

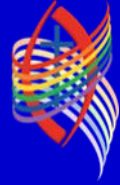


TOGETHER

— ONLINE —

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

Friday, June 25, 2021



This Sunday's service (June 27th) will be ONLINE only.

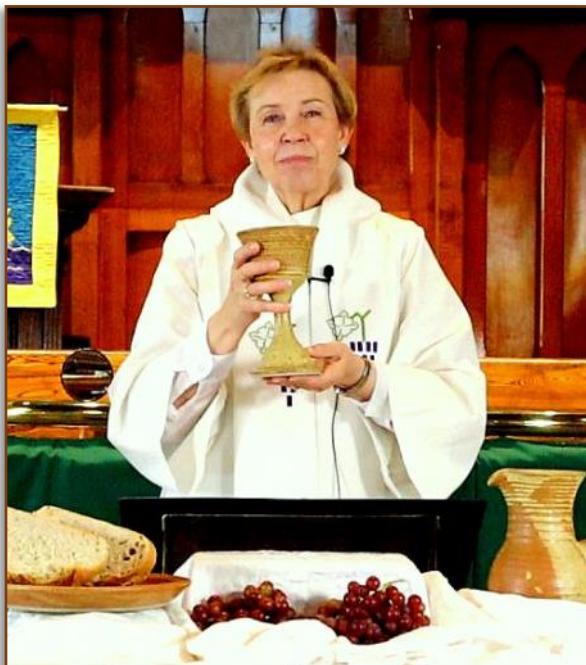
Limited in-person worship may resume in August . watch this newsletter for details.

THIS IS THE LAST TOGETHER-Online NEWSLETTER FOR A WHILE.

OUR NEXT EDITION IS DUE TO GO OUT IN EARLY AUGUST - HAVE A RESTFUL SUMMER!

Sunday, June 27th - 5th Sunday after Pentecost – Celebration of Holy Communion

Reflection: In Search of Wholeness (Online only - posted on YouTube Sat. eve.)



The Gospel lesson tells two healing stories. The story of the woman who reaches out and touches the hem of Jesus' garment and Jairus' young daughter who is restored to life and health by Jesus.

Today's scripture invite us to think about the ways in which we risk reaching out for healing. As we enter summer, and the end of the pandemic begins to seem like a possibility, how do we risk reaching out in faith to seek healing for ourselves, our community of faith, our world? While the source of healing is Christ, there is also

indication that we have a part to play in seeking our wholeness.

On this last Sunday before we move to our summer practice of sharing worship with Trinity, we will also celebrate **online communion**. Please remember to have your elements for sharing at the virtual table with you.



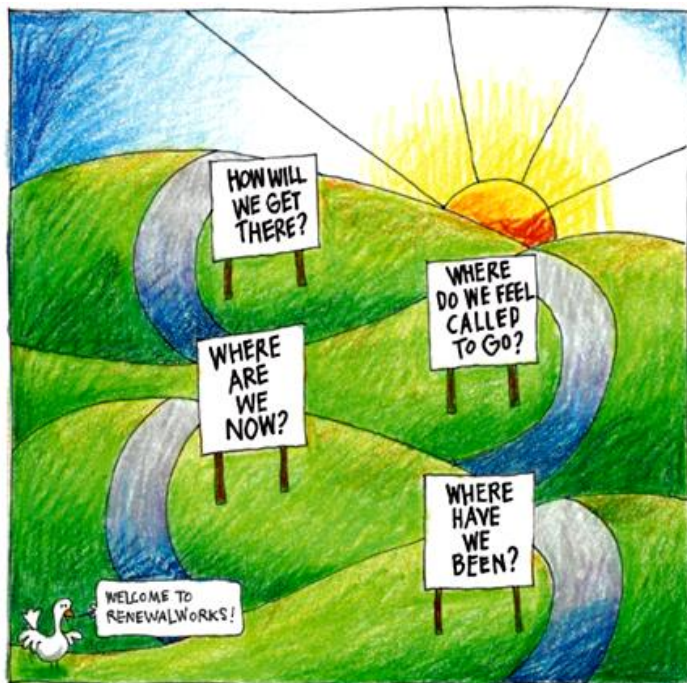
St. Andrew's is an inclusive and affirming Christian community of faith worshipping God and serving others. Inspired by Holy Scripture and guided by tradition, reason, and experience, we share the ministry of Jesus Christ by nurturing spiritual growth, caring for creation, and being with those in need.

