

TRINITY-ST.ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



*April 2026
Newsletter*



56 Prince

Edward St.
P.O. Box 1052
Brighton, ON K0K 1H0

Phone: 613-475-1311
E-mail: admin@trinitystandrews.ca
www.trinitystandrews.ca

A note from Rev. Wanda

Dear friends and family in Christ,

He is risen! Hallelujah.

We are deep in the season of Easter now. In our spiritual story, we are living resurrection days, when the disciples encountered the risen Christ. Some recognized him, some felt all alone. Some believed, some doubted.

It sounds like our lives today! Easter lasts until Pentecost Sunday, which is May 24th this year. We often think of that day as the birth of the church, when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples like tongues of fire.

I wonder about our community of faith, and how we live out our calling as an Easter people, trusting that the risen one is at work in the world around us, reaching out to us, calling us to follow as he goes ahead of us.

So, I have some questions for you.

Where have you seen Jesus in the past week?

When has Jesus used you to help build his realm in our community, or across the world?

I hope you will pray about that and keep looking for the signs that we are not alone! This newsletter is full of those signs - so much powerful ministry of welcome, outreach, spiritual discipline, opportunities for pilgrimage and study... I hope you are able to see Christ at work in all aspects of your life, not just the work you do officially for the church!

Because I can tell you, you are a blessing. You are beloved. You are wonderfully made. Have a read through this document, and pay attention to the little nudges you feel within... if there is something that calls to you, let us know!

In the meantime, may the Spirit that hovered over the waters of creation bless you with renewed life and hope this Easter season.

Rev. Wanda Stride

Council Retreat Summary

As our annual general meeting draws near and as I am writing this during National Volunteer Week, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the many volunteers contributing to the life and work of Trinity-St. Andrews. We are a blessed to have so many individuals and groups dedicating their time within the church and beyond, living our mission and vision, demonstrating Gods love in action. Thank you to everyone of you!

Among the volunteers at TSA are your committee members and Chairs who work on behalf of the congregation to provide leadership in the day to day work of the church, and to discern how we prepare for the future and grow a welcoming, vibrant church community. What are we doing well, what could we do differently, are we listening for the spirit to guide our work? and where we are supposed to be?

On April 11 Council gathered for a half day session to reflect on how our current governance structure helps us work together now, and how we can best support all people in the church to participate in the work God is calling us to do. We were fortunate to be led by Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly in this discussion, and we came away with a few things to think about. For instance, do we make room for spirituality in the work of our committees and council? Is our structure meeting our needs and is it ministry driven? Will our current committee structure move us forward to achieve our vision of being ...a welcoming spiritual centre for all, known for inclusivity, justice, and adaptability to community needs. Through worship, partnership, and service, we will strive to share good news and benefit others...

There is energy to continue this discussion and creative thinking, and we will be continuing the work begun on April 11 in the hope of sharing any emerging recommendations to the congregation sometime soon.

Lori Cooper
Chair of Council

National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 19 -25

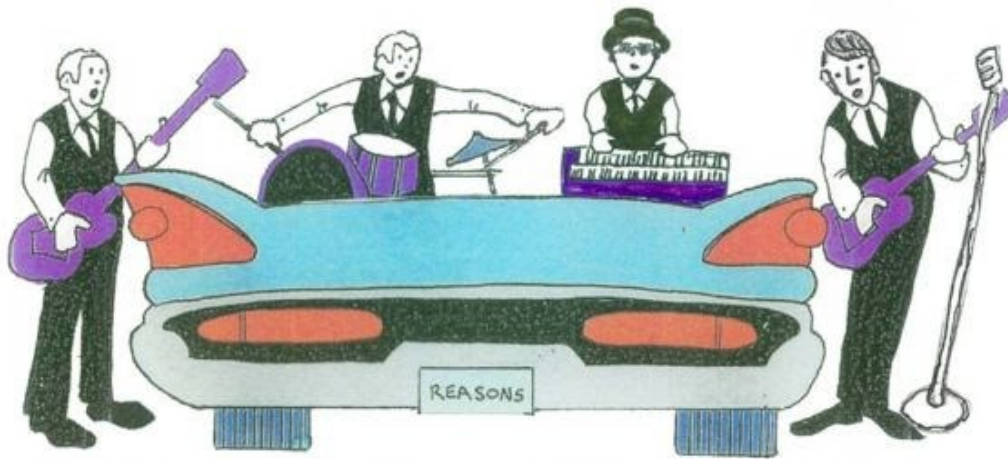
A big thank you for 11.5 THOUSAND volunteer hours last year!

