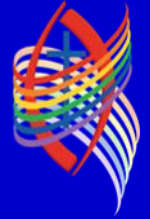




# TOGETHER

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



for Sunday, May 31, 2026  
Minister: Reverend Caitlin Smithers

This Sunday - May 31, 2026

## 5th Sunday

For the past few years, when there is a fifth Sunday in a month, the local United Church congregations have gathered on this “extra” Sunday to worship together. Sharing the word of God in prayer and song creates a unifying spiritual energy that makes each fifth Sunday service a special one. This Sunday, we will meet at Emmanuel United Church on Lakeshore Drive . Please note that the service starts at 11 am. (See details on next page)

Next Sunday - June 7th, 2026  
Second Sunday after Pentecost  
“Sing a new Song...”



The Psalm for June 7, (Psalm 33) says, “Sing a new song to God!” With Rev. Caitlin away at the annual CSRC meeting, our Worship Committee thought, “Hm... Good

idea!” And since every song ever written WAS a “New Song” at some point... that opens up LOTS of possibilities!

Please join us for a friendly service of much loved music, with guest speakers Tom Ahrens and Bethany Brownlee reflecting on the role music played in their lives.



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 (24 May) : <https://youtu.be/Vzfo2MTIS2k>

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

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
**24 May 2026**



**OMOND MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
CARMICHAEL UNITED  
CHURCH  
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED  
CHURCH  
TRINITY UNITED CHURCH  
EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH**



**FIFTH SUNDAY  
SHARED WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Sunday, May 31, 2026**

presented by the  
**Trinity United Church Youth**  
at **Emmanuel United Church**  
North Bay, Ontario, Canada

**PLEASE  
NOTE  
THAT THIS  
FIFTH  
SUNDAY  
SERVICE  
STARTS AT  
11:00 a.m. !**



The North Bay Community  
**J.O.Y. BAND**  
Presents

**CHOOSE JOY!**

Directed by Betty Farris

**Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 2026**

**2 p.m.**

**Trinity United Church**

(Ferguson at McIntyre)

*~Refreshments~*

**'Free Will' Offering**

Proceeds will go to  
**Trinity's Building Restoration Fund**

**Mustard Seed**  
PRESENTS  
**The Prodigal Clown**

Directed by Darlene Laferriere

**Trinity United Church**  
North Bay (Ferguson Entrance)

**Saturday June 13, 7 pm** | **Sunday June 14, 1:30 pm**

**Tickets**  
**\$10 Adults, \$5 Children (12 & under)**

tickets available at the door  
or by calling (705)474-3310

**Mustard Seed PRODUCTIONS**

## 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](mailto:csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net)

## LIVING THE QUESTIONS 2.0



*Living the Questions 2.0 - Winter 2025/Spring 2026:* Tim Robertson, Judy Campbell, Karin Robertson, Marg Reid, Wynne Blair, Frankie Syme, Judith & Bill Ingwersen  
(photo courtesy of Bill & Judith Ingwersen)

The Monday Study Group has continued to explore their new topic, a program series called: *Living the Question 2.0: An Introduction to Progressive Christianity*. This winter/spring, the group explored *Part I: An Invitation to Journey* (eleven Sessions, Monday Afternoons, 2 to 4 P.M., February 23 to May 11, 2026). On Monday of this week, the group wound up the series with a potluck lunch in the parlour. We are grateful to Margaret Reid and Tim Robertson for their leadership of this group and providing such interesting material!



**COMING THIS FALL .....**

**LIVING THE QUESTIONS 2.0, PART II**

**Beginning on Monday, October 5th, 2026, for ten sessions  
Watch this space for more information!**

## Minister's Report Feb – May 2026



As the weather starts to warm up here in the North, and the ground begins to give way to new life once again, flowers, plants, and even insects and birds, I find myself reflecting on life here at St. Andrew's and all the things about this community that make me smile, and fill my heart with warmth and joy.

Our worship and Christian education team, put so much energy, creativity, and intentionality into making our worship so meaningful for so many, week after week! I find myself almost every week coming away moved by how it all came together more beautifully than I could have imagined, with so many people represented and thought of in the process through prayers, readers, times for all ages, music, reflections, and more!

Our "Living the Questions 2.0" Bible study group, has such a feeling of community that has been built together as we learn, grow, and live the questions together in honest and open ways, thanks in huge part to the leadership of Margaret and Tim, and all who attend and engage so deeply and openly in all that is offered week after week, including the fantastic snacks!

