



*emmaus*

ANGELICAN CHURCH

---

*There is joy in the journey with Jesus*

---

Journeying in hope, faith and love with Jesus as we share God's word, creation & bread with our family, friends and community.



# ***PARISH PROFILE***

*January 1, 2021*



**Emmaus Anglican Church**  
**1643 Wellington Street East**  
**Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 2R8**  
[www.emmausanglicanssm.com](http://www.emmausanglicanssm.com)

January 1, 2021

## **INTRODUCTION**

Emmaus Anglican Church was formed in 2016 from the merger of two churches in Sault Ste. Marie. We are a missional congregation as indicated in our:

**VISION STATEMENT:** *There is Joy in the Journey with Jesus*

And

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *Journeying in hope, faith and love with Jesus as we share God's word, creation and bread with our family, friends and community.*

We are looking for an Incumbent who is energetic, open-minded, and willing to be involved in the many community building and missional ventures we either lead or participate in as part of our ongoing ministry in God's world.

We thank you for your interest in our church and, if the Lord is calling you to Emmaus, please submit your application to the Archbishop of Algoma, 619 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 2M6 or e-mail your application to her Administrative Assistant [adminassistant@dioceseofalgoma.com](mailto:adminassistant@dioceseofalgoma.com) Telephone 705-256-5061 X27.

### **Please ensure you provide the following with your application:**

- If you are a residing outside of the Diocese of Algoma, a signed statement that you have received permission from your bishop to make application to this diocese
- A current curriculum vitae
- A letter of introduction describing your "Vision For Ministry" at Emmaus and why you think you are suited for this position. Please base your response on your knowledge of the parish outlined in the attached Parish Profile.
- The names and contact information of three references.

Yours in Faith,

### **The Concurrence Committee**

Alison Weir - Chair

Mary McDonald, Bill Pletsch, Don Vardy, Phyllis Walls, Max Grandinetti, and Liz Hamel

## OUR "ROAD TO EMMAUS"

### CREATIVE CONVERSATIONS between three congregations (St. Matthew's, St. John the Evangelist, and Holy Trinity)



The *Creative Conversations* year long process was Incumbents of our three congregations and supported by the annual meeting of Vestry of each congregation, the process was approved. Parishioners from each congregation were elected to serve in the *Creative Conversations* process and mandated to work with the representatives from the other congregations to bring a proposal to the next annual meeting of Vestry.

suggested by the the Bishop. At the

The sessions of the process group always included times of prayer and reflection led by the *Creative Conversations* chaplain, The Reverend Rosalie Goos. Three town hall meetings were held for the participating congregations.

### ***We believe God is calling us to be a gathered community that...***

- ***...is patterned by the gospel narrative.*** The Bible traces the story of a God who liberates people from every form of bondage, making the whole creation new. In the fullness of time, this God sent Christ Jesus to “shatter the chains of evil and death and banish the darkness of sin and despair.” The best way for people to come to know this story today is through a church that embodies that story.
- ***...tells a new story in the city.*** A new church with vision usually proves to be a catalyst for transformation, allowing a church to become a compelling presence in a city and live into God’s Kingdom in tangible ways. We believe that together we have the people and resources to form such a new and vital church.
- ***...is committed to discipleship.*** The Bible calls us to be and to make disciples. Together we consist of a critical mass to help one another grow in intentional discipleship and to companion those new or returning to faith in the way of discipleship.
- ***...is inspired by a robust hope.*** Our actions of the present must be understood from the standpoint of God’s future. This initiative will orient us to that future, prompting us to act confidently on God’s promises and serve as a living witness to those promises for the people of this city.
- ***...exists for the sake of others.*** Our God remains active in the world, already engaged in mission. By combining our energy and resources, we can better serve as vibrant, faithful participants in this mission.

**The Parish of Emmaus** is the result of the amalgamation of the parishes of St. John the Evangelist and St. Matthew's in Sault Ste. Marie. Our "coming together" has yielded great things and new vision. As with all new relationships, we are growing into it as we identify our common strengths, weaknesses, and goals.

### **EMMAUS ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**1643 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario**



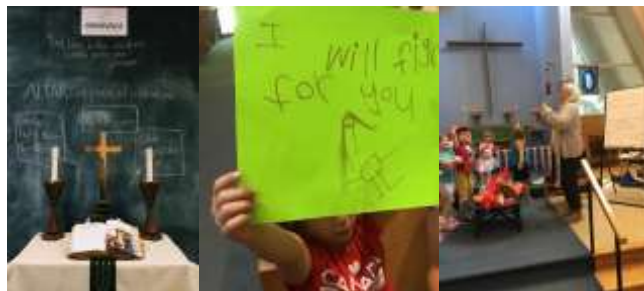
### **WHERE ARE WE NOW?**

In 2018, the Advisory Board, Wardens, and Rector not only spent time dealing with the regular business of church operations, but also spent time intentionally and prayerfully engaging in visioning work. Their work began with brainstorming sessions resulting in comments/suggestions/identification of some of our strengths and some of our weaknesses that require attention.

