

We are Ambassadors for Christ

- 2 Corinthians. 5.20



ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Thunder Bay, Ontario

**SEEKING A PASSIONATE AND
VISIONARY
FULL-TIME RECTOR**



THE DIOCESE OF ALGOMA



Anglican Church of Canada

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OPEN LETTER TO OUR FUTURE INCUMBENT

Dear Prospective Incumbent,

St. Paul's Anglican Church is an inclusive community parish located in a historical area of Thunder Bay, Ontario. With a rich history spanning over 116 years, our church is rooted in faith, fellowship, and service. As we embark on this new chapter, we are eagerly seeking a dynamic and dedicated Rector to lead us forward in our mission as Ambassadors for Christ - to spread God's grace, love, peace, and compassion to everyone.

Among our greatest strengths as a faith community are the incorporation of Indigenous language and music into our worship, our welcoming atmosphere, our Ministry team (clergy, lay readers and lay leaders) and our community outreach and support of our brothers and sisters in Christ, in our neighbourhood and in our city.

Pastoral Skills

Our new Rector will shepherd and nurture our parish community in the years to come and reach out to the neighbourhood and the community of Thunder Bay.

We are seeking a full-time incumbent who is compassionate and empathetic. He/she will be an individual who is open, accepting, and non-judgmental (about race, sexual identity, marital status, or religious denomination). The ideal candidate will be outgoing and approachable to all members of our diverse parish community and able to engage and motivate our many parish volunteers.

Ministry Skills

Our next Rector will no doubt possess a diverse skill set, honed over a successful career in ministry. Our next Rector:

- Will maintain Anglican traditions while displaying diverse inclusiveness.
- Will be able to use effective communication skills (oral and written) to relate scripture to current situations, using worship as an opportunity to educate and enhance our understanding as we continue to grow spiritually.
- Will be a capable administrator – who will work with the parish leadership to steward our resources so that we continue to be healthy financially in the present as well as into the future.
- Continue to support our Youth and Sunday School programs with a positive vision.
- Will help grow the congregation in collaboration with the whole Parish community.
- Can lead Bible studies, book studies, baptismal and confirmation preparation, and other discipleship opportunities as the need arises.

We at St. Paul's strive to live out our mission as "Ambassadors for Christ" in all that we do, and are excited to continue our faith journey with a new Incumbent.

Required Qualifications

- Anglican Priest, Episcopal Priest or Lutheran Pastor in good standing with 5 years' experience as a parish incumbent.
- Degree in Theology, preferably a Masters.
- Appreciation of indigenous issues.
- Proficiency in MS Office.
- Fluency in English.

Current remuneration levels in the Diocese of Algoma are: Base stipend (\$44,000 – based on years of experience); Living allowance (\$18,000), Travel allowance (\$8000) and Pension and Benefits. A final package will be determined after the successful conclusion of the interview process.

If you discern a call to join us on our journey, please submit your application through the Archbishop of Algoma's office.

The Most Reverend Anne Germond, Archbishop of Algoma
c/o Carla MacEwan, Administrative Assistant
619 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 2M6
or carla.macewan@dioceseofalgoma.com (Telephone 705-256-5061)

Please ensure you provide (at minimum) the following with your application:

- If you reside outside of the Diocese of Algoma, a signed statement that you have received permission from your Bishop to make application to our diocese.
- A current Curriculum Vitae.
- A letter of introduction describing your "Vision for Ministry" at St. Paul's and why you think you may be suited for this position. Please base your response on your knowledge of the parish outlined in the attached Parish Profile.
- A copy of a recent sermon, published article, or video presentation
- The names and contact information of three references.

Thank you for your interest in St. Paul's, Thunder Bay. Know that the parish is praying for whomever God is calling to be our next incumbent.

Yours in Faith,

St. Paul's Anglican Church Concurrence Committee

Mark Tilbury (Chair), Christopher Willie, Deborah Victor, Dorothy Piccinin,
Doug Oshimo, Lewis Yesno, and Lynda Farquharson

WELCOME TO OUR HOME

Thunder Bay is our city, the place we call home. It is the location where we live, work, and raise our families. Here we worship, serve our community, help each other, and wrestle with challenges and change. It is the place where we are blessed to build our lives, spiritual family, and community. St. Paul's is the spiritual home that gives direction to our lives.

INTRODUCTION TO ST. PAUL'S

Welcome to St. Paul's Anglican Church, an inclusive community parish located in a historical area of Thunder Bay, Ontario. With a rich history spanning over 116 years, our church is rooted in faith, fellowship, and service. As we embark on this new chapter, we are eagerly seeking a dynamic and dedicated Rector to lead us forward in our mission as Ambassadors for Christ to spread God's grace, love, peace, and compassion to everyone.

Our Rich History

Fort William (today Thunder Bay South) had graduated from a town to a city in the early 1900's. Water and rail were the only means by which people and goods could travel and Fort William had both. There were already two Anglican churches in Fort William, but the Diocese of Algoma could see the need for another as the city grew, thus purchasing a sizable property for future plans. The vision for St Paul's Anglican Church began between 1905-1908.

St. Paul's, built in a neo-gothic style, was to be and remains today the largest church in the Anglican Diocese of Algoma. The first service was held March 9, 1908, with 25 people present, celebrated by our first Incumbent **The Rev. Harold G. King** (1908-1914). Three weeks later, 207 attended Sunday service. A men's group, in true evangelist style, reached out to community groups and individuals with Anglican ties to grow the parish.

St. Paul's original Karn Pipe Organ, that was installed just before the church opened, was lovingly maintained for over 100 years until increasing costs and difficulty finding parts led to its replacement with a new digital organ that has a similar sound. The space that held over 1,000 organ pipes has been converted into hidden seasonal storage. The Property Committee built our "Organ Grinder" coffee center



in the church hall from the parts of the old organ,-a fitting reminder of the church's rich history.

