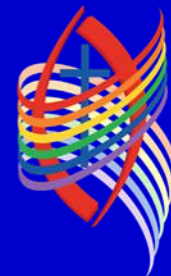




St. Andrew's United Church, North Bay

Reaching Out



a weekly online newsletter for members and friends of the
St. Andrews faith community, shared for the purpose of
bringing peace, hope and comfort during these special times.

Congregational "Zoom" Meeting June 30 at 6:30 pm

(it would be helpful if all participants could log on to Zoom before 6:30 so we are all ready to go at 6:30)

To join the Zoom meeting on a **desktop computer**, press and hold the control key [Ctrl] and then click on the [blue underlined link](#) below, and it will take you right there. If you have a **phone** or a **tablet**, just tap on the link. It is important for your device to have a microphone and a camera to allow you to be seen and heard. Check out the *What do I need to participate?* in the "[Zoom for Participants](#)" document link below if you are unsure. ...or you can call the toll-free phone number (**in red**), and sign in using the Meeting ID number shown and join the meeting by regular phone.

TOPIC : **Belfry Tower Repair issues and possible options going forward**

DATE: **June 30, 2020**

TIME: **06:30 PM**

THE LINK !

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/99802592680>

Meeting ID number is **998 0259 2680**

If using a telephone to join, then call **855 703 8985** (toll free)
and use the same **Meeting ID: 998 0259 2680**



Never been at a Zoom Meeting Before?

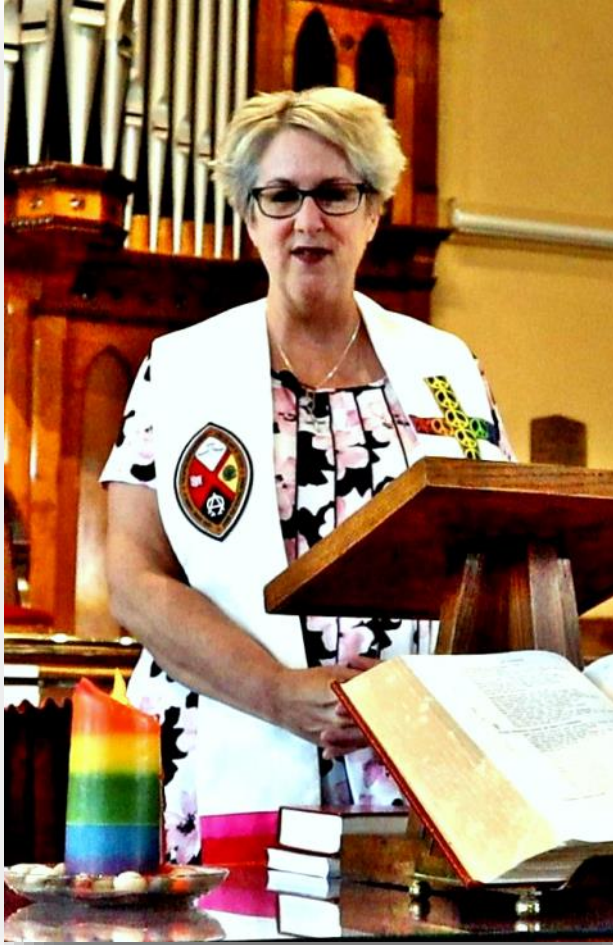
Here are 2 documents that might help: [Zoom for Participants](#) and [Zoom Tip Sheet](#)

The meeting agenda can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

Informative Resource Documents: (click on item to view/ download)

1. Letter From Chair of Council outlining the Belfry Tower situation, estimated remediation cost, and correspondence re building permit with City of North Bay
2. Engineer's Belfry Tower Assessment Report - with belfry photos (Sept. 2019)
3. Consulting Engineer's outlining of Belfry Repair Options (Oct. 2019)
4. SAUC Financial Viability Report - to April, 2019 and some to Dec, 2019
5. St. Andrew's Operating Statement to May 31, 2020
6. Church Demographics -from St. Andrew's survey conducted in Spring of 2019

The Search Committee's Final Report



Tracy Davis, DLM

Greetings to all:

Well, as some of you might know, and on behalf of the Search Committee; and as officially approved on June 23, 2020 by the Church Council on behalf of the Congregation of St. Andrew's; and as formally/officially approved by the Pastoral Relations Commission, on June 24, 2020 - I am please to "officially" present Tracy Davis as the full time minister of St. Andrew's United Church. In other words, as our new minister. (Yaaaayyyy!!)

