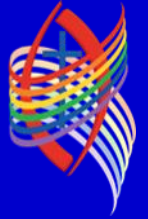




TOGETHER

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



for Sunday, May 24, 2026
Minister: Reverend Caitlin Smithers

This Sunday - May 24, 2026

Locked Doors to Opened Windows: A Pentecost Journey

**Our Guest Worship Leader will be
Lorie Fairburn LLWL**

On Pentecost, we celebrate the Holy Spirit that unites us, inspires us, and sends us forth to live faithfully, boldly, and joyfully in God's presence. The Spirit transformed fear into courage and locked doors into open windows. We will explore how God meets us in our moments of uncertainty and calls us to step out of our familiar spaces. Like the first disciples, we are invited to let the Spirit bring understanding, connection, and the fire of God's love and peace into our homes, our community, and the wider world. It is traditional to wear **something RED** on Pentecost Sunday!



Next 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** on Lakeshore Drive. (See details on next page)

Welcome Back, Lorie Fairburn!

Lorie Fairburn is best remembered for her role as *Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank* Coordinator and this outreach program grew significantly as a result of her involvement. Lorie was also the Chair of the *Finance Committee*, using her past fundraising experience to organize successful stewardship campaigns and other fundraising initiatives. During her time at St. Andrew's, Lorie studied for and became a *Licensed Lay Worship Leader* and led a number of memorable services at our Church as well as in the surrounding *Canadian Shield* church community. Lorie has recently relocated to Sudbury but she is welcome here at St. Andrew's any time!





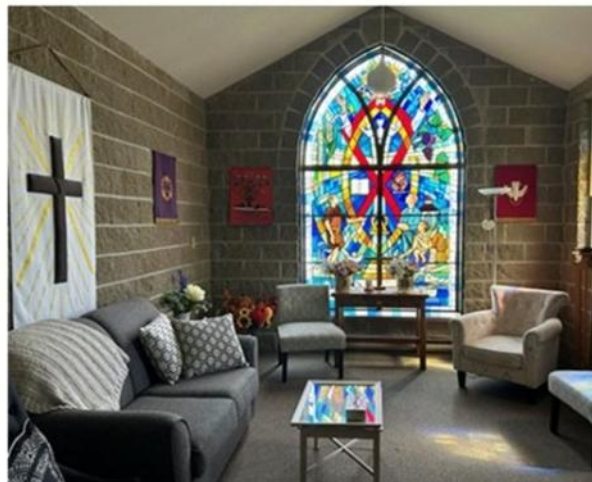
Thank You Trinity Manitoulin United Church!

Trinity Manitoulin United Church of Mindemoya, Ontario, officially closed its traditional doors and held its decommissioning service on April 12, 2026. The property was purchased by the Municipality of Central Manitoulin. The congregation has since transitioned to holding worship services at St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church. As a result of this church closure, approximately two dozen bibles became available. Through the assistance of Marg Reid, St. Andrew's gratefully accepted these bibles as a gift from the Trinity Manitoulin congregation.

Although there is shared sadness in the closing of this church, we appreciate that these bibles have been passed along to us to care for. The plan is to make them available for the weekly worship services in the sanctuary at St. Andrew's.



We also pray for God's blessing upon the members of the Trinity Manitoulin Church community as their worship takes new directions. May the spirit of "Bold Discipleship" give them strength for their continuing faith journey.



St. Andrew's will be closed on this Sunday

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



FIFTH SUNDAY SHARED WORSHIP SERVICE

hosted by Emmanuel United and
Trinity United Youth

Sunday, May 31, 2026 - 11 a.m.
Emmanuel United Church
North Bay, Ontario, Canada



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

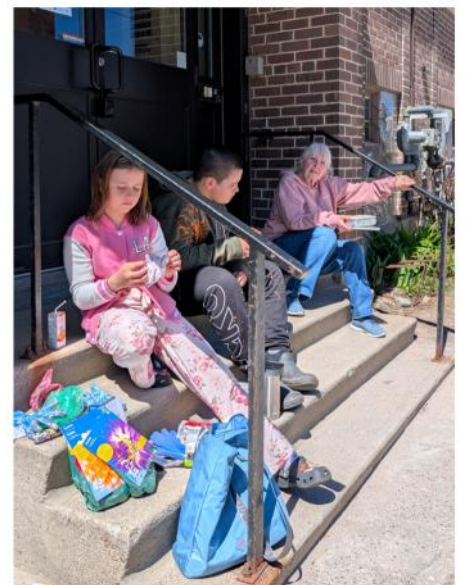
JULY - Worship at St. Andrew's on the Sundays
of July 5, 12, 19, 26