Tower chimes were presented to St. Paul's in 1924 by Dr. W.H. Hamilton and installed during the incumbency of **The Rev. Canon Harold A. Sims** (1921-1927). They consist of ten bells, weighing a total of 7,200 pounds. One of only two manual carillons from Toronto to Winnipeg, they are played by depressing wooden handles connected to fifty-foot rods attached at the upper end of the bell clappers. It takes considerable strength to play the bells, but they continue to play hymns before our 10:00 am Sunday service and on special occasions like weddings and funerals. St. Paul's is grateful for its Bell Ringer's Guild who take turns providing this beautiful music.



This stained glass window is above the main altar at St. Paul's. While most churches have a cross or a crucifix as their focal point, St. Paul's has a window of Jesus teaching ~ this window shows the "Sermon on the Mount" in Matthew's Gospel. We believe that this 1908 window points us towards the importance of growing spiritually, of nurturing our inner souls, and of studying God's wisdom.

The Tower Clock, originally installed in 1959 during the incumbency of **The Ven. James F. Hinchliffe** (1954-1971), was battery operated with hydroelectric assistance, designed by Gents of Leicester in England. It was recently upgraded to a computerized controller on a more easily accessed level of the tower, while maintaining the historic charm of its three illuminated clock faces and hourly chimes.

The Sanctuary and Nave of the church are surrounded by beautiful stained-glass windows that were installed between 1908 to 1976. The last window, entitled The Lights of the World – was installed during the incumbency of **The Rev. Canon Donald M. Landon** (1971-1981) Protective lexan coverings were installed during the incumbency of **The Rev. Canon Paul A. Carr** (1993-2004), and will ensure the beautiful stained-glass windows are preserved for years to come.



Building, Grounds and Neighbourhood

St Paul's, built on the corner lot between Ridgeway and McKellar Streets, rose in the middle of a building boom. It was surrounded by upscale brown brick homes and a rectory. Through God's grace, St Paul's has sustained itself and all who worship there through **two world wars** [spanning the incumbencies of **The Rev. Harold G. King** (1908-1914), **The Rev. E. Pierce Goulding** (1914-1918), **The Rev. William H. Trickett** (1918-1920), and The Ven. C. Wilfred Balfour (1935-1947)], two fires [1922 – during the incumbency of **The Rev. Harold A. Sims** (1921-1927) and 1932 – during the incumbency of **The Rev. Thomas Lloyd** (1927-1935)], the Great Depression, and the post second world war baby boom. St. Paul's has been a beacon of hope and inspiration for generations.



Today St Paul's has a large east garden and outdoor sitting area with a stone labyrinth, installed during the incumbency of **The Ven. Deborah H. Kraft** (2005-2023). The labyrinth is a 50-foot diameter 11 circuit design, patterned after the famous "Rose Labyrinth" on the floor of the historic Chartres Cathedral in France. It has a grass path to walk on, outlined with rustic red bricks engraved by parishioners and community members to commemorate people and events to last 100 years.



Many of the nearby large brick houses have become multi dwelling homes and McKellar Hospital, which was located across the street from the front of the church, has been converted to McKellar Place Retirement Residence. Also included in our neighborhood are an Elizabeth Fry residence, a John Howard Society residence, newer apartments that are geared to income, and residences for people needing social assistance. While some residencies are set up to help those trying to recover from addictions, there are also drug houses in the neighborhood. City police are aware and do regular checks in the area. Going west from the church there is a pharmacy, a clinic and an upscale neighborhood. With all this in mind, we need to be sensitive to our surroundings and to improve our evangelism in response to our changing demographic.

Recent Updates/Upgrades

Over the past two decades the church has gone through several updates:

- An 11 circuit labyrinth was installed in our parish garden
- A Chapel was created for our 100th Anniversary by removing pews in the east Nave
- Font moved from the back of the church to the front of the nave

- Hardwood floors have been refinished in Babe Hall and the sanctuary
- Carpets were replaced
- Lighting has been updated to LED
- Roof repairs and brick repointing is ongoing.
- A Sacred Circle was created in the west Nave and was blessed by Bishop Lydia Mamakwa
- Outer doors were refinished, and security system expanded to include all exterior doors
- Outdoor lighting has been improved to cover a wider span of space.
- Our church gardens include mature trees and bench seating around a fountain surrounded by plantings. This has been an ongoing project to create an inviting space for all who visit and spend time or walk the Labyrinth.



WHO WE ARE AS “AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST”

St. Paul’s 14th Rector and first female Incumbent was Archdeacon Deborah Kraft who lovingly led us in spiritual growth for 18 years until her retirement as Rector of St. Paul’s in September of 2023. She remains Territorial Archdeacon for our Deanery of Thunder Bay-North Shore.

The Diocese of Algoma’s mission statement is “To share in the gathering work of Christ so that His newness of life overflows into our hearts, homes, churches and community”. Archdeacon Kraft has often referred to the first stained glass window, installed in St Paul’s over the altar in 1908, depicting the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:17-27). In this sermon Jesus calls us to practice and teach His commandments and keep all His laws.

With this in mind, we aimed to become a teaching **spiritual growth center** providing learning opportunities to parishioners and extending these opportunities to our community of Thunder Bay. Based on the Diocese Mission statement, St Paul’s developed its core values and supported discipleship growth as evidenced by three individuals who discerned a call to ministry over the last decade, and many others who have become Lay Readers, scripture readers and leading prayers of the people. Parishioners are comfortable sharing their faith journeys, talking about signs of the presence of God in their daily lives, and praying at meetings. They are also considerate of small children and smile at them.



As pilgrims on a journey, we are committed to our **Core Values**.

