

**TRINITY-ST.ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**



*May/June 2026  
Newsletter*



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## *A note from Rev. Wanda*

Peace, strength and love to you all on these beautiful spring days.

It is a pleasure, as always, to be able to present this newsletter to you all, highlighting the wonderful new and ongoing activities in our busy community of faith!

Do you believe in signs? What do you think they mean? I know many of us have stories about wildlife, in particular birds, that behave in such a way we think we are being visited by loved ones who have died.

But what about other signs? Lately I've been paying attention to themes or particular details that keep popping up, that grab my attention. I don't always understand why, but sometimes it's ok to notice that something is trying to capture your attention, and to simply rest in the unknown. My favourite prayer these days is "Jesus, what are you trying to tell me? What do I need to know?"

Trust me when I tell you that Jesus is trying to tell you something as well! Pay attention, listen, and wonder... and if you need to talk about what is going on, please reach out and let's marvel and God's work in your life together!

In the meantime I pray that you find deep meaning in the most mundane days of your life. I pray that you see God's hand leading you down new paths. I pray that you are filled with gratitude at the new life emerging all around us, even when your days are difficult and even painful. As the apostle Paul says,

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! **5** Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. "

### **Philippians 4**

With gratitude for being in ministry with you all. I LOVE what God is doing in our place!

Rev. Wanda



Trinity-St. Andrew's has welcomed Kimberlie Hood and David Richards for a 12 week employment with our community of faith.

Through the work of the Youth and Christian Education Committee and the Outreach committee and with the approval of Council we applied for two climate motivator positions, a national church program promoting care of creation. We are delighted to share that we have been successful in securing grants to employ two young adults from May 18th to August 9th.

In partnership with the United Church of Canada, the Canadian Federal Government Summer Grants, and seeking other church grants we found funding. With this funding, we advertised and interviewed for persons ages 18 to 25 to fill these positions. Kimberlie and David were the successful applicants, and we covenanted with them on Sunday May 17th.

As we seek to care for creation and live in respectful relations, it is our plan, through the climate motivators work, to expand the container gardens and support for the sharing table. We will also work on expanding the pollinator gardens and increasing our awareness of the importance of this essential work in caring for the pollinators that help with food security.

As we seek to grow in our understanding of the need to advocate for climate justice the climate motivators will offer weekly green/climate minutes. They will also host 3 lunch and learns on Climate Justice, and 3 evenings on climate through discussions on climate changes and viewing documentaries. They will also lead a worship service later in their employment on the ecumenical earth week worship and action, For the Love of Creation. Part of their work will be to encourage all of us to pray, learn and act for climate justice.

One of the motivators will help the congregation to engage in an energy audit to help us to ensure our building is as efficient and environmentally sustainable as possible.

The other motivator will spend time working with some of the regional council communities of faith archiving and sharing environmentally focussed curriculums for children and

youth.

Both of the climate motivators will work with the Youth and Christian Education Committee in developing and leading a VBS summer program on Caring for God's Creation. It is our hope to not only offer this VBS at TSA but also to share leadership with at least two other neighboring United Churches.

Janet Enns has agreed to be the mentor for the climate motivators. There is also a support committee that has worked in the development of this project and will be available as support, both in person and on line and we hope to continue our commitment to climate justice post the climate motivators employment. The support group consists of Lori Cooper, Chair of Council, Wanda Stride, minister, Janet Enns, mentor, one representative from Outreach and one representative from Youth and Christian Education, and Jackie Harper as program support.

We hope you are as excited as we are to be hosting this work and these motivators at TSA for the summer. We encourage you to participate in the events they will be facilitating and to hold them in prayer.

May all of us grow in our love and care for God's wondrous creation.

## **Our New Climate Motivators Kimberlie Hood and David Richards**

**My name is Kimberlie,** I am so excited about this position. This is my first summer with the Climate Motivator program, and I am honoured to be given the chance to connect with the people at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church here in Brighton Ontario. I'll be bringing a unique perspective on sustainability and climate change, with my background being related to the arts, and I hope to educate and be educated on how to protect the environment locally and more widely.