On this Volunteer Appreciation Week, we need to say a BIG THANK YOU to every single one of you who helps out around here. For the past two years or so, we've been tracking how many hours it takes to keep our building safe and clean, to provide meaningful worship, to provide programs for young and elders alike, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked... well you get the idea. How many hours does it take to be disciples of Christ through the ministry at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church? Apparently the number is eleven thousand, four-hundred and counting!

Watch for the next few Sundays, as we highlight the various ministries in our community, with a goal to make sure every one of you knows how much you are valued, needed and beloved.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The REASONS



50's, 60's, 70's, 80's Classic Rock



Live at the Dove

(Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church)

Friday May 8

6:30 to 10:00pm

Tickets \$25

Available at Lighthouse Books in Brighton,
By reserving at tickets@events-brighton.ca,
or scanning the QR code.

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

The Sharing Stand needs Your Green Thumb

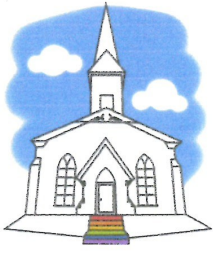
Gran Northumberland will be hosting The Sharing Stand for its 4th season, starting in July. The Sharing Stand is located on the lawn of Trinity-St. Andrew's . The Stand provides an opportunity for us to share our surplus produce with others, as it provides garden produce to anyone looking to stretch their food budget.

The Sharing Stand was successful last year due to the community's generosity. However there were days when produce ran short by noon or mid-afternoon. Please consider planting extra for the Stand when planning your garden. Also, you might consider buying extra produce to drop off at the stand when you are shopping.

Small monetary donations are also welcome and will be used to purchase produce for the Sharing Stand when needed.

New Yardsale Leader needed

We are looking for a new leader to organize our annual Church Yard Sale. After many years of faithful service, we are seeking someone willing to take on this important and rewarding role. All preparations, instructions, and helpful materials have already been carefully compiled in a file folder to guide you through the process. Ongoing guidance and support will also be available. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve, connect with others, and help make one of our community's most cherished events a success. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Helen Bonisteel 613 661-6484. Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute!



Welcoming All

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church



Annual Yard Sale



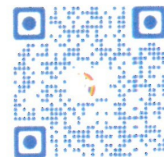
in the Hall at 56 Prince Edward St.
Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church in Brighton

Fri. May 1st 9-5 Sat. May 2nd 9-2

(donations can be dropped off April 30th 10:00am-6:00pm)

Something for Everyone
Please bring your own bags.

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





Pilgrimage to El Salvador, March 2027

Do you believe you are called to make a difference in the world? Many of us feel that deep in our souls, but wonder how our day to day lives fit into that call.

I would like to invite you to consider traveling to a tiny Central American country called El Salvador. Next March, a group of high school students and adults will go on a pilgrimage together; we will travel to meet the United Church's global partners in El Salvador, and learn how the Spirit is working through those communities. We will make new friends, learn about a new culture and ministry, and (hopefully!) help build infrastructure that will improve the lives of those living in impoverished, rural communities.

If you are curious, join us Tuesday May 5 at 7:00pm on Zoom as people from across Canada meet representatives from Emmanuel Baptist Church in San Salvador, learn about our trip and what it would mean.

Please reach out to Reverend Wanda or the office to get your name on the list of participants for that meeting. There is no obligation to take the trip itself, as this is mostly an information meeting.

A few things to consider:

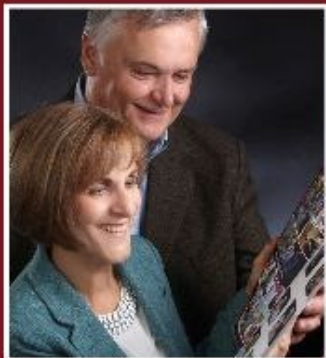
- 1) El Salvador is a rugged, volcanic, tropical country. We will do a fair bit of walking in mountainous areas, in hot, humid weather.
- 2) El Salvadoran streets are the safest they have been in decades, but there is a new concern about suspended civil rights. Please monitor the Government of Canada travel advisories.



CONNECTING CHURCH FAMILIES!



COMING TO OUR CHURCH MAY 12TH - 15TH



Come and be a part
of our photo directory!
Participate to receive
your **FREE** Directory!

1-888-769-7339
www.universalportraits.com



SCAN
to Book Online

Smile!! We are putting together a new photo directory and hoping everyone will be a part of it.

Phone calls for appointments will start on April 21st. Please note the call will come from Louise at 613-240-2164. She will sign you up for an photo appointment between May 12th to 15th.