- We are committed to faith in God through Jesus Christ.
- We are committed to reaching out to the community and world in a relevant and meaningful way as compassionate Ambassadors for Christ.
- We are committed to bringing heaven down to earth, and growing as a loving and joyful community of Christians
- We are committed to providing opportunities for spiritual growth for all ages and life situations.
- We are committed to the Christian practices of hospitality, discernment, diversity, beauty, healing and justice.
- We are committed to maintaining the awe and wonder of traditional Anglican worship and to incorporating new traditions into our worship that demonstrate that we welcome all people into our faith community.
- We are committed to celebrating and honoring major life passages, such as baptisms, weddings, confirmations, and funerals.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Besides extending invitations to attend events or workshops in our Food for the Soul programming, St Paul's has participated in community events as Ambassadors for Christ.

Members of the congregation have:

- Participated in Dragon Boat races,
- Joined in the "Ride for Hearts" on the big bike,
- Walked in annual pride month parades.
- Had church picnics in our garden inviting neighbours around St. Paul's to attend.
- Have had walks in our labyrinth to support of social issues and food fundraisers to support local food drives.
- Given financially and gifts in kind to support our Blessing Box that supplies food for whoever needs it twice a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.
- Joined with other churches in the Deanery to support our local homeless shelter.
- Provided food, preparation, cooking and serving food at several local shelters.
- The Men's Breakfast Group has hosted annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Suppers and Easter Eve Fish Frys to raise funds for child and youth outreach programs like The Underground Gym, Camp Gitchigomee, and Scouts Canada
- Volunteered for the Salvation Army Christmas kettle campaign.
- Held successful parish dinners in support of various fundraising causes such as Earth Day.
- There are also leaders in our parish who lead the parish family in fundraising campaigns to support PWRDF and our local Mission to Seafarers.

We are a community of Christians who are committed to the practices of hospitality, giving, discernment, diversity, beauty, healing and justice and we demonstrate this through our actions on a regular basis.



PARISH STATISTICS

Worship services currently offered:

- 1 Livestreamed service – Sunday at 10 a.m.
- 2 'In-person' Services – Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Prior to 2024 we also held a Saturday 5:30 p.m. Praise and Worship service

Parish Statistics 2020 - 2023	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total on parish roll (Baptized)	427	426	430	422
Baptisms	3	14	16	9
Life in the Eucharist (First Communion)	6	8	9	N/A
Confirmations	0	8	9	N/A
Marriages	1	6	2	4
Funerals/Memorials/Interments	8	9	12	5

Today there are 427 people on the parish roll who attend from all areas of the city and surrounding areas. Our congregation is comprised of individuals from various cultural backgrounds, ages, and walks of life, united by a shared commitment to spiritual growth and community service. We strive to welcome everyone with warm hospitality and an inclusive atmosphere.

2023 Average Sunday Attendance: 85 In-Person, 75 Livestream.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The financial picture for St. Paul's is very positive. We can financially support a full-time Incumbent. We have no debts and are blessed to have several investments that have accumulated from bequests, memorial donations and gifts from parishioners. Interest on investments is used for specific purposes and some of the fund income can be used for annual operations including children's ministry.

Through the grace of God and the generosity of the congregation, St. Paul's can meet its current operating needs through regular and special yearly offerings.

We do not have a Rectory, but the proceeds from the sale of the former rectory are invested with the Diocese and used to support the housing allowance for the Rector.

Throughout the year St. Paul's holds a variety of fundraisers, the proceeds of which are used to support worthy charities in our community. We do not engage in special fundraising for the operational needs of the church.

Paid positions at St Paul's are as follows: Rector, Parish Assistant, Custodian, Music Director and some seasonal guest musicians. Honorariums are paid to our Honorary Assistant, Deacon and presently our relief Ministers.

PARISHIONER QUOTES

St. Paul's is a parish that is inclusive and quick to support you in difficult times and celebrates when good things happen to you. There's a sense of love and appreciation in this place.

I have found the people of St. Paul's to be always welcoming and friendly, because of this I have developed some good friendships.

St. Paul's is an inclusive parish and it welcomes and supports everyone regardless of their race, age, social status, gender, or ethnicity. The mix of generations, gender identity, and race make it the way Christ would have wanted.

I love the way the members of St. Paul's support new ideas – for example: the Earth Day dinner. It was filled with fun, laughter and a family like atmosphere.

My family and I have participated in the Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi for many years. To have our beloved animals welcomed and blessed in this special way is very touching.



St. Paul's
ANGLICAN CHURCH

PARISHIONER QUOTES

St. Paul's has been the home I didn't know I needed. The people are warm and welcoming, and living as Ambassadors for Christ each and every day.

Four generations of our family have worshiped at St. Paul's. It has a rich and diverse history that we appreciate.

The Blessing Box is a wonderful example of our community outreach and engagement. Not only do parishioners fill the box on a regular schedule, but our neighbours make contributions that augment our ministry.

