



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

July 12th, 2026

Responding! Restoring! Rejoicing!



MISSION MOMENT



Presbyterians
Sharing

Thanks to a grant made possible through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, Zion Presbyterian Church in Charlottetown, PEI has now added a modern elevator to their 113-year-old historic building. This new addition provides those with physical challenges access to the Doreen Gray Youth Centre and Sunday School classrooms located on the second floor. Additionally, the lower level of the building, where many meetings and dinners take place, has now become accessible to the many seniors who have, until now, missed out on many congregational events because they could not navigate the stairs. This welcome upgrade has revitalized Zion Church's social, educational, and community programs, ensuring all members can engage more fully.

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Tues July 14 - TOPS @ 11am
Thurs July 16 - Event Planners @ 10am

VENEZUELA APPEAL

A state of emergency was declared in Venezuela after two powerful earthquakes struck on June 24th. Residential and commercial buildings have collapsed, and there is considerable damage to critical infrastructure, including roads and public facilities. Heavily affected areas remain difficult to access. Donations are urgently needed. The Presbyterian Church in Canada's relief and development agency, Presbyterian World Service & Development, is able to respond through the ACT Alliance, which has members operating in Venezuela. Immediate needs assessments are taking place with plans to respond as soon as possible.



Contributions to the relief fund can be made directly to St. Andrew's. Please mark donations intended for this purpose as "Venezuela Relief."

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord."



- James L. Kraft (entrepreneur, inventor)

Donations to St. Andrew's can be sent via e-transfer to offerings.standrewspres@tbaytel.net

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Vivian Ketchum is a Survivor of the Cecelia Jeffrey Residential School in Kenora, which was founded by the Presbyterian Church in 1902, and operated by the PCC until 1925 (it continued to operate under different governance until its closure in 1976). On June 18th, Ketchum accompanied the Rev. Victor Kim, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, to a gifting ceremony hosted by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). Florence Painter, who is a residential school Survivor, and Stephanie Scott, the Executive Director of the NCTR, presented the PCC with a bronze eagle feather. The ceremony was in recognition of the contributions made by the PCC, the Anglican Church of Canada, and the United Church of Canada toward the construction of the NCTR's permanent home on the grounds of the University of Manitoba. For more information on the NCTR, please visit their website: nctr.ca



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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standrewspres-tbay.ca

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

I WAS THIRSTY - A MISSION MEASURED IN BOTTLED AND DEFINED BY PEOPLE

Update provided by Lorne Clifford, founder and Managing Director of the I WAS THIRSTY outreach mission.



We are more than three weeks into the mission and our daily deliveries and the outreach numbers for the first weeks of the outreach mission tell part of the story:

273 cases
6,552 bottles
3,276 litres of water
7,222 pounds delivered
727 kilometres travelled

But behind every bottle is a person and a story. During this week's deliveries, we returned to the McVicar's Creek site where we were greeted by Mike - a short, stocky man with thick red hair and a beard that looks like he stepped out of a Tolkien story. Mike carries the scars of survival, including the loss of many of his fingers due to exposure, but what stands out most is his spirit. Mike has become a familiar face and a trusted liaison at the site. He welcomes us with a smile, helps identify who is in the greatest need, and works alongside us as we carry the water down the hill into the living area. He is genuinely happy to see us arrive and eager to help others around him. Mike shared something that is difficult to hear - although they live beside a river, the water is not safe to drink. Access to clean water is not a convenience; it is a daily challenge.

At the Kam River site, we met again with a young Indigenous woman, Ashleigh, who always greets us with a smile. This week she shared how important this mission has become for her and others living there. She explained that finding safe water is extremely difficult. Many people spend their days searching for firewood so they can keep a fire going and boil water just to make it safer. Without access to clean water, some are forced to rely on the Kaministiquia River - only a short distance downstream from the paper mill - knowing the water is not safe to drink. This is not the first time we have been told of people drinking straight out of the Kam without filtration. After we delivered water and spent time listening, she looked at us and said: "You are keeping us alive. God bless you - I really mean it - God bless you." Those words capture why I Was Thirsty exists. This mission is not only about delivering water. It is about dignity, compassion, and reminding people that they are seen. Every bottle represents a connection, every kilometre represents commitment, and every conversation reminds us that humanity begins with just showing up.

Volunteer positions to assist with deliveries are still available. We are also seeking two more representatives to sit on our advisory board.

Donations for the I WAS THIRSTY outreach mission may be received directly through St. Andrew's here standrewspres-tbay.ca/donate/ or by marking a donation envelope with I WAS THIRSTY.

If you are not able to donate or assist with deliveries, you can help by sharing the news of this work.

Follow us on Facebook, or directly on our website at <https://iwasthirsty.ca>

VOLUNTEER WITH US



Although things may be quieting down (at least a little!) at St. Andrew's during the summer, there's lots of activity going on behind the scenes as we prepare for a number of fun and exciting events coming up in the near future, including our Wellness Workshop, a Staged Play Reading, and the Christmas Concert! **Volunteers are needed to help in a number of roles**, both large and small. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help, please contact Jordan in the church office.

NEW LIGHTS INSTALLED

As you will surely notice if you take a quick walk through the church, new lighting fixtures have been installed throughout the entire building (with the exception of the sanctuary). Replacing these fixtures and completing all of the repairs and clean-up work that comes with it has been a massive undertaking. THANK YOU to the dedicated team of volunteers and staff who have worked so hard over the past few weeks to complete this project so efficiently!

