

TRINITY-ST.ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



*October 2025
Newsletter*



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A note from Rev. Wanda

As always, I feel my life is blessed by being in ministry with all of you; I am inspired by your energy, your commitment, and the faith that guides all we do as a community.

I write this note as we head into the darker, shorter days of autumn and winter... and yet the sun is shining brightly, the leaves are still vibrant and the sky is clear the way it only is in cooler weather.

Do you have a seasonal spiritual practice? I find sometimes I can be distracted from prayer by the rhythm of the world around me, and it helps to engage each season alongside the One who gives us these seasons - Creation season was a joy to celebrate! I wonder how we can all engage these longer nights in a faithful, meaningful way? I hear many bemoaning the loss of summer, and if you don't like the cold, I get it! But what can we do to live in the present moment, present season, and give thanks for even one thing?

For me, harvesting the tomatoes, lavender, lemongrass, and peppers from the garden is process of deep gratitude and awe. The tomatoes that looked like tiny pears all summer are now plump and red, ready for pasta sauce!

Not all of us are blessed to have a vegetable garden, but maybe you can sit, even briefly, in the chilly air and breathe, give thanks, and feel the breath of fall on your skin?

Or if you are an early riser, take advantage of the later sunrises and stand out under the sparkling stars. Even looking out your window can place you in this moment and time, and for 60 seconds, we can let go of all the worries that consumed us this day.

Whatever you do, however your day is going, whatever you are feeling in your heart, may trust that God is with you, Christ is guiding you, and the Spirit is giving you the energy you need to find abundant life.

in gratitude and awe

Rev. Wanda Stride

Recorded Sermons and Messages

Some of you might not know that we have a YouTube channel! We are still working on regular material, but the intention is to post snippets of sermons and other videos that capture the faith and community life of our church. [Be sure to visit it by clicking here!](#)

Our most recent post, by popular demand, is the wonderful message delivered by Dr. Shelley Knott-Fife, elder and councillor from Curve Lake First Nation. [You can find her video here:](#)

Minister for “first third” ministry

We are blessed at Trinity-St Andrew's to have two retired ministers living out their calling among us. Pastor Ian Robb visits so many of you in your homes, and keeps us all connected when someone needs to know they are loved and missed by their faith family. Thank you Ian for all you do, from visiting to worship leadership and attending to the spiritual health of us all in so many ways!

I wanted to lift up another retired minister who is living into a new role here at TSAUC.

Rev. Jackie Harper spent her career creating and leading curriculum for children and adults wanting to learn more about their faith. As staff with the national church and Bay of Quinte Conference, she helped the us live into our calling to seek justice and resist evil.

Jackie is now our point person / staff person for “first third” ministry, a relatively new term that describes all the ways we gather, teach and learn from people in the first third of their lives (usually up to age 30 or so). As you know, Jackie has already been active on the Youth and Christian Education Committee by helping and leading the Holy Wondering time, and this new role, an additional 8 hours a week, will help us connect first third ministry with our affirm and equity ministries, and help us to create new space for youth programming in our community. Jackie, we are so blessed by you and Ian, and your generous volunteerism, and your inspiring example of faith and discipleship.

Many blessings upon you both



I am already aware.

Devotional

God is renowned in Judah; in Israel his name is great. His tent is in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion. There he broke the flashing arrows, the shields and the swords, the weapons of war. – Psalm 76:1-3 (NIV)

When I pray, I sometimes feel like a newscaster listing off serious events going on in the world. “God, there is catastrophic climate change all around,” I might call out to the Divine. When I catch myself doing this, it always breaks me out of my prayerful mode.

A voice in my head snidely points out that God is, in fact, already aware of what is going on in the world. There is not a sparrow that falls to the earth but that God knows about it. So why am I playing the role of an evening news anchor informing the Almighty of the day’s goings on? This bothers me about my prayer life; it makes me feel somehow frivolous.

But then I read this passage from the Book of Psalms. And here in the prayer book *par excellence*, we see the psalmist informing God about all sorts of things that God already knows. God’s renown in Judah? Yeah, God is already aware of that.