**My name is David.** I'm a fan of art and all things nature. I enjoy all the beauty of the bright world that God has made for us, despite being allergic to a fair amount of it. I love to draw flowers and all sorts of plants.



## **Youth and Christian Education**

The Youth & Christian Education Committee continues to be active over the next few months.

The Climate Motivators will be involved in organizing and preparing for our Vacation Bible School whose theme this year is Caring for ....God's Creation. The VBS will be held from July 6th to July 10th, 9am to 11:30am. Volunteers will be needed for the VBS. Anyone 18 or older will require a police check.

We will continue to have activities for the Holy Wonderers in worship and hall on Sunday mornings until the end of June and then we will provide back of the hall activities for the rest of the summer.

The young adults group continues to meet the 2nd and the 4th Sundays after church with Rev. Wanda. We provide lunch for them to enjoy over their meeting time. Anyone interested in helping with a simple lunch please speak to Rev. Jackie. We can reimburse for any expenses.

# SUZIE VINNICK



**Friday May 29 7:00 pm**  
at The Dove

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church, Brighton



**Tickets \$30**

Lighthouse Books

Trinity-St. Andrew's office

email [tickets@events-brighton.ca](mailto:tickets@events-brighton.ca)



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Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church • 56 Prince Edward Street  
613-475-1311

## Second Prayer Beads Workshop

Have you noticed the prayer beads at the back church, waiting to go into a welcome bag for visitors and newcomers? If you would like to be part of that ministry, join us **June 3 from 1-3pm** for another opportunity to bead together. No experience necessary, all material provided. Please let the office know by Tuesday June 2 if you wish to attend.

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## The Envelope Wall is back



Starting this month, you'll notice the return of the **Envelope Wall** in the hall. This is a simple, prayerful way to support our upcoming projects and operations.

Whether it's a small token or a larger gift, we invite you to take an envelope as you feel led and as the spirit moves you. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps us continue our mission together. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

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The Pow Wow season has begun. Hiawatha First Nation held their Pow Wow at Serpent Mound on May 14 & 15. Three reasonably local Pow Wows over the summer are:  
Alderville First Nation. July 11-12

Tyendinaga First Nation August 8-9

Curve Lake First Nation September 19-20

In most cases, there will be a sunrise service, at which we are welcome. If you are curious about protocol, one source is <http://canadianpowwows.ca>

You are also invited to contact a member of the Outreach Committee.

## 2026 POW WOWS





Welcoming All

# VBS



*Venturing in Biblical Stories*



## Caring For...



# God's Creation

For Ages: **4-12**

July 6th-10th:

**9:00AM-11:30AM**

**Completely Free**

***Please Register by July 3rd With Information Below***

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church  
56 Prince Edward Street, Brighton, Ontario  
613-475-1311  
[www.trinitystandrews.ca](http://www.trinitystandrews.ca)





## Summer Congregational Party

John and I cordially invite you all to come to our home this summer for a pool/appetizer/lounge-around-inside party to celebrate summer, and to celebrate all the hard work, deep faith and beautiful service that has happened in our community this past year.

Please consider joining us on Saturday July 11 (rain date of Sunday July 12, call to be made the Friday before) from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Bring your family, your bathing suits and anything that will make the afternoon more fun for you.

In addition to a warm welcome, John and I will provide:

- non-alcoholic drinks
- Chicken satay skewers, mini sausage rolls, cauliflower bites and other finger food
- Hot dogs
- Chips and dips
- Smiles!

Please RSVP to [minister@trinitystandrews.ca](mailto:minister@trinitystandrews.ca)

Rev. Wanda Stride and John Futhey

## When the Water Overflows

by [Samantha Houser](#) | published on May 21, 2026

*While Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” – John 7:37-38 (NRSV)*

During the Festival of Booths, a priest would draw water from a nearby pool and pour it out at the temple altar each day. A ritual of remembrance and hope, recalling God’s provision in the wilderness and praying for life-giving rain.

An act of memory and trust, a way of honoring the God who provides in dry places. It is sacred, intentional, a rhythm that has carried people through seasons of uncertainty. When Jesus speaks, the ritual has already taken place.

