



# TOGETHER

— ONLINE —

a weekly electronic newsletter for members  
and friends of the St. Andrews faith community

FRIDAY, February 26, 2021



## UPCOMING SUNDAY ONLINE SERVICES (Recorded)

Videos posted on the [St. Andrew's YouTube Channel](#)  
... available Saturday evening for viewing any time - night or day

### Sunday, February 28th - Second Sunday in Lent

**"Names, Identity and More"** - *Rev. Lillian Roberts*



On **the** second Sunday of Lent we will hear the story of God's covenant with Abraham and an exchange between Peter and Jesus that culminates is Jesus saying, not only to Peter but to everyone in the crowd assembled, "“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”"

In a sermon titled, **"Names, Identity and More"**, I will explore how these questions of identity, name and call press upon us, particularly in times of change. Abram and Sarai in order to live into the life of their new names Abraham and Sarah and the life that God promised through the covenant, would have to leave behind some things. Walter Brueggemann lifts up what is happening here with elegance and clarity when he claims that "God's good self, God's name, God's identity" are "enough to override the body-given despair of this old couple." If they were going to be the beginning of a people as numerous as the stars, they were going to have lose disappointment that things had not happened as they hoped; they would need to lose the

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St. Andrew's is an inclusive and affirming Christian community of faith worshipping God and serving others. Inspired by Holy Scripture and guided by tradition, reason, and experience, we share the ministry of Jesus Christ by nurturing spiritual growth, caring for creation, and being with those in need.

## Sunday, February 28th (continued)

perception that they were too old to do this new thing; they would have to lose the fear that they would have no lasting legacy. God looks upon this old, odd couple and says trust in the identities and the names that I am giving you. Father and Mother (actually Princess in terms of the meaning of the name) of an amazing future.

## Sunday, March 7th - Third Sunday in Lent

**"A Call to Community Accountability"** - Rev. Lillian Roberts

On the third Sunday of Lent we hear a re-fresher on the ten commandments and read from John's Gospel about Jesus turning the tables of the vendors in the temple. Both of these scriptural accounts remind us that as people of God we live in a community which seeks to be faithful and to attend to the welfare of those with whom we share the gift of being together. Our relationships and behaviour are intended to reflect justice, and to hold the vision of God's grace. To the newly liberated Hebrew people that guidance is given as a gift in the ten commandments, to the temple vendors Jesus dramatically calls a system gone off the rails to account and to remember its purpose. To us, the reminder is to be a community shaped by justice and faithfulness.



### Announcing St. Andrew's New Temporary Office Administrator



As our Council Chair indicated in her letter (see page 4), **Peter Haddow** will be our *Temporary Office Administrator* for the next six weeks (nine hours /week) starting on Mon., March 1st.

Peter is no stranger to St. Andrew's as he co-ordinates the church's *Loaves and Fishes Community Foodbank* and is also a Licensed Lay Worship Leader. Peter recently retired from a career in long term health care and brings with him valuable experience and perspective.

One of Peter's first tasks will be to send out the **tax receipts** to those who have given to St. Andrew's during 2020. If you are waiting for yours, they will be mailed out the week of March 1.

**We sincerely apologize for the delay!**

**OFFICE HOURS -NOT YET DETERMINED ... THEY WILL BE POSTED ON THE [CHURCH WEBSITE](#)**

## Transition Word for the Week

Many of you may be wondering what the role of a **Transitional Supply Minister** may be. The job description that was developed at the time of Lillian agreeing to take on this role describes the transition part of the ministry in this way:

### The Role of the Transitional Minister

The role of the Transitional Minister is to provide both **pastoral** and **transitional** leadership to achieve the main objectives of an intentional Transition. These include:

- a) **Helping** the church to find stability and continue in effective ministry through the transition.
- b) **Helping** the church experience a greater measure of health -spiritually, relationally, organizationally and operationally and to foster a culture of respect;
- c) **Encouraging** the congregation and church leadership as seeing this time of transition as primarily a season of spiritual formation and discernment.

To work with the Transition Team to be named by the Council to identify the crucial goals to be undertaken:

- **To design and facilitate** ways of engaging the community of faith's participation in transitional conversations. This will include one on one conversations; small group conversations (virtually and potentially later in person); virtual learning opportunities related to transition themes of identity, mission (purpose) and sustainability.
- **To research and gather** the community of faith's information regarding demographic patterns, financial viability, volunteer lay leadership, community partnerships and share the information to inform future ministry directions.
- **To engage** the Council and a wider circle as appropriate in ongoing learning and dialogue about congregational culture and ministry and mission.

The Transition Team met this past week and has begun shaping the transition goals to share with the Council and the congregation. We will be sharing these soon!