APPENDICES

MINISTRY TEAM, STAFF AND PARISH OFFICERS 2023-2024

Ministry Team September 2023-2024

Rector (vacant)	The Venerable Deborah H. Kraft (retired September 2023)
Deacon Associate	The Reverend Anne Carr
Honorary Assistant	The Reverend Gordon Holroyd
Priest Associate	The Reverend Nancy Ringham (October 2023 – ongoing)
Visiting Minister	The Reverend Rob Smith (October 2023 to June 2024)
Diocesan Lay Readers	Carol Knox, Jessie McKay, Ida Mekanak
Lay Readers	Sandra Fox, Scott Meredith, Doug Oshimo, Alicia Sandham. Marty Sauer, Don Shuttleworth
Lay Reader-in-Training	Daniel Klein
Lay Reader emeritus	Ralph Davis, Art Evens, Ruth Douglass
Eucharistic Assistants	Karen Christie, Chris Heikkinen, Violet Holroyd, Candace LaFrance, Dorothy Piccinin, Jen Snowden, Deborah Victor
Music Director	Dr. Sean Kim
Parish Assistant	Christine French
Office Assistant	Alicia Sandham (volunteer)
Caretaker	JJ LaHaise
<u>Parish Officers</u>	
Rector's Warden	Dorothy Piccinin
Deputy Rector's Warden	Candace LaFrance
People's Warden	Deborah Victor
Advisory Board Members (Elected)	Levina Collins, Carol Knox, John O'Brien, Marty Sauer, Jen Snowden, Laurie Sandham, Jim Stewart, Mark Tilbury, Christopher Willie
Treasurer	Adrienne Davis
Assistant Treasurer	Judy Lundberg
Offering Secretary	Ernie Tilbury
Children's Ministry	Laurie Sandham (retired June 2024) (currently vacant)
Youth Ministry	Jen Snowden
Memorial Recording Secretary	Linda Veinot
Altar Guild Chair	Deborah Victor
Altar Servers Chair	Scott Meridith

"Food for the Soul" Coordinator	Laurie Sandham (retired June 2024) (currently vacant)
Bell Ringers Chair	Jim Stewart
Garden and Labyrinth Chair	Lynda Farquharson
Men's Breakfast Group	Christopher Willie, Marshall Farquharson, Derrick Tirschmann
Nursery Supervisor	(vacant)
Prayer Chain Ministry Coordinator	Sandra Rejall
Property committee co-chairs	Chris Willie, Derrick Tirschmann, Marshall Farquharson
"Blessing Box" Chair	Jen Snowden
Coffee and Hospitality Chair	Charlene Shuttleworth
Bell Ringers & Sidespersons Scheduler	Dorothy Piccinin
Camp Gitchigomee Rep.	Sandra Rejall
Mission to Seafarers Rep.	Suzy Thorns
PWDRF Rep.	Jasmine Sandham
Lay Delegates to Synod	Adrienne Davis, Daniel Klein, Alicia Sandham
Alternates	Carol Knox, Marty Sauer
CLAY Delegates	Belle Benoit, Hollie Davis

PARISH MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is responsible for the ordering and care of Eucharistic materials and setting up of the altar before and after worship. This includes flowers and special services like weddings and funerals.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board is elected each year at Vestry. The members are responsible for making decisions about church issues and are actively involved in the life of the church.

Bell Ringers

Bell Ringers play music in the bell tower by operating our century old manual bell carillon. The bells are played before and after services, and at weddings and funerals by request.

Bible Study Group

Bible studies are often held during Advent and Lent. Groups meet either in the church or through Zoom.

Blessing Box

Our "Blessing Box" is a community outreach program run by many volunteers who donate money and time to purchase food and place non-perishables in a box outside the church twice daily (and more) so those in need can anonymously access basics. These volunteers are parishioners and non-parishioners; it is a true neighbourhood ministry.

While there has been some vandalism to the box on occasion and individuals aggressively seeking food from inside the church where it is stored, we are presently working through these issues. We desire the ministry to thrive and continue to support it, but it may have a different presentation in future.

Children and Youth

The **Youth Group** meets on Thursday evenings. They strive to provide a safe space for youth to gather, build relationships and explore their faith. They follow a curriculum called "Can I ask that?" The leader has a study guide and youth are invited to explore the Bible and ask any questions they have about things they feel uncertain about without feeling inhibited. Occasionally they watch movies and critique them by comparing themes that are like Biblical stories.



St Paul's Youth have participated in "Youth Synod" and "CLAY" (Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth) and would like continued support in these activities. Our Youth would like St Paul's new Rector to be easy to approach. Someone who would attend their group occasionally, being open to help them with their concerns about the world around them and to help deepen their faith and spiritual commitments.

St Paul's **Children's Ministry Team** strives to provide a fun and caring environment for children to learn about Christ's love. The Nursery is for ages newborn to 2yrs. There are plenty of toys and books and an on-site bathroom. The room is furnished well enough that it is sometimes used as a waiting area during weddings and funerals. Presently we do not have steady volunteers for this area but also children this age usually stay with family and visit the area with parents when needed or desired. We continue to look for volunteers.



The Sunday School supervisor is connected online with other faith groups that share ideas for teaching different age groups. Approved materials are used by dividing the children into three groups. Ages 3 to 6 years learn about key people and events in the Bible and have crafts and music as part of their curriculum. Children's Bible Study is for ages 7 to 12 years and learn about key events and people in the Bible by using a combination of technology, puzzles and hands on activities. Youth Bible Study is ages 13+ with discussion about God, Jesus, prayer and the Bible. They explore how Christian teachings relate to their own lives today using a curriculum called "Bible Stories for Modern Teens".

The **Sunday School Ministry** has flourished over the years but as of late, leaders in this area would like to see more regular attendance and to see the number of children attending grow and to continue to find new ways to engage the classroom. They hope our new Rector will continue the practice of engaging the children in a Children's Talk during the service before they go to their classes and that they help the children feel at home in their church and know their feelings matter.

Eucharistic Assistants

Our Eucharistic Assistants are responsible for administering the chalice at a Communion service.

Food for the Soul

"Food for the Soul" offers workshops on diverse topics ~ scripture, travel talks, cooking classes, various hand crafts including Indigenous beadwork, book studies, budgeting, photography, guitar, study skills for students, first aid, etc. ~ that may be of interest to the congregants and community. Programs are offered free of charge or for a small fee for supplies. Neighborhood families are always welcome. Post- COVID we have noted

a decrease in people participating in presenting or attending programs and are hoping this will pick up over time.

Garden Committee

The Garden Committee plants and maintains the church gardens, and maintains the Labyrinth, all of which are open to the public.

