



# St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



## HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

YES Canada is seeking host families in the Thunder Bay area to host international high school students from countries around the world. We are welcoming students from France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland and Japan that will be arriving in the Fall of 2021 for durations ranging from 2 months to the full school year. Becoming a host family is a great way to experience another culture at home and to have a truly enriching experience!

To learn more about hosting, contact the YES Canada Local Coordinator for your area, Deborah Poole-Hofmann,

Email: [deborah@youthedservices.ca](mailto:deborah@youthedservices.ca)

Phone (YES Canada main office):

416-623-6220 ext. 403

Or visit our website:

<https://youthedservices.ca/host-a-student/>

## WAYS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF ST. ANDREW'S

**e-transfer:** [offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net)

- If you have an offering (envelope) number with the church and you know it, be sure to include that and your full name in the Message box.
- For all others, please include your first **and** last names along with your full address in the message box so we can send you a donation receipt.

**Website:** You can donate by credit card using the "Donate Now" link on the website.

**Preauthorized Remittance:** This is a monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account that can be set up with the bookkeeper. Email Barb at [accounts.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:accounts.standrewspres@tbaytel.net) to have a form sent to you.

**Mail:** You can mail in a donation to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 207 S. Brodie St. Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5X8. Or just drop it off in the mailbox at the church.

Thank you for supporting the life, ministry, and mission of St. Andrew's. You make a difference!

## PCC MISSION MOMENTS

### Camping from Home

For many children, Camp Douglas in British Columbia is their safe space away from home. These young campers have little to no connection with a congregation or other Christian community outside of camp. They come each summer with a hunger for God and a desire to reunite with the loving Christian community they experienced in past summers. Last year, Camp Douglas staff adapted the camp's programming using an online platform that enabled their important ministry to continue throughout the summer. Staff ran weekly Bible studies and campfires, as well as other traditional camp activities that could be done at home. Camp Douglas was able to provide this wonderful experience in part through regional resourcing grants, supported by Presbyterians Sharing.

## HONOURING THE CHILDREN: RECONCILIATION AND RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FUND ESTABLISHED

In response to the devastating confirmation of unmarked graves on the grounds of former residential schools, and in honour of the children who were lost and all people living with the consequences of that legacy, The Presbyterian Church in Canada has established the *Honouring the Children: Reconciliation and Residential Schools Fund*. This fund will support initiatives associated with searches for unmarked burial sites in communities where schools were operated by The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

All work will complement efforts to address systemic racism against Indigenous people, both in the church and Canadian society, and the ongoing healing and reconciliation work being done in the ministries of the National Indigenous Ministry Council.

To begin, the church has committed \$1 million from national funds, and invites congregations and individuals to make additional contributions to this important work.

Here is the link to donate

<https://presbyterian.ca/2021/07/02/honouring-the-children-fund/>

Donations by cheque can also be made directly through St. Andrew's. Earmark the cheque for "Honouring the Children Fund"

## Sympathy, Empathy and Compassion; Our Calling as Christians

Guest Writer: Sue Heald

Sympathy, empathy and compassion. We hear the words used all the time. We might use them interchangeably, but, are they the same?

According to Sara Schairer, sympathy is the ability to understand someone's feels. You can imagine why someone feels happy or sad, even if you have never been in their particular situation. For example, you can understand why someone might feel sad at the loss of a loved one, even though you have never lost someone close to you at this point in your life, or why someone is happy at the birth of a grandchild, even though you don't have any grandchildren yourself.

Empathy is feeling what another person is feeling. For example, if a person has lost a loved one, you feel their pain deeply within yourself, and are sad too. You don't just understand their feelings, you experience them yourself.

Compassion takes things one step further. You not only recognize a person's feelings, (sympathize) or feel their feelings (empathize), you are compelled to act; to do something to alleviate a person's suffering. A person's pain at the loss of a loved one might spur you to make a meal to bring over, or to visit them and be present with them in their suffering.

As Christians, we are called beyond sympathy and empathy to compassion; Christ has no hands in this world but ours. By turning our thoughts and feelings into actions, Christ's light can shine on others through us.



## PRAYERS FROM THE HEART

Thank you, Lord, for all our blessings. We continue to celebrate our good fortunes, the companionship of dear family and friends and the joys of knowing you are with us as we walk through our lives.

Many people have endured and are enduring health and personal struggles. We ask you to be with them and keep your loving arms around them. Your guidance and support make such a difference to the quality of their lives.

Thank you.

For those who can, we ask you to help them be volunteers of kindness for those in need. Please help them understand how assisting others will enhance their own quality of life. For all the volunteers who are working tirelessly, please bless them and keep them safe.

Our church, our Minister, and our congregation have had a difficult year. We long to be together again and anxiously await the time when this is possible. We thank you for the guidance you have given our Minister and our Elders as they strive to support us. Please continue to give us the patience to await the opening of our church again, the commitment to return as soon as we can and capacity to be generous to ensure the church remains stable. We ask this in your name  
Amen

Written by: Joanne Kembel

## **ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN**

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Sunday Worship - Online

at [standrewspres-tbay.ca](http://standrewspres-tbay.ca)

