

# Welcome to St Andrew's Ramblings covering February to June, 2025 Edition

*He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul. –Psalm 23*

How could it be that we have not had our wonderful newsletter for 4 months!  
Apologies to all who anxiously await news from the pews. There is a lot to cover!

Welcome to the **forty-seventh** edition of our newsletter!  
We made it through the “bleak midwinter”, had a beautiful Easter season with all its reverence, had a rather chilly and rainy May, and now are enjoying the beautiful sun of June! However, no matter what, it is always sunny at St Andrew's Richmond!

## What's Been Happening



St Andrew's Richmond has welcomed several new people into the congregation. As we say, once you come in the door as a stranger, you immediately become a friend, then almost instantaneously become family. Welcome to all who have decided to make St Andrew's Richmond their home.

Thanks to Shirley and her crew we held a very successful Pancake Supper even though the weather was daunting to those who had to travel.

Our annual Trivia Night at Danby's was a huge success and plans will be underway to host another one in the future.

Special thanks to Willie Ross who has led the monthly Food Bank donations. It has been decided that we will provide monetary support rather than non-perishable food.



It was St Paul United's turn to host the Good Friday service.

A lovely, reflective worship was well attended with representatives from the five congregations in the village. Our church had the usual delicious Easter breakfast and had communion with Easter Sunday worship.

St Andrew's has enjoyed the supply ministers that we have had over the last 24 months.

Thanks to Rev Doug who has secured supply until the end of June and beyond while we are in the process of searching for a minister.

Each supply minister and lay leader have brought their own special gifts to the pulpit and it has shown in the increasing attendance of people in the pews.



Thanks always to Victor who has provided beautiful music for us each Sunday. We are also grateful to Peter Gemmell who substitutes wonderfully for Victor to allow him to pursue his music studies.

The Presbytery of Ottawa held a wonderful event to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The worship service and reception at St Paul's Presbyterian was attended by over 200 congregants and friends.



Stay tuned for photos taken by our own Terri-Lyn Love to be included in a future PC Connect newspaper.

An extremely successful community event was hosted by St Andrew's on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.



The "Spring Medley Concert" consisting of members of the Ottawa Police Chorus including our own Bruce Peterkin, the Russell Village Ringers – beautiful handbell performers, jazz selections from Peter Gemmell and Linda Girard, and Iain Clogg on guitar. Thanks to all who provided refreshments to a full house from the village and beyond.

A Search committee led by Laura Tupper and Rev Doug was formed and have been in the process of discerning the future ministry of the church. Many thanks to all in the congregation who have provided their insight to help the committee form the congregational profile. It is their target to have this profile presented at the June Presbytery meeting.



We continue to support our other denomination and faith families that make this place their safe worship space.



St Andrew's was invited to share a Ramadan celebration with our Muslim friends and we continue to attend the women's events hosted by Grace Assembly.

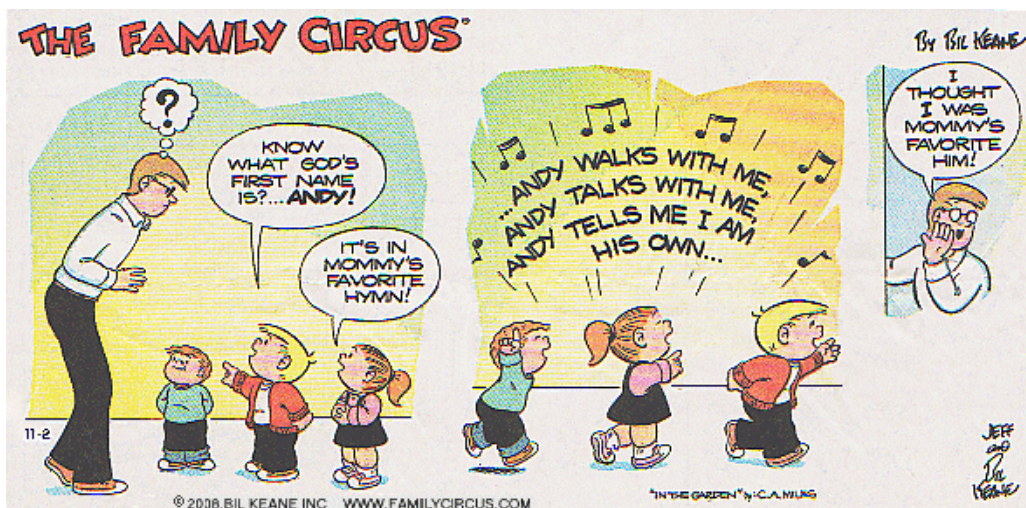
We meet regularly with the other worship leaders in the village – United, Anglican, Catholic, Pentecostal – to share events with each other and support whenever we can. We truly are a place for all God's children.



We have a very happy and growing Sunday School.

Many thanks to our dedicated volunteers.

If you think this is something you might enjoy volunteering for, please speak with Nancy Pinck.