Hospitality

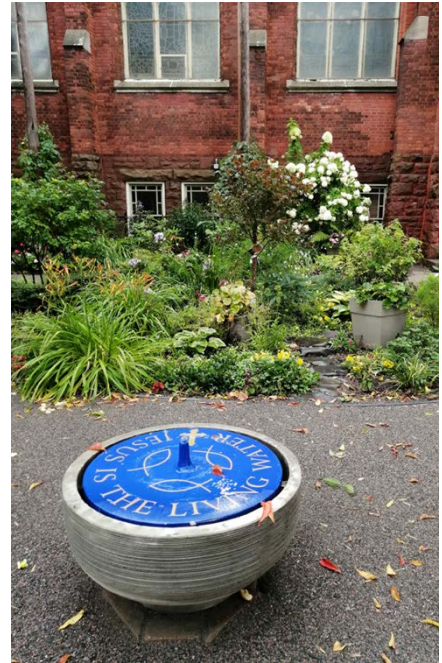
Coffee Hour teams serve coffee and treats each Sunday, and our Parish Lunch teams prepare meals to share together when applicable, after 10 a.m. worship.

Lay Readers

Lay Readers perform such functions as reading lessons, administering the chalice, leading the Prayers of the People, taking communion to shut ins, occasionally preaching, and much more.

Lector (Scripture Reader)

Lectors read the Old Testament and the first New Testament passages from the Bible at the 10 a.m. Sunday service.



Livestream Media Team

Since 2019 St Paul's has had a Livestream Media Team. The team consists of parishioners skilled in website development, production, video graphics, editorial, graphic and sound tech skills. They maintain the sound equipment as needed and are committed to consistently creating high quality multimedia to support the ministry team and outreach program at St Paul's to our faith community at home and in person.

The 10am service streams on our YouTube channel "St Paul's Media" and can be viewed in real time or later. Additionally, the team edits the recorded service down to one hour for replay on the local Shaw Cable TV channel Tuesday evenings. They have arranged to have participants from other churches or even in other countries come to us via a live stream during services. They are prepared to and would like to play a greater part in announcements and advertising for events at St Paul's.



Men's Breakfast Group

The St. Paul's Men's Breakfast Group recently inspired a second chapter at Gathering Table, another Anglican church on the north side of Thunder Bay. We have since amalgamated with them, meeting on the second Saturday of each month to share a hot breakfast and fellowship. We often have local guest speakers or hold short workshops as well. Both Men's Groups alternate hosting breakfast between the two churches each month, and we invite other Deanery churches to join us. They also host fundraising lunches and dinners to support local charities and their respective communities. Both Groups are also part of a Deanery-wide plan to encourage the start of more Men's Groups throughout the Deanery. In February 2024, St. Paul's hosted a Deanery Men's Breakfast which was very well received and will now become an annual event.

Music Ministry

Dr Sean Kim, our Music Director provides for our enjoyment a classical prelude and postlude each Sunday at 10 am service. He leads our Choir with the goal of providing inspiring and uplifting spiritual music each Sunday. On special services he arranges performances by guest musicians. He introduces new music along with familiar hymns for the congregation to sing. St. Paul's also has other wonderful musicians who fill in when Dr. Kim is away. We have a regular choir and a memorial choir who are presently looking for more members.

Parish Prayer Chain

This confidential ministry is conducted via email and telephone and is set in motion when people ask for prayers for themselves or for someone else.

Property Committee

This committee is made up of three co-chairs which complement each other, work well together, and various seasonal volunteers from the Men's Breakfast Group. They are largely responsible for the maintenance, repair, and upgrading of the church building and property. This includes acquiring estimates for professionally contracted work, necessary for larger projects such as roofing and brick re-pointing. They also assist other groups and committees with physical work when requested.

Servers

Our Altar Servers are lay assistants to the clergy, who performs supporting tasks at the altar and during the procession and recession at worship services. We currently have both adult and junior Servers.

Sidespersons

Sidespersons welcome parishioners to the service, run the elevator, bring the "Offerings" up to the Altar, direct parishioners to the Eucharist, and help when needed.



Indigenous Ministry

There is a large contingent of Indigenous Peoples from numerous communities in Northwestern Ontario who attend churches in Thunder Bay, including St. Paul's Anglican Church.

They have largely migrated for reasons including medical (ie, dialysis), furthering education for their children/grandchildren, and employment. We also have a local Indigenous population that attend area churches.

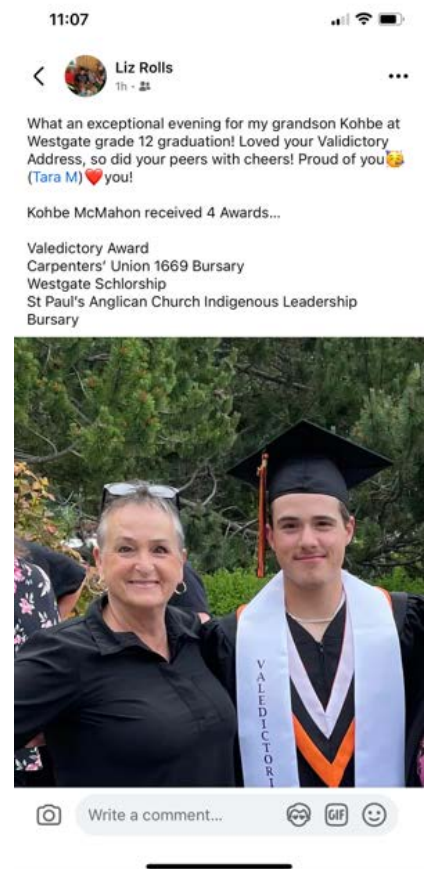
In collaboration with Archbishop Anne Germond (Diocese of Algoma), and Bishop Lydia Mamakwa (Diocese of Mishamikoweesh), Indigenous Ministries have been promoted to further reconciliation and justice seeking within and outside the Anglican Churches of Thunder Bay, including St. Paul's.