### **The Worshipping Life of Emmaus**

- 1) What words/phrases would you use to describe the worshipping life of Emmaus?  
***Child friendly, joy-filled, welcoming, accepting, fluid/moving, forward moving, hope-filled.***

- 2) Would you say that there is active leadership and participation in the worshipping life of the congregation from laity (including children & youth)?  
**Same people fulfilling many roles – however the significant effort from those who are involved does not go unnoticed.**  
**We do need clearer guidelines of roles and responsibilities and a better sense of how to invite people to participate and share their gifts.**  
**Our children are eager participants. We require additional training for our children and youth so they can be more involved, particularly in worship.**  
**Children’s Liturgy (Sunday School) is an area where we need more leadership.**
- 3) How homogenous or diverse is the make-up of Emmaus?  
**Not overly diverse, but there is no opposition to diversity, in fact, it is very welcome.**
- 4) How would you describe the ministry of hospitality and welcome in the congregation?  
**We are welcoming... and work hard at it. Newcomers (which we have – yay!) have gone out of their way to tell us that they feel welcomed.**
- 5) How does the congregation follow up with new members, guests?  
 Who follows up – clergy or laity?  
**Consider establishing a more formal approach with identified responsibilities.**
- 6) What ministries/opportunities are there at Emmaus for people of all ages to explore, grow and develop as disciples of Christ?
- **Bible Study**
  - **Contemplative Prayer Group**
  - **Men’s / Women’s Group**
  - **Seasonal/Ecumenical opportunities (i.e. Lenten lunches, Seasonal studies)**
  - **Children’s Liturgy**
  - **Vacation Bible School**
  - **There is a gap when it comes to those who work regular business hours or go to school**
  - **Nothing currently for youth**
- 7) How does Emmaus incorporate and encourage young members in the worshipping life of the congregation?  
**Children’s Liturgy on Sundays. Participation in Offertory. In Choir. Looking towards more involvement opportunities.**



## Emmaus in the Community

- 1) What place would you say your congregation has in the local community?  
***Active in the community primarily with partnerships and through individual witness (parishioners and rector as representatives of Emmaus). VBS brings in folks from the neighbourhood.***
- 2) What community organizations or agencies is Emmaus in partnership with?  
***Community Garden, Community Kitchen, Support Groups (AA, NA, AlAnon, Recovery International), Vincent Place, Soup Kitchen/Christmas Cheer, St. Paul's Food Bank, Quilts for Kids***
- 3) Is being a visible presence in the community a priority for Emmaus?  
***It is important, but has not necessarily been acted on as a priority. The name change has been challenging as the neighbourhood still thinks of the building as St. Matthew's.***

## Stewardship

- 1) Does the congregation support the current ministry of Emmaus with time and commitment?  
***We see more giving of support via time and offering of skills (baking for Vincent Place, craft supplies for VBS etc)***
- 2) Is there a healthy understanding of the theology of giving and generosity among members of Emmaus?  
***There is a sense that the older generation understands this, but not the younger generation. We need to continue exploring ways to better engage in this area.***

***\*\*during the current pandemic (2020) Emmaus has held its own and donors have been faithful allowing us to remain sustainable.***

## Who is God calling us to be?

- 1) What are your greatest hopes and dreams for your congregation?  
***Growth – with people and participation.  
More diversity in our parish demographic.  
More community engagement and visibility.***
- 2) What do you fear the most about the future of your congregation?  
***That finances dictate so much of who we are and what we're about. There is a feeling that we are bound by lack of financial resources.  
The declining reality of the congregation when one considers the average age of parishioners, and the reality that these people are not being replaced by younger members.  
The fear of burnout among those who are actively engaged in the life of the parish – we have few people doing much work.***



- 3) When you think about your congregation – what do you do really well?

***Including our children as an essential part of the church.***

***We have been told time and again by newcomers that they feel very welcomed and that they love the music ministry at Emmaus.***

***The wider community often comments on the way that the sign in front of the church is used...providing things to reflect on, a smile on the way to and from work... it is truly being used as a method of outreach and witness, along with providing information about what goes on at the church.***



- 4) When you think about your congregation – what do you feel you are weak at?

***Bible Study and Activities for working adults and youth are currently an area that we are weak at.***

***Stewardship and actively engaging in teaching and communicating about finances (note, this is something we have been working on).***

***Communication – there is always room for improvement with communication and setting out clear guidelines and expectations (we are actively working on this item).***

- 5) As new generations come along is there an openness to change?

***There is openness – if there wasn't Emmaus wouldn't exist – but at the same time we recognize the difficulty that change presents and the importance of recognizing that, in the midst of change and transition, mistakes will happen and therefore the importance to live into change requires flexibility as well as strong leadership who are willing to make difficult decisions for the sake of the wider community.***

- 6) Is your congregation able to continue into the next five – ten years?