Our pastoral care team who reach out and support our community, here at St. Andrew's community and beyond. With seasonal letters, cards, phone calls, prayers, visits, contributions to worship, and so much more! They are one of the backbones of this community!

Our Sunday school, who with the help and leadership of Pat and Glenda have continued to run twice a month during worship to reflect on the sacred stories of the week and the ways they can live them out in their lives, including through the planting of flowers in our inclusivity garden just a few weeks ago!

Our M&P team, who right now are hard at work hiring multiple people to fill the many areas of administration, while Jan is off on medical leave, foodbank management now that Lorie has retired, and some security folks, who will hopefully help ensure we can continue to rent out our building to the wider community and know it is in great hands!

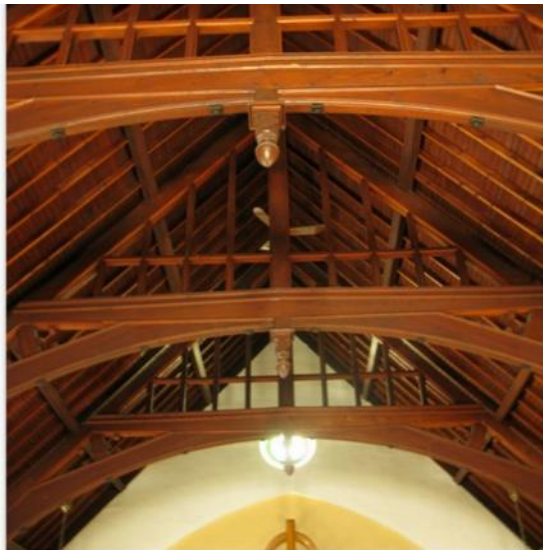
And our council, which meets month after month, with this incredible community in mind, working hard to ensure we support, communicate, and lead this community in ways that are in line with our touchstones that we read each month. This is not easy work, and yet it is absolutely essential for the overall work and worship life of this community. Thank you!

I am grateful for all the folks in this community who continue to make the ministries here at St. Andrew's, and the partnerships we have in the community of North Bay, not only possible, but beautiful, meaningful, personal, and heartfelt week after week, year after year. We couldn't do this without each and every one of you!

All my best,

*Rev. Caitlin Smithers*





### THE SPLENDOUR THAT SURROUNDS US

We at St. Andrew's are truly blessed to be surrounded by the splendour of wood. Its natural beauty embraces us from the timbered rafters high above our heads, to the oak pews below. Skillfully crafted by chisel, saw and lathe, these many wooden elements create a warm and inviting ambience that simply says, "Welcome!"

It is indeed a fitting way to beautify our church home, a place where we share the love and ministry of a long-ago carpenter... from Galilee.



Photos: D. Stott



## For those who want to plan ahead...



**JUNE 7** - "Sing to the Lord a New Song!"

**JUNE 14** - "Milestones - Marking the Way"

**JUNE 21st** - Indigenous Peoples Day of Prayer

**JUNE 28th** - St. Andrew's Summer Worship Series begins

We welcome members of Trinity United to worship with us for July

**JULY** - Worship at St. Andrew's on the Sundays  
of July 5, 12, 19, 26

**AUGUST** - St. Andrew's is closed - office messages will be checked  
St. Andrew's members are invited to join Trinity United for worship during August

**AUGUST 30**—5th Sunday Service

**SEPTEMBER 6th** - First Sunday back at St. Andrew's  
**September 13th** Rally Back Sunday



**Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 1:30**  
**Trinity United Church, North Bay**  
(Ferguson at McIntyre)

Trinity Arts welcomes this amazing "Little Big Band"  
featuring top-notch musicians, playing  
*Swing, Latin, Ballads* and more....

Allison Denomme- Trumpet, Neil Kennedy - Alto Sax/Clarinet  
Mike Landoni - Tenor Sax/Baritone Sax, Darren Denomme - Trombone  
Theresa McDermott - piano, Bob Bartlett - Bass,  
Rob Joannis - Drums, Dominique Lalonde and Josh Wood - Vocals

Admission \$20 and \$40 Family of 4  
Proceeds support the  
Heritage Railway and Carousel Company.  
*door prizes and more!*

**Tickets Locations:**  
North Bay Museum, Ticket/Souvenir Kiosk at the train and carousel,  
Junior World, The Opera Café, Trinity United Church, and Dynamic Dentistry.