Indigenous Lay Readers, along with non-Indigenous Diocesan and Parochial Lay Readers perform various ministries such as: scripture readings, sermons, communion (including hospitals and in the community), confirmation Classes and Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings, Singing and other ministries. A lot of these ceremonies are conducted in the Traditional Language of Cree and/or Oji-Cree, as well as Ojibway (local). Also, Traditional Drumming and Smudging have been used on occasion when requested.

In recent years, St. Paul's has actively addressed the needs of the indigenous community. We fundraise annually for Indigenous bursaries, offering up to three to high school graduates pursuing further education. These funds have been raised through initiatives such as a mini Camino walk and the sale of art by Abe Kakapetum, whose work was bequeathed to St. Paul's. This year's bursary recipient is Kohbe McMahon, pictured to the right. Additionally, we have provided school supplies, including backpacks, to students at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School and shipped COVID-19 supplies to northern communities during the pandemic. These efforts reflect our commitment to supporting our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

There is a growing trend of more Northwestern Ontario Indigenous Peoples permanently residing in Thunder Bay, contributing to a rise in worship service attendance. Furthermore, with the increased utilization of Indigenous language/s and Traditional Cultural inclusivity in the ceremonies, more Indigenous Peoples (local and those from NW Ontario), are coming to church.

Since St Paul's is one of the larger Anglican Churches in Thunder Bay, it attracts more Indigenous participation for the various ministries.



MOVING FORWARD - PARISH MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

The groups and committees at St. Paul's are currently all active except for Food for the Soul. The organizer of this group has recently stepped back due to health concerns, and we will be actively looking for a new program coordinator. Providing education for our congregants and for the surrounding community is a ministry St. Paul's is dedicated to.

We are grateful for the many "Ambassadors for Christ" at St. Paul's who give tirelessly of their time, talent and treasure. Our new Incumbent will be a support for our current volunteers and an encourager and leader who can equip those discerning a call to the work of ministry.

We are committed to our ministries and groups and want to be able to provide our parishioners with the opportunity to serve the Lord and our neighbours in meaningful ways. We have a core group of volunteers that shine with the love of the Lord and who are dedicated to St. Paul's ministries. This is one of our strengths. It would be wonderful if this group could grow in numbers so that the work could be shared with more people.

We wish to strengthen our outreach to members of our community and to learn how to connect more effectively with those in our neighbourhood who need help.

We want to reinforce our ability to show hospitality and love to new members of our congregation and to ensure that we show respect, understanding and acceptance to diverse members of our community. Currently our congregation has members who are Indigenous, part of the-LGBTQ2S+ community, and from other parts of the world including Nigeria, Sri Lanka, and India. We are culturally rich because of them and want to celebrate our growing diversity.

We would like to grow our membership of young families. Children are an important part of the life of the church and as in many churches, our attendance number for children has not bounced back after the pandemic.

We want to continue to serve our Indigenous brothers and sisters and include them more fully in our worship services. Currently we have prayers and scripture readings in Cree and Communion hymns sung in Cree; this is something we wish to continue and grow.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS SUPPLEMENTAL

Our church building's neo-gothic architecture features a traditional cross-shaped layout running north to south. The Narthex forms the main entrance and vestibule from the north and the Nave holds pew seating for parishioners to look south to the Apse where the main altar stands. The Chancel holds the Choir pews, with the Music Director seated at our updated three tier electronic organ. The two Transepts have been changed over the years to accommodate our ever-changing demographic. The east Transept was converted into a small, curved chapel with a raised carpeted base and curved altar rail and a several rows of chairs radiating out. The Chapel altar was crafted from an existing carved pew frontal removed from the Transept. The west Transept has recently been converted to a Sacred Circle for Indigenous gatherings and prayer. It includes a symbolic circular table featuring the '7 Grandfather Teachings' and movable modern seating.

We have been blessed with many generous individuals and parish families who donated and dedicated all our beautiful stained-glass windows. The window directly behind the main altar depicts a teaching Jesus and personifies the foundation of St. Paul's ministry of spiritual growth. All the stained-glass windows are amazing, with one designed by an important Canadian artist, Yvonne Williams. This modern interpretation of the lives of St. Peter and St. Paul was the last to be installed in 1961 in the west Transept and is of significant value. It was recently restored to secure the many small pieces of the 'kaleidoscope' design which were beginning to fall out.

Flanking the Narthex are two towers; the east tower allows access to the upper floor and former Choir Loft which has been converted to our media centre for livestreaming. It also is the access to the west tower that houses our bells and century old console, our clock, and flagpole. Our bells are manually played before the 10:00 am services, for weddings, and other special occasions and tolled for funerals, however our clock and clock chimes have been electronically updated within the last 15 years. The west tower also includes a 'man lift' elevator that provides three-stop travel between the lower Church Hall, our barrier free exit, and the main floor Narthex.

Within the past 10 years, the main hall floor has been professionally re-finished, the roof shingles have been replaced, most of the lighting throughout the building has been upgraded to LEDs. The steam boiler is maintained each year and is still going strong.

When a former Rector retired, we had no more need of a Rectory as our new Incumbent was local. Over a few years of renting issues and regular maintenance requirement, the house was sold. Since the Diocese owned the property, the value of the home returned to the Diocese and is held in trust, with the interest generated from the value coming back to St. Paul's annually.