Maybe I need to cut myself some slack in regard to my prayer life. Maybe I need to let the prayers flow from my spirit in whatever form they take, not worrying about gussying them up before bringing them to the Almighty’s attention.

If you’re like me, and you beat yourself up over your prayer life, take a lesson from the Book of Psalms. Just pray. Because even if your prayer life isn’t perfect, God is already aware of that.

Prayer

God, thank you for hearing our prayers with grace and love.



Eastern Daylight Time ends!

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour this Saturday night, November 1!! We will have a pot of coffee on at the church just in case you show up early. For the rest of you, enjoy that extra hour of sleep!

My impressions of General Council 45



45th General Council

I attended General Council 45 in Calgary in August along with Brian Ostrander and Rev Wanda Stride. I am a Commissioner duly elected by our Regional Council.

This would be my second time I have been a Commissioner to General Council. I was at Cornerbrook NL in 2015 when I was part of Toronto Conference.

I was quite impressed with the organization and the logistics of how well the General Council conducted itself. I appreciated the many hours of discussion group which then provide the time need to make decisions on policy and so forth. I appreciated the voices and views from all over Canada and the world.

I was especially impressed by the faith and dedication of our youth delegates. Those delegates referred to as First Third delegates. Their dedication to our church and their faith left me with confidence that our church is in good hands for the future.

Yes, our future may look bleak with numbers and available funds heading for the floor rather quickly, but there is hope and optimism that the church can rise to the challenge and reinvent itself.

Submitted by Paul Cook

Commissioner to General Council 45

My impressions of General Council 45 in Calgary



Welcoming All



Christmas Treasures Sale

in the Hall at Trinity-St. Andrew's
United Church in Brighton

November 7 9:00am-8:00pm

November 8 9:00am-4:00pm

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church
56 Elizabeth Street, Brighton, Ontario
613-475-1311
admin@trinitystandrews.ca



Christmas Bazaar Nov. 7&8

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat ,
Let's pitch in,

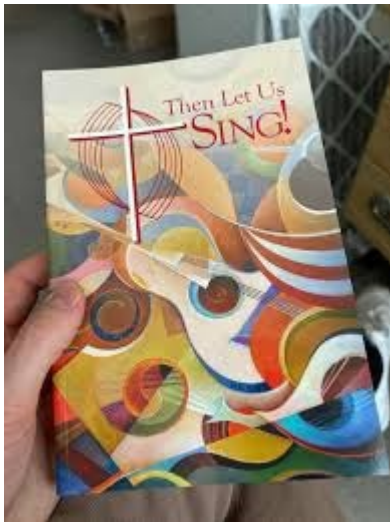
And have fun with this and that!!

Yes, we are having A Christmas Treasures Sale this year on Friday November 7 and Saturday November 8.

We need VOLUNTEERS who can give us a couple of hours of their time to help set up tables and put out sale items on Thursday Nov. 6, or helping on Friday from 9 to 8 pm or on Saturday Nov. 8, from 9:00 to 4:00 pm for the sale would be greatly appreciated. There will be sign-up sheets indicating different 2-hour time slots. They are posted on the Hall Bulletin board in case you drop into the office during the week and will be available for signing on Sunday mornings after Service.

This is a FUN TIME of socializing and getting to know other members of the congregation better, as well as meeting new people in the area. This is a great way to do STEWARDSHIP for Trinity-St.Andrew's Church.

Ordering new hymn books



You may have noticed some unfamiliar hymns and service music in our worship since September. This past summer the United Church of Canada introduced its first new hymn resource since *More Voices* was published in 2009. Our world has changed a lot since then, and the new songs in this resource reflect the theology and diversity of United Church folks.

We would like to place a bulk order of hymn books for those who would like to have their own copy. There is a slight discount in price, and we would save on shipping fees. They are currently reprinting books, so we cannot guarantee they would arrive before Christmas.

November 16 at 7pm
Doors Open at
6:30pm



The Dove
Presents

Guy Davis

"Guy uses a blend of Roots, Blues, Folk, Rock, Rap, Spoken Word, and World Music to comment on, and address the frustrations of social injustice, touching on historical events, and common life struggles."



