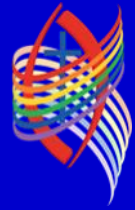




TOGETHER

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



Sunday, February 23, 2025
Morning Worship at 10:30 am — Minister Caitlin Smithers

This Sunday - February 23, 2025 EPIPHANY 7: LOVE'S CALL TO ACTION



Our sacred stories often share with us messages of love, and how to love one another. This week, in Luke, we hear about how to love people who we may not agree with, or who we may not understand. This feels

particularly relevant right now, in a time of great divisions and polarizations of one another, of seeing only what separates us and causes us harm, and not the inherent goodness and belovedness in us all.

What if by loving one another, we integrate the negative, facing realities that are harmful, and insisting and committing ourselves once again to Jesus' commandment of love instead.

Next Sunday - March 2, 2025 TRANSFORMATION

We believe in the ability to be transformed. As people of faith, we feel the Spirit moving in and through us all, drawing us closer to the mystery of God.

And while we may not understand or be able to see God fully, we draw nearer, listen deeper, and look closer, because we have faith in something more than we can see or sometimes feel.

Our faith leads us to lean into vulnerability and connection, as we dig deep, and believe in possibility.



St. Andrew's Prayer Corner



The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145:18)
For this week we ask that you keep the following people in your prayers:

Janie Holmes Micheline Fleming Dunn Rob Fleming Marg Fleming
The family of Dorothy Peebles (Barb VanHerk's Mother)
Katie Davis James Butcher Joanne Dufresne
Gary Jones Don Vaillancourt Don Yackobeck
the family of Linda and Pat McCarthy

Sister United Churches: *East Korah/Maxwell, Sault Ste Marie, Ontario*

St. Andrew's United Church WELCOMES YOU !



We are an Affirming Ministry of The United Church of Canada and are committed to building a welcoming and inclusive community. The congregation has also done the training to be a "Blue Umbrella" organization so it is a dementia-friendly place.



There is an elevator, a wheelchair ramp at the Algonquin entrance, and a handicapped-friendly washroom in the Narthex. Assistance is also available for the hearing-impaired. If you would like information, please give us a call during office hours and someone will be pleased to chat with you. 705 472-7680.





How do you celebrate being 100?
Mark your calendars for the

UCC Centenary Celebrations on June 6-8, 2025

A whole weekend of activities designed to bring folks together to remember the best of being United Church and celebrate our shared history - and dream together of what yet can be!

- Mustard Seed Musical performed by young people on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon
- Wings, Hymns and Rock & Roll evening with *The Hosts* at the Moose Cookhouse
- Guided Stain Glass Window Tour with David Morgan who designed a number of local windows
- Joint Sunday Worship with mass choir on Sunday, June 8, 2025

Coming soon is a Social Media presence to keep you informed.
Watch for Invites to join!

St. Andrew's Building Use Schedule Feb. 22 — Mar. 02, 2025

Feb. 22nd - 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary	& 7- 9pm Support Grp - Rm #6
8am - 11pm Northland Wrestling: GYM - Setup/Practice—/ KITCHEN / Rm #9—Show	
Feb. 23rd - 9:30am Support Grp Rm #6	& 10:30 am - Sunday Service—Sanctuary
Feb. 24th - 2-4 pm Bible Study - Parlour	& 5:30 pm Choral Society - GYM
& 7– 9pm Support Group - Room # 6	
Feb. 25th - 4-8pm - 2 x Groups of Special Olympics - GYM	
Feb. 26th - 5:30 - 9:30 pm Baytones - GYM	& 7-9 pm Support Group - Rm #6
Feb. 27th - 8:30-10:30am - FOOD BANK in Gym	& Loaves & Fishes Connections - Rm # 6
& 4 - 6 pm Special Olympics in Gym	& 7-9 pm Support Group - #6
Feb. 28th - NO BOOKINGS	
Mar. 1st - 12 - 5 pm - TRIVIA—GYM	& 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary
Mar. 2nd - 9:30am Support Grp Rm #6	& 10:30 am - Sunday Service—Sanctuary
& 11:30 - - Congregational Meeting	& Refreshments