The Church is situated a few blocks from the South Core of Thunder Bay, a few blocks from the Kaministiquia River and situated centrally in a predominant neighborhood. The Church sits on Ridgeway Street, flanked by streets on both the east and west sides. In

the back (south) is a small parking lot and the start of residential housing for the block. In front (North), McKellar Place Senior's Residence sits across from the church, and residences fill both the east and west sides.

All around the church are beautifully planted gardens that are maintained by our Garden Committee. On the Eastern side of the property, we are blessed to have a large park-like greenspace with mature trees, a benched seating area around a fountain and a brick-paved labyrinth with a marble bench at its centre bearing the scripture "My peace I leave with you" from John 14. Keeping the grounds clean and inviting is a labour of love, but well worth the effort to offer the community a welcome place to visit, play, picnic, lunch, read, meet with friends, take a break on a walk, or just enjoy the fountain and beautiful flowers.

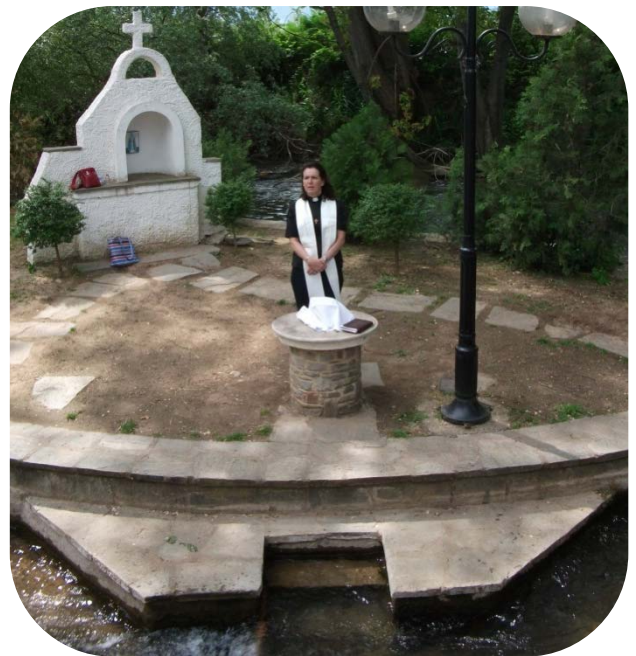
TRAVELLING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL AND MORE

Beginning in 2008, St. Paul's Parishioners and friends, led by Archdeacon Kraft and her husband Jouni, walked in the footsteps of St. Paul and saw the story of Jesus and of Paul come to life.

In 2008 a group of travelers left for Israel to walk the roads that Jesus walked, to see the sites where Jesus lived, preached and was baptized, and to travel the road taken by St. Paul.



In 2010, the travelers went to Greece. They travelled by land and by ship to experience Greece and the Greek Islands and to visit sites where Paul taught, preached, and baptized Christians.



2014 saw the group travel to Turkey and revisit Israel. Roman ruins pointed the way to early Christian history in Turkey. Visits to the Blue Mosque, to Mary's home in Turkey, and to Bethlehem and Jerusalem were only some of the many highlights and experiences.



In 2015, a group of parishioners walked the Camino de Santiago – a 180 km, 7 day pilgrimage beginning in O'Cebreiro and ending in Santiago de Compostela. It challenged the mind, the body, and the soul, and was a time of reflection, of blistered feet, of personal challenges, and a journey to remember.



The last journey in 2019 took the group to Rome, where St. Paul lived out his last years. We travelled north to Assisi to the home of St. Francis and St. Clare. We travelled south to Pompeii, Herculaneum, and the Isle of Capri, and north to Assisi to the home of St. Francis and St. Clare. One of the many highlights was to see the Pope pass 10 feet from us in St. Peter's Square and to receive his blessing.



WELCOME TO OUR CITY

Thunder Bay is our city, where we live, work, and raise our families. Here we worship; serve our community and each other; and wrestle with challenges and change. It is the place where we are blessed to build our lives, our spiritual family, and our community. It is the place we call home.

Thunder Bay is at the western end of the Diocese of Algoma. As the largest urban centre in Northwestern Ontario, it is the hub for a vast wilderness region the size of France which measures over 250,000 square hectares. It is the largest city in the Heart of Continent and embraces the Canadian shores of Lake Superior.

Thunder Bay is the gateway to some of the most interesting recreational opportunities in the Heart of the Continent. Whether you enjoy indoor or outdoor activities; summer or winter sports; cultural events or dining out; individual, team, or family experiences; they can be found here.

Below please find an overview of our city. Additional information can be found at the City of Thunder Bay website www.thunderbay.ca.

History

The town of Port Arthur was formed in 1884 and the town of Fort William in 1892. In 1970, the City of Thunder Bay was formed from the amalgamation of the adjacent cities of Fort William and Port Arthur, and two outlying municipalities. The city was and still is referred to as "The Lakehead" because of its location at the end of the Great Lakes as the western terminus for shipping through the St. Lawrence Seaway. Thunder Bay at one time was one of the busiest grain ports in Canada with its massive grain elevators spread across the Lake Superior shoreline.

Thunder Bay, known for its famous landmark the Sleeping Giant, has a strong connection to Indigenous culture, but is also a melting pot of cultures. European settlement in the region began in the late 17th century with a French fur trading outpost on the banks of the Kaministiquia River. This led the Northwest Company to establish Fort William, the biggest inland trading post on the shores of Lake Superior in the early 1800s. The re-creation of this historic site is now one of Canada's top outdoor attractions, [Fort William Historical Park](#).

It grew into an important transportation hub with its port forming an important link in the railway shipping of grain and other products from Western Canada, through the Great Lakes and the Saint Lawrence Seaway to the east coast. The harbor is now a busy two-way transport hub servicing both lakera and ocean-going vessels.

