

OBITUARIES

Jack Page (August 24, 2025)

Jack was a faithful and dedicated servant within the life of the United Church, especially through his leadership at Emmanuel United Church, North Bay. Jack gave his time and gifts generously in many areas of church leadership: serving Emmanuel's church council and as a Trustee, Emmanuel Village, North Bay Presbytery, Manitou Conference Mission Support, and the Canadian Shield Regional Council's Property Commission. He was known for his attentiveness to detail, his willingness to work with others, and the joy he found in building relationships that furthered Christ's mission.

Those who worked alongside Jack will remember his good humour, quick grin, and ready laugh. He loved to sing, to ask questions that deepened conversation, and to follow through with practical steps that made decisions meaningful in the life of the church. Above all, Jack's devotion to his late wife Edith, his care of 'the farm' outside of Dutton, ON, and ultimately, his love for people shone through in all he did. We give thanks for Jack's faithful witness and for the many ways his ministry enriched the church and community.

Please keep Jack's family, friends and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Bettina (Tina) Hansen (August 31, 2025)

We remember and honour Bettina's work with The United Church of Canada, serving as a lay presbyter for over 30 years in the Sudbury area. She attended St. Luke's United and then Grace United Church, both in Sudbury. She was integral to the sending greeting/condolence/birthday cards to Presbytery.

She also archived the events relating to the 1986 Apology to First Peoples as well as archived the construction of the Cairn at the Apology Cairn in Sudbury. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Please keep Tina's family and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Cindy Brownlee (September 26, 2025)

Cindy dedicated herself wholeheartedly to volunteer work and looked forward to retirement, in which she planned to give even more of her time to the committees and organizations she cherished.

Cindy was a member the CSRC Right Relations Resource Team, the CSRC YaYa Resource Team (Youth and Young Adult), the CSRC Regional Council Meeting Planning Teams and often times, the local arrangements committees. She was very involved in youth programming in Manitou Conference as well.

Trinity United Church in North Bay, Friends of Camp Caritou, the Girl Guides of Canada and countless other committees have benefitted from her passion, leadership, energy and gift for organization. Whether planning fundraisers, chairing meetings, or organizing events, she was proudly known as a person who GSD (Gets Stuff Done) and always did it with a smile, a laugh, and a warm hug.

Please keep Rob, Diane, Sandra, Eric, Jordan, Henry, their family and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Rev. Ross Bruleigh (October 7, 2025)

We celebrate and remember Ross' 60 years of ministry with The United Church of Canada. He loved to lead worship and preach, presided at many funerals, and loved doing weddings almost anywhere! Baptism of babies, children and adults was his most joyful privilege in ministry.

Ross served as a full-time hospital chaplain for 10 years. His motto was "The community is my parish" words from Methodist founder John Wesley. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Please keep Ross' family and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Rev. Mercedes Hughes (October 15, 2025)

We celebrate and remember Mercedes' seven years of ministry with The United Church of Canada. She will be deeply missed by her many friends and by the parishioners of the Lyons United Memorial Church, Gore Bay.

Mercedes was so grateful for the opportunity to serve, to learn, and to grow in faith on beautiful Manitoulin Island. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Please keep Mercedes' family and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Rev. Doreen Lankshear-Smith (November 10, 2025)

We celebrate and remember Doreen's 15 years of ministry with The United Church of Canada. Doreen was ordained by Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference in 2010 and she served the former Knox Purden Street United Church in Thunder Bay until she retired in 2017. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Please keep Doreen's family and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Rev. Edith Lyn Heeley (January 9, 2026)

We celebrate Lyn's over 17 years of ordained ministry with The United Church of Canada. She was a devoted and proud minister, serving for many years in Massey and Blind River. Lyn will be missed by all who knew her.

Please keep Lyn's family, friends and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

Rev. John Lean Fraser (February 17, 2026)

We celebrate John's over 13 years of ordained ministry with The United Church of Canada. In ministry, he found renewed purpose and the opportunity to serve others through faith and fellowship. John will be missed by all who knew him.

Please keep John's family, friends and loved ones in your hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

