



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

February 16th, 2025

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



ROMANS FOR EVERYONE



Using N.T. Wright's *Romans for Everyone, Part 2: Chapters 9 - 16 (20th Anniversary Edition with Study Guide)*, we will be exploring the second half of Romans.

N.T. Wright is the Chair in New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is the former Bishop of Durham in the Church of England, and is a prolific author and noted New Testament scholar. Writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Wright helps us to see the great sweep of this letter. Romans has long been viewed as the book above all in which Paul puts forth the basic doctrines of the faith, and the picture of God's life for us. It is the classic setting-out of the Gospel.

This study will begin on **Thursday, March 6th** from **12:00 - 1:30pm**, and continue **every Thursday** until April 3rd. You can ask Rev. Joyce to help you secure a copy of the book.

This is shaping up to be an interesting time of learning, discussions, and connecting. If you have been looking for a way to engage with scripture and glean new insights this is a place for you.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

- Lynne Twist, author

Donations can be sent via e-transfer to offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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office.standrewspres@tbaytel.net
Sunday Worship - Available online at
standrewspres-tbay.ca

Office Hours:
Wednesday - Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Wed Feb 19 - Fun & Fitness @ 10am

Wed Feb 19 - The Music Class @ 4pm & 5:15pm

Thurs Feb 20 - The Music Class @ 11am & 5:15pm

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Despite the continued winter chill in the air, spring is coming, and that means we are moving into the season of Lent.



The schedule for Lenten services is as follows:

Ash Wednesday service
Wednesday, March 5th (7:00pm)

First Sunday of Lent, with communion
Sunday, March 9th (11:00am)

Mid-week Lenten services
every Wednesday in the Chapel (12:00pm)
Wednesday, March 12th - Wednesday, April 9th

Palm Sunday; Children's Sunday
Sunday, April 13th (11:00am)

Maundy Thursday service
Thursday, April 17th (7:00pm)

Good Friday service
Friday, April 18th (11:00am)

Easter Sunday service
Sunday, April 20th (11:00am)

THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD BANK

The Thunder Bay Food Bank has expressed their gratitude for our donations as follows:

"To the minister, staff, and congregation of St. Andrew's, thank you from the Thunder Bay Food Bank for your ongoing support of our efforts. We so appreciate your generous food donations. Thank you for being such good neighbours, to us and the clients we serve. Happy New Year!"



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Next Sunday, **February 23rd**, will be Children's Sunday, during which we will celebrate our youngest members.



A special children's activity will be offered.

From Joyce

For the last while, if you have been reading the newsletter, you will have seen the announcement regarding The Music Class. So, in case you have been wondering what that is about, here you go. For about four hours each week, when the ten-week program is up and running, I go from being Rev. Joyce to Miss Joyce. This is a music program that I taught in my former life back in Northern Alberta. There I also taught piano, but I gave all that up when I had the call to ministry. Well, I gave almost all of it up. I always held on to what would be needed for this program as I thought one day it might be wonderful to run it in whatever church I would go to. And for the last few years it has been one that I have been leading at St. Andrew's. It started in 2018, then of course there was a break with Covid, but we got back up and running in the fall of 2022 and since have done it in the fall and winter.

What started out as two classes a week has become four classes as of this winter as interest continues to grow. We now have 32 families involved in the classes. That translates to 46 children ranging in age from a few months to four years of age coming through our doors. The class that was developed by a musician and teacher in Atlanta, teaches the basics of music, beat and melody. Its process is much like how we expose children to books to teach them to read. Even when they are infants we start reading to little ones, and like that, this program introduces infants and pre-school children to appreciate and learn some of the most basic elements of music, but it is done in such a fun way that one might not realize all that the children are learning.

Now there are a number of reasons I teach this class and they don't really rank in order of importance, but all are a factor in why I take the time for this. One of the reasons is to change the conversation in the community about St. Andrew's. We are well aware of the people who sit on our steps, we call them our community members. They are part of Christ's body in the world and we are called to care for them. Still, people who frequent the downtown core don't always see what we see and so our church, in conversation with others, is often referred to as the one where homeless people sit around. And this is still true, again, we care about them, but it is also wonderful to be known as the church that does that fun music program with children. So, part of the reason for the classes was to shift the perceptions about our church and congregation within Thunder Bay.

The program is also a good source of revenue for the church. This ten-week session alone will net about \$4,000.00 toward the church budget. I do not receive any remuneration for this program. I do it as part of our ministry, so all revenue goes directly to the church. Really, if I didn't love doing this, I wouldn't be doing it. There are things I miss from my former life of teaching music...the music itself, the joy of teaching music, and the hugs from little people. Seeing the joy of the families, having fun and then watching these little ones come to trust me enough to give me high fives and hugs is a blessing that sustains me over and over. To hear the stories of little ones singing and dancing to music at home makes me smile and my heart overflow.

So, there you have it in a nutshell. The Music Class brings joy to community, families, and our church. And as we sing, "I'm so happy to make music, see you next time in Music Class."

TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER



On **Friday, April 25th**, St. Andrew's will be hosting a Trivia Night fundraiser at the Slovak Legion Solarium at **6pm**. Tickets are \$25 per person, and will be sold by table of 8 (\$200).

Food and drinks will be available for purchase. There will be prizes, games, and a silent auction! Get your team together and come out for a night of fun while supporting St. Andrew's!

Tickets can be purchased through the church office (office hours are 9am-1pm, Wednesday-Friday). 807-622-4273; office.standrewspres@tbaytel.net

SUMMER CAMP

Lakeview Presbyterian Church is in the early stages of planning summer camp for 2025!

They are looking to gauge interest from campers (grade 3 and up), as well as teenage/adult volunteers. If you think you might be interested, fill out the survey by

scanning the QR code on the posters found on the bulletin boards around the church, or check out Lakeview's Facebook page.

