD in his catalogue which spans a career of more than 30 years in the music business. Known for his blending of jazz rhythm section elements with more traditional classical instruments, Brown demonstrates the most distilled development of his personal composition style yet.

While the playlist contains an interesting selection of catchy upbeat melodies, there is a distinct bluesy undertone to the work. James also pays homage to a couple of favourite Canadian singer/songwriters with a moving version of Neil Young's *The Needle and the Damage Done* and a soulful rendition of *A Case of You* by Joni Mitchell.

After spending the summer touring the new music around the country, James Brown will bring his latest synthesis of jazz and European classical music to Markdale on Friday, November 25. Bandmates Mike Murley on tenor sax and Clark Johnston on bass will join him on stage at Annesley United Church for an evening of some very cool sounds. Music in Middle Grey begins at 7 pm. Tickets are available online for live in-person attendance (\$24.74) <https://www.markdaleunited.ca/event/music-in-middle-grey-the-james-brown-trio/> or online viewing only (\$23.00). <https://www.markdaleunited.ca/event/music-in-middle-grey-the-james-brown-trio-live-online/>

OPERATING RECEIPTS	Oct-2022			
Account Name	Current Month	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	Budget
Envelopes	13,031.50	74,359.20	82,755.75	106,000.00
Loose	56.25	367.25	56.00	100.00
Initial		85.00	70.00	200.00
Sub Total	13,087.75	74,811.45	82,881.75	106,300.00
Turkey Supper				
Pie, Plant & Yard Sale				
Pork Chop BBQ				
Other Fundraising-Xmas Bazaar				
-Car Rally				
-Coin Banks			205.00	500.00
-Guess Who's...				
-Plant Sale				
-FundScript		809.20	1,613.53	3,000.00
-Movie Night				
-Online Auction			10,139.00	9,000.00
-Harriston Meats		7,497.00	8,505.00	1,427.00
-Chicken Dinner	3,485.00	4,365.00		1,427.00
Other Fundraising Sub Total			20,462.53	
Fundraising Sub Total	3,485.00	12,671.20	20,462.53	15,354.00
Rent	822.00	5,454.63	1,655.00	5,000.00
Weddings		250.00	350.00	
Sub Total	822.00	5,704.63	2,005.00	5,000.00
Observer Subscriptions		375.00	25.00	50.00
Presbytery Dues				
HST Refund		1,236.34	1,041.02	2,000.00
Interest from Memorial Fund				1,500.00
Shalom Local Support				
Miscellaneous		586.05		1,000.00
Sunday School				
Music Program				
Deductions (CRA)				
CEWS		955.52	8,972.64	
Sub Total	0.00	3,152.91	10,038.66	4,550.00
Total Receipts	17,394.75	96,340.19	115,387.94	131,204.00

OPERATING EXPENSES	Oct-2022			
Account Name	Current Month	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	Budget
Salaries	3,027.29	30,272.90	29,884.40	36,500.00
Contract Wages	409.70	4,097.00	10,097.00	5,000.00
Benefits	793.65	7,769.77	7,260.66	9,500.00
Interim Minister Deductions				
Sub Total	4,230.64	42,139.67	47,242.06	51,000.00
Travel Allowance				
Cont. Ed. & Learning Res.				
Honourarium	1,100.00	11,000.00	14,500.00	11,000.00
Guest Speakers	1,163.32	11,160.27	5,655.22	16,000.00
Sub Total	2,263.32	22,160.27	20,155.22	27,000.00
Union Gas		4,454.71	3,237.73	5,000.00
Electricity, Water & Sewer	274.62	5,787.11	5,691.52	7,500.00
Church Maintenance	300.43	2,002.02	2,153.82	5,000.00
Insurance		12,488.04	12,741.84	11,000.00
Sub Total	575.05	24,731.88	23,824.91	28,500.00
Office Expenses	196.10	2,865.39	2,306.63	3,000.00
Telephone	111.54	1,104.14	1,097.41	1,400.00
Observer Subscriptions		525.00		
Wedding Gratuities			400.00	500.00
Presbytery Dues				5,877.00
Bank Fees		60.00	58.75	100.00
Music		572.00	140.00	500.00
M&P Committee				
Membership Committee		30.00		250.00
Outreach Committee			394.40	500.00
S. School, Christian Ed.				200.00
Library		58.20	239.04	250.00
Miscellaneous	225.00	789.96	1,109.70	2,500.00
Worship Committee			130.00	300.00
Fundraising - Pie, Plant, & Yard Sale				
Pork Chop BBQ				
Turkey Supper				
Harriston Meats		4,934.00	6,374.00	
Chicken Dinner	2,351.96	2,351.96		
Boiler Repair		1,005.00	315.00	2,500.00
Funeral Gratuities	50.00	100.00	50.00	
HST	343.47	3,029.59	2,560.80	4,000.00
PAR & ADP Charges	43.90	480.06	479.01	650.00
Search Com.				
Netcast Ministry			1,627.13	750.00
Sub Total	3,321.97	17,905.30	17,281.87	23,277.00
Total Expenses	10,390.98	106,937.12	108,504.06	129,777.00
RECEIPTS (U)/O EXPENSES	7,003.77	-10,596.93	6,883.88	

“Centering Prayer is an idealized method to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer, preparing our faculties to receive this sun. It is an attempt to present the teachings of ancient Christian knowledge in an updated way.”

