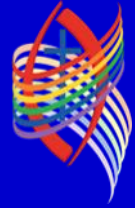




TOGETHER

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



Sunday, April 6, 2025

Morning Worship at 10:30 am - Minister: Caitlin Smithers

THIS SUNDAY — APRIL 6, 2025

Guest Leader: Lorie Fairburn

Wholeness of Community



On the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we will hear the sacred story of Zacchaeus, a tax collector who was known to climb on the backs of others to get to the rank of chief tax collector.

Still, Jesus seeks Zacchaeus out, has dinner with him, and offers him mercy and

compassion.

Perhaps God's overflowing mercy should always surprise and disorient us a bit.

NEXT SUNDAY — APRIL 13, 2025

PALM SUNDAY

Through a service of scriptures, stories and music, we will begin the service in celebration, waving palms and cheering hosanna. Then we will see, as the service goes on, how the events that bring us towards Easter unfold.

We will travel the last days of Jesus life, along with the disciples once again and listen for what the sacred stories speak into our lives still today."



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

Micheline Fleming Dunn Rob Fleming Marg Fleming
Ken Dech Katie Davis James Butcher Joanne Dufresne
Gary Jones Don Vaillancourt Don Yackobeck

Sister United Churches: Manitowaning-Tehkummah, Mattawa Rutherglen

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 April

- WHERE:** St. Andrew's United Church Sunday School Room behind Gym
- 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:** The first 3 Sundays in April at 10:30 am

WHERE CHILDREN COME TOGETHER TO HAVE FUN WHILE EXPLORING GOD!

St. Andrew's Building Use Schedule April 5 - 13, 2025

Flooring in Parlour

- Apr. 5th - 12 - 11 pm Near North Voices (NNV) Evening Concert in Sanctuary / Chapel / Rm #9
& 2-4 - small Film Group Meal in Rm# 6 & 4—6 pm - Choir
& 7—9 pm—Support Group in Rm # 6
- Apr. 6th - 9:30 - 10:30 am - Support Grp - Rm #6 & 10:30 am - Worship in Sanctuary
& 1 - 4 pm—The Redeemed Christian Church of God - in Clubroom every Sunday
- Apr. 7th - **2-4 pm Bible Study - [Sanctuary] & 5:30 pm Choral Society - GYM
& 7—9pm Support Group - Room # 6
- Apr. 8th - 4-8pm - Special Olympics - GYM & 7-9 pm - Human Resources - Chapel.....
- Apr. 9th - ***12 pm - [Sanctuary]—Devine Poetry - Bring & Share Your Lenten Poem
& 5:30 - 9:30 pm Baytones - GYM & 7-9 pm Support Group - Rm #6
- Apr. 10th - 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
- Apr. 11th - 4:00 pm - Transition Town - Gym & 6:30 - Search Committee—Chapel
- Apr. 12th - 12 - 6 pm - J. Boston's 90th Birthday Party in Gym
& 4-6 pm CHOIR in Sanctuary & 7-9 pm Support Group - #6
- Apr. 13th - 9:30 - 10:30 am - Support Grp - Rm #6 & 10:30 am - Palm Sunday in Sanctuary
& 1 - 4 pm—The RCC of God - Clubroom & 5 - 9 pm - Bridal Shower - Gym

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.

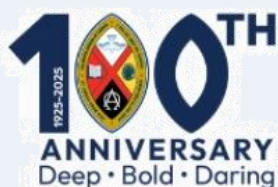
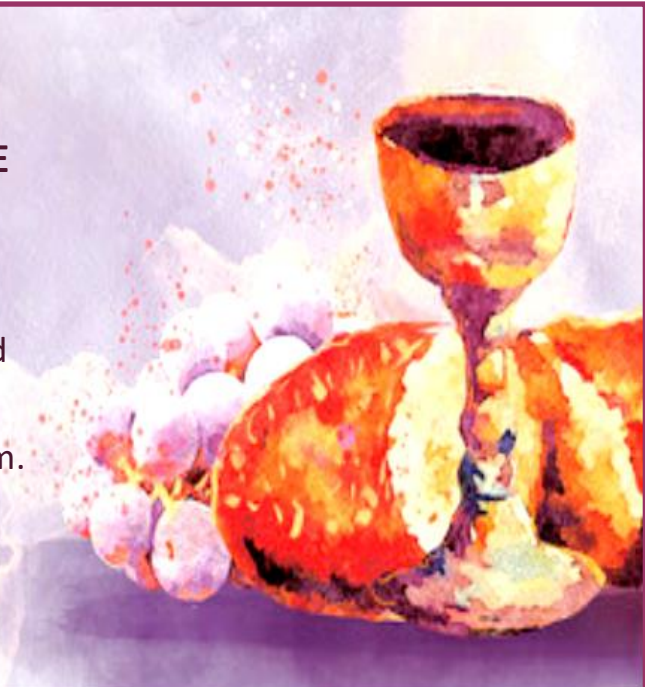


**YOU ARE INVITED TO A
MAUNDY THURSDAY
POTLUCK & TABLE COMMUNION SERVICE
HOSTED BY ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**

Please join us for a **Maundy Thursday Potluck** on **Thursday, April 17, 2025**, in the St. Andrew's United Church gym (please use the McIntyre St. entrance).