***General consensus is yes, with a recognition that attention to the areas that we've identified as weak are necessary and that cultivating a vision for ministry has to be an integral and ongoing part of the work of the parish.***

- 7) Where do you see this church being in the next 15 – 20 years?

***We are confident that we will continue to be here as a parish and that we will be actively invested in living as a community that bears witness to Christ's presence and love in this city. We also know that we will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit should we be called to live out an expression of church that looks different than what it does now. We are certain that the work that led to the formation of Emmaus will be a source of encouragement in the future.***

***\*\*it is obvious to us as we end the year 2020 with all of its challenges, that Emmaus has experienced church that looks much different and we have adapted to all the challenges.***

Comments we have heard in our community

“Friendliest church ever attended”

“Location and friendly atmosphere”

“Open to change”

“Child-friendly and family oriented”

“Community outreach”

“Service and programming support Christian development”



**Some things that guided us in defining a vision for Emmaus:**

Drawing on *Where are we now?* and *Who is God calling us to be?* we asked ourselves how we reflect the 5 Marks of Mission and the Priorities of Living Faith by mapping out what we have discovered accordingly.

**Emmaus Anglican Church: Living Faith Map**



## **Defining a Vision & Mission Statement**

Defining a clear, one-sentence guiding **vision statement** that encompasses the following elements of a vision:

- Is biblical and inspirational
- Provides a future picture for the congregation
- Appeals to long-term interests of members
- Is clear enough to guide decision-making
- Is general enough to permit individual initiative
- Is easy to communicate.

A **mission statement** supports the vision and serves to communicate the vision's purpose and direction to stakeholders.

As you spend time reading this Vision for Ministry, you will notice a few things.

### ***It is hope-filled.***

We looked at who we are as Emmaus and considered where we spend our time and energy. We also thought about who God is calling us to be. In all of this we discovered that as Emmaus was born out of great hope, on the whole, the congregation continues in the steadfastness of hope that is rooted in faith.

### ***It is realistic.***

While hope-filled, there is a recognition of the challenges that Emmaus faces. While we may not have answers to all our challenges at the moment, they have certainly been acknowledged so that we can move into discerning creative solutions.

### ***It is a work in progress.***

The Emmaus Vestry has supported the work done thus far on this Vision for Ministry including the adoption of the Vision and Mission statement that was developed as part of the plan. Over the next few months, the Rector, Wardens and Advisory Board will move into identifying priorities and goals that align with the vision, and consider the best way to meet these goals.

## **Vision Statement**

***There is joy in the journey with Jesus!***



## **Mission Statement**

***Journeying in hope, faith and love with Jesus as we share God's word, creation, and bread with our family, friends, and community.***



## Worship Services at Emmaus

There are two regular Sunday services:

**\*\*with the pandemic, we are currently only holding one service on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. which is livestreamed on our Facebook page. The children's time is incorporated into the service. As per pandemic protocols, our fellowship time has been discontinued until restrictions are lifted.**

### **Sunday 8:30 a.m.**

A quiet, said (no singing), early morning traditional service using the Liturgy for Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Typical attendance is approximately 6.

### **Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

A more contemporary, all-ages service with plenty of singing and celebration using the Liturgy for the Celebration of the Eucharist from the Book of Alternative Services (BAS). We have a Power Point system to project the whole service for the congregation. The approximate attendance is 80. There is a Children's Liturgy of the Word at this service. Youth and adults are encouraged to get involved through active participation in the Liturgy. There are typically 6-8 children.

### **Healing Sunday**

Once a month a healing service is held offering prayers for personal needs. At this service, individuals or family members are welcomed to come forward to speak with the priest and request personal prayer time. Unction (anointing with holy oil) is part of this service.

Typically, we have had a Wednesday morning service. It is currently suspended but we may wish to initiate another should requests dictate a need.



### **Celebration Candle**

Emmaus has a Celebration Candle (as shown). It is lit to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones who are no longer with us or in joyful celebration of a life moment (i.e. birth of a child, ordination, confirmation, anniversary, etc.)

Following the service, there is opportunity to get to know one another better during a time of refreshments and fellowship.



## GROUPS, PROGRAMS, AND INITIATIVES ALIVE AT EMMAUS



### Community Kitchen

Emmaus' Community Kitchen is run in collaboration with Algoma Family Services and provides an opportunity for members of the wider community to gather once a month to prepare a healthy meal as a group. The group is diverse, and many of the participants are students. It is a great opportunity to connect, learn to cook, and have fun! Since the program began at Emmaus, the primary church liaison has been the Rector. The current coordinator, Kelly Burton, is a member of the culinary community in Sault Ste. Marie. Kelly is also the coordinator for Emmaus' Community Garden. Don McGorman, a keen local environmentalist, provides assistance with the organization of the community kitchen.