You can also schedule your appointment on line at <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/73x5j3rg/> or you can use the QRCode on the poster.

Can't wait for the end result!!



Red Dress Day, May 5

May 5th is Red Dress Day across Canada, a time we pause to remember and honour Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2-Spirit persons. Since 2010, these dresses have become a symbol of both sorrow and resilience. The Outreach Committee will be hanging red dresses inside and outside the church in recognition of this ongoing crisis and to serve as a call for awareness and action. It is important not only to honour the lives lost, but also to demand recognition and justice for the victims and their families.



**"Here from the Beginning"
exhibit coming to
TSA May 12-17**

"Here from the Beginning" is an exhibition that showcases the contributions and experiences of Black people within the United Church, amplifying voices that have long been overshadowed by the dominant narrative.

The exhibit is a bilingual display, consisting of 23 banners with English on one side and French on the other. It is travelling across Canada, visiting all of the Regional Councils. TSA will be hosting the exhibit from May 12 to May 17. The banners will be displayed in various areas in the church. On Friday, May 15 from 1pm - 4pm, we will be hosting an "Open House" when other churches and the public are welcome to drop by, view the exhibit and join in the celebration of faith, history and community.

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



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

Where We Will Be

by [Rachel Hackenberg](#) | published on Apr 17, 2026

Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O river, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Almighty, who melts rocks into water. – Psalm 114:5-8 (adapted)

Of the many wonders of Artemis II's mission, one was its flight path toward the moon. In order to circle the moon successfully, Artemis II had to chart a course toward where the moon wasn't. It had to set its trajectory toward an empty point in space, trusting that the moon in its ever-shifting orbit would arrive at that point precisely when Artemis II arrived for its lunar flyby.

Very much like passing a soccer ball toward an empty space on the field, confidently setting the ball on its path toward no one, trusting your teammate to run into the open space where the ball is going.

Or like jumping into a seat on the spinning teacup ride at the amusement park ... while the whole ride is in motion ... while each teacup spins at a unique pace. (Kids, don't try this at home.)

What if the teacup ride malfunctions? What if your teammate gets tackled on their run? What if a solar flare short-circuits the space vessel?

What if the seas flee? What if the mountains leap? What if the rocks melt?

We trust patterns that predict where things are going—the moon, the tides, the soccer ball, even the people around us—but a pattern isn't a certainty. Where we think we'll end up based on our daily patterns isn't likely to be where we'll actually end up.

For all the comfort I find in trusting that God meets me where I am and as I am in the now, I am even more reassured by the knowledge that God will also meet me where I will be—even though I don't yet know where or when or how I will be.

Prayer

Christ be beside me, above me, and within me. Christ be beyond me, in whatever may be, in the wonder of not yet.

Broadview

The human cost of war

By Nicole Schmidt

In this week's unhinged episode of What on Earth is Going on at the White House?, Donald Trump posted an AI-image to Truth Social depicting himself as Jesus. If you're among the lucky few who hadn't seen it until now, the monstrosity of a collage is right in this email for your viewing pleasure.

The post has since been deleted, but not before drawing backlash from religious leaders and Christian supporters alike. The U.S. president, who rarely misses a chance to drum up an excuse, claimed, "It's supposed to be as a doctor making people better ... And I do make people better. I make people a lot better."

The photo comes on the heels of a separate, novella-length post earlier in the week, where Trump criticized Pope Leo as being "weak" among other things (you can read about the unfolding Vatican spat [here](#)), after the Pope spoke out against the war in Iran.

That criticism comes with good reason. Since the war began at the end of February, the U.S.-based group Human Rights Activists in Iran estimates that more than 3,500 people have been killed — and that was before Trump issued apocalyptic threats of total annihilation, also on Truth Social. A day before the current ceasefire, a U.S./Israel airstrike damaged a synagogue in Tehran during Passover, destroying sacred Torah scrolls and killing more than a dozen people — an unsettling irony in a conflict so often framed around religion, and a reminder that the communities caught in the middle rarely fit into the flattened narratives surrounding them.

New on our website this week, journalist Arfa Rana spoke to Yakov Rabkin, professor emeritus of history at the Université de Montréal, about how reactions to the attack reveal widespread misunderstandings of Jewish life in Iran. According to Rabkin, many Jews in Muslim majority countries did not initially see themselves as separate from their non-Jewish neighbours.

