



TOGETHER

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



for Sunday, May 3, 2026
Minister: Reverend Caitlin Smithers

This Sunday - May 3, 2026 The Fifth Sunday of Easter Finding Home

Easter reminds us that hope is alive.

Because of the resurrection, what once felt lost can be restored. What felt distant can be brought near. And what felt like wandering... can finally find its way home.

Jesus speaks these words into our uncertainty: *"Do not let your hearts be troubled... My Father's house has many rooms."* Through his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus doesn't just point the way, he **becomes** the way home.

In the days following Easter, the early church in Acts shows us what that home looks like: A community gathered in faith. Hearts united in prayer. No matter where we've been or what we're carrying, there is space for us. There is hope for us. There is a home prepared for us. We belong.

Next Sunday - May 10, 2026 All Families Sunday

What we once called Christian Family Sunday has grown into All Families Sunday—a celebration that reflects a deeper truth: through faith, we are all one family.

As we gather, we will reflect on the story of this great family of faith. It begins with Abraham and Sarah, continues through Jesus and the witness of the New Testament, and carries on to us today. Generation after generation, this family has grown—becoming as countless as the stars in the sky and the grains of sand in the desert.

Each of us is a part of this ongoing story. We belong to a family shaped by faith, love, and the promise that binds us together.



Each Sunday service is recorded on video and the service is usually posted on the St. Andrew's [YouTube channel](#) by noon on the following day (Monday). Here is the link to last Sunday's service (26 April) : <https://youtu.be/cq9fZRNdC9E>

A link to the weekly video is also posted on the homepage of the St. Andrew's website.

ONLINE WORSHIP



St. Andrew's
United Church
North Bay, Ontario

**EARTH SUNDAY
26 April 2026**





Red Dress Day

May 5 was designated as a day of awareness of the plight of Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit People in Society who had gone missing, or whose disappearance had ceased to be investigated by authorities.

The issue of Missing and Murdered Women affects society as a whole. The denigration of Women's Lives is felt in all sectors of the community.

Red Dress Day
May 5th 2026

10:00AM - 10:30AM
March from NBIFC
to Kiwanis Bandshell

10:30AM - 2:00 PM

- Speakers
- Singers
- Dancers
- Art Contest
- Community BBQ
- More!

For more information:
Pearl Sandy
cjw@nbifc.org
705-472-2811 ext. 207

OEIFC



THANK YOU!

On Thursday, April 30, the Volunteers who are involved with the *Food Bank* and the *Café* were treated to a luncheon as a way to say “Thanks!” for all the work that they do to make those out-reach services happen. Each volunteer was presented with a *Certificate of Appreciation*.



A sincere “THANK YOU!” to all the volunteers that help make *Loaves & Fishes Food Bank* and The *Café* operate so efficiently.



Prime Minister Carney, Apologize in Person to the People of Grassy Narrows

Moderator echoes Grassy Narrows’ demands for fair compensation for harm of mercury poisoning, and an end to Dryden Mill’s ongoing pollution

Recently, The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, Moderator, [wrote to the Prime Minister](#) calling for an in-person apology at Grassy Narrows following a harmful remark made to Chrissy Isaacs, a community member living with mercury poisoning.

For more than 50 years, mercury contamination has harmed the land, water, and people of Grassy Narrows. The community continues to seek justice, including cleanup, compensation, and accountability. Support their efforts to restore their community and way of life by [signing the petition](#), and read the [Moderator’s full letter](#).

SECURITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - between now and the end of June

Between now and the end of June there are several groups using the church outside of office hours. St. Andrew's needs to provide security coverage for events such as *Northland Wrestling* concerts (*Near North Voices* and *North Bay Symphony*) and related rehearsals, and a couple of other groups that are using the church for one-time events of a few hours. Duties would include watching McIntyre entrance, and being an on-site "go to" person for rental groups. If you are interested, or wish more information please let Caitlin know. She can be contacted at:

csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net

United Church Communities!

Are you ready to mobilize for justice?

The **Moose Hide Campaign Day** (May 14) is approaching. While national events are happening in Toronto (Queen's Park) and Victoria, there is power in local action.

You can become a community steward and organize a walk in your own neighborhood or at your church. It is a simple, powerful way to say "racism and violence have no place here."

See the [map of local marches or sign up to host your own](#).

Register for the [virtual educational plenary](#).

MOOSE HIDE CAMPAIGN DAY IN CEREMONY ♦ MAY 14, 2026



REGISTER AT:

MOOSEHIDECAMPAIGN.CA

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
MOOSEHIDE CAMPAIGN DAY](#)

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.



OUR CHURCH OFFICE

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10:30 am - 3:30 p.m.

Thursday: 12:30pm - 4:30pm **Friday:** 10:30 am - 2:30 pm



Pastoral Care

For pastoral care emergencies, please call the church office **(705) 472-7680** or email: **standrewschurch@cogeco.net** and your message will be forwarded to the Minister.