### Community Garden

From May through to October, if you make your way to the back of Emmaus Anglican Church you will find a community garden, active with people from the neighbourhood committed to planting the soil, cultivating community and growing together.

Active in this location since 2011 the garden has grown in size and the raised garden beds are in high demand each season. The garden began as a child and youth initiative, with the young people of the parish yearning to engage in a project that was about connecting with our neighbours. For the past several years the garden coordinator has been a member of the wider community and while many of our gardeners are not regular church attenders, they are part of the living work of the parish and we have formed many friendships over the years.

Here are a couple of images of the garden at the peak of the growing season.





### **Jazz Vespers (new)**

Jazz Vespers was held for the first time at Emmaus on December 2, 2018. In collaboration with the Algoma University Music Department, the evening vespers combines the tradition of evening prayer with the art of jazz music. Through music and prayer, we are invited to let go of the hurried day and enter into a time of reflection, allowing our hearts to be stirred and renewed by the mysterious hope of the Divine. We hope to continue Jazz Vespers where music and faith meet as a gift to all.

### **Contemplative Support Group (new)**

Contemplative Support Group commenced at Emmaus in 2017. This group, which has the Minister as the spiritual guide, meets to discuss Centering Prayer or meditation, surrender through Welcoming Prayer and the practice of sacred reading through Lectio Divina. This ministry follows the spiritual practices outlined by Thomas Keating and Cynthia Bourgeault.



### **Music Ministry**

In addition to learning, singing, and sharing new songs and making music, the choir continues to reflect on our ministry by completing weekly devotions. Not only do members come to sing and make music, they love the fellowship that derives from meeting and working together throughout the year! We have a lot of laughs and continue to grow together musically as well as in sharing the love of Christ!

Throughout the year, the choir provides music at special services such as Advent, Christmas Eve and Day, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints', Remembrance Day, Funerals and events such as our annual St. Vincent's Christmas celebration.





## Anglican Church Women (ACW)

Every woman in the parish is a member of the ACW. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at noon for a brown bag lunch. The meeting starts with a time of devotions and prayer followed by lunch and social time.

The business part of the meeting is for planning events, discussing outreach and our role in various Deanery and Diocesan events during the year.

We have several fundraising endeavours, including meat pie baking, teas, bake sales and rummage sales, the proceeds of which help us to support our various outreach missions.



## Altar Guild

It is hard to imagine our services without the work the Altar Guild puts into the preparation for each service. Every service does not have flowers displayed, but altar linens designated to the appropriate days set out in the church calendar are utilized and the elements required for Eucharist, Baptisms, Weddings, etc. are set out as well. I have heard on more than one occasion people say "this is a lovely church".



## Buckets of Change



Since 2011, the “buckets of change” have been passed around, usually, on the third Sunday of each month. Over the past 8 years, \$10,814.21 has been collected for Outreach projects and World Vision.

## **Men's Group (aka – 'Grumpy Old Men')**

A number of Emmaus men continue to enjoy good fellowship every Tuesday morning. Our time together begins with devotions and Bible study. We share a common purpose in discerning what God has in store for us and where we should focus our time. We engage in lively discussion on a wide range of issues. Frequently, our discussions lead to a variety of projects - maintenance or "fixer-up" projects with which our members attempt to wrestle, often successfully; sometimes new initiatives grasp our attention and we work towards a new project.

In response to the great respect we have for the many special efforts by the ladies at Emmaus, we assist, where possible, with their projects, be it setting up tables or helping to make pies.

Emmaus is a regional Christmas Cheer distribution depot, serving packages to those less fortunate in our sector of the city. It is an important endeavor that the Men's Group assists with and it helps to reinforce our understanding of our potential role in the neighborhood.

## **Parish Visiting Team**

We bring to your attention a special need for members of our "Church Family" who for one reason or another are unable to attend Worship Services at Emmaus. Feeling disconnected from the life of the Church and its members, our visiting team comes in and fills the void. Visits are individual and personal. We try to update information and activities to those unable to attend on a regular basis. We bring communion and a listening ear, so that our shut-in members continue to have a sense of being a part of Emmaus.



## **Prayer Chain Ministry**

We have an established prayer chain ministry with a contact being identified every Sunday so people may request prayers.

## **Prayer Shawl Knitting Ministry**

Calling all Knitters to our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Our group has not grown much over the years but we have produced almost 1200 items, shawls, lap blankets, baby blankets and comfort shawls for kids in hospital. This year's largest donations have been to Oncology (50 shawls) and Pediatrics (30 kids' shawls and baby blankets) but we have been encouraged to see our congregation using them for personal giving.

