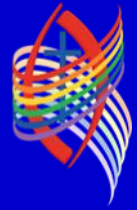




TOGETHER

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



Sunday, March 16, 2025

Morning Worship at 10:30 am — Minister Caitlin Smithers

This Sunday - March 16, 2025

Lent 2: PIE Day



This week in worship we will reflect on the story of Mary and Martha, and how in many translations, Jesus says that “Mary has chosen the better part,” which has been

used to create a divide between Mary and Martha. However, in the Greek, Mary has chosen the “good portion,” and Martha’s tasks are called “ministry.” Therefore, perhaps Mary represents our faith, our desire to know God intimately, and Martha represents our good works, our desire to transform the world, in Public, Intentional, and Explicit ways.

Both are needed, and both are good.

Next Sunday - March 23, 2025

Lent 3: Rest and Growth

We will hear this week, in the parable of the Fig Tree, that the gardener in the vineyard knows the Fig Tree needs rest, nutrients, and time—and it also needs to produce fruit. Both things are true for the tree, and also for us. If we are always striving for more growth without taking time to rest, we will burn out. But if we are only ever resting, we won’t bear fruit or grow.



The Fig Tree also teaches us – in between time – of nurture before fruit – **can be where transformation begins.**

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:

Carol Sawyer

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

Janie Holmes Micheline Fleming Dunn Rob Fleming Marg Fleming

Ken Dech Katie Davis James Butcher Joanne Dufresne

Gary Jones Don Vaillancourt Don Yackobeck

The family of Betty-Lou McNabb

Sister United Churches: St. Andrew’s UC, Coniston - Broadway UC, Toronto - St. John’s UC, Marathon



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.





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!***

St. Andrew's Building Use Schedule Mar. 15—March 23, 2025

Mar. 15th - 5:30 pm - Inclusivity Potluck - Clubroom & 7-9 pm Support Group - #6	& 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary
Mar. 16th - 9:30am Support Grp Rm #6 11:30 am - P.I.E. Day Refreshments	& 10:30 am - Sunday Service—Sanctuary
Mar. 17th - 2-4 pm Bible Study - Parlour & 7– 9pm Support Group - Room # 6	& 5:30 pm Choral Society - GYM
Mar. 18th - 9am - 2pm—Clergy meeting in Parlour	& 4-8pm - 2 Groups Special Olympics - GYM
Mar. 19th - 12 pm - Parlour—Devine Poetry - Bring & Share Your Lenten Poem & 5:30 - 9:30 pm Baytones - GYM & 7-9 pm Support Group - Rm #6	& 6:30 pm Council Meeting - Parlour
Mar. 20th - 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. 21st - NO BOOKINGS	
Mar. 22nd - 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary 8am - 11pm Northland Wrestling: GYM - Setup/Practice—/ KITCHEN / Rm #9—Show	& 7- 9pm Support Grp - Rm #6
Mar. 23rd - 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.



BIRTHDAY WISHES !



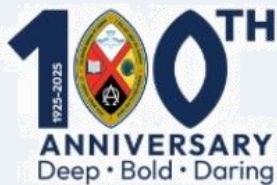
Carole Sawyer will turn 91 years old on Saturday March 15th. Carole is the mother of Karen Gooch and she has been part of our St. Andrew's community since 1956. She was our Office Administrator in the 1980's.



Carole has been a resident of *Cassellhome* for almost 6 years. She also shares a birthday with Helen Cole – another elder of our congregation.

Happy Birthday to Carole and Helen!

UNITED CHURCHES OF NORTH BAY



Click on the [facebook](#) symbol to the right to view/follow this [facebook page](#) featuring United Churches in our area and includes news about the upcoming 100th Anniversary events!



NEAR NORTH VOICES
DR. ADAM ADLER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Alzheimer's Stories
An Oratorio by composer Robert Cohen
for Choir with Soloists and Chamber Orchestra

Saturday April 5 at 7:00 p.m.
St. Andrew's United Church
399 Cassells Street, North Bay

Tickets \$30 Adults, \$20 Students
Available from Choir Members
and at the door

NEARNORTHVOICES.COM



Karen Gooch

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held in the Sanctuary after worship last Sunday (March 2nd). The **Financial Report for 2024** was accepted as well as the proposed **Budget for 2025**. These documents can be found in the Annual Report posted on the [St. Andrew's website](#).

The **slate of elected officers** was also accepted, with three changes from 2024. Council Secretary **Karen Gooch** has agreed to be the **Acting Treasurer** during the search for a

permanent Treasurer Thanks, Karen!) , **Bill Downey** will be a **Member-at-Large**, and **Tom Arens** and **Patricia Kirton-Bailey** will be new Trustees. **Garth Goodhew** is our newly-retired Church Trustee and we thank him for his service as a Trustee during the past few years. His wisdom and unwavering sense of humour have provided an uplifting source of strength for us all!

(note: full details on the St. Andrew's Council can also be found in the [Church Constitution Document](#) found on the Church site.)