And Jesus steps directly into it, taking what is already holy and opening it wider: “If anyone is thirsty...”

That’s the invitation. A reminder to the people that the source has never been limited to one place or one moment.

Then the promise expands beyond expectation: “Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.”

Not a single pouring, but an ongoing movement. Not something contained to ritual alone, but something alive in bodies, in communities, in the ordinary and the unexpected. An invitation to remember that the Spirit is neither diminished by structure nor confined by it. She flows through the rituals that have sustained us, and beyond them. Through prayers we have memorized and the ones we do not yet have words for. Through the places we expect to meet God and the places we were told God would not be.

The invitation still stands.

Come and drink. And trust that what you receive will not run dry, but will flow—through you, into a world that is still learning how to receive what it cannot control.

### **Prayer**

Spirit of living water, meet me in my thirst. Not the version I present, but the one I carry beneath the surface. Loosen what I have tried to control. Move through me in ways that bring life—to myself and to others. And give me the courage to trust where you are already flowing.

# Broadview

## **What if small churches are not failing — but leading the future?**

Dear friends,

Across Canada, small churches are no longer the exception — they are the norm. Most churches today are small.

The question facing many communities has shifted from how to return to what once was, to how to embrace what is — and discover the strength, resilience and possibility within it. That's why we are excited to announce Broadview's upcoming Small Church Issue — a special September/October 2026 edition dedicated to the creativity, faithfulness and impact of small churches across Canada.

Inside, you'll find:

- theological reflections that reframe “small” as a strength
- stories of congregations discovering new purpose and vitality
- practical tools for leaders navigating change
- wisdom from innovators reimagining ministry
- new models of partnership, outreach and community connection
- lessons about what small churches can offer the world

If you are part of a small church — or your church is becoming one — this issue is for you. And there are two meaningful ways to participate:

→Order Copies for Your Community

This special print issue is designed to be used and shared — in leadership meetings, small groups, congregational discussions and regional gatherings. It's perfect for: church leaders and councils, ministry teams, congregational visioning conversations, small group studies and ecumenical or regional gatherings. Learn more and order copies here.

→Honour a Small Church or Leader

Small churches quietly hold communities together. Too often, their impact goes largely unrecognized. With a tax-deductible donation, you can honour a small church near and dear to your heart — or a lay or clergy leader — who shaped your life. Their name will be included in a special Honour Roll printed in The Small Church Issue of Broadview. Learn more and donate here. The deadline is fast approaching.

Thank you for celebrating the churches that continue to nurture faith, community and hope across Canada.

Warmly,

Jocelyn Bell, Editor/Publisher, CEO

Trisha Elliott, Executive Director



## From The Worship Committee

The Worship Committee would like to advise that beginning Sunday, June 28, worship services will move back to the air-conditioned hall for the summer season. As always, the comfort and well-being of everyone is important to us. If particularly hot weather arrives before then, we may move services to the hall earlier as needed. Any changes will be announced in advance whenever possible. We look forward to worshipping together in a cool and comfortable space throughout the warmer months.

A baptism was celebrated on May 24th as Perry Lewis, the child of Brady Ash and Natasha Lewis was baptized. Rev. Ken Lewis, a former pastor of TSAUC and father of his daughter Natasha participated in administering the baptism along with Rev. Wanda.

A "newcomer and not so new newcomer breakfast" is planned for 9am on May 31st in the church hall. People interested in attending are asked to sign up to give the organizers an idea of how many to plan for.

Plans are moving along with some fresh ideas for the design of the Advent and Anniversary banners. These will be forwarded to the person designing the banners for their creative expertise to work with in preparing some banners for us to consider.

Rev. Wanda will be preaching in Alderville on June 7th with Rev. Jacquie Harper leading the service at Trinity St. Andrew's that morning. The following Sunday, June 14th, is Pride Sunday with Rev. Wanda leading the service in downtown Memorial Park. Rev. Wanda holiday's will be July 19, 26 and August 2, 9, and 16. The plan is to have different committees in the church plan a service for each of the Sunday's that she is away. As well, the Worship team is looking at planning our own Anniversary service in November with congregational participation.