I want to take the time to share with you all how seriously we took our mandate that you gave us - you, the congregation. We even had specific training and a manual to help us as we moved forward with this task. The Search Committee appreciates how this community of faith had the confidence in us to believe we could do this job. We feel our

team reflected the various characteristics that are reflected within this community of faith. There was diversity within our ages, within our genders and within our spiritual beliefs. The common trait we did share was clearly a personal sense of ethical responsibility to hire a minister, and our shared understanding of the mission of the church and of the path that we are on. We wanted a minister that matched with the responsibility of a social and spiritual affirming St. Andrew's.

We recommended Tracy, and I believe that Tracy was officially hired, because she presented a plan that followed what the Search Committee had already outlined; and what the congregation outlined way before us - a ministry that spoke about where we came from, where we are now, and where we are going. It was clearly a perfect match.

The Search Committee would like to thank those members of the church council who supported the committee, and those who supported myself as the chair, as we moved through uncharted territory. We struggled with many different issues within the church and the church ministry, which only reflects the congregation's determination to be a strong inclusive group of people who want to move beyond the box that has contained many of us.

We will continue to look to your support as we start the search for the second position, the Congregational Designated Minister. We should have the position posted shortly, and all applicants who have the qualifications, are invited to apply. The Search Committee still meets weekly and we will conduct the interviews as quickly as we can so we can provide Tracy with the competent and effective support that she needs.

Please continue to walk your Sacred Path, and remember -

Debwewin, Truth is to know all these things.

Treanor Greer-Delarosbel,
Chair of the Search Committee
June 25, 2020

A SERMON FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH - FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



(based on
Matthew 10:40-42)

Water is crucial for sustaining life, particularly in a dry climate. Jesus lived in a dry climate, a climate where water is crucial for sustaining life. The climate affected

the culture, as climate always does. Being a person of his own culture, Jesus spoke about many things in the terms understood by people in his own culture. He spoke about welcome and about hospitality in terms of the sharing of water.

So we hear Jesus say in today's gospel lesson: Jesus tells us the quality of our welcome to oth-

Matthew 10: 40 - 42 *“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”*

ers and our hospitality – even in little things like a glass of water – reflects the depths of our spirituality. We hear that the quality of our welcome and our hospitality says much about who we are as Christians.

When we are most fully being ourselves, St. A’s is a people who share food and drink.

Hospitality is one area in which we excel. We frequently share food and drink. It is at the heart of who we are. This is the case whether the hospitality extends to:

- a cup of cold water,
- a cup of hot coffee and a cookie,
- a box of assorted groceries for people in need locally,
- or the funding of programmes assisting people through the M & S Fund.

Generosity, hospitality and a warm sense of welcome are the way of Jesus.

What do you miss most about worship in these pandemic days of church closure?

Maybe more than anything else, I miss our “Children’s Time” early in worship. I miss the opportunity to encourage the children to follow the way of Jesus. At one level, this includes teaching them to pray, helping them to develop some understanding of the beliefs and stories of the Christian faith, and developing a link with the worshipping congregation so that they feel a sense of belonging as we worship.

But encouraging our children or grandchildren to follow in the way of Jesus doesn’t end with the religious stuff. In many ways, the religious stuff is the easy bit.

When we get back – and we will get back! – I can’t wait to encourage in the children those qualities of generosity, hospitality, and welcome that are central to the way of Jesus.

continued page 4...



This last instruction Jesus gave to his disciples in this passage was for us.

“And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”

And, here is where the rest of us come in. Most of us haven't healed the sick, raised the dead, or exorcised demons. Most of us haven't even seen anyone who was demon-possessed. But all of us have seen little children. All of us know how good a cup of cold water tastes on a hot, dusty day. And all of us can do that – we can all give a cup of cold water to a thirsty child.

Mother Theresa, who certainly did great things, said, “There are no great deeds, only small deeds done with great love.”

So, if those of us who believe that we'll never do great things like the disciples did for God, that's absolutely okay. Because even the disciples tried to run off the little children who wanted to see Je-

sus. Even the disciples tried to turn away the most fragile and least regarded members of their own society, little children.

Of course, it takes some effort. A cup of cold water in Jesus' day didn't come from the water fountain, or the fridge. There was no ice to cool the water.

To get a cup of cold water, one had to draw from the well, or a deep spring. Effort was involved. So, I'm not saying small things don't take effort, I'm just saying that Jesus thought they were pretty special. And a cup of cold water gets lumped right in there with disciples on a mission to heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out demons.