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



The "Gardeners of Eden" During the service last Sunday, the Church School members planted flowers in the beds near the McIntyre entrance, and also the *Inclusivity Garden*. Thanks to Pat Kirton-Bailey, Glenda Mikawa and Mary McNamara for overseeing the work, and to the crew of young gardeners for their act of caring for Creation with beautiful flowers for all to see!

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

From May 12th to the end of June, our Church hours will be somewhat irregular as our Office Administrator will be on leave. E-mails and phone calls will be monitored during this time.

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.

Please note that for the period of May 18th to May 24 (incl), Pastoral Care will be provided by Rev. Tracy Davis.

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,
- 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)

NOTE REV. CAITLIN WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BETWEEN MAY 18th & May 25th (Inclusive)

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



Christian Meditation Group

Christian meditation is a prayer of the heart. It involves the silent repetition of a single word or phrase (the mantra.) The continual, gentle repetition of the mantra leads to an experience of silence, stillness, and simplicity. The Meditation Group has a simple format. It begins with a teaching on the writings of *John Main*, a Benedictine Monk, then a time for meditation, followed by a short time for discussion.



Location: St. Joseph Motherhouse, 2025 Main St. West, North Bay, in the small chapel
Day and time: Tuesdays, beginning June 2, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.



You are invited. Come when you are able, No prior meditation experience is needed. Contact **John Bedard** at 705-471-8560 or **Rev. Beth Hewson** at revbeth65@gmail.com for information.

Use this link (www.wccm-canada.ca) for information on the *Canadian Christian Meditation Community*.

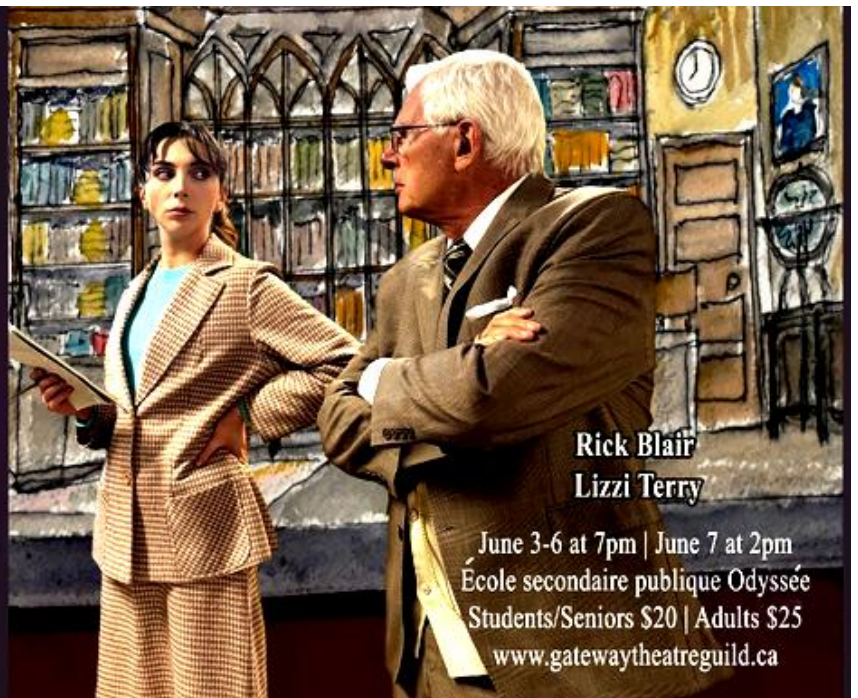


Gateway Theatre Guild Presents

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 Odysée
Students/Seniors \$20 | Adults \$25
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.