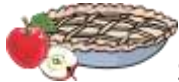




## St. Vincent Place

The Vincent Place Ministry is alive and well thanks to the many volunteers in many capacities who make it happen. From organizing, purchasing supplies, making pastry ahead of time and preparing apple pies, to the baking of cupcakes, cooking of meat, carting of food and equipment to work at the dinners, many efficient, helpful people amass many hours assisting this amazing ministry. Thankfully, we have attracted new team members, retained the steadfast, and said grateful goodbyes to those moving to new ministries or challenges.

### Apple Pie Outreach Project



Selling apple pies as our main Outreach project provides the funds required for the dinners we serve at Vincent Place as well as for other areas of outreach assistance.





## **Quilts for Kids**

This group was formed at Emmaus in October 2017 and has been meeting here twice monthly since then. It is a very busy and successful group and is open to anyone in the parish who enjoys quilting or wants to learn quilting.

### **The mission statement:**

***Transforming fabrics into patchwork quilts to comfort children in need. These are children with life threatening illnesses, children of abuse and children living at poverty level and below.***



## **Children and Youth**

We have worked diligently at Emmaus to ensure that the younger members of the congregation recognize that they are vital to who we are as the body of Christ.

With our children, this is demonstrated through the welcome of their presence and encouraging their participation in the liturgy. September to June, Emmaus offers “Children’s Liturgy of the Word” (our version of Sunday School) where, during the Proclamation of the Word, school aged children gather to pray, listen, learn and talk about faith, before we all share in communion together. We currently have four leaders (two of whom will be heading to University this fall) who facilitate the Children’s Liturgy of the Word using a lectionary based curriculum that incorporates a liturgical pattern. One of the challenges that the leaders face is not knowing who will be in attendance from week to week, along with the varied age range of those who come. Thankfully our leadership have been able to adapt as needed.

During the summer, typically in July, Emmaus has been in the practice of hosting a week-long (half-day) Vacation Bible School, which is always a hit. We invite the neighbourhood Christian daycare to participate in the week with us, where we sing, hear stories, make crafts and learn about our faith in fun and excited ways.

As for youth, we seem to be at a place where most of our youth have, or are heading off to post-secondary endeavors, however whenever they are able they are with us and many are actively engaged in their lives of faith. Two of our youth serve as Children’s Liturgy Leaders and another is a member of PWRDF’s Youth Council. Our youth members have also been active in

Diocesan wide youth initiatives, including Youth Synod, serving as youth delegates to Diocesan Synod and also serving as General Synod Youth delegates. We also had youth attend Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth gathering in Thunder Bay last summer.



### **Connecting with our Community and Its Needs**



The following community support groups meet at Emmaus:

#### **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) (weekly, Mondays at 8:30 p.m.)**

- Fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other, that they may solve their common problems and help others to recover from alcoholism
- Monthly regional meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month at 1 p.m.

#### **Al-Anon/AIateen (weekly, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.)**

- Al-Anon is a mutual support program for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA) (weekly, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.)**

- Functions as a 12-step mutual support group that provides support for recovering drug users

**Recovery International (weekly, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.)**

- Offers a mutual support group focused on providing information for persons with nervous and emotional disorders
- Offers self-care instruction to assist with overcoming panic attacks, anxiety, fear, depression, and other nervous disorders
- Focuses on cognitive behavior therapy practices

**OUR HOPES AND PRAYERS FOR THESE QUALITIES IN OUR NEW INCUMBENT**





*emmaus*  
ANGELICAN CHURCH

---

*There is joy in the journey with Jesus*

---

Journeying in hope, faith and love with Jesus as we share God's word, creation & bread with our family, friends and community.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

The beautiful border town of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, is located on the north shore of the St. Mary's River, which separates Lake Huron and Lake Superior. Our small city of 73,000 is truly "naturally gifted" and is noted as Algoma's Friendliest City. We are very proud of all it has to offer to its residents and visitors alike.

The Sault provides its residents with all the modern conveniences of a larger centre, while maintaining a friendly, safe, small town atmosphere. Ongoing activities throughout the year help to build a strong sense of community.

Sault Ste. Marie provides a high quality of life for its residents. It is a growing community with a projected population increase to 83,300 by 2036. Its "small city" size allows residents to take advantage of short commute times between work and home and presents inhabitants with affordable real estate/rental opportunities.

Our area is a virtual paradise for people who enjoy outdoor activities in all four seasons. There is an inner-city Hub Trail and plentiful outlying green spaces. There is a variety of indoor and outdoor recreational activities easily accessible: boating, fishing, hunting, hiking, snow machining, skiing, skating, camping, and swimming to name a few. There are six public golf courses – three 18 hole and three 9 hole. Large community centres, fitness facilities, and the ever-popular YMCA provide ample opportunity for leisure time activities or competitive sports. GFL Memorial Gardens serves as a venue for entertainment, sporting and community events, including being home of the Soo Greyhounds of the Ontario Major Junior Hockey League.