Arrive starting 5:30 p.m., and plan to eat at 6:00 p.m. **Table Communion worship** will follow the meal.

Please bring your own plate and cutlery and a potluck dish to share.



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

FINDING GOD
IN THE WORD



Divine Poetry - Finding God in the Word

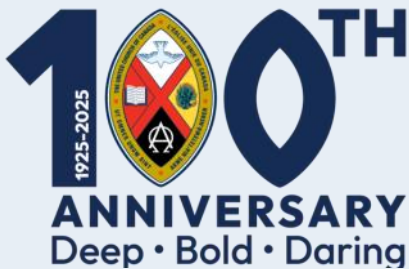
facilitated by Caitlin Smithers
and Tim Robertson

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*.



Easter Memorial Flowers

There is a tradition at St. Andrew's to place spring flowers in the sanctuary in memory of special people, or in celebration of significant life events. A list of those remembered and celebrations will be included as an insert in the Easter bulletin. Following Easter Sunday service, people are invited to take a plant home, or to take it to a shut-in or someone who needs to know they are being thought of.

If you wish to contribute, a donation of \$20 is suggested to help cover the cost of the potted flowers. Any donations received over and above the cost of the plants will be put towards the Memorial Fund and the projects it supports.

Order forms will be with the March 23rd, April 6th, and 13th, in-person bulletins. Or you can email the church office at standrewschurch@cogeco.net , the following information:

Name of Donor: In Memory of OR In Celebration of names: Donation you plan to make (send a cheque made out to the St. Andrew's Memorial Fund; or do an e-transfer noting it is for memorial flowers donatetostandrews@cogeco.net ; or drop it off at the church office (Tuesday to Friday).

*Thank you for remembering friends and family members
in this special way at Easter
~The Memorial Committee~*



Last Saturday the NEAR NORTH VOICES (North Bay's University-Community Choir under the direction of Dr. Adam Adler), along with some orchestral performers, practised at St. Andrew's for their upcoming concert: Robert Cohen's Alzheimer's Stories. This Oratorio for choir, soloists, and orchestra, is a poignant telling of the history of Alzheimer's Disease, and of the lives and experiences of those living with it and those who support them. 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's United Church, 399 Cassells St. North Bay. Tickets \$30 Adults, \$20 Students, available from NNV Choir Members and at the Door.

Trinity United Church
 North Bay, Ontario
 Sunday, March 30, 2025
Our service will start at 10:30...

Celebrating 100 Years
 of Deep • Bold • Daring

100TH ANNIVERSARY

The United Church of Canada • 1925-2025

FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE AT TRINITY UNITED March 30

Many folks braved terrifying weather to gather together for our shared 5th Sunday worship at Trinity last Sunday. The music, food and fellowship was wonderful. If you didn't get to church for the service, you can watch it online here. https://www.youtube.com/live/71v_ivujrTs



**Loaves & Fishes
Community
Food Bank**

News

Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank provides food to 71 people who receive ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program).

The maximum ODSP rate for a single individual in Ontario is \$1,228 per month, which is significantly below the poverty line of \$2,060 per month.



Items Needed at the Food Bank

- Toilet Paper
- Old Cell Phones
- Canned Soup
- Cheese Whiz
- Pasta Sauce
- Chick Peas
- Kidney Beans
- Potatoes
- Packages of Cookies
- Tuna

Special Easter Request

At our Food Bank for Easter, April 10 & 17th, we would like to give our guests a Happy Easter Card and a few chocolate eggs.

Please consider donating the foil wrapped, mesh bag of Chocolate Easter Eggs. Thank you!



**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

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST

Sponsored by Trinity A.O.T.S.

April 18th ~ 8 a.m.

Trinity United Church
(McIntyre at Ferguson)

Guest Speaker

Pastor Caitlin Smithers
From St. Andrew's U.C.

Breakfast: \$15

(eggs, bacon, home fries, toast & juice)

Tickets: contact the church ofc. at
705 474-3310 and pay by
e transfer, cheque or cash
or Maurice (cash) 705 495-1090

Please R.S.V.P. by April 11th

Catered breakfast, so **tickets
must be paid in advance**

Everyone is welcome!

Lorie Fairburn has tickets for purchase \$15.00 (cash only) for the Good Friday breakfast (Bacon, eggs, home fries, toast, coffee, tea & juice), hosted by AOTS Trinity UC with guest speaker Caitlin Smithers.

GOOD FRIDAY CONTEMPORARY TENEBRAE SERVICE 'CANTATA'

'Hope in the Shadows'

Composed & Arranged by Joel Raney & Lloyd Larson

April 18th ~ 10:30 a.m.

Trinity United Church

(McIntyre at Ferguson)

Featuring:

- choristers from 8 area churches
- an instrument ensemble

Everyone is welcome!