



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

July 27th, 2025

Responding!

Restoring!

Rejoicing!



AUGUST UPDATES



Rev. Joyce will be on study leave and vacation for the month of August, and Rev. Kerry McLaughlin will be leading Sunday worship services in her absence, from **August 3rd**, to **August 31st**.

Please note too that the church office will be closed between **August 4th** and **August 8th**, resuming regular hours (Wednesday - Friday, 9am - 1pm) on **August 13th**.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Tue July 29 - TOPS @ 11am

IMPORTANT UPDATE ABOUT RESERVING CHURCH SPACE

Over the past year, St. Andrew's has been very fortunate to see use of our church increase significantly. This is through a combination of both outside renters, as well as our own internal activities. Once we move into the fall, the church will only get busier. In order to avoid any confusion or booking conflicts, it is important that everyone is aware of the process for reserving church space.



The front office now has a calendar that lists all of the dates and times at which the various rooms in the church are booked. Please note that this calendar is for reference use only, and not to be filled out by anyone other than the administrative assistant. If you wish to book space, please contact the office with as much advance notice as possible.

This applies to all, including events and meetings that have been longstanding or ongoing. It also applies to any prep time that may be necessary, not just the activity itself.

As more people use this space, it has become more important to be clear and thorough in our booking process. We are grateful for all who use our church, and appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that everyone is able to do so!

MISSION MOMENT



In the village of Kaph Tola, India, the Karuna Project's Task Force addresses gender issues, including child marriage and its consequences. When a member discovered that his 15-year-old niece, Amba, was scheduled to marry soon, the Task Force urged her family to cancel the wedding as it would impact her ability to continue school and influence her future. The family hesitated because of the paid dowry, but with help from a local legal team, the Task Force convinced them. Amba is grateful. Now, she can continue pursuing her education and achieving her dreams. The Task Force continues its vital home visits, fostering brighter futures by preventing similar situations. This project is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development.

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.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Sunday Worship - Available online at
standrewspres-tbay.ca

Office Hours:

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

APPEAL FOR GAZA

As the Gaza Strip and other Occupied Palestinian Territories continue to suffer from the ongoing 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, but 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 to those affected. Together, our efforts will make a difference! Please mark donations in support of this initiative as "Gaza Relief."

From Joyce



I made my return to Pres-B children's camp at Camp Duncan this past week. It has been a number of years since I have been out for the week and even at that, due to a couple of commitments, I arrived a day later than everyone else and then had an overnight break at home to attend a gathering on Thursday. Unlike former years where I was a senior counsellor and had responsibilities for a cabin of girls, this time I was in the kitchen. Not my comfort zone, unless it is my own kitchen, but it was where help was needed. However, one can always learn a lot about oneself when you branch out into unknown realms, in this case, a camp kitchen. Those learnings may show up as sermon illustrations lol!

One thing I do know is that I still enjoy leading kids in singing and hanging out with them. That gives me energy. I also had the wonderful opportunity to connect with a couple of young women who had been at camp when they were young and I was a counsellor. There was so much joy in seeing one another. Though I never grew up going to camps such as this, I see how strong bonds can be made when people meet for just a week over the course of a few years, and even between the generations. Those young women are now themselves giving of their time and energy to help other children have the formative camp experiences they had also enjoyed and benefitted from. I continue to enjoy connecting with the kids, some having their first camp experience, others that are there for a second time. It is an honour when children begin to trust you with their stories, their time, and care. It may be my last time at camp. Next year I already know that I will be away at the time when camp will happen, but I am grateful for the reminder of just how important this ministry is and I pray that the camp will continue to grow and be fruitful for the kids and for those who volunteer their time to make it happen.

DAILY PRAYERS

July 27 We give thanks for ethnic minority church members who bring the richness of their cultures to our churches, enriching our communities and reflecting the fullness of God's kingdom.

July 28 We pray for all those in the Republic of Congo experiencing the impact of ongoing conflict. We pray that they can meet their basic needs with PWS&D's support.

July 29 We give thanks for General Assembly standing committee members who have completed their terms and we seek God's guidance for those who will carry out this work in the coming year.

July 30 (World Day Against Trafficking) We pray for the leaders and volunteers of ARISE Ministry, who offer compassionate outreach and spiritual care to survivors of human trafficking, trauma and abuse in the Greater Toronto Area.

July 31 We pray for participants in this year's Guder Scholar program at St Andrew's Hall. In August, pastors from across Canada will explore the theme of missional leadership and discernment as they seek to bless their congregations and communities with God's love.

August 1 (Emancipation Day) We acknowledge that anti-Black racism and prejudice are still present in our church and society and pray for people who work to oppose discrimination and all forms of enslavement.

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.



I WAS THIRSTY

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

August 2 We pray for scholars of theology and scripture, that their work will be in the service of the gospel, and the power of God's salvation for everyone.