Live Music Concert

The Dove

(at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church)
56 Prince Edward St. Brighton, ON
613-475-1311

Tickets \$35

available at the Church Office or Lighthouse Books, Main St.

for ticket info - www.trinitystandrews.ca or
thedoveinbrighton.ca



Upcoming Services

November 2 All Saints Day, we will be lighting candles in memory of our loved ones

November 9 Remembrance Sunday

November 16 Rev. Wanda is in Vancouver on study leave, and Pastor Ian Robb is taking the service on “children’s Sunday”

November 23 Anniversary Sunday, guest speaker Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly
(and Welcoming New Members and New Roles)

November 30 Advent One (hope), Communion Sunday, guest speaker Rev. Tori Mullin, growth animator for the East Central Ontario Regional Council (with afternoon event to follow)

December 7 Advent Two (peace)

December 14 Advent Three (joy)

December 21 Advent Four (love)

December 24 7:00 pm a fun-filled, faithful adaptation of the Nativity story

9:00 pm contemplative, Christmas communion worship

December 28 10:30 am Unscripted hymn sing, by request

January 4 Rev. Wanda away, Rev. Jackie Harper leading worship

January 11 Rev. Wanda away, Rev. Jackie Harper leading worship



Anniversary & Guests from the Wider Church

New life, new events, a new season

God is up to something new - can you feel it? There are several events happening in November that we hope you will be part of!



Anniversary Sunday, November 23, we will hear from our regional council executive minister, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly as he challenges us to think about who we serve in our churches - it is God? the community around us? or do we spend more of our energy on ourselves and our building?



The following Sunday, **Advent 1, Nov 30**, Tori Mullin, another staffer from our regional council, in charge of growing congregations, will be speaking during worship. Tori will challenge us to be bold in sharing the good news of our faith, to deepen our spirituality, and to dare to “seek justice and resist evil” in the world today. Then later that afternoon, at 2:00pm in our community hall, Tori Mullin will lead a group of local communities of faith in exercises to consider new ways of being church.

If you wish to be part of that, please RSVP with Pamela in the church office before November 28.



Welcoming All

Brighton 2025



Santa Claus Parade



Friday, November 21, 2025
Parade starts at 7:00pm

If you are joining us to walk in the parade,
meet in front of the Hall at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church
in Brighton at **5:45pm**

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church
56 Prince Edward Street, Brighton, Ontario
613-475-1311
www.trinitystandrews.ca





From the Youth and Christian Education Committee

In addition to our Holy Wondering time which happens during church on Sundays, we have a number of other programs for children, youth and young adults.

TSAUC After School Drop-in Program... Mondays from 2:30-6:30pm we will have snacks and activities in the hall for youth ages 10 and up. We hope to provide a safe, welcoming space after school. Please let Bets or Stephanie know if you are interested in helping either regularly or occasionally as a substitute.

Coffee and a Book... Tuesdays from 1:00pm-2:30pm we are welcoming homeschooling families and anyone else who would like to join in. We will have coffee, tea, and other snacks plus books and activities.

Kids Craft... Wednesdays starting at 5:30pm there will be a free craft available for children (and the young at heart) in the Sunday School room. Come early for Supper's Ready at 5:00pm or just drop in for the craft.

Youth and Young Adult Discussion Group - 2nd and 4th Sundays
from 12:30-1:30pm

Poppy Project... From Sept 20th till November 11th we are invited to intentionally pray for peace. As a visible symbol of this prayer and longing for peace we, at TSA, are all invited to make poppies. The goal is to make strands of poppies that we would use to decorate the railings leading into our church and hall. Starting on October 19th we will begin attaching the ones already made and then begin looping them on the outdoor railings. There are knitting and crochet patterns available from the office. As well, every Sunday we will have foam and templates available to cut out poppies that can be added to the strands and eventually to the railings. Even if you don't feel especially creative, please consider making at least one poppy, as a visible commitment to your longing for peace in your life, in this community and in the world. We will have resources for red poppies for remembrance, white poppies for peace, and purple poppies in honour of service animals.