THE TRANSITIONAL WORD FOR THE WEEK

Rev. Lillian Roberts

June 27th - The Path in Front of Us

Most of us hope that summer 2021 will mark a transition in the effects of the novel coronavirus pandemic. With increasing vaccinations, we look for signs that we will move towards life not defined by pandemic restrictions, precautions and social distancing. We anticipate a "return to normal" or at the



least a movement into a "new normal". There is lots being written about how the world will not return to life exactly as it was before the pandemic. We have all been changed by the experience. Our perspective on how we live in communities, in social networks has been changed. We cannot return to a time without the impact of "Black Lives Matter"; nor should we want to. We cannot recapture moments of grief that could not be marked in supportive community. We cannot reclaim missed family gatherings, or

being together for important celebrations. We cannot dismiss that we have become cautious about social proximity even while longing to have close contact. We cannot ignore that we have learned more vividly how social and economic disparity impacts health and well-being. Wisdom regarding the transition out of the pandemic says it will bring its own challenges as we reshape life.

So if we think that once we can gather for in-person worship without capacity restrictions that congregational life will back to what it was, we are likely mistaken. At St. Andrew's there will be the transition to church life post-pandemic alongside of the work of a congregation in transitional ministry. It will be a time of discovering a new normal together. Each of us will be different from the last time everyone sat together in the sanctuary and as a collective we will be different having explored new ways of being church.

Sometimes we hear the phrase "new normal" as a lament, a confession that we will have to let go of what was. But it is also an invitation to opportunity, the possibility of finding a more purposeful future. How can the learning about how to be church during the pandemic propel the congregation into seeing new avenues for ministry? What do we treasure about our churches and our world that we want to sustain? What are the things we can finally let go of? Where should we be looking for change?

continued... next page

Having ventured into the digital worship world, what do we want to carry forward as a way of broadening ministry?

Having lived through months of not being able to welcome the community into the building, what have learned about the importance of being a physical resource and connecting with community groups?

Having seen the change in our downtown community, the increase need, what opportunities for ministry might emerge?

Having missed the gift of being together, physically present to one another, what are the priorities for rebuilding relationships?

We won't answer these questions all at once, it will be a journey. We will need to be intentional in rebuilding our sense of being community and be patient as each person will move at their own pace. But our assurance is that our ever faithful God will journey with us.

May summer 2021 bring opportunities for discovering joy and hope as we move forward!

IMPORTANT WORK FROM THE JUNE 22 COUNCIL MEETING



The Council received correspondence requesting that the Council consider expressing the commitment of the congregation to being

public, intentional and explicit in its Affirming Ministry by flying a Pride Flag outside the Church. It was noted in the correspondence that planning to do so by September when students are coming to the city to begin the post secondary school year and when there are often new families moving into the community and the North Bay Pride Event is planned would be optimal. The Council discussed how this would be a public, intentional and explicit way of demonstrating that St. Andrew's is an Affirming congregation. There were questions about protocols surrounding flying flags and whether a church was

considered a public building in this respect. A motion was made to move forward and in principle approve the presence of a Pride flag in public view and a small working group of three Council members was named to develop a plan that would include location, any consideration of protocols, and a plan for informing and communicating with the congregation about the plan. The working group is to report to a special Council meeting August 17th so that the Council can consider the details of moving forward. It was also decided to share the direction with the congregation through the newsletter and also at the Transitional Ministry Zoom gathering on June 24th. Questions and comments can be directed to the working group through the church's email standrewschurch@cogeco.net.





ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

399 CASSELLS STREET, NORTH BAY
ONTARIO P1B 3Z4 (705) 472-7680
e-mail: standrewschurch@cogeco.net
website: www.standrews-northbay.ca



June 24, 2021

Members and Friends of St. Andrews,

Summer is here! Let us pray that it brings healing to our faith community. As always, our church will be closed for five Sundays during the summer. This year we will be closed from July 4th to August 1st, and hopefully on August 8 we will be opening our church doors for in-person worship. Our services through August will be led by guest ministers as Rev. Lillian will be taking a couple of months off but will return in September on a three-quarter time basis.

With the assistance of the Transition Team, Rev. Lillian Roberts has been leading us through some steps to help us determine what our future will look like. Communication is not always easy, but we are working on it.

We worked very hard to gain our status as an Affirming Church, but maybe have forgotten sometimes how important a part of our culture this is. To be Affirming means to be welcoming and fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. St. Andrew's has always been a place where people can come to feel acceptance and safety.

We have been a welcoming and nurturing place for the single parent looking for community, the homeless looking for a meal, the addict looking for support, our doors have been open. St Andrew's has been known as the community church, let us remember how important this is to our church identity.