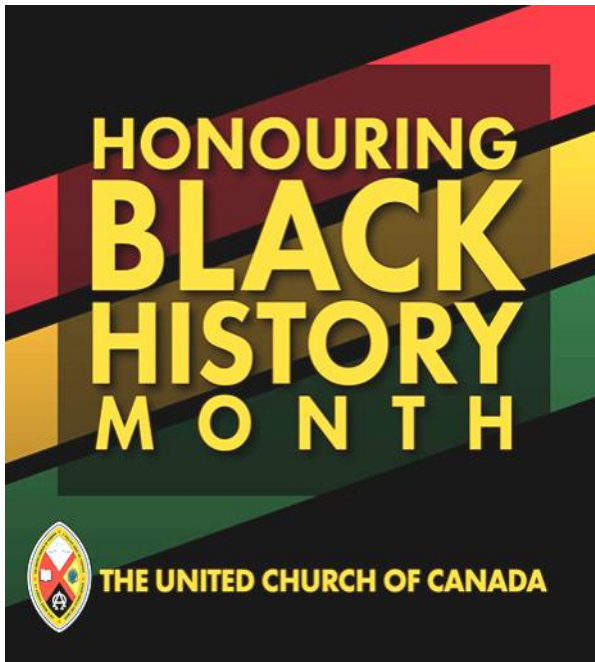
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS (Mondays CLOSED)

Regular Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 10:30am-2:30pm,
Thursdays 12:30-4:30pm, Friday 10:30am-1:30pm

Pastoral Care For pastoral care emergencies, please call 705-472-7680 and leave a detailed message, or email: standrewschurch@cogeco.net and your message will be forwarded to the Minister.

Minister's Office Hours If you wish to call or email to set up a meeting with the Minister, Caitlin Smithers please call 705-472-7680; or email csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net. Drop in hours are Wednesdays 10 am to 12 pm. Please ring the bell at the McIntyre Street Door.





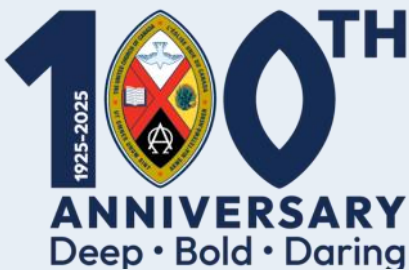
The United Church of Canada Honours Black History Month.

February is **Black History (or African Heritage) Month**, officially recognized in Canada since 1995. This is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent in Canada and around the world.

Visit the UCC website for more **information about Black History Month**, including services, prayers, blogs, and more.

This Sunday, we will be showing the following video during the service:

United Church's commitment to being an anti-racist church: Actions in our Local Churches: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVyDT3w43u8>



June 10, 2025, marks the United Church's 100th anniversary, an opportunity to honour our past and look to the future!

Many activities are being planned in North Bay & Area during 2025 to celebrate our Anniversary. Information on upcoming events can be found in this **Together** Newsletter and the [United Churches of North Bay & Area Facebook](#) page.

A Centenary Message from Rev. Ted Harrison on behalf of the 2025 Centenary Liturgy Team.

We are planning a shared worship service at **11:00 am on Sunday June the 8, 2025 at the Callander Community Centre** (1984 Swale Street, Callander). This Community Centre easily fits over 300 people.

There is a group of "**Party Planners**" making numerous plans for the rest of the United Church Centenary weekend, including a Friday night children's drama, a stained glass tour, a Saturday Wings-and-Hymns night, and other surprises. Your primary "Party Planner" contact is Rev. Lillian Roberts (lillianrobertsucc@gmail.com)

Her committee will be sharing their plans with you as they solidify. At the special

worship service on June 8th, we hope to use various **historic communion trays** (with communion glasses) to share communion in a way that celebrates the role of the sacrament since our earliest days as a denomination. We would welcome the presence of some historic Lord's Supper "holy hardware" from your church community. We'd also welcome a server or two who would be willing to bring and act as a steward for your *clearly labelled communion ware*. This would entail church members who are comfortable manipulating and delivering the considerable weight of said trays. I would treasure hearing names and contact information for your *server representatives*.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, March 2nd

WHEN: Sunday, March 2nd—after the morning service

WHERE: in the Sanctuary—light refreshments provided

WHY: to receive and approve the 2024 Annual Report, and conduct any other business that may be brought forward.

We are planning to have a representative from the *Canadian Shield Regional Council* speak to the congregation at the meeting. A copy of the Annual Report will be available electronically on the St. Andrew's website as of Friday, February 28th and paper copies will be available at the AGM.