Father Keating

You are welcome to meet with us Fridays in the sanctuary at 1:30.

Loss, Healing, and Hope: A “Blue Christmas” Service

For the most part, Christmas is a time of celebration and joy. For many, however, this is a difficult time of year. Many people are carrying significant weights: grief, loss, depression, anxiety, financial stress, unemployment, uncertainty, aging parents, sick children, recent diagnoses, unknown illnesses. The public tone of the season does not resonate with many people’s private experience.

The Pastoral Care Team recognizes this, and they are planning a service on the evening of Thursday, December 15th to acknowledge and support people who are having a “Blue” Christmas. If you, or anyone you know would benefit from this service, which will be led by Reverend Kathy Underwood, please join us on December 15th at 7:00 pm.

From the affirming ministry team

At the November 8 board meeting we were very pleased to receive formal approval to embark on the process toward becoming an Affirming Ministry. It’s our hope and prayer that we will become more intentionally and publicly welcoming and inclusive of LBGTQ+ people through education, storytelling, dialogue, and engaging with the wider LBGTQ+ community.

This will take time and we won’t rush the process. Finally, the congregation will decide by voting whether to formally become Affirming. A positive decision needs to include a “yes” from at least three quarters of our members.

We have a keen group of Annesley members who are part of the affirming ministry team and we would be delighted to welcome more folks to our group. If you are interested please leave your name at the office and we will get in touch.

Stay tuned! We are looking forward to engaging with our church on this journey.



Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Parlour

Not big and bold, but small and committed, the Wednesday Bible Study continues to engage in lively, challenging discussion. We use the book “Disciplines”, which leads us to Bible verses and questions by following the lectionary used by the United Church.

We enjoy the insights into God’s word from our life experiences and exposures to other influences. The group welcomes new faces and knowledge to our sometimes feisty group of spiritual travellers. Come and join us on our journey.



I would like to introduce myself to you as the new Music Director. I am pleased to come on board with Annesley and continue the Music Ministry that has been established.

Now that life at the church is starting to have a new normal after pandemic, I would like to extend a welcome to all and anyone in the congregation who has always wanted to sing and use their talents to enhance our worship services, by participating in the choir. The roles of the members are very simple. First a desire to praise God through the singing of the hymns at our services, leading the congregation in worship and singing anthems.

Rehearsals will be Sunday mornings at 9:30. Services start at 10:30. We hope to start as soon as possible, to prepare for the Advent and Christmas seasons. If so interested, please contact me

through email or phone. #519-794-0874 or email dimoff@gbtel.ca

Thank you. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Brenda Dimoff

Brenda Dimoff 684138 30th SDRD Box 15, RR1 Holland Centre, 519-794-0874

My husband Peter and I have lived in the Grey/Bruce area for 32 years. We presently reside in the Mobile Home section of LutheRanch, a church-based camp. We lived and worked in Kitchener/Waterloo for the first 13 years of our marriage. We have been married for 46 years and throughout our association with LutheRanch, since its inception in 1973 as a camp, we have served on the worship committee and I have been the organist and pianist on a volunteer basis for summer services. We have three sons and seven grandchildren.

I was brought up and trained musically in the Lutheran Church. The Kitchener/Waterloo area is rich with German Lutheran heritage and very strong musically. I was privileged to have had the opportunity to start my church musical training at a young age of 7 through one of the only Choir Schools within a Lutheran Church in Canada, St. John's Lutheran in Waterloo. At this school we learned history of church music, theory, singing and choral technique. We had examinations and special concerts.

I started my piano training with Joseph Herdman. He was organist and choir director for a short time at St. John's. He was my first junior choir director. When he left St. John's, Mr. Douglas Campbell became the Director of Music and also the founder of the Choir School. I credit my church music training to this man as he instilled in me a love for the music ministry of the church.

I was heavily involved during high school years playing in the bands, singing in the choirs and on stage in musicals. I received the Music Merit Awards for both my Grade 12 and Grade 13 years. I continued my piano studies with Douglas Campbell, earning my ARCT Piano Performance from the Western Conservatory of Music. I enrolled at McMaster University in the Music program where I majored in piano and vocal. During that time I was employed part time at a music store in Waterloo as an organ teacher and became full time eventually in sales of organs and pianos and taught for the store.