“There was very little participation of Jews from elsewhere... because they didn’t feel that they were different from other Moroccans, Iraqis or Iranians. Zionism is a European nationalist movement,” Rabkin told Rana. You can read the full story here. As we wait to see if the current ceasefire will hold, political spectacle risks obscuring what’s really at stake. A post can be deleted; the human cost of war cannot. How do you think the war in Iran will end? Share your thoughts with me, and I’ll feature a selection of responses in next week’s newsletter. You can email me at n.schmidt@broadview.org.

For information about subscribing to Broadview magazine, contact the church office. The church group renewal will be coming soon in May. Join the group subscription and save!



The Quinte Organ Transplant Support Group, (acronymQOTSG) would like to thank Mayor Brian Ostrander for permitting a Flag Raising to celebrate the Month of April as Organ Donation Month. We would also like to thank a few members of Trinity St Andrews United

Church who came along to the Municipal Offices to support our efforts regarding public awareness. Receiving an organ transplant is (to put it in context), a resurrection for the recipient, and in our long experience is honoured as a gift, one to another. THANK YOU to those who have the word "donor" on their Medical Card. You have given hope to those who live in search of hope.

From the Quinte Organ Transplant Support Group www.qotsg.ca

The Envelope Wall: Back this April!



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!

From The Worship Committee



More Than a Greeting: A Church-Wide Welcome

At Trinity–St. Andrew’s, we like to think of ourselves as a welcoming church—and mostly, we are. Yet some who visit once or twice don’t always experience that welcome as we intend. That’s a gentle reminder: hospitality isn’t just a role; it’s a shared calling.

Our greeters offer a warm and important first hello, but true welcome goes beyond the door. It’s found in the pews, in conversation after worship, and in noticing someone who may be on their own. A simple introduction, an invitation to sit together, or including someone in conversation can make all the difference.

Reverend Wanda often speaks of our shared ministry, and it falls to everyone of us to shape how our church feels to others. We’re also all invited to be Holy Wonderers—not just the children, but everyone—growing, questioning, and exploring faith together. When we include newcomers in that journey, we offer more than friendliness; we offer belonging. Welcoming is an expression of our faith in action. When each of us takes part, Trinity–St. Andrew’s becomes not just a friendly church, but a truly embracing one—where all who enter feel seen, valued, and at home.

Welcoming ministries Beading Workshop

We are blessed at Trinity-St. Andrew’s to have many new people joining our worship as they visit, or consider becoming part of our faith family. In living into our mission and vision of being an open, safe community that encourages people at all stages of their faith journey to join us... we want to make sure everyone who walks through our doors feels welcome, and remembers us!

In that spirit, we are holding a workshop to make beaded, rainbow crosses for people to wear and pray with, as they remember Christ’s work through our community.

Will you join us? No experience necessary, and all supplies are provided.

Let’s learn together how to make gifts to go into our newcomer/welcome bags. And even more importantly, let’s have a fun time together!

Let us know when you would be available to help make these lovely crosses!

Breakfast for Newcomers

Do you feel like you are new or new-ish to Trinity-St. Andrew’s United Church? Whether you’ve attended one service or 20, whether you’ve volunteered with any of our programs like the migrant worker group, attended a concert or come to supper’s ready, if you consider yourself “new”, then this applies to you!

We are inviting you to a special breakfast on Sunday May 31, 9:00 a.m.

Come and meet people who have been part of this community of faith for a while, find out more about us, and most importantly, enjoy some good food and fellowship before our worship service.

RSVP to the office so we know how much food to make! And let us know if you have any dietary restrictions

See you on May 31!

Affirm & Equity



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

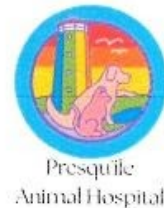
10:30 am

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 or call 613-475-1311



Celebrate Pride on June 14th, 2026

TSA's 5th annual Pride Walk and Worship Service is on Sunday, June 14th!

Assemble on the church's rainbow steps for the Pride Walk at 10AM. The 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, a kids play area, refreshments, pride flags and other items. Come and show your Pride by supporting this year's Walk and Worship Service!

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 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. 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, April 7th and May 5th, 2026. For more information, please contact brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com.

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

e-mail =

brightonlgbtqgroup@gmail.com



Presquile
Animal Hospital

Vocalese - Brighton's Community Choir

Presents

2026 Spring Concert

Sunday May 3rd, 2026

2:30pm

Trinity St. Andrews United Church

56 Prince Edward Street Brighton, ON

Tickets available:

From Choir Members

At the door

Or Lighthouse Books - Cash Only

65 Main Street Brighton

Adults - \$20

Students - \$10

Under 13 - Free

Director: Mitchell Cox Pianist: Linda Kramer