More info:  
[www.heritagerrailwayandcarousel.com](http://www.heritagerrailwayandcarousel.com)  
and  
[www.trinitynorthbay.ca](http://www.trinitynorthbay.ca)



# WANTED



## USED POSTAGE STAMPS

St. Andrew's member, Mary Marris, 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.*

- 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



**PLEASE GIVE THESE USED STAMPS TO  
MARY MARRIS, OR PUT THEM IN THE  
CHURCH MAIL SLOT ON CASSELLS STREET  
ENTRANCE (Green Wooden Door)  
THANK YOU!**

## 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

Until the end of June, our Office Administrator will be on leave. E-mails and phone calls will be monitored and a temporary office coverage may be in place. Office hours will be posted on the Church Website when they are determined.

#### Pastoral Care

For pastoral care emergencies, please call the church office (705) 472-7680 or email: [standrewschurch@cogeco.net](mailto: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 & 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](mailto: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:

**Judy Campbell      Mary Marrs**  
**Joyce MacQueen      Kim Delarosbel**  
**Carole Sawyer      Ken Dech      Don Vaillancourt**





## A POTLUCK INVITATION

The Ladies of Trinity United Church cordially invite the ladies of St. Andrew's to their June potluck on Monday, JUNE 8<sup>th</sup>.

Festivities will begin at 5:00 pm

**Special Guests will be  
Daria Dashutik and Stan Kniazeva  
Their topic will be "Life In Russia"**

RSVP to  
Judy Biondi by Friday June 5<sup>th</sup>  
at 705- 478 -7781

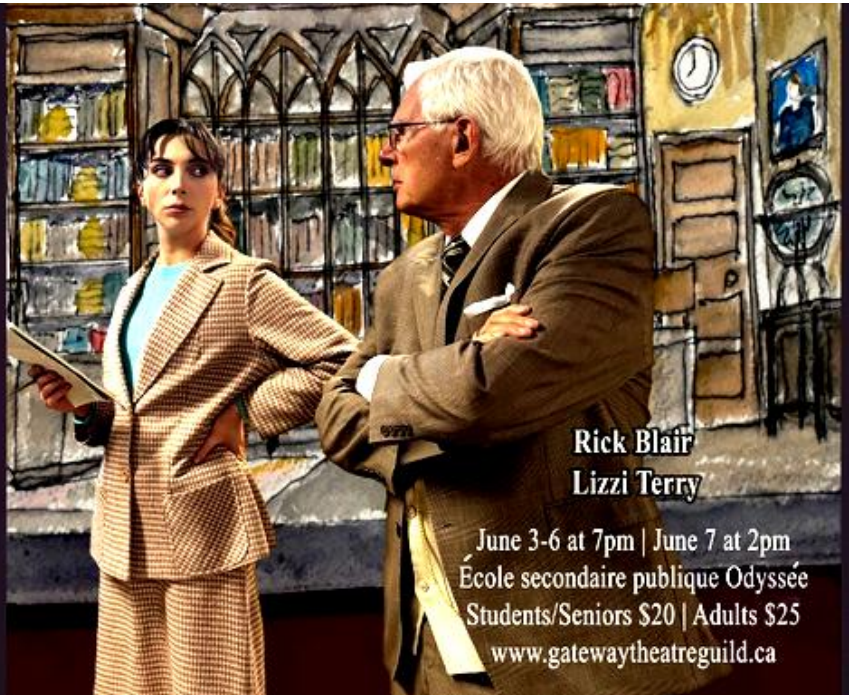


Gateway Theatre Guild Presents

## TRYING

Written by Joanna McClelland Glass

Directed by Johanna McPherson



**Rick Blair**  
**Lizzi Terry**

June 3-6 at 7pm | June 7 at 2pm  
École secondaire publique Odyssee  
Students/Seniors \$20 | Adults \$25  
[www.gatewaytheatreguild.ca](http://www.gatewaytheatreguild.ca)

St. Andrew's member, **Rick Blair**, is a main character in this semi-autobiographical play **Trying**. It tells the story of Sarah, a young Saskatchewan woman who serves as the secretary to Francis Biddle, the aging former U.S. Attorney General, in Washington, D.C.. This drama follows their clashes and the deep friendship that blossoms between them during the final year of his life.