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

LIVING THE QUESTIONS 2.0

Session 11: The Myth of Redemptive Violence

How do we move past violence to peace and reconciliation in a society that expects us to take sides?

Join us for a season-ending potluck at 12:30 pm, followed by our regular session at 2 pm. Ask Marg or Tim for details.

Monday, May 25, 2026 In the Parlour All are welcome!

We'll plan to gather on May 25th at 12:30 pm and eat at 1 pm, and then have our regular meeting from 2 to 4 pm. People are invited to bring whatever they would like to share, along with their own plates and cutlery (to help make clean-up go more quickly).



TP - NORTH BAY & The LOAVES & FISHES Community Foodbank

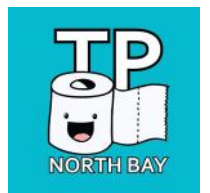
The *Loaves & Fishes Community Foodbank* is one of the 16 North Bay Food Banks and Pantries that are the recipients of the toilet paper that is collected through the *TP North Bay* campaign. However, for the next 2 weeks or so, until the rolls from the city-wide drive are distributed, the *Loaves & Fishes Food Bank* desperately needs donations of toilet paper for their clients.

Loaves & Fishes



Donations of any amounts are welcome - at Church on Sunday.

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!



HANNAH & NATHAN



“LOVE AND LABOUR” ALBUM RELEASE SHOW

FRI MAY 22 | 7:30 PM

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
111 McIntyre St E, North Bay, ON

\$25 ADVANCE

\$30 DOOR

“Two of the finest acoustic musicians on
the scene. Truly worth a listen.”
— James Keelaghan



www.hannahandnathanmusic.com

Presented in collaboration with Trinity Arts

The North Bay Community



CHOOSE JOY!

Directed by Betty Farris

Sunday, May 31st 2026

2 p.m.

Trinity United Church

(Ferguson at McIntyre)

~Refreshments~

‘Free Will’ Offering

Proceeds will go to

Trinity’s Building Restoration Fund



An Invitation from Emmanuel United Church

395 Lakeshore Drive, North Bay ON

**Join us the last Wednesday of the month
for an Evensong Service at 7:00 pm**

Join us for Evensong, a serene and meditative experience designed to provide a peaceful retreat from the hustle of everyday life.

Held in the tranquil setting of our church, Evensong is a time to embrace stillness, reflect in silence, and find spiritual rejuvenation. This quiet evening service is filled with gentle music, contemplative prayer, and moments of reflection, allowing you to connect deeply with yourself and inner peace. Whether you seek a moment of solitude or a profound spiritual encounter, Evensong offers a welcoming space to renew your spirit.

All are welcome to join us in this reflective pause in our month, where we come together to light up the evening with faith and calmness.

Next Evensong Service will be on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 7:00 pm



Beware of E-Mail Impostors!

It appears that somebody, somewhere has been sending out e-mail messages and signing them with Rev. Caitlin's name. Caitlin will only use her St. Andrew's e-mail csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net for her church e-mail communication.

Please check carefully if she contacts you by e-mail as only csmithers_standrews@cogeco.net is "legit"!

If in doubt, call her on her work phone (705-498-5943)



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 (17 May) : <https://youtu.be/-3rrjsuiBsl>

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

ASCENSION SUNDAY
17 May 2026

TEMPORARY OFFICE PERSON NEEDED !

From May 12th until the end of June, our Office Administrator will be away from the office as she recovers from surgery. We need a person to be in the church office during this time period.



DATES: May 12th until June 31st (approx.)

WEEKLY HOURS: 18 hours per week (Tuesday through Friday)

DUTIES: to include managing daily office operations, communication include answering phones, managing rental requests, and handling written and electronic correspondence. Familiarity with Microsoft WORD would be an asset.

HOURLY WAGE: to be negotiated.

ANYONE interested is asked to contact the Church Secretary, Karen Gooch by e-mail at: councilsecretary_standrews@cogeco.net as soon as possible.