A ZOOM LINK will be circulated via newsletter and on the St. Andrew's Home webpage prior to the meeting. We plan to start the Zoom link at 11:30 am to allow online participation in the AGM.

A reminder to all Committee Chairs and others planning to send material for the Annual Report to make sure that Karen Gooch has it as soon as possible!!



Sunday School During March

WHERE: St. Andrew's United Church Club Room

WHO: We welcome young folk who are in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6.

The classes will be run by volunteers from St. Andrew's,

WHEN: Each Sunday in Lent at 10:30 am.

**WHERE CHILDREN COME TOGETHER TO HAVE FUN
WHILE EXPLORING GOD!**

Our very good neighbours who operate the **Algonquin Lofts** (the big building next to our church) have been very gracious to let us use a few of their parking spaces. We are thankful for their kindness.

Malmac Properties, the people who own the *Lofts*, have asked us, however, to refrain from parking anywhere on their lot from now on. St. Andrew's has two (2) staff parking spots on McIntyre street (outside the parlour) which can be used if necessary.





ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 12:00 Noon

Wed. March 5, 2025

at St. Andrew's
(in the Sanctuary)

Ashes and Glitter Ashes
will be available

5th SUNDAY & OTHER SHARED WORSHIP SERVICES for 2025

SUNDAY MARCH 30th (4th Sunday in Lent) **10:30am**- Trinity welcomes all North Bay area United Churches to join us during our celebration of "Blues Lent." at 10:30am you'll get a feel for how Trinity embraces Lent as a "Season of the Blues."

"GOOD FRIDAY" APRIL 18th 10:30am- Trinity finally hosts the GOOD FRIDAY service originally scheduled for 2022. This is a Good Friday Cantata service for which a massed choir is already presently rehearsing!

SUNDAY JUNE 8th Centennial Celebration Worship **11am** at the Callander Community Centre (1984 Swale Street, Callander). You should be receiving information about an entire weekend of special celebratory events-- but don't miss our shared worship service in Callander! We are asking for your participation, and the names and contact information of your leaders and volunteers.

SUNDAY AUGUST 31st, 10:30am at Carmichael United Church. *More information, come summertime?*

The June Issue

A SPECIAL UNITED CHURCH ANNIVERSARY KEEPSAKE

PRE-ORDER ADDITIONAL COPIES TODAY

HONOUR A BELOVED UCC LEADER/MEMBER IN THIS HISTORIC EDITION
DON'T MISS THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRIBUTE! - [CLICK HERE](#)



BROADVIEW MAGAZINE - 100th Anniversary Keepsake Issue

The June issue of *Broadview* will be a historic keepsake edition celebrating the United Church's 100th anniversary — a once-in-a-lifetime issue filled with powerful stories, pivotal moments and reflections on the past, present and future of the church.

Inside this special edition, you'll find:

- **Historic Letters** – A glimpse into letters to the editor from the time of church union
- **Theological Roots** – The key ideas that shaped the denomination
- **Watershed Moments** – Defining milestones from a century of faith in action
- **The New Curriculum, Reimagined** – groundbreaking Christian education
- **Looking Ahead** – What's next for the United Church?
- **The Indigenous Church** – Confronting colonialism and fighting for equality
- **Moderators' Reflections** – Memories and insights on the church's impact

For the first time ever, you can pre-order additional copies and when you make a memoriam donation before March 15, the name of the person you are honouring will be published in the keepsake issue.

Here are the details:

[Pre-Order Additional Copies Now](#)

Pre-order extra copies to share with everyone at anniversary celebrations, with confirmands, newcomers or those unable to attend services. United Church members won't want to miss this extraordinary reflection on 100 years of faith, justice and community.

Details:

Price: 1 copy \$7.00, 2-10 copies \$5 each, 11+ copies \$4 each

Order Deadline: April 7

Delivery Date: May 9

We all know beloved church leaders or congregation members who have shaped our lives and faith communities. We invite you/your church to honour the lasting impact of someone who made or is making a difference in your congregation or the wider church. By making a tribute donation online or by phone before March 15, you'll celebrate their devotion and service in a meaningful and lasting way.

Their name will be featured in the June historic keepsake centennial edition. This is a beautiful opportunity to pay tribute to those whose lives and service have profoundly shaped your faith community and the broader story of the church. Please spread the word!

Donate online here: broadview.org/donate

One name per donation so that we don't miss anyone, please.

