



St. Andrew's News

www.standrewspres-tbay.ca

September 13th, 2026

Responding!

Restoring!

Rejoicing!



CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY



After a summer break, we look forward to welcoming children & youth back into worship with us. The next Children & Youth Sunday will be **next Sunday, September 20th at 11am**, and include the **Blessing of the Backpacks**. We encourage children & youth returning to school or daycare to bring their packsacks to church to receive a special bag tag as a reminder that "God's got their back!"

CHURCH PLAY



We are excited to announce that St. Andrew's is mounting a staged reading of a new original play by Michael Lehto! The play, "**Love & the Ghost of Wolf Pepper**" is a crowd-pleasing comedy with a spooky twist. We are fortunate to have as our director, Beverley Gravelle-MacLeod who has many years of experience in Thunder Bay's theatre community. Beverley has assembled a wonderful cast of experienced, talented actors who are sure to bring this play to life. You won't want to miss it! This will be a fundraiser for the church, with tickets selling for **\$20** (available online at standrewspres-tbay.ca, or by contacting the church office. You may also purchase them after worship in the front office).

The staged reading is one night only, on **Saturday, October 17th, 2026 at 7:30pm**. Spread the word, bring some friends, and come enjoy a night of exciting local theatre while supporting St. Andrew's!

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

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Church Office E-mail:
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

Tues Sept 15 - TOPS @ 11am

Wed Sept 16 - Fun & Fitness @ 10am

Thurs Sept 17 - Book Discission @ 1pm

(*Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks* by Diana Butler Bass)

Sun Sept 20 - Coffee & Conversation @ 10:30am

BIBLE STUDY: MATTHEW FOR EVERYONE

A five-part study using N.T. Wright's
Matthew for Everyone, Part 1: Chapters 1-15
(20th Anniversary Edition with Study Guide)

Wednesdays: September 30th - October 28th
(7:00-8:30pm)

or **Thursdays: October 1st - October 29th**
(12:15pm-1:45pm)

N. T. Wright's updated translation and insightful commentary breathe fresh life into the gospel of Matthew. Here, Jesus emerges as a multifaceted figure: the long-awaited Messiah, a teacher surpassing Moses, and the compassionate Son of Man sacrificing for all. Matthew invites readers to embrace Jesus' wisdom and the transformative way of life he imparts. You can order the book yourself through Indigo or other online retailers (be sure to get the 20th anniversary edition), or ask Rev. Joyce to help you secure a copy. And please let her know if you plan to attend, either through contacting her directly or connecting with Jordan in the office. If you have been looking for a way to engage with scripture, glean new insights, and connect with others, this is a place for you.



CLEANING CREW NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help with a deep-clean of our sanctuary on **Monday, September 21st**. Clean-up will begin at **9am**, and the more people we have to help, the faster it will go! This will involve physical labour, so it's a great way to get your exercise in for the day if you are so able. If you are interested, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the front office. Please speak to the caretaker, Sheila, if you have any questions. Thanks to all who are willing to help out!

From Joyce



There are two things on my mind as I write today. One is planning ahead and the other looks to the past. First the planning ahead part. Coming up next week, September 20th is blessing of backpacks Sunday. It is a Sunday that families are encouraged to attend with children, bringing their backpacks to worship, so that we can place a blessing on the children and the coming school year. Each child receives a backpack tag to remind the children that they are loved and God goes with them. We also encourage any college and university students and all teachers to bring their bag, whatever that is for them, to also receive a blessing as this season of learning starts and they too will place a blessing on them and their bags. Even if your family does not regularly attend St. Andrew's but you wish to have this time for you child or yourself, feel free and welcome to come and be a part of this special time and worship. There are more details about this Sunday also in this newsletter.

Now to the past. On September 2nd, Gus Barclay, a beloved member of our congregation went from this life to the next and into the welcoming, loving arms of God. At 99 years of age, Gus was not the eldest member of the congregation, but up to this point he held the title of being the longest serving member of the congregation. Gus joined St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church by Profession of Faith on March 29th, 1944. At the time he would have been 16 years old. Over the years he served this congregation in many capacities, including the Board of Managers, as part of the Heritage Committee, he participated in worship services, and over all those years so much more. One of the most significant roles he had in the church was as an elder on Session. He took on that responsibility in 1996. For those who don't know what that is, the Session is the main leadership team in the church. He served for many years and had such an impact that upon his leaving that role in an active capacity, he was given the title of Elder Emeritus. This is not a title given to all who serve as an elder. The fact that he received this honour speaks to his love for and commitment to the congregation. His familiar voice, his wonderful heart and spirit, all will be missed by those who knew him. Our prayers and love go out to his wife Corrine and their family.

HOLISTIC WELLNESS WORKSHOP



St. Andrew's is excited to announce the return of our Holistic Wellness Workshop! This will be a full day of learning from a brand new panel of diverse presenters who will share with us their knowledge and expertise. This workshop is designed to help us on our own personal journeys of self-care and wellness.

The event will be held at St. Andrew's on **Saturday, September 26th, from 9:00am-3:00pm**. Lunch and refreshments will be provided, and there will be draws for prizes! Tickets are \$65 each, and are limited, so book yours today! **And please spread the word - share our post on Facebook, or request printed posters from the church office.** Tickets can be purchased online by visiting our website, standrewspres-tbay.ca, or through the office by contacting us at 807-622-4273, or office.standrewspres@tbaytel.net.



Thank you to our guest pianist, Jordan Nelson, for sharing his gift of music with us during this morning's worship service!

BUTTER FOR SHORTBREAD

Our annual shortbread sale is coming up fast, and In preparation for that, we are starting to stock up on butter. If you see **salted butter** on sale (\$4.99 or



less), please consider buying some for St. Andrew's. It can be brought to the church any Sunday, or during office hours, to be stored in the freezer until it is needed. We will gratefully accept butter donations, but receipts can also be submitted to the church office for reimbursement.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Coffee & Conversation will be held **next Sunday, September 20th at 10:30am**, prior to the worship service. Join us for fellowship and refreshments!

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

- 1 Peter 4:10

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