From the mid 70's until 1990 I had positions of Organist and Choir director for various Lutheran churches in the KW area and an interim position at Emmanuel United in Waterloo, until we moved north to Grey/Bruce. After a short hiatus I became Organist and Choir Director for St. Peter's Lutheran and Trinity Anglican in Wiarton. (Continued on page 9)

In 2002, I took another hiatus from church music to become Music Director for the Owen Sound Little Theatre for their fall musicals. As a fund raiser for the OSLT, I developed and directed The Sound Troupe, which was a group dedicated to performing for community events such as Dance for Life, the Olympic Torch Run, Western Ontario Drama League Awards Dinner, Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner and entertained at Cobble Beach . I was an accompanist for the Youth Theatre Coalition in Owen Sound, accompanied and eventually directed the Sauble Singers, sang with A Cappella Chamber Choir in Port Elgin, and assisted the West Hill Secondary School music teacher (Henrietta Blom) with accompanying the choirs for festival and performing in Music Theatre class musical productions. I have taught piano and organ lessons for 45 years privately, and piano and vocal in Bluewater public and high schools. returned to church music with a short employment with Southampton United Church before moving again in 2011. An opportunity arose for part time work as organist at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Owen Sound which eventually turned into full time Organist and Choir Director. I was there for approximately 6 years when an offer came from the Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores of the Anglican church for two of the parishes, one in Southampton and the other Port Elgin which I couldn't refuse and am currently employed there.

I have been a church musician all my life no matter where my family has moved. I will continue to express my faith through the music ministry of any church we attend.



HELP WANTED: SEARCH TEAM

As voted on by the congregation on Sunday, October 23rd, 2022, a search team was again formed for Annesley United Church. The team will be working to get Annesley's profile updated and put out on the church hub once more.

At this time, Kathy Fraser and Steacy Den Haan have come forward to be a part of this team. More hands are needed. It cannot be done with just two people. We need help. We understand people's time is precious, but we would like to have a few others so that the work can be shared. Many of the tasks can be divided so that it will be manageable. Please speak with to Steacy, Kathy or Rev. Kathy Underwood about how you could help. There are exciting times ahead, but we need a little help if we want to move forward. Thank you.

Required urgently : Archivist

Are you interested in the history of Annesley Church? Are you an organized soul who appreciates the need to preserve what has built this religious community? A multitude of photos and documents have been collected, but need a discerning hand to collate and protect them.

Please consider this request seriously. Your skills are urgently needed.

Contact Patti at the office, 519-986-3019, or Lynn at 519-986-3707



Friends of the South Grey Museum present
a premiere production

No Bed of Roses

an original documentary

Agnes Macphail's Life in Politics

Saturday, December 3, 2022

Annesley United Church, Markdale | Doors open at 6:30 pm. Start time is 7:00 pm.

Through narration, readings, and creative production techniques including generous use of regional photography and art, this original program pays homage to a great Canadian who was once one of us.

Tickets: www.annesley.events



FRIENDS
OF THE
SOUTH GREY
MUSEUM



Friends of the South Grey Museum present a premiere production of No Bed of Roses – Agnes Macphail's life in politics
An original documentary
on Saturday, December 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at Annesley.
Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.
Admission will be by Freewill donation.



Celebrate Christmas with the Community Christmas Choir

Annesley United Church, Markdale

Sunday December 11 - 2:00 pm

Monday December 12 - 7:30 pm

(Snow Date: Wed. Dec. 14 - 7:30 pm)

Freewill donation

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Fri. Nov 25	7:00 p.m.	James Brown Trio Concert – Annesley Sanctuary
Sun. Nov 27	10:30 a.m.	Advent 1 Sunday Service with Phyllis Fleming
Mon. Nov 28	1:30 p.m.	Knit Wits in Parlour
Wed. Nov. 30	11:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Hospital Auxiliary Turkey Dinner in Fellowship Hall Markdale & Dist. Horticultural Society
Sat. Dec. 3	7:00 p.m.	South Grey Museum presents No Bed Of Roses
Sun. Dec. 4	10:30 a.m.	Advent 2 Service with Phyllis Fleming
Tues. Dec. 6	6:30 p.m.	Queen’s Bush Quilters in Fellowship Hall
Sun. Dec 11	10:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Advent 3 Communion Service with Rev. Kathy Underwood Community Choir Concert in Sanctuary
Mon. Dec. 12	7:30 p.m.	Community Choir Concert in Sanctuary
Wed. Dec. 14	7:30 p.m.	Snow Date for Community Choir Concerts
Thurs. Dec. 15	7:00 p.m.	Service of Loss, Healing & Hope with Rev. Kathy Underwood
Sun, Dec. 18	10:30 a.m.	Advent 4 Service with Phyllis Fleming
Mon. Dec 19	all day	Packing of Christmas Baskets
Tues. Dec. 20	all day	Packing of Christmas Baskets
Wed. Dec. 21		Delivery of Baskets
Sat. Dec. 24	7:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Phyllis Fleming
Sun. Dec. 25		No Service
Sun. Jan. 1		No Service
Sun. Jan 8	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service with Phyllis Fleming
Tues. Jan 10	7:00 p.m.	Board of Elders Meeting
Sun. Jan 15	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service with Phyllis Fleming