***Donate today! The March 15 deadline is fast approaching**

PLEASE SUPPORT THE UNITED CHURCH TEAM!



UCFuN Team

The North Bay United Churches community has come together as the UCFuN Team to walk in the CNOY (Coldest Night Of the Year) in support of **The Gathering Place**.

Caring for one another is important to us. We believe that we strengthen one another when we work together for a better world.

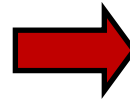
We know downtown North Bay needs a soup kitchen and many people rely on the hot, nutritious lunch provided by **The Gathering Place**. Please help us to provide hot meals to people who are hungry by supporting our walk with a donation.

PLEASE CLICK ON THE “DONATE TO TEAM” BUTTON BELOW TO DONATE TO LORIE FAIRBURN, ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE TEAM. .. OR TO THE TEAM ITSELF!

coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR



feb. 22, 2025
it's cold out there
#cnoy



donate to
team

The Good Samaritan Corner

Holy Name of Jesus in North Bay, and St. Alphonsus Liguori in Callander, together with Sacred Way Ministries, have combined efforts to create **OPERATION MERCY RELIEF STREET MINISTRY**



According to their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/holynametalphonsus>

‘Our Street Ministry Food Trailer is getting ready to hit the streets of our community to provide both physical and spiritual nourishment around the city. The trailer and all its contents were donated by a generous benefactor!

We will be looking for volunteers who would like to: 1) prepare food beforehand; or 2) serve food from the trailer; or 3) engage in prayer and conversation with those we minister to.

You can also donate to the cause here: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/holy-name-church/>

Did you miss the Information Session held at Trinity United Church, hosted by the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay on Wednesday, November 20, 2024? Not to worry! Here is the link to the video on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6YEqrihJ7Y> entitled The Compassionate Committee of North Bay Presentation.

WANTED

USED
POSTAGE
STAMPS



- Cut stamps from mail
- Do not cut too close to the perforations
- Leave the stamps on the paper
- No more than 1 cm left around each stamp

St. Andrew's member, **Mary Marrs** sends these stamps to the *Laurentian Wesleyan Church in North Bay* which in turn sends them to the folks at the **Christian Salvage Mission** who distribute Bibles, hymnals and Sunday School materials worldwide. These stamps are sold to collectors to help fund the work of the **C.S.M.**

PLEASE GIVE THESE USED STAMPS TO MARY, OR LEAVE THEM IN THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANK YOU!



Loaves & Fishes
Community
Food Bank

News

Thank You Edition!

Thank you to volunteers like **Bill, Stephen & Sirish!**



Many hands make light work, and we are so grateful to have fantastic volunteers at the Food Bank.

Bill Downey and his husband, Stephen Park often look after taking the church cardboard to the Recycling Centre.

In the picture, Bill is loading his car, and Sirish is helping him.

Loaves & Fishes Clients are grateful to receive groceries and also thankful to be waiting inside a warm, friendly environment.



Thank you to the Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank Volunteers, and the St. Andrew's Faith Community who support the work of the Food Bank.



29% of food bank clients go an entire day without eating.

For more information about the Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank
E: loavesandfishes@standrews-northbay.ca or C: 705-472-7680 to leave a message
Lorie Fairburn, Food Bank Manager

TRIVIA



Saturday, March 1st, 2025
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

St. Andrew's United Church
399 Cassells Street
(use McIntyre Door Entrance)

All Ages Welcome

Come as a team of four or come
and we will find you a team.

- Prizes
- Snacks
- Fun

\$5
per
person



Join us to celebrate the 100th anniversary of North Bay
and the United Church of Canada.

WVVVV



Nipissing Equity Collective

THE NIPISSING EQUITY COLLECTIVE OFFERS A CAREGIVER & SUPPORT CIRCLE SPECIFICALLY FOR PARENTS, FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND ALLIES OF THE 2SLGBTQ+ COMMUNITY. WE WILL OFFER PEER SUPPORT, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT YOUR LOVED ONES.

WVVVV



WVVVV

Parent Ally LUNCH & LEARN



PARTNER Nipissing



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH NORTH BAY, ONTARIO



Hands The Family Help Network.ca Helping families and everyone in them.

FEBURARY 22, 2025 12:00PM-2:00PM | 123 DELAWARE AVE TO REGISTER EMAIL MELISSA AT MHAW1@NBIFC.ORG