You know what cold water is, we know who children are. You can make the translation to any situation in life. Small gifts, given with great love in the name of the One who loved us, have great significance in the Kingdom of God. May it be so for us in the summer ahead.

Amen.

Prayer for the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, you tell us not to be afraid of what the future holds, not to worry about tomorrow, but you know how difficult we find it to heed your words. For we worry about so many things, our families, our friends, our circumstances, some worries big worries, most worries tiny niggles. We come before you this day with these big and tiny worries, and with confidence we know we can lay them all at your feet.

We bring our big worries about health and happiness and security for ourselves and for our loved ones. We bring big worries about the world we live in and its future existence as we continue to fail to address so many ecological problems. We bring big worries about the way people in our world are treated as less than human, exploited, tortured, helpless and abused.

Father God, we know that you are concerned with every aspect of our lives, so we also bring the little things that concern us, the worries which keep us awake at night, the worries which only you know.

Living God, reach out to all those for whom the future brings fears and uncertainties. Assure them that you are with them, even when that future seems dark and circumstances feel like they are spiraling out of control.

Remind them that you are able to transform even the bleakest of situations, bring healing and wholeness.

Lord we make our prayers in faith, for we know that your Spirit is at work in our world making all things new. **Amen**





You can ensure that St. Andrew's and those who are helped through its work can count on your support by giving monthly through **Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)**. Through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account, PAR allows you to give to what matters to you most

What are the benefits of PAR?

Sometimes life's agenda takes over our best-laid plans. With PAR, you don't have to worry about writing a cheque or forgetting to donate because life has thrown you a curveball. By signing up for PAR, you make a clear statement of what is important to you.

It's really easy! To sign up for PAR, download the application for [here](#) and either send it by mail it or take it to the Church Office. If you are already on PAR and wish to change the monthly amount, just contact Star at the Church Office (705-472-7680).

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are now
10 am until 1 pm - MON to FRI**

ONLINE WORSHIP - THIS SUNDAY - A Couple of Options

This Sunday's service (**Sunday - June 28, 2020**) will be found on the **Trinity United YouTube channel**. This *YouTube* video is recorded and can be watched at any time. To visit the channel, click on this link: [Trinity United Church YouTube Channel](#). The Sunday service (usually posted by Saturday evening) is a collaborative production by the Trinity United crew, with regular input from St. Andrew's and other united churches in the area.

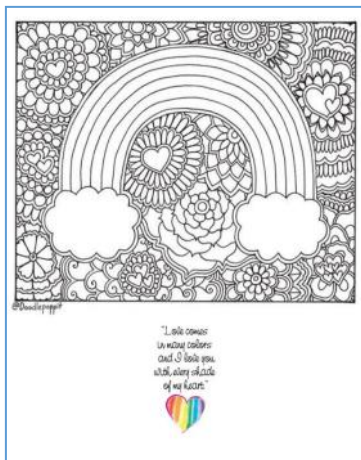


Click ****HERE**** for a list of links to over 390 United Churches across Canada that are offering online worship services ... either streamed or recorded.



Kid's Corner

Since June is Pride Month, this week's colouring activity reminds us all that love comes in many colours! Click on the image to the left to view/download.



Agenda for Congregational Zoom meeting June 30 at 6:30 pm

1. Housekeeping, Intro to Zoom, Introductions
2. Holy Manners/Touchstones
3. Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory
4. Affirming Statement
5. Worship: Tracy/Rob/Melody
6. Purpose of the meeting: no decisions, only information. (Rob/Melody)
7. Present Property Status: (Peter/Treanor/John/Derek)
 - I. Required timeline and commitments to safety
 - II. Required costs
 - III. Questions
8. Present financial status (Peter/Treanor/John/Derek)
 - I. Financial Viability Review
 - II. Month over month review through pandemic
 - III. Questions
9. Options for Discernment (Rob/Melody)
 - I. Option #1
 - II. Option #2
10. Small Group discussion (20 minutes):
 - I. What are your questions?
 - II. What are your initial reactions?
11. Regathering: Next Steps (August conversation)
12. Worship

Canadian Shield Regional Council Support Persons

Rev. Rob Smith, is a Congregational Support Minister for the western part of CSRC region.

Rev. Melody Duncanson-Hales is a minister providing support to Communities of Faith, Stewardship and Youth in the CSRC region

ST. ANDREW'S COUNCIL TOUCHSTONES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Give and receive welcome. ◆ Be present as fully as possible ◆ No fixing, saving, advising, or correcting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Observe deep confidentiality ◆ Trust and learn from silence ◆ When the going gets tough, turn to wonder |
|--|---|