**TRANSITIONAL  
MINISTRY**  
**Word  
For the  
Week**  
Rev. Lillian Roberts





## ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

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February 26, 2021

To Members and Friends of St. Andrew's,

Our temporary interim minister, **Rev. Lillian**, has been busy during her first week at St. Andrew's. She has done an Ash Wednesday service, and last Sunday's service. If you didn't get a chance to watch them, they are still available online. The services are well worth the time. She has also attended our Executive meeting and our last Council meeting. We are moving forward with many new ideas and tasks which Lillian is gently guiding us through.

We have also hired **Peter Haddow** as Temporary Office Administrator for the next six weeks starting Monday. Having Peter fill this temporary position will allow us time to follow the proper process of finding a permanent Office Administrator. (office hours will be announced later). With Peter in place, it is our hope that we can get the tax receipts out by the end of next week. We are sorry for the delay.

Unfortunately, our plans to reopen on March 14<sup>th</sup> have had to be set aside. We do understand how important it is for our members to be able to attend services in our church home and to be with our church family, but it must be our first priority to ensure the safety of our congregation. Before our doors are open for Sunday services, we will be ensuring that the sanctuary has been properly sanitized, and that we have the proper distances marked off between people who are attending.

Our Custodial Team, **Andrea Church** and **Kelly Miles** have been working on cleaning areas that may have been missed over the last few months. They are doing a good job and hopefully, once the COVID situation is behind us, you will all get a chance to meet these two dedicated workers.

The Council is trying to find people to sit on various committees. We need volunteers for the *Ministry and Personnel Committee*. **Natalie Wilson** has agreed to chair this committee, and we have one other member, but we still need a couple more. **Samantha Gravel** our Treasurer/Bookkeeper is doing a great job, but we only have one person who has expressed an interest in serving the *Finance Committee*. We should have at least four people on the committee and we need a Chairperson. We also need people for the *Pastoral Care Committee* and the *Property Committee*. If anyone can volunteer some time to the important work of the church, please let us know. You can call the Church office, or call me - my number is 705-493-4035.

As we journey through this Lenten Season, please remember the Holy Spirit is walking with us. We are not alone; we need just to open our hearts to the love of our Heavenly Parent. She is listening and even when we doubt, He is there. Be well, be safe and pray that we may be together soon.

Yours in Christ,

Patricia Kirton-Bailey

Council Chair, St. Andrew's United Church

## COVID-19: STAY-AT-HOME ORDER UNTIL MARCH 8 (AT LEAST)



Provincial and local health officials remind us that the **Stay-at-Home order** will continue to apply until at least Monday, **March 8, 2021** in the North Bay-Parry Sound District.

Therefore the actual date for re-opening of the Church and resumption of in-person worship (30 % capacity only) is still undetermined. Watch this newsletter and the St. Andrew's Church website (<https://standrews-northbay.ca>) for updates.

In the meantime, a **recorded St. Andrew's Sunday service** will be provided weekly on the [St. Andrew's YouTube channel](#). Once these services are posted by Saturday evening they are available for viewing at any time, day or night!

### THANKING TRACY

We want to remember the contribution that **Tracy Davis** has made to our faith community over the years by presenting her with a *book of memories*.

**Kim Delarosbel** has agreed to be the lead in this project - so If you have any **stories, photos, or special reminiscences** that you would like to share please send them to Kim by e-mail ([kdelarosbel@hotmail.com](mailto:kdelarosbel@hotmail.com)) or by mail (399 Cassells St. , North Bay, P1B 3Z4) . Your **personal messages** conveying appreciation and best wishes are certainly welcome too. We are planning to say "Thank You" to Tracy sometime this summer so the deadline for submissions to the book has been extended (probably mid-June).



### HOW YOU CAN HELP ST. ANDREW'S DURING THIS SPECIAL TIME



You can ensure that your community of faith can count on your support by giving monthly through **Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)**. You can become a monthly PAR member by downloading [this form](#) and mailing it to St. Andrew's. (399 Cassells St., North Bay, ON P1B 3Z4). Complete PAR details can be found at: <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/get-involved/give-regularly> . Thank you for considering this option if you are not already on PAR.

## E TRANSFER PAYMENTS



Donations to St. Andrew's can now be made via e-transfer using the e-mail address ...

[donatetostandrews@cogeco.net](mailto:donatetostandrews@cogeco.net)


**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
 399 CASSELLS STREET  
 NORTH BAY, ON P1B 3Z4

**WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP!**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

**Second Sunday of Lent**



The online worship service for this Sunday will be posted on the [St. Andrew's YouTube Channel](#) by Saturday Evening



**St. Andrew's Needs Your Help!**  
[standrews-northbay.ca/belfrytowercampaign](http://standrews-northbay.ca/belfrytowercampaign)