



# St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Responding!*

*Restoring!*

*Rejoicing!*



## I WAS THIRSTY



### I WAS THIRSTY

For the estimated 200 people in Thunder Bay experiencing homelessness, access to safe drinking water is not a guarantee. And as temperatures climb in the summer months, the need for water becomes increasingly critical. I WAS THIRSTY is an outreach mission that seeks to break down the barriers to drinking water for vulnerable people by providing it to them where they are. St. Andrew's is proud to undertake this vital community initiative as a part of our ongoing outreach work. Funds raised in support of this mission will go towards buying bottled water, which is then distributed directly to those in need by community volunteers.

Donations to this program can be made to St. Andrew's, either in person or at [offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net) (please mark donations "I Was Thirsty"), and on our website, [standrewspres-tbay.ca](http://standrewspres-tbay.ca), via CanadaHelps. To learn more, please visit [iwasthirsty.ca](http://iwasthirsty.ca), or call or email Lorne Clifford at 807-629-2631, or [cliffordlorne@gmail.com](mailto:cliffordlorne@gmail.com).



Thank you to guest organist **Carol Wehrstedt** for sharing her gifts with us during this morning's worship service!

## ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Sunday Worship - Available online at  
[standrewspres-tbay.ca](http://standrewspres-tbay.ca)

### Office Hours:

**Wednesday - Friday, 9:00am - 1:00pm**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Tue July 15 - TOPS @ 11am

### DAILY PRAYERS

**July 13** We pray for the staff and faculty at Knox College who serve with dedication and care, that God will grant them wisdom in their ministries, patience in their guidance, and joy in their calling.

**July 14** We lament that in many societies, diversity is seen as a problem rather than a gift. We pray that our global leaders may recognize diversity as a blessing to be celebrated.

**July 15** We pray for graduates of Vancouver School of Theology as they move into congregational ministries of leadership and pastoral care.

**July 16** We pray for Stephen Jackson and Dillon Hausauer, the new convenor and secretary of the Committee on Church Doctrine. May God guide them with wisdom as they lead the committee.

**July 17** We pray for people affected by dementia and their caregivers, that they would know God's love as they navigate a world of uncertainty.

**July 18** We praise God that women in Guatemala who participate in Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported workshops are learning skills that develop their self-esteem and equip them to participate politically in their communities.

**July 19** We ask for God's wisdom and guidance for the Rt. Rev. Dr. Vilmos József Kolumbán, who was installed as the 47th Bishop of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District.

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Living is giving. We live life best as we give our strengths, gifts, and competencies in the service of God's mission."



- Kennon Callahan (theologian, pastor, author)

Donations can be sent via e-transfer to  
[offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net](mailto:offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net)

## UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICE

A celebration of life for **Marjorie Pawson** will be held on Thursday, **July 24<sup>th</sup>** from **12pm-3pm** at the DaVinci Centre on Waterloo St.

## From Joyce



Not everyone is on our mailing list for the Sunday worship video, which also provides the newsletter and a shortened version of the worship service in print, so you may not have noticed that I have not been as active online in the last while as I have been over the last five years. Still, as this online ministry is part of our whole ministry, I thought I would catch everyone up on a change that is taking place with online worship.

Prior to Covid this church did not have much of an online presence. As with many congregations, that event in history changed how we connected with our members and those who happened to learn about the online ministry of St. Andrew's. At the time I made the decisions about how we would present our services, I chose to think of you sitting with me having a conversation, though a rather one-sided conversation. I hoped that it would be more personal as you sat in front of your screen to feel like I was speaking directly to you rather than an empty sanctuary.

Once we were back worshipping together in the sanctuary, I continued with the same format as we did not have the technical capability of either equipment or expertise to create a quality experience for live streaming worship, plus I kind of liked the idea that it was just me and you. Now some five years out from 2020 I am rethinking our online ministry. *New Beginnings*, which was the program that St. Andrew's participated in from 2021-2023, is still an ongoing work with us in that we are continually being curious about things we have been doing and what will best fit what we are endeavouring to become as we seek to discern what God is already doing in the community and in our church.

So, I have been pondering online worship. Though these videos are fairly short in length, usually just under thirty minutes, the time to put the video together is much longer, especially when considering what it takes for the choir or a soloist to record a hymn. Much time in the week has also been allocated for the administrative assistant to put all the pieces together and upload the video to the YouTube platform. Then there was me. The ability to meet the deadline for all the pieces to be put together has at times put a lot of pressure on me, especially in weeks where other ministry demands had to take precedence. To that end, I am changing things up. I will provide a video of just the sermon most weeks. When I am away for study leave or vacation there will be no video or print version of the service.

I am prayerful about this change. There are new narratives of hope and possibility that are emerging at St. Andrew's and I desire that volunteers, staff, and myself have the space for the creative energy and time that will be needed for us to do this new work well. This change for online worship is part of creating that space. As always, I look for feedback, ideas, and encouragement as we continue in our work as families and friends in worship and work. May God add a blessing as we look to God for our way forward so that we can respond to the needs in community, restore people to wholeness, and rejoice in what God is doing with, through, and in us and others.

### APPEAL FOR GAZA

As the Gaza Strip and other Occupied Palestinian Territories continue to suffer from ongoing violence as a result of war, humanitarian needs have continued to grow. Despite the efforts of the Israeli government to prevent aid and support, Presbyterian World Service & Development is working hard to meet the needs of the countless thousands whose lives have been devastated by violence. The scale of need is immense, and your help is vital. With your gifts, PWS&D will be able to provide food and financial assistance, as well as access to water and sanitation services, shelter, primary health care, and mental health support.

Together, our efforts will make a difference!

Please mark donations in support of this initiative as "Gaza Relief."

### MISSION MOMENT

After contracting polio in her youth, Akelwela Adanladi was left with physical disabilities. As subsistence farmers, her parents could not afford to send her to school. Her life changed at 30 when she was identified by the Community-Based Rehabilitation program of the Presbyterian Church in Ghana. Through the program, she obtained a cloth weaving apprenticeship and access to start-up capital for her business. Now a trainer, Akelwela empowers young people through skills training. "I am able to generate enough money to meet my needs and I am so grateful to the CBR program for coming to my aid. Today, I have a beautiful life."

Mission Moments are short highlights of the mission and ministry in Canada and around the world supported by Presbyterians Sharing, and Presbyterian World Service & Development.