Celebrate United Churches across Canada with our 2026 calendar!

This bilingual calendar features colourful photos from communities of faith across the country plus all the special days, church seasons, and lectionary dates. Please let the office know if you would like a calendar and we will place a bulk order.

Please let Pamela know by Nov 9.



Transgender Day of Remembrance

Transgender Day of Remembrance will be observed on **November 20, 2025**, to honor and memorialize those who have lost their lives due to anti-transgender violence. This annual event includes vigils and activities aimed at raising awareness about the violence faced by the transgender community.

As we did last year, the Affirm and Equity Committee plans to host a candlelight vigil on the evening of Thursday, November 20th at the church to mark this important event.

Because trans people are facing ever increasing threats to their safety and access to appropriate medical care, please join us to show your solidarity in supporting the rights of trans people in Canada, the USA and throughout the world. Please mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details.



Home Rainbow Youth Centre video

A short 5-minute video was recently created to showcase Brighton's LGBTQ+ Home Rainbow Youth Centre located at the back of the Tin Roof Ice Cream Shop.

Meg Fox, creator of the youth centre, Dane Record, Executive Director of the Peterborough AIDS Resource Network, Amy McQuaid, parent and supporter of the centre and Jeanette Cournoyer from Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church were interviewed to share their views for the video. We hope the video will help to promote knowledge of this great resource in our community and encourage businesses and citizens to support it through donations of time, energy and/or funds.

The video can be viewed at the following link: <https://vimeo.com/1115882321?share=copy>

is someone you love

LGBTQ⁺?

This group is for **parents, grandparents,** and **loved ones** of LGBTQ+ people who would like to share their experiences and learn how to **support** their loved ones.

us too!



meet in "the Dove"

at TRINITY · ST. ANDREWS
UNITED CHURCH

56 PRINCE EDWARD ST.
BRIGHTON

6:30-
8:00
p.m.

LGBTQ+ FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
FIRST TUESDAY · EVERY MONTH



Presquile
Animal Hospital

e-mail =

brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com

LGBTQ+ Family Support Group

Our goal is to provide a safe, open and non-judgmental space for parents, grandparents and loved ones of LGBTQ+ family members to share experiences and support each other. This is the only in-person support group of its kind in Northumberland County and attendance has continued to grow over the past year.

We welcome members from anywhere in Northumberland County and beyond who would like to share experiences and learn how to support their LGBTQ+ loved ones.

The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Quiet Room at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church. The next meetings are Tuesday, November 4 and December 2, 2025. For more information, please contact brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com.

Communications Committee

Our electronic sign is up and running. Our new look for the website is complete and will be going live shortly. We've increased our posts on Facebook and Instagram so that we now have a uniform look and predictable frequency. We have templates to use to quickly (and we hope easily) create posters and posts for social media. Our plan is coming together!

We are continuing to work on increasing our social media presence with a recognizable image. To help us effectively and consistently do this we will be asking that our church committees continue to keep us updated for events they are planning. We have also developed a form you can use to let us know about your event and where you would like it promoted which will be distributed to committee chairs and available at the office. We can provide templates and training if you would like to make your posters but we are happy to make them for you as well.

If you wish to post something on the TSAUC Facebook or Instagram accounts, please email communications@trinitystandrews.ca for scheduling it so we can make sure our feed doesn't get too cluttered or confusing. For more information about communications, just reach out! We are always looking for new members, and there are jobs that don't require monthly meetings - just let us know how you want to help or what you want to know.



Time apart during Advent

Are you like me, and find the madness and expense of Christmas become so overwhelming, that you forget the deep truth of this season; that God loves us so much, God entered into our lives, breathed our air, touched our skin and walked with us on dusty roadways. Do you forget amid all the commercialism, that Jesus was born into poverty, during a time of oppression?

If you are longing to set aside some time and for just an hour each week, breathe slowly, rest in God's presence, and remember the gift that is ours, please come to church on Saturday afternoons, November 29, December 6, 13 and 20, from 3:00 - 4:00, and take a break from the chaos of Xmas, to rest in the beauty of Christmas.