Forestry and manufacturing play important roles in the city's economy. While they have declined in recent years, mining promises to give a huge new boost to the economy. In the meantime, the economy has been bolstered by a "knowledge economy" based on medical research and education, and a service economy - particularly for mining and health services for the region. The local economy has benefitted from local

entrepreneurs who have transformed the north hub of the city into a dining and entertainment district.

Population

The 2016 census puts Thunder Bay's population around 108,000 or 122,000 when outlying First Nations, municipalities, and townships are included. A recent estimate put the population at about 137,000 when undocumented persons are included. The median age is 44.5 years, while ages 0-14, 15-64 and >65 make up 14, 65, and 21 percent of the population, respectively.

Employers

Thunder Bay has become the regional services centre for [Northwestern Ontario](#) with most provincial departments represented. Thunder Bay's largest employers listed below are in the health care sector, social assistance, education, public administration, manufacturing, and forest products. This variety of employment opportunities has contributed to the ethnic diversity of the City.

- Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (www.tbrhsc.net), an acute care and teaching hospital associated with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (www.nosm.ca/)
- Lakehead Public School Board (www.lakeheadschoools.ca)
- Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board (www.tbcschools.ca)
- St. Joseph's Care Group (www.sjcg.net/)
- Lakehead University (www.lakehead.ca), including the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law (www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/departments/law) and world-renowned Paleo-DNA and forensics Laboratory (www.lakeheadu.ca/centre/lucas/laboratories/paleo-dna/contact-us)
- Confederation College (www.confederationcollege.ca)
- City of Thunder Bay and Government of Ontario
- Alstom (formerly Bombardier Transportation) (<https://www.alstom.com/alstom-canada>)
- Resolute Forest Products (www.resolutefp.com/installation_site.aspx?siteid=135)

Indigenous Relationships

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of life and spirituality. We are gathered as treaty people on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg of the Fort William First Nation and acknowledge this people's stewardship of this land through the ages. The Fort William First Nation reserve is immediately south of the city, on the south side of the Kaministiquia River. They are signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850 and their mission is to promote & ensure the physical, mental, emotional & spiritual well-being of their people and community.

There are two indigenous high schools in Thunder Bay - Dennis Cromarty High School (www.nnec.on.ca/index.php/dennis-franklin-cromarty-high-school) and the Matawa Education Authority (www.matawa.on.ca/services/education) These schools offer

indigenous-led education opportunities, primarily for students from remote northern Ontario First Nations communities.

The City has also focused its efforts on addressing issues of reconciliation, respect, tolerance, integration, and social justice through and with several agencies and the City police.

Several events raise awareness of the plight that Indigenous persons face in the City. Some of these include a Medicine Walk and the River of Tears Powwow. The River of Tears, the Neebing River where numerous Indigenous persons have lost their lives, has become symbolic of a challenge our city faces; it also prayerfully names a movement to break the inertia of social discrimination.

Cultural Amenities

In 2003, Thunder Bay received an award from the Government of Canada as one of Canada's cultural capitals. Since that time, the arts and music scene has blossomed even more. This is evident by the growing collection of public art, the displays at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery, and the Baggage Building Arts Centre, as well as many private galleries. There are also vibrant professional and amateur music concerts and live theatre productions including:

- Thunder Bay Community Auditorium (www.tbca.com/events)
- Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra www.tbso.ca
- Thunder Bay Art Gallery www.theag.ca
- Magnus Theatre www.magnus.on.ca
- Cambrian Players www.Facebook.com/CambrianPlayers

One of the best sources of information about the arts, dining and entertainment in Thunder Bay is the Walleye magazine (www.thewalleye.ca)

Recreation

Thunder Bay offers its residents a wide variety of year-round indoor recreation opportunities at:

- Community centres
- Pools and arenas
- Older adult centres
- The Botanical Conservatory

Wintertime allows us to enjoy the many outdoor rinks, tobogganing hills, nearby downhill or cross-country skiing facilities, snowshoeing, ice-climbing, ice-racing, and ice-fishing opportunities. Many enjoy the outlying large network of snowmobile trails or enjoy a brisk walk along the cleared trail system in the city. In addition, there are many curling rinks and teams for curlers of all levels to join.

The City and surrounding areas burst with recreation opportunities in the summer, and include:

- Golfing, swimming, biking, hiking, and skateboarding

- Camping, boating, and fishing
- Playing recreational baseball, soccer, tennis, and ultimate Frisbee
- Enjoying one of the neighbourhood parks
- Watching professional and college baseball, and soccer games
- Marina Park and Prince Arthur's Landing activities including: playgrounds and areas to picnic, Indigenous Day celebrations, weekly concerts in the park, sail, and power boating, Canada Day celebrations and the very popular Blues Fest
- Fort William Historical Park

Additionally, there are numerous volunteer opportunities to be had at service clubs and organizations, or at one of the many national and international sporting and cultural events hosted in the city.

Airport Facilities

Thunder Bay International Airport is among the top 20 busiest airports in Canada and is served by the country's major airlines. It is an important hub for regional airlines flying to destinations in Northern Ontario and Manitoba.

Airlines currently flying out of Thunder Bay include: Air Canada Express, Air Transat, Bearskin Airlines, Nakina Air Service, Porter Airlines, Sunwing Airlines, Superior Airways, Wasaya Airways and WestJet Encore

Weather

For precise information about Thunder Bay's weather, we recommend the Environment Canada website at: https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/on-100_metric_e.html .

But in general, Thunder Bay has more hours of sunshine and less precipitation than Toronto, Ottawa, or Sudbury.

The average temperature is comparable with Quebec City, Sudbury, or Winnipeg. Most of us quite like the variety of seasons and take in some activities during each.

PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Photos contained in our Parish Profile are used with the permission of the subjects and the photographers.

Photographers:

Parish Archives
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Lynda Farquharson
Mark Tilbury
and the St. Paul's Livestream Team