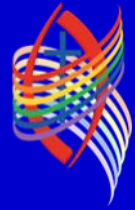




TOGETHER

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



Sunday, March 2, 2025

Morning Worship at 10:30 am — Minister Caitlin Smithers

This 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.

Wednesday, March 5, 2025



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
12:00 Noon, at St. Andrew's
(in the Sanctuary)

Ashes and Glitter Ashes will be available

Next Sunday - March 9, 2025

LENT 1

STRANGER AND NEIGHBOUR

Throughout Lent this year we will be reflecting on how we can meet God in the in between spaces, as we collaborate and build bridges together, filled with compassion and kindness, in the midst of all we encounter in our daily lives.
(See page 5. for full message)



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:

The family of Joanne Hughes

The family of Dorothy Peebles (Barb VanHerk's Mother)

Janie Holmes Micheline Fleming Dunn Rob Fleming Marg Fleming

Katie Davis James Butcher Joanne Dufresne

Gary Jones Don Vaillancourt Don Yackobeck

The family of Betty-Lou McNabb

Sister United Churches: Bellingham UC - Iron Bridge Trinity Manitoulin UC - Mindemoya

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 Mar. 01—March 9, 2025

Mar. 1st - 12 - 5 pm - TRIVIA—GYM (Event 2-4) & 7-9 pm Support Group - #6	& 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary
Mar. 2nd - 9:30am Support Grp Rm #6 & 11:30 - - Congregational Meeting & Refreshments	& 10:30 am - Sunday Service—Sanctuary
Mar. 3rd - 2-4 pm Bible Study - Parlour & 7– 9pm Support Group - Room # 6	& 5:30 pm Choral Society - GYM
Mar. 4th - 4-8pm - 2 x Groups of Special Olympics - GYM	
Mar. 5th - 12 noon Ash Wednesday Service (with ashes) in Sanctuary—ALL ARE WELCOME !! & 5:30 - 9:30 pm Baytones - GYM	& 7-9 pm Support Group - Rm #6
Mar. 6th - 8:30-10:30am - FOOD BANK in Gym & 4 - 6 pm Special Olympics in Gym	& Loaves & Fishes Connections - Rm # 6 & 7-9 pm Support Group - #6
Mar. 7th - NO BOOKINGS	
Mar. 8th - 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary	& 7- 9pm Support Grp - Rm #6
Mar. 9th - 9:30am Support Grp Rm #6	& 10:30 am - Sunday Service—Sanctuary

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.





There will be a visitation and short service for **Joanne Hughes** at **Martyn's Funeral Home** this Saturday (March 1, 2025). Visitation will be from 1pm to 3pm, with a service at 2pm. Caitlin Smithers will be officiating with Ralph Johnston providing musical support.

To view the obituary, please click on : <https://www.baytoday.ca/obituaries/hughes-sarah-joanne-nee-roche-10249906>

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 can be found below 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.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87688991552?pwd=mXoOXwJK2b1zEBvDmyCdmjCfvl7Orx.1>

Meeting ID: 876 8899 1552

Passcode: 448151



Sunday School During March

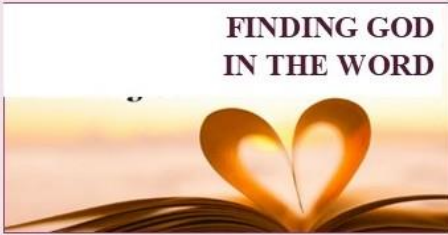
WHERE: St. Andrew's United Church Club Room

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!**



Divine Poetry - Finding God in the Word

facilitated by Caitlin Smithers
and Tim Robertson

Join us every Wednesday noon during the Season of Lent for an exploration of finding God in the words of poetic expression. (*Lectio Divina*)

- We will meet in the **Lois E. Carey Parlour**
- Plan to **arrive at Noon** at which time there will be a **short worship service**
- Following worship, **poems will be shared** (they don't have to be original!)
- **Bring a bag lunch**—Tea & Coffee will be provided

BRING AND SHARE YOUR POEM THAT REFLECTS THE SEASON OF LENT

Wednesdays: March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th, and 16th



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*.



everything [in] between

Meeting God **in** the midst of extremes

The Season of Lent at St. Andrew's United

Throughout Lent this year we will be reflecting on how we can meet God in the in the in between spaces, as we collaborate and build bridges together, filled with compassion and kindness, in the midst of all we encounter in our daily lives.

One of the Creative Partners for this theme by Sanctified Art writes, "So much of the beauty of the world comes from the in-between spaces. In the space between night and day, as the sun and atmosphere collide into a dazzling display of color... and yet, we feel the compulsion to exist in categories.

We construct boxes around 'sacred' and 'secular,' 'woman' and 'man,' 'left' and 'right,' compressing the complexity and beauty of the whole spectrum of being into just two words. What a gift it is to set the boxes aside and follow the example of our Creator who created night and day and everything in between; land and water and everything in between; you and me and everything in between. The Alpha and the Omega is surely with us in the space in between."

Rev. Anna Strickland, Creative Partner & Operations Support

Important Lenten Dates - 2025

Shrove Tuesday- March 4th - Pancake Supper hosted by the Trinity AOTS group

Ash Wednesday - March 5th - Service at 12 noon in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary

Lenten Sundays - March 9th, 16th, 23rd, [March 30th at Trinity United], April 6th

HOLY WEEK

Palm (Passion) Sunday - April 13th

Maundy Thursday - April 17th - Pot Luck supper and Communion Service at St. Andrew's

Good Friday Service - April 18th - Service at Trinity United

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 20TH

Outdoor Sunrise Service - corner Ferguson & Worthington

Easter Morning Worship (10:30 am) at St. Andrew's

Divine Poetry - Finding God in the Word

At noon - each Wednesday during Lent—details elsewhere in this newsletter



**Loaves & Fishes
Community
Food Bank**

News

**Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day,
March 4, 2025.**

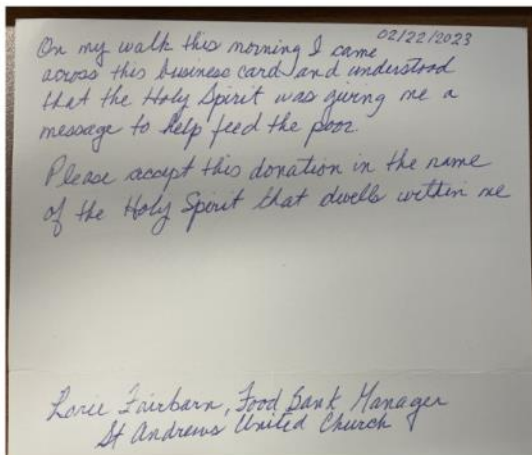


Every week, Ardis Patterden donates groceries, including a recipe that makes a meal. This week, she donated pancake mix and syrup. Our Clients were overjoyed. Thank You Ardis!



Dog Minding Service By Bill!

The Health Department regulates that dogs are not allowed in The Cafè unless they are Service Animals. We had a Client on Thursday who wanted to have a cup of coffee with his buddy and Bill quickly offered his services of Dog Minding. We cannot say it enough: the Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank Volunteers are great!



Unexpected Donation!

We all know the Holy Spirit works in our lives and often moves us with a profound and unexpected experience that exceeds our expectations. This card arrived on Thursday, and in it was a \$1,000 cheque for Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank. Alleluia!

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

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**

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.