### **Cultural Enlightenment**

- [Algoma Conservatory](#) - classical and suzuki musical instruction at the second largest conservatory in Ontario
- [Algoma Festival Choir](#)
- [Sault Symphony](#)
- The New Horizons Orchestra
- [Art Gallery of Algoma](#)
- Music and Movie Festivals: [Algoma Fall Festival](#) and [Shadows of the Mind Film Festival](#)
- Four dance schools including [Studio Dance](#)
- [Sault Community Theatre](#)
- Theatre Groups: [Musical Comedy Guild](#), [Sault Theatre Workshop](#), [Algoma Repertory Theatre](#)
- [The Machine Shop](#) - a restored paper mill building that has been converted into a concert hall as well as two restaurants and a gelato bar
- [The Old Stone House](#)
- [Canadian Heritage Bushplane Centre](#)
- [Agawa Canyon Tour Train](#)
- [Rolling Pictures](#) – world class film studio providing full post-production services for TV, film, documentary, web series and animation



We would encourage you to find out more by taking some time to visit the following websites.

<https://www.sault-canada.com/en/>

<http://saultstemarie.ca/>

<http://ssmcoc.com/>

<https://sault.foundlocally.com/> (be sure to check out the community overview and pictures on this site)

<https://www.algomacountry.com/>

## **Demographics**

Sault Ste. Marie is in the District of Algoma. The most recently available statistics for our community (2016) show the following:

Population:	73,368
Median Age:	46.8 Years
Avg. Household Income:	\$61,020.00
% of Pop. 15 Years +:	85.7%

Additional demographic information is available at:

<https://investsaultstemarie.com/why-sault-ste.-marie/demographics-statistics/>

## **Educational Facilities**

There are educational options at the elementary and secondary school levels offering public, Roman Catholic, French, and French-Immersion learning. At the secondary level, there are specialty programs available such as the International Baccalaureate Programme and Environmental Studies.

Further information is available from the links below:

[Algoma District School Board](#)

[Huron Superior Catholic District School Board](#)

[Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario](#)

We are proud of the local opportunities for higher education. Both [Algoma University](#) and [Sault College](#) are expanding and renovating their facilities making Sault Ste. Marie a hub for learning. A short trek into Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, offers [Lake Superior State University](#) which also has partnerships with our university and college. Courses in Anishinabe culture and language are offered at the newly established [Shingwauk Kinoomagge Gamig](#) located at Algoma University.

Our parish's close proximity to Algoma University and Shingwauk Kinoomagge Gamig offer us a unique ability to pursue connections with their faculty and students. Their current site once housed the Shingwauk Residential School and we are hoping to cultivate relationships which will bring reconciliation and healing to those so affected by the residential school system as well as to engage with our Indigenous neighbours and friends inviting them to share in our journey with Christ and to learn about their own personal journeys.

## **Employment Opportunities**

There are an abundance of companies, institutions, and businesses offering employment opportunities in the city.

- [Algoma Steel](#) is a fully integrated flat carbon steel manufacturer and is a major employer in Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding area.
- [Sault Area Hospital](#) is a newly built progressive facility providing medical care to the city and surrounding areas. It offers many treatments/services not previously available in the city.
- The [Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation](#) provides employment opportunities in a broad sector of positions.
- There are many elder-care facilities and the Sault is home to [ARCH Hospice](#) providing quality compassionate care through end-of-life.
- There are many retail establishments, restaurants, fitness centres, and customer service industries.
- Municipal, Provincial, and Federal offices and services are available locally.

**Our Rich History**



**St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church**

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church is located on land that once belonged to the Hudson's Bay Company. The land became part of the Hudson's Bay Company when it took over the Northwest Company in 1821.

In 1900, the land was transferred to the Diocese of Algoma. The cornerstone was set on September 8, 1900. At this time, it was known as St. John's Chapel of Ease. It was initiated into the life of the little west end industrial community during the troubled years of 1902 when thousands of men were left unemployed by a shutdown of Consolidated Companies. There had been no notice and the men were left with wages unpaid for more than a month.

These were sorrowful days for the mission which had only been established for some three years.

The industrial situation showed no signs of improvement during the following 12 months. In the September 1904 issue of Missionary news, there was an article saying that things were improving. However, Reverend C. Piercy said many homes were in greater difficulty than before. It is interesting to note that the church was referred to as the mission of St. John the Evangelist at this time. A parsonage was built after the arrival of Reverend Piercy. In 1905, an extensive project was undertaken to rebuild the church as it was considered unsafe. Renovations were completed in December 1907. The church was again enlarged and rededicated during the ministry of Archdeacon J.S. Smedley. A new rectory was built in the late 1950's.

One of the highlights of this beautiful little church is the inspiring stained-glass window in the sanctuary. It was installed in 1905. It came from Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, England. The subject of the window is the Ascension. It was to be placed in the pro cathedral church of St. Luke's, but it proved to be too big so was offered to the parish of St. John's and gratefully accepted. There are many memorial items throughout the church.