SLATE OF ELECTED OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES FOR 2025-2026

Executive Officers

Chair	Doug McCausland
Vice Chair	Bill Ingwersen
Vice Chair	Lorie Fairburn
Secretary	Karen Gooch
Treasurer (Acting)	Karen Gooch
Minister	Caitlin Smithers
Supervisor	Kathie Smith

Liaisons

Administration	Derek Stott
Finance	Lorie Fairburn
Facility	Stephen Park
Living Mission	Derek Stott
Spiritual Life	Elizabeth Brownlee

Members-at-Large

Marg Fleming	Bill Downey
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M & P Committee

Bill Holmes

CSRC Representatives.

Karen Gooch	Kim Delarosbel
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Trustees

Ed Mounce.	John Wallace
Tom Arens	Patricia Kirton-Bailey
Kathie Smith (Ex Officio)	



Reid Milne

THANK YOU REID!

At the Annual Meeting we said "Thank You" to **Reid Milne** who has been the lead for the **Property Committee** for many years. Reid was the Chair of the Committee during the Belfry Demolition project and the "Great Flood" clean-up of January 2022. We have appreciated Reid's energy and commitment and say a sincere "Well Done!!" We also appreciate Reid's willingness to continue being part of the Property Committee.

Jean Jamieson is the new Property Chair and she is looking forward to the challenges that come with taking care of our aging building. We also thank Jean for guiding the work on the Chapel and Parlour renovations.



Doug McCausland & Jean Jamieson



PIE DAY – AND A RAINBOW POTLUCK !

This month has a date that is significant to us, as an affirming congregation in the *United Church of Canada*. **Pi Day** occurs during the 3rd month of the year (that’s March) on the 14th day. The closest Sunday to *Pi Day* this year is **March 16th**, and so that day — along with many other affirming congregations — we will be celebrating **PIE** and what it means. This not very subtle pun is an acronym to recognize that we are called to be **Public, Intentional, and Explicit** about our welcome to and support for, 2SLGBTQ+ people.

On **Saturday, March 15th** (gathering at 5:30 pm and eating at 6 pm), we will have a **Rainbow Pot Luck**. It is one intentional way that we make that welcome explicit to the wider community. Bring your favourite dish and a pie ... but it is OK if you do not bring a pie. It is entirely possible many of us will bake a pie at the potluck! Allies are welcome. It’s handy, but not compulsory, for you to bring your own plate and cutlery. Thanks!



(photo l-r) Wanda Wallace, Jennifer Barnett, Caitlin Smithers, Garth Goodhew, Jeff Goodhew (Garth’s son)



The Coronation Medal



Garth Goodhew and MP Anthony Rota

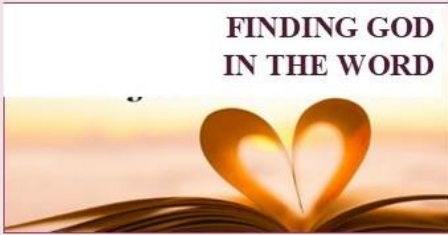
Garth Goodhew Receives King Charles III’s Coronation Medal

On the morning of Thursday, March 6th, Garth Goodhew was presented with a King Charles III’s Coronation Medal in a ceremony at the North Bay Museum. Handed out by local MP, Anthony Rota, this medal commemorates the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III as King of Canada, and is awarded to people who have contributed significantly as public servants to their communities. The following description outlines Garth’s dedication to making a positive difference in everyone’s lives:

Garth has made donations to the local hospital for 21 years, helping to purchase medical equipment. Garth served as Vice Principal at Widdifield Secondary School, helped open West Ferris Secondary School in 1971 and served as its Principal until retirement.

Congratulations, Garth on receiving this prestigious honour - St. Andrew’s is proud to have you as a guiding and inspirational member of our faith family!

photos courtesy of John Wallace, Caitlin Smithers; with text from baytoday.ca



Divine Poetry - Finding God in the Word

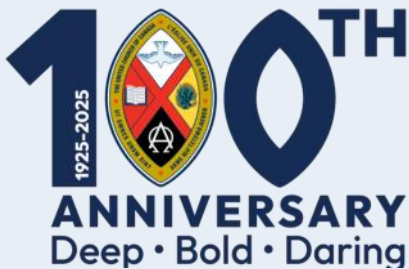
facilitated by Caitlin Smithers
and Tim Robertson

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*.



Loaves & Fishes
Community
Food Bank

News

Toilet Paper Needed



Thanks to the generosity of the TP North Bay Campaign, in 2024, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank received over 2,500 rolls of toilet paper. This generous donation allowed us to give our clients a roll of toilet paper in addition to their groceries.

We have run out, and Sheila tells me that one client asked her, "What do I use now? Birch Bark?"

Sheila donates a package of toilet paper every week, but it doesn't quite go far enough. Please consider donating toilet paper for our food bank. Thank you!

Great Partnership!



We are thankful for our partnership with **Guy's Tires & Sales**. This week they had gathered over \$650 in groceries and cash from their Tubes for Food promotion for Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank.

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



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