# Upcoming Events

## June 21:

The Youth Working Group of the Ottawa Presbytery will be holding their third youth event on **Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 1 pm** at Parkwood Presbyterian Church on Chesterton Drive in Ottawa. The last two events were well attended by youth and their leaders. This time young people aged 11-18 are invited. Sharon Stewart will be there as one of the members of the group. There will be a barbecue, activities, and fellowship. Please plan on having our youth attend; parents are welcome too!

## June 25:



St Andrew's will be supporting our "sister" church, St Andrew's Stittsville at their Strawberry Social and Dinner on **Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**. This is a delicious annual event!

## June 29:

It is our turn to host the combined service between the two St Andrew's churches on **Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**.

There will be a barbecue and games for the children following worship. Hopefully we will be able to hold the event outdoors.

Please bring a lawn chair! This marks the 10<sup>th</sup> time the churches have alternately held this event.



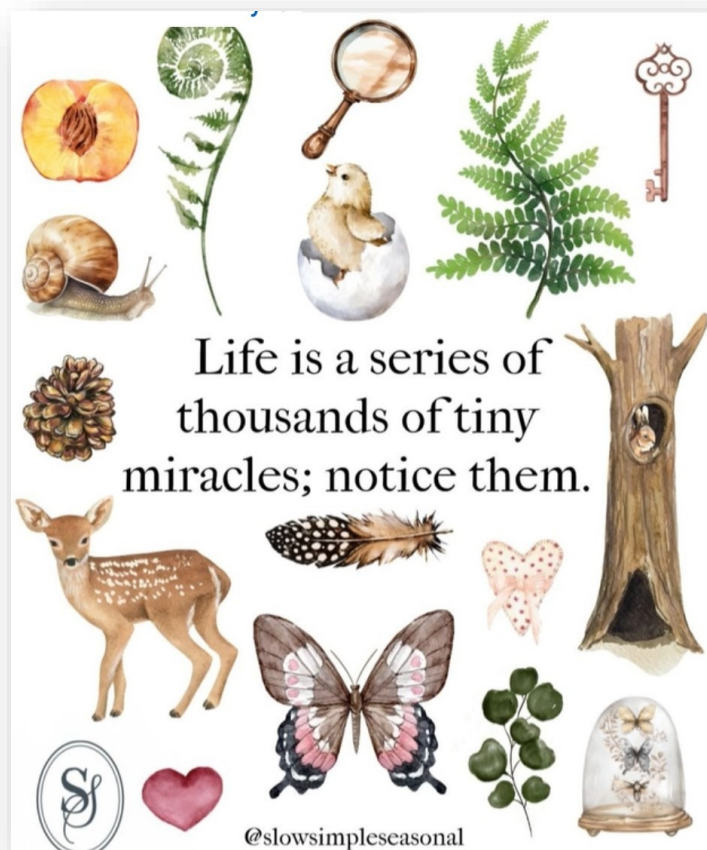
## September 21:

Don't forget to attend our interdenominational fair service, **Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>** in the new pavilion at the Richmond Fairgrounds. Attendance at the service gets you free admission! It is our turn to lead worship. Volunteers are encouraged!



Plans are underway to hold a craft fair in September in the church hall. Advertising for vendors will happen soon. This is an exciting new venture for us.

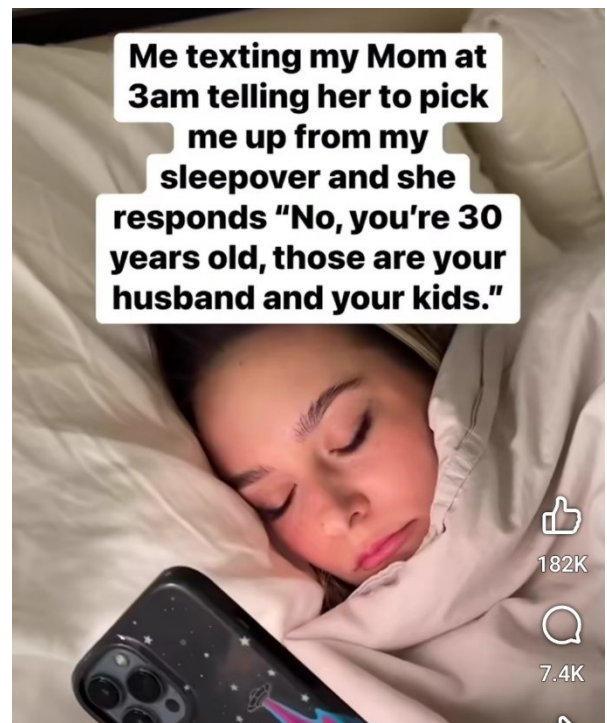
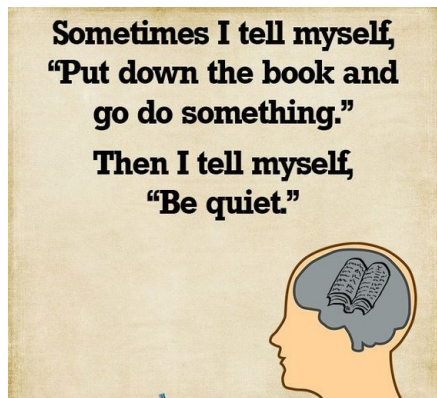
Please note that we are in the process of securing a rental for a dance studio in the hall. Keep an eye out for advertising for any interested “dancers-to-be”!