St. John's Memorial Hall was built as a tribute to parish veterans that served in the First World War. The cornerstone was laid on August 6, 1919 and it officially opened on November 11, 1919. Two bronze tablets that listed the names of the men of the parish who served were unveiled on December 8, 1921.

The little church proved steadfast through two world wars, a depression in the 1930's, a boom in the 1970's, 80's and 90's. The year of the hundredth anniversary, 2000, was ushered in with a dinner and dance at the Memorial hall. Many generations of different

families were baptized, confirmed, married and laid to rest from this church. Attendance slowly started to decline.

In 2015, St. John's entered into "Creative Conversations" with two other parishes: St. Matthew's and Holy Trinity. It was evident St. John's could not carry on with declining attendance and the increased need for repair to the buildings. Both other churches had concerns of their own regarding their viability. Following many meetings and discussions, a vote was taken at the parishes' vestry meetings to determine whether or not to join the parishes together. St. John's and St. Matthew's voted "yes", while Holy Trinity declined.

The decision was made to amalgamate the two congregations in the building of St. Matthew's and establish a new parish called ***Emmaus Anglican Church***. The first service was held in September 2016.

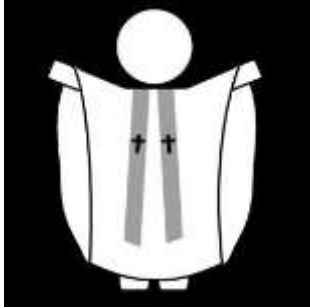
There was still a decision to be made regarding the properties associated with St. John's. It had always been rumored that the church buildings were on a burial site. There was no way these properties could morally be sold commercially if this was true. Ground penetrating radar was used to examine the property which detected four intact gravesites. The burial ground goes back to the fur trade when the Métis emerged as a distinct group. Archdeacon Harry Huskins was instrumental in initiating the transfer of the properties of St. John's to the Métis Nation of Ontario. The land was transferred in July 2017. The former congregation of St. John's were pleased to know the buildings would be preserved, repaired, and the church would be used as a spiritual and cultural center with Anglican worship continuing on special occasions.

### **St. Matthew's Anglican Church**

Throughout the 1950's, the City of Sault Ste. Marie expanded rapidly eastward and thus consideration was given to the development of an Anglican parish in this area of the town. Initially, the chapel of the Shingwauk School (an Anglican residential school for Northern Indigenous children) was used for services, with a local school housing the church school program. As the church body began to grow, it was decided, in 1960, that a new church was required.

St. Matthew's was built in 1960, and formally dedicated in 1961. The design of the building, by architect Macy Dubois, reflects the desire of the era for change from traditional churches, and the desire for unique expression. Although the worship space design is unique, it reflects a traditional Anglican church layout with a raised chancel and nave. The altar was originally placed against the east wall of the church but, other than bringing it forward, the chancel is as it was originally designed. An addition was added to the west end of the church in the early 1980's to accommodate a more spacious entrance, office, cloak room and choir area, as well as a loft level above. The loft is primarily used for meetings, but can be opened up for additional worship space if required.

In 2015, St. Matthew's entered into a discernment process, "Creative Conversations", with two other city parishes: St. John the Evangelist and Holy Trinity. The conversations were to consider the future of the three parishes. After a year of meetings, discussions and much deliberation, it was decided that St. John's and St. Matthew's would become one; Holy Trinity declined. The decision was made that the St. John's parishioners would relocate to the building of St. Matthew's and a new parish, ***Emmaus Anglican Church***, would be formed. The first service was held in September 2016.



## INCUMBENTS SINCE THE NEW MILLENIUM

### **St. John the Evangelist**

***1997-2007***

The Reverend Wayne Putman

***2007-2008***

The Reverend Alan Knight

***2008-2013***

The Reverend Mal Binks

***2013-2016***

The Reverend Pamela Rayment

### **St. Matthew's**

***1991-2004***

The Reverend David Donovan

***2004-2009***

The Reverend Munroe Scott

***2009-2016***

The Reverend Patrick McManus

### **Emmaus**

***2016-2017***

The Reverend Patrick McManus

The Reverend Pamela Rayment (Associate Priest)

***2017-2019***

The Reverend Pamela Rayment

***2019-2021***

The Reverend Canon Bob Elkin (Interim)

The Reverend Susan Montague Koyle (Deacon Associate)

The Reverend Bruce McLeish (Honourary Assistant)

**History of the Property**

The land on which our Emmaus parish has its church building is owned by the Shingwauk Education Trusts, but the possession of the land and building rests with the Anglican Diocese of Algoma.

The property, stretching south from the present-day Wellington Street to the St. Mary's River was originally purchased in 1873 for the site of an Indian Residential School by the Reverend Edward Francis Wilson. Before that, the property had been largely bush with some potato fields along the river line. The new school building was opened on July 31, 1874, by the Governor-General, Lord Dufferin.