Please remember that even when our church is closed, we still have operating expenses and your donations are still necessary! We still need to raise funds to pay back the money spent to take down the belfry. All donations that come into the church are being processed and deposited into the appropriate accounts. Please remember your church home during these difficult times. Remember that even though our building is closed, we are still being church.

Our Heavenly Parent has walked with us through the past year. The challenges have been difficult, but we have learned much and are embracing the changes that will lead us into the future. We just need to open our hearts to feel the warmth of the Spirit around us. Be well!

Yours in Christ

Patricia Kirton-Bailey
Council Chair



MORE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL UNMARKED GRAVES FOUND

The Right Reverend Richard Bott, Moderator of the United Church of Canada, offers this brief message:

I am writing you as the truth about unmarked graves on the sites of former residential schools continues to emerge, confirming what many people in Indigenous communities have said and known for years.

I know that you and members of your congregations have questions about what the church is doing or will be doing in response. The General Secretary and I are working with the Indigenous Ministries and Justice staff to reach out to the communities affected by the 15 schools we operated. We want to ensure that our denomination's response is firmly grounded in the principles of right relationship that we seek to live. This is ongoing work that requires our support and participation. As the conversations continue, I will keep you updated.

This is a time for The United Church of Canada to listen rather than prescribe. The pain in Indigenous communities and churches is immense. I ask you to continue to hold Indigenous members of the United Church and their families and communities in prayer and ask members of your community of faith to do the same.

JULY & AUGUST AT ST. ANDREW'S



For the month of **July** St. Andrew's will be joining with **Trinity United Church** for worship. This will include the Sundays of **July 4, 11, 18, 25 & August 1**. Trinity is planning to offer in-person worship as well as the option of the live stream of worship through YouTube. Both the in-person worship and the live stream are Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.

There is also the option of viewing the previous week of Trinity's worship through *YourTV Cogeco*. Visit their website for more updates <https://trinitynorthbay.ca/> Watch for members of the St. Andrew's Worship – Christian Development Team who will offering readings.

Worship at St. Andrew's will resume on **Sunday, August 8th**. The worship team is anticipating that there will be the ability for limited capacity gathering in the sanctuary. In-person Sunday worship will be Sunday morning at 10:30. The services will be recorded and available by Sunday evening on the [St. Andrew's YouTube Channel](#).

Watch this newsletter for details about the re-opening safety protocols. Details will also be included on the [St. Andrew's website](#).

A Life Well Lived....

July 3, 2021, 2:30 pm

Zion United Church, Sundridge

Meeting ID: 970 8048 9373

Passcode: 452777

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97080489373?pwd=M05KZHZzZXk4NnltTGFWYjE0bW1GZz09>



Rev. Dennis John Landry
July 3, 1943 - January 2, 2021

Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay



Backpacks of Love

Donations Needed!

The New Apostolic Church at 46 Joseph St. will be accepting drop-offs on: Saturday, June 26, Saturday, July 10 and Saturday, July 24, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Rebecca at 705-471-2473.

New items only please

- Backpacks- new, 30 to 45 L (sturdy, preferably camping style)
- Silver emergency blanket
- Tarp
- Small flashlight with batteries
- Lip balm
- Deodorant
- Hairbrush
- Bar of soap
- Toilet paper
- Toothpaste
- Feminine hygiene products
- Sunscreen (Cream)
- Bug repellent (cream)
- Sun hats/ball caps
- Rain poncho
- Socks -3 pr. light, 3 heavy
- Reusable bags, drawstring bags
- Package of masks
- Mini first aid kit
- Reusable water bottle
- Towelettes/wipes

Thank you for your generosity and helping our neighbours in need!

Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/compassionatecommitteeofnorthbay



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.

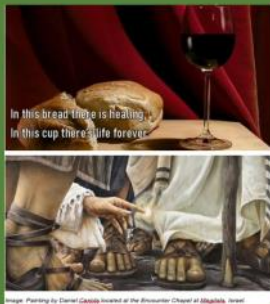
E TRANSFER PAYMENTS



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



If you know of anyone who might appreciate receiving this weekly *TOGETHER-Online* newsletter, they can view it (or subscribe to the mailing list) by visiting <https://standrews-northbay.ca>



Sunday,
June 27th,
2021

Celebration
of Holy
Communion

The online worship service for Sunday, June 27, 2021) will be posted on the [St. Andrew's YouTube Channel](#) by Saturday evening (June 26th)



OFFICE HOURS ARE CURRENTLY

10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
also Friday 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Phone: **705- 472-7680**

E-mail: standrewschurch@cogeco.net

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR : JANET ROSS