## On the Lighter Side

- These can't be the same knees that I used to jump out of swings and land on!
- Said I wasn't going to drink today. Then I went for a walk and saw a woman in her living room window with a glass of wine and thought "oh well, if she's having one!"
- Two things to make your day better: Do not watch the news, Stay off the bathroom scales!
- I asked my waiter why he has his thumb on my steak...he said because he doesn't want to drop it on the floor again
- I hate it when I can't figure out how to operate the iPhone and the resident tech expert is asleep. Because he's 5. And it's past his bedtime



## From the Kitchen



### Easiest Slow Cooker Chicken and Gravy

#### *Ingredients:*

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 3-4 boneless skinless chicken breasts | 2 packets of chicken gravy mix          |
| ½ tsp salt                            | 1 can (10-1/2 oz) cream of chicken soup |
| ½ tsp black pepper                    | ½ cup chicken broth                     |

#### *Instructions:*

1. In a 6-quart slow cooker whisk together canned soup, gravy mix, chicken broth, salt, and pepper. Add chicken. Cover and cook on Low for 4 hours.
2. Prepare either rice or mashed potatoes for base.
3. Before serving, carefully shred the chicken using a hand mixer or fork.

### Strawberry Rhubarb Crunch

#### *Ingredients:*

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 c all-purpose flour           | 2 cups diced rhubarb          |
| 1 c. brown sugar, firmly packed | 2 c diced sliced strawberries |
| ¾ c oats                        | 1 c water                     |
| ½ c melted butter               | 2 Tbsp cornstarch             |
| 2/3 c sugar                     | 1 tsp vanilla extract         |
| 1-2 tsp cinnamon                |                               |



#### *Instructions:*

1. Preheat oven to 350.
2. In a large bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar, oats, butter, sugar, and cinnamon. Mix until crumbly then press half of the mixture into a greased 9x13 pan.
3. Cover with the rhubarb and strawberries.
4. In a small saucepan, heat the water, cornstarch, and vanilla over medium-low heat until thick and clear, stirring often. This should take about 5 minutes.
5. Pour over the rhubarb/strawberry layer.
6. Top with the remaining crumb mixture and bake for 60 minutes.

## Italian Chopped Salad

### *Lemon Vinaigrette*

¼ c extra virgin olive oil  
1-1/2 Tbsp lemon juice  
1 Tbsp red wine vinegar  
½ shallot, finely chopped

1 garlic clove, finely chopped  
1 Tbsp dried oregano  
½ tsp sea salt  
freshly ground black pepper



### *Salad*

1 small head iceberg lettuce  
1 head radicchio  
½ small red onion, thinly sliced  
1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved or quartered  
5 pepperoncini, stemmed and sliced  
1 tsp oregano, for garnish

1 can chickpeas, rinsed and drained  
3 oz fresh mozzarella, drained  
4 oz provolone cheese, diced  
sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

### *Instructions:*

1. Make the dressing. In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, shallot, garlic, oregano, salt and pepper. Set aside.
2. Cut the iceberg lettuce in half through the core then cut out the core. Slice the lettuce lengthwise into ¼ in strips. Repeat with the radicchio.
3. In a large bowl, combine the lettuce, radicchio, tomatoes, chickpeas, mozzarella, provolone, and pepperoncini. Drizzle with the dressing and toss gently to coat. Season with salt and pepper and toss again. Sprinkle with extra oregano and serve.

## The Only Brownie Mix You Will Ever Need





# **Last Words**

## **Big Mud Puddles and Sunny Yellow Dandelions**

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. My kids see flowers for Mum and blowing white fluff you can wish on.

When I look at an old drunk and he smiles at me, I see a smelly, dirty person who probably wants money and I look away. My kids see someone smiling at them and they smile back.

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry a tune and don't have much rhythm, so I sit self-consciously and listen. My kids feel the beat and move to it. They sing out the words. If they don't know them, they make up their own.

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up my hair and pulling me back when I walk. My kids close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it, until they fall to the ground laughing.

When I pray, I say thee and thou and grant me this, give me that. My kids say, "Hi God! Thanks for my toys and my friends. Please keep the bad dreams away tonight. Sorry, I don't want to go to Heaven yet. I would miss my Mummy and Daddy."

When I see a mud puddle I step around it. I see muddy shoes and dirty carpets. My kids sit in it. They see dams to build, rivers to cross, and worms to play with. I wonder if we are given kids to teach or to learn from? No wonder God loves the little children!

Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you may look back and realise they were the big things. Well, dear friend, I wish you Big Mud Puddles and Sunny Yellow Dandelions!

Author Unknown