In the mid-1880's, the Reverend Mr. Wilson moved west to set up another residential school there, and the ownership of the property was turned over to the then Bishop, Edward Sullivan. Algoma was still a Missionary Diocese at the time and did not have a Synod, so the property was held personally by the Bishop. Algoma subsequently became a full Diocese with its own Synod, and electing its own Bishop and the 1906 Act of the Ontario Legislature that incorporated the Synod, enabling it to hold property, transferred the Shingwauk lands and other property held by the Bishop to the Synod.

In 1911 the Diocese, which was having increasing problems running the school, entered into an agreement with our national Church's Missionary Society of the Church in Canada to take over the school, though the Diocese retained ownership of the property. In 1923 an agreement was made in which the federal government assumed responsibility for the running of the school and assumed possession of the school buildings and property, although the actual ownership remained with the Diocese. In 1970 the federal government closed the Shingwauk School and, under the agreement, the possession of the property reverted to the Diocese. Not having a use, itself, for the former school building, the Diocese invited Algoma University College, which had only recently been established and was operating out of some trailers at the present Sault College site, to move to the school building. As part of this, Algoma University College agreed to continue the diocese and former School's commitment to Indigenous education.

The Indigenous community in Sault Ste. Marie, particularly the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations, became increasingly dissatisfied with the way in which Algoma University College was fulfilling this commitment and it sued the College. The Diocese was also included in this lawsuit as it had made the original transfer of the property to the College. A settlement agreement resolving this was entered into by all of the parties under a Court Order by Mr. Justice Richard Trainor. Under the Order, the Shingwauk Education Trust was established with three Partners: The Diocese of Algoma and the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations (representing all of the other First Nations in Ontario who had sent students to the School). At the Diocese's initiative the Shingwauk Student's Association (former Students of the School) were added a number of years later as the fourth Partner of the Trust.

Over the years, a number of buildings had been built on the Shingwauk property including two schools and the St. Matthew's church building. As part of the settlement the Diocese retains the possession and use of the St. Matthew's (now Emmaus) land and building as long as it is used for Church purposes. If it was to no longer be used for Church purposes, then the land and building would revert to the Shingwauk Trust which continues to own the property.

UPDATED ADDENDUM

September 8, 2020 Addendum to Emmaus Parish Profile

Over the last year, Emmaus Anglican Church has continued to grow in ministry under the leadership of our Interim Minister.

Since October 2019, our weekly attendance has increased approximately 25%.

With the support of the Diocese and our Interim Minister we have contracted to mentor a Lay Pastoral Associate for a two year term that began in June 2020. We hosted an ordination to the Diaconate of our Lay Pastoral Associate in October 2020.

**Covid19**

As is the case for the majority of our lives, daily/weekly routines at Emmaus took a little detour due to Covid19. We did, although, continue with a number of our outreach ministries.

We continue to have monthly food drives. Our volunteers go to the homes of parishioners to pick up food supplies left at their doors which are, in turn, delivered to a local food bank. Also, our participation at Vincent Place dinners is ongoing but, rather than providing sit down dinners, we provide take-out meals to those in need.

During the last 6 months, communication with parishioners has been a top priority. We have published a weekly newsletter which has been sent by e-mail to all parishioners who have e-mail, is hand delivered to those who do not, and is also posted on our parish website.

We have held a weekly Morning Prayer service by Zoom which is broadcast on Sunday mornings for everyone to participate in as we tried to worship together as a community while apart physically. The YouTube link was posted on our parish website.

A conscious effort was and is being made to connect with each other in the parish via telephone to ensure no one is neglected in a time of isolation.

A well-attended weekly Bible Study was held by Zoom during May to July facilitated by our Lay Pastoral Associate.

Our offerings have held steady during the time of shut-down. This is a testament to the caring members of our congregation. We attach to this document our financial report and balance sheet at July 31, 2020 for further reference on our current financial status.

Our first service back in our church building was held on Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and attended by 27 people with all safety protocols in place. We anticipate live-streaming Sunday worship by the end of September.



The challenges of Covid19 have been many, but our parish family has pulled together in community to maintain contact, offer worship, continue our valuable outreach, and ensure our parish remains vital and viable into the future.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

**2018 PARISH STATISTICS**

---

<b>Parish Attendance</b>	<b>2016 (Sep-Dec)</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Average Sunday Attendance	91	87	79
Average Children's Liturgy Attendance	6	5	6
Average Wednesday Attendance	6	3	1
Easter Octave Attendance	n/a	197	118
Christmas Attendance	156	160	182
Jazz Vespers	n/a	n/a	51
<b>Other Statistics</b>			
Baptisms	1	1	5
Confirmations	0	5	0
Weddings	0	0	0
Burials	0	2	3