We will offer guided meditations, labyrinth walks, music and spiritual writing for adults, while your little ones enjoy a program of their own with our team of children's story-tellers and crafters. For more information please reach out to the office.



Welcoming All



Ten Thousand Villages

Fair Trade Sale in Brighton



**Ten Thousand
VILLAGES**

COBOURG

*Buy a Gift that
Supports the World*



Sri Lanka



Haiti



Canada/Syria



Vietnam



Nicaragua

Fri. Dec. 5 6:00-8:00pm

Sat. Dec. 6 10:00am-2:00pm

Sun. Dec 7 after church and 4:00-5:00pm



in the Hall at Trinity-St.Andrew's
United Church in Brighton



Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church
56 Prince Edward Street, Brighton, Ontario
613-475-1311
admin@trinitystandrews.ca



Fair Trade Pre-Christmas Sale

Please join us in the church hall for an opportunity to support Fair Trade and buy quality, ethical items for yourself and your Christmas list. Fair Trade helps improve the income, the health care, and the education of artisans and their communities around the world. Among the huge selection of items you'll find Christmas ornaments from Vietnam, olive oil from Palestine, musical instruments from Bali, scarves from India, cinnamon from Sri Lanka, and so very much more.

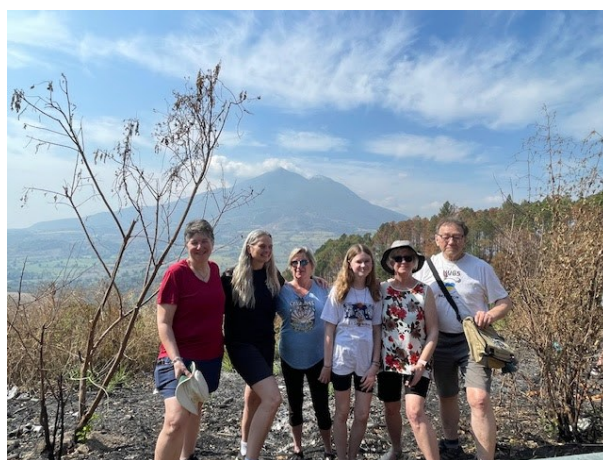
If you wish to volunteer, contact Helmut at helmutjanet@gmail.com

Our sale hours are:

Friday, December 7th, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, December 8th, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 9th, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. and 4:00 – 5:00



El Salvador

We have good news! We are traveling to El Salvador over the March Break of 2026, and you are invited to join us! In 2024 six of us traveled with a larger group from the East Central Ontario Regional Council, and learned about our global partners in San Salvador. We helped with a bible school, helped install irrigation and septic systems, but even more importantly, we made friends. I am willing to bet a few people felt their lives changing over the course of the week.

This year our group of teenagers and adults will come from British Columbia, Ottawa, as well as our own regional council. We don't know final costs yet, but last time they were roughly \$2,000 per person. There are subsidies available if that is a barrier for you.

If you are interested, please reach out to Rev. Wanda at the office.

Deadline for applications is November 18. You would be expected to attend two zoom meetings (November 25, January 27) and one in person meeting, February 21, location to be announced.



JP CORMIER



A GREAT AFTERNOON OF MUSIC!

THE DOVE

TRINITY-ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, 56 Prince Edward St Brighton

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28 4:00 PM
(doors open 3:30)

TICKETS \$35

available at Lighthouse books, at the church 613-475-1311
or scan the QR code



www.jpcormier.com

J.P. Cormier

comes to Brighton!

Join us at 4:00 pm (doors open at 3:30) for John Paul "J.P." Cormier, a Canadian bluegrass/folk/Celtic singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. To date he has won thirteen East Coast Music Awards and one Canadian Folk Music Award. Cormier was born in London, Ontario and began playing guitar around age five.



This is a friendly reminder that Trinity-St. Andrew's is a scent free environment. Please be mindful that many people suffer from scent-triggered reactions.