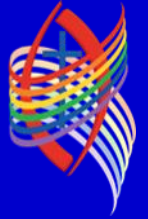




# TOGETHER

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



for Sunday, June 28 2026  
Minister: Reverend Caitlin Smithers

**This Sunday - June 28, 2026**

**Our Summer Series Begins!**

**Consider the Birds: Faith & Feathers**

**The Pigeon: More Than Meets the Eye**

Join us as we begin our summer series, **Faith and Feathers**, by taking a fresh look at one of the most overlooked birds around us-the pigeon.

Often dismissed, ignored, or shooed away, pigeons rarely receive a second glance. Yet doves, one of Scripture's most compelling symbols of the Holy Spirit, are part of the pigeon family.

This week, we'll see what these humble birds can teach us about looking beyond first impressions and finding God's presence in unexpected places.

**A special welcome to our friends from Trinity United Church who are joining us for worship during the month of July**



**Next Sunday - July 5, 2026**

**Our Summer Series Continues!**

**Consider the Birds: Faith & Feathers**

**The Pelican: Owl of the Wasteland and yet Divine**

Join us as we continue our summer series, by taking a fresh look at another one of the most overlooked birds around us- the pelican.



A bird with a pretty complex reputation, one of being unclean, and maybe even a little mean, as they are an apex fisher – and yet also one of self sacrifice, of charity and Divine nourishment. In Christian tradition and art, the pelican is the considered by some to be the most direct symbolic representation of Jesus Christ. “O loving Pelican, O Jesu Lord.”



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A “SIGN KEEPER”?

St. Andrew's is looking for a **sign keeper** to spend a few minutes a week to make sure that the sign in front of the church is kept up-to-date. Please let Rev. Caitlin know if you are interested, or need more information. Training is cheerfully provided for this important, but not too time-consuming, volunteer position!

## Minister's Report: May- June 2026



What a beautiful summer it is shaping up to be here in North Bay, if a little warm and muggy some days. I am so enjoying seeing all the flowers and veggies begin to blossom and bear fruit! I have even harvested my first few beans! And I am so grateful to all who are caring for the gardens and

green spaces outside of St. Andrew's. What a wonderful community we have, within and around St. Andrew's!

I had such a wonderful Sunday last Sunday, remembering so much of what the last year, and last few years, have held, as we celebrated my first *Ordinary*, and another year together. I am so grateful to be a part of community who celebrates and support one another so well. It has been such a gift! As is so much of what we do here each month.

This past month Lisa and I have been working together to hire two summer students, who will be with us in July and Trinity in August. They will begin their orientation with Lisa and I at the end of June, and Canada Summer Jobs will cover the majority of the costs. It will be so wonderful to have their energy, creativity, and experience as part of our communities and leadership this Summer!

Thank you to the M&P committee for hiring of our temporary office admin, Abigail Sanders, and to the council for voting so quickly email in support of the hire! It has been wonderful working with her, and seeing how quickly she is catching onto the job, and how well she represents the church for all who come into the building. She will also be one of our summer students starting in July, so we will be seeing lots of her this summer!



The worship and Christian education team and I planned our summer theme of **Consider the Birds: Faith and Feathers**, which will invite us to look at our sacred stories through new eyes.

We have also planned some special services, like this coming Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> for *Indigenous Peo-*

*ples Day*, where we will have drumming and a teaching provided by members of our community. We also have upcoming services in the fall like Rally Back, where we may even have a baptism or two! In conversation with Tim and Margaret, we may have a membership class in the fall, or a refresher, as a few of our new attendees are asking about membership, and wanting to get more involved! They will also be leading another round of Bible Study in the fall.

### 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)

I enjoyed some wonderful continuing education this past month, attending a conference in Montreal with some UCC and Presbyterian colleagues! It was great to have a chance to recharge, reflect, and learn some new things, surrounded by a beautiful city filled with lots of beautiful churches, restaurants, and nature to explore. I also attended a retreat and regional meeting, where I had the chance to be prayed over, sang to, anointed, and affirmed in my calling, along with 15 or more colleagues in our region, before then attending a meeting where we heard from and got to meet the moderator, and gather with colleagues from as far as Thunder Bay.

It has been really nice getting to know people in this region better over the last few years, and attend workshops and business that continue to support the work of this region. This year I took part in workshops that invited prayer, walking, reflecting, and hearing stories that encouraged us to imagine things from new perspectives, led by Cam, Melody, and the Affirming Resource team.

Thank you for all of your support, which made it possible for me to have this time!

All my best,

*Rev. Caitlin Smith*

# St. Andrew's Summer Series Sunday- June 28 to July 26

## Consider the Birds: Faith and Feathers

This summer, join us for a unique journey through scripture as we explore: **Consider the Birds: Faith and Feathers.**

Birds flutter through the pages of the Bible more often than we might realize—ravens, doves, sparrows, eagles, roosters, and more. Often overlooked, these winged creatures have stories to tell and lessons to teach about faith, hope, provision, courage, and God's presence in our lives.

Drawing inspiration from *Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to Birds of the Bible*, this series invites us to see familiar biblical stories with fresh eyes. Through these feathered companions, we'll discover new dimensions of God's character and deepen our appreciation for the rich imagery woven throughout scripture.

The book reminds us that when we pay attention to the natural world in the Bible, we may find ourselves "thinking something wonderful about a lily, or a cedar tree or a giant. Or an asp!" As we consider the birds, we'll open ourselves to wonder, curiosity, and the surprising ways God speaks through creation.

### Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>: The Pigeon: More Than Meets the Eye

Join us as we begin our summer series, **Faith and Feathers**, by taking a fresh look at one of the most overlooked birds around us—the pigeon.



### Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>: The Pelican: Owl of the Wasteland

**and yet Divine** Join us as we continue our summer series, **Faith and Feathers**, by taking a fresh look at another one of the most overlooked birds around us—the pelican.

### Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>: The Eagle: Power and Vulnerability

Much like the first two birds in our series, **Faith and Feathers**, the eagle has a complicated understanding.



### Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>: The Sparrow: Appearing Insignificant, yet

**Unforgotten** The sparrow, the fourth bird in our series, **Faith and Feathers**, has also often been overlooked,

### Sunday, July 26: The Raven: More than a Bird to Observe

Join us as we conclude our summer series, **Faith and Feathers**, with the final bird from *Consider the Birds*: the raven. More than a bird to observe!





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



**JUNE 28th** - St. Andrew's *Summer Worship Series* begins  
(see page 4)

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 at Carmichael United Church

**SEPTEMBER 6th** - First Sunday back at St. Andrew's

**September 13th** Rally Back Sunday



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).

### ONLINE WORSHIP



**St. Andrew's  
United Church  
North Bay, Ontario**

**INDIGENOUS DAY of PRAYER  
21 June 2026**

Here is the link to last Sunday's service ( June 21, 2026 ) :

<https://youtu.be/91QmKcKCH4o>

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

## Are you Interested in Joining the St. Andrew's Security Team ??



From time to time, there are various groups that rent parts of the church for meetings or functions that happen outside of office hours.

To comply with the conditions of our liability insurance , St. Andrew's is required to provide security coverage for groups that are using the church for one-time events of a few hours duration. Duties of a security person would include being a "gatekeeper" at the door, doing walk-around checks, and generally being an on-site contact at times when rental groups are present . A Security Team "On Call" list is being drawn up and interested people are invited to apply. Training and orientation will be provided, and there is a pay rate of \$25 per hour. If you are interested, or wish more information please phone **Lucien Masson** at the number below.

**Security Team Coordinator - Lucien Masson: 705-358-1309**

## 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

**(Please Note: The office will be closed from June 29th to July 3rd incl)**



**Regular Hours resume on Tuesday, July 7th:**

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

**Thurs: 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 Wed. & 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**





ST ANDREW'S  
*Strawberry  
Social*

Saturday, July 4, 2026

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m

Strawberry Shortcake & Cold Beverage

(strawberries freshly-picked from Leisure Farms!)

**\$9.00 per person**

(Please use the McIntyre St. entrance)



**TEMPORARY OFFICE PERSON NEEDED !**

**SEPTEMBER 3rd to MID-OCTOBER**

Our Office Administrator will be away from the office during this time as she recovers from surgery. We are looking for a person to be in the

**DATES:** September 3rd until Mid-October

**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 St. Andrew's **Ministry & Personnel Committee** through Church Secretary, Karen Gooch, by e-mail at:

[councilsecretary\\_standrews@cogeco.net](mailto:councilsecretary_standrews@cogeco.net) as soon as possible.

# A CUT ABOVE LANDSCAPING

PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE & MAINTENANCE  
Commercial - residential - snow removal

**THANK YOU TO ANDREW NEIL**, the owner of *A Cut Above Landscaping*, who again this year has offered to mow the church lawn this summer free of charge! We truly appreciate this donation of time and expertise to help to keep things trimmed and tidy.

[facebook link](#)



**EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH**  
**395 LAKESHORE DR**

## Craft & Bake Sale

**Saturday June 27**  
**10-2**

CRAFTS • BAKED TREATS • WHITE ELEPHANT  
FURRY WORRY WORTS • ORIGAMI BIRDS • TOTES & TRIVETS  
DENIM POCKET WALL HANGINGS • STAINED GLASS • APRONS  
RECYCLING THEME  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!  
CASH & E-TRANSFERS ACCEPTED



## HAPPY FIRST ORDIVERSARY, REV. CAITLIN!

It was on June 15, 2025, that Caitlin Smithers was ordained as a Minister in the United Church of Canada. A celebratory reception was held after the service last Sunday with a special (and delicious) *Ordiversary Cake* for all to enjoy. Rev. Caitlin - your St. Andrew's Faith Family wishes you many, many more happy anniversaries of your Ordination in the years to come!



# 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dave Robinson Memorial Golf Tournament

**(United Church Golf Challenge)**

**Osprey Links, Callander**

**Thursday August 27th, 2026**

**Please plan to arrive for 1:30pm for**

(Devotion, hole assignment, and rules clarification)

**Start Time: 2:00 pm**

**Dinner Time: 5:00 pm**

(at club house -Confirmed rain or shine)

**Cost: \$110.00 per person**

(includes 9 holes, dinner, power cart & prizes)

**Dinner only: \$55.00**

**Golf only: \$60.00**

Proceeds exceeding the cost of the event will be shared evenly between the Canadian Shield Regional Council Youth and Young Adult Fund and Out Loud North Bay.

**For more information or to register please contact:**

**John Henderson 705-492-4212 [johnkeithhenderson@gmail.com](mailto:johnkeithhenderson@gmail.com)**

**Dave McKenney 705-840-7070 [d127mckenney@gmail.com](mailto:d127mckenney@gmail.com)**

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday August 19th, 2026**

The format is a "4 person scramble"

All who enter will be on a team

Your foursome to include any combination of the following:

at least 1 male, 1 female & 1 player under 50

a parent, a grandparent, a youth or

a minister, an Elder, or an aspiring church leader

To register go to

[ospreylinksgolf.com](http://ospreylinksgolf.com)

And click on the tournament link