Minister's Office Hours



Minister: Reverend Caitlin Smithers

Caitlin's weekly office hours are **9 am to 3 pm Wednesday and Thursday.**

If you wish to call or email to set up a meeting with Caitlin, please

- call her work phone **705-498-5943**, or
- email : csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net,
- or leave a message at the Church Office (**705 472-7680**).

Regular drop-in hours are on **Wednesdays**, from **10 am to 12 pm.**
(Please ring the bell at the McIntyre Street door)

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:

Joyce MacQueen Kim Delarosbel

Carole Sawyer Ken Dech Don Vaillancourt



Nuclear Waste through North Bay 30,000 times? Speak up NOW!

Current Impact Assessment comment period ends May 10

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Monday, May 4 at 6:30 pm
St. Andrews United Church - Club Room
399 Cassells St (Macintyre St entrance)

- learn about the Impact Assessment process
- find out how to submit your comment - it's important!
- discuss possible topics for your comment

Info: northwatch.org



North Bay residents! Please join us for a workshop on Monday evening at 6:30 pm in the Club Room at St. Andrew's United Church about nuclear waste transportation.

A New United Church Global Partner in South Korea: Q&A is cultivating a queer-ally community for LGBTQIA+ Christians facing discrimination

The United Church of Canada has entered into a [new global partnership with Q&A \(Queer Question for Korean Churches\)](#), a grassroots Christian organization in South Korea working to create safer, more inclusive spaces for LGBTQIA+ Christians who often face discrimination within church communities.



Through counselling, ally training, and educational programs, **Q&A** supports individuals in reconnecting faith and identity while equipping churches to become more welcoming. This partnership reflects The United Church of Canada's commitment to justice, inclusion, and faithful accompaniment. [Read the full news story](#) to learn more about this growing movement.

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LIVING THE QUESTIONS 2.0

Session 9: The Prophetic Jesus

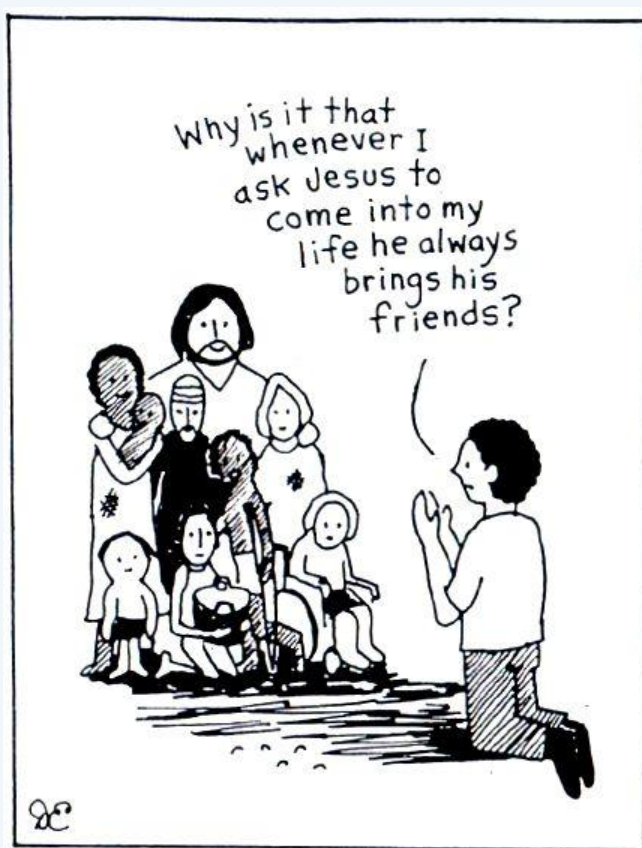
Jesus was trouble-maker!

If you invite Jesus into your life,
who comes with him?

Monday, May 4, 2026 2 - 4 pm

In the St. Andrew's Parlour

All are welcome!



NEAR NORTH VOICES
presents

AMAZING 80s

A choral journey through five centuries



Venue and time

Saturday, 9 May 2026 @ 7 PM

St. Andrew's United Church
399 Cassells Street

Tickets

\$25 adults | \$15 students from choristers

Reservations: nearnorthvoices@gmail.com

Door price: \$30 adults | \$20 students



Social Dancing

Wednesday from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

St. Andrew's Church

399 Cassells Street, North Bay

With

Rick and Wynne Blair

705-495-3019

Bill and Judith Ingwersen

705-474-1935

Optional lesson given at 1:45 pm



Come and join us for exercise, fun and community!

All are welcome: couples, singles, dancers, non-dancers, inclusive

TP - NORTH BAY



The *Loaves & Fishes Community Foodbank* is one of the 16 North Bay Food Banks and Pantries that are the recipients of the toilet paper that is collected through the *TP North Bay* campaign. However, for the next 5 weeks or so, until the rolls from the city-wide drive are distributed, the *Loaves & Fishes Food Bank* desperately needs donations of toilet paper for their clients.



Donations of any amounts are welcome - at Church on Sunday, or through the week at the Church Office. (see Office Hours on Page 3).



All rolls that are donated to the *Loaves & Fishes Foodbank* in the month of May will be added to the TP - North Bay city-wide campaign total!