Looking ahead to Sept. and Oct. the committee is planning to have some small group opportunities such as beading and cooking as examples to bring people together for fun events. Stay tuned for more information!

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Vandertoorn (co-chair)



## **Listening station**

One of the blessings of being a part of a faith community, is just that... a community of shared faith. You know you can reach out to each other or to your minister when there is something worrying you, or the state of the world overwhelms you.

Many people in our world feel isolated and anxious because they don't have this built in support. With this in mind, we have decided to set up a Listening Station at the Brighton Library, Wednesday afternoons from Mid-September to Mid-October.

Rev. Wanda will be in the lobby of the library inviting people to make appointments, or to sit down then and there and talk about their worries or joys.

Please feel free to share the word. If you have questions, just reach out. It's possible we can be a part of world peace... one conversation at a time. It's possible!

# Affirm & Equity



## Happy Pride Month!

June is Pride month across Canada and many other countries worldwide. This June, let's come together to celebrate the strength, resilience and beauty of the LGBTQIA2S+ community.

Pride isn't just a parade—it's a powerful reminder that being seen, heard and accepted is vital for mental well-being. For many, Pride events offer a sense of belonging and a chance to connect with others who understand their journey.

In the United Church of Canada and here at Trinity-St. Andrew's, we acknowledge and welcome the many different ways that people express their gender identity, sexual orientation, relational preferences and their authentic selves. Everyone is welcome!

Let's continue to support each other, celebrate our authentic selves and advocate for a world where everyone can thrive.

# CELEBRATE PRIDE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**SUNDAY JUNE 14, 2026**



## PRIDE WALK

**10:00 am**

Meet at 9:45am, rain or shine, on the rainbow steps at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church, 56 Prince Edward St., Brighton

## PRIDE WORSHIP

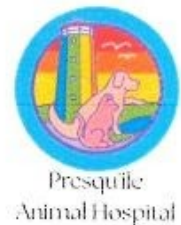
**10:30 am**

Memorial Park, Main St. & Veteran's Way, Brighton. Bring your own chair and sun hat or umbrella. In case of rain, service will move to the church at 56 Prince Edward St.

## FEATURING

- Great music
- Kids play area
- Refreshments
- Pride flags, bracelets & more

**For more info, email [admin@trinitystandrews.ca](mailto:admin@trinitystandrews.ca) or call 613-475-1311**



## Celebrate Pride on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church is celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Pride Walk and Worship Service on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>!

Assemble on the church's rainbow steps for the Pride Walk shortly before 10AM. The Pride Walk will run, rain or shine.

The Walk ends at Memorial Park where the Pride Worship Service will start at 10:30AM. In case of rain, the Worship Service will be held in the church.

We'll have great music, guest performers, a kids play area, refreshments, pride flags and other items.

Please come and show your Pride on Sunday, June 14th by supporting this year's Walk and Worship Service!

## Accessibility-Themed Service on July 26th, 2026



The Affirm & Equity Committee is committed to enhancing our congregation's understanding and knowledge of topics related to inclusion and accessibility. This summer, we are sharing a service titled "**How we speak the language of our heart**" on Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>.

The focus will be on communicating clearly in ways that are inclusive. For example, Deaf and hard of hearing people need supports to fully participate in our service and activities. We plan to share some basic words in American Sign

Language (ASL) such as hello and love and may even tackle the Lord's Prayer.

Please mark Sunday, July 26th in your calendar and join us as we learn how to "speak the language of our heart" in more inclusive ways.

## LGBTQ+ Family Support Group

We 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.

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. If you know someone who could use this kind of support, please share this information with them. It could change their lives for the better!

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, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 7th, August 4th and September 1st, 2026. For more information, please contact [brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com](mailto:brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com) or call 613-475-1311.

is someone you love

# LGBTQ+?

us too!

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.**



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 of EVERY MONTH



Presquile  
Animal Hospital

e-mail =

[brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com](mailto:brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com)



# Pie Social and Band concert

Featuring the Brighton All-Star Concert Band

*Saturday June 20, 2026*



**Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church**

Dessert, Tea & Coffee, 6:30pm

Band Concert, bring a lawn chair

Adults: \$15

Children under 10, free

