

Dear Friends:

We are gearing up for the start of the 2024 shipping season, and I wanted to give you an update.

The first ship for 2024, M/V Federal Franklin, is due about March 28, and it will be for potash, loading at Thunder Bay Terminals. I will now be keeping the Vessel Report updated at the Seafarers' Centre.

2023 was our busiest year since 2000. We ministered to the seafarers from ocean-going ships, which in 2023 included working with 132 ships and transporting 1,359 seafarers. The Seafarers' Centre at Keefer Terminal was staffed on 140 evenings with 202 sailors visiting. Our Christmas Gift Bags are an important part of our ministry and we appreciate everyone who knitted toques and mitts and donated to our gift bags; 226 bags, including 3 for women, were delivered to 12 ships.

The Volunteer Appreciation Social held at the Prince Arthur on February 29, was well attended and it appeared that people enjoyed themselves. Thank you to our sponsor, Thunder Bay Shipping Inc. The Board has agreed that it will be held on the last Thursday in February.

Over the next week, I will be contacting people regarding volunteering.

Speaking of volunteers, we have just enough, which means we need a couple more. At some point in the year we will be short. For one reason or another, volunteers book off. If I have commitments and no volunteers are available, it means I deny service to seafarers.

Please support the Fund-raising Dinner on April 19 and the Meat Sale. These are fund-raisers, and they help build the community that supports the Mission. If you have a MTS congregation rep, please see them or Janet Pike who is the contact for both events.

#### Website Redevelopment

We have begun working on redeveloping our website. I hope to have the new site up and running in May.

#### Upgrades to Centre

- The fibre optic internet has been installed and the TV is now on TBayTel.
- New TV tables have been purchased, which can be stored more easily.
- Booths 1 and 2 are being converted to storage. This will be an on-going project over the spring.
- The picnic table is being repaired.

Looking ahead, we hope to put new trim on windows. I will make the trim, and we are looking for volunteers to help with installation and painting. The van will also get some painting done on it this spring.

In Christ's service,



**The Rev'd Canon Ed Swayze**

*Chaplain*

*Mission to Seafarers: Port of Thunder Bay*

Suite 450, 100 Main St.  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6R9  
(807) 344-6241 Seafarers' Centre  
(807) 626-2571 cell

[www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay](http://www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay)

Office Hours: Monday 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and  
by appointment.

**RCCO membership renewal or new will be available as of April 1st.**

I am sending this out to regular members as well as others who may also be interested in getting together to explore, discuss or perform organ music, other church music, concerts, organ crawls, building organs with pipes or computers, historical buildings and instruments, travelling, conventions, choirs, piano students, composing, and any number of reasons and motivations to be involved.

Locally we support people playing the organ, try to find employment, provide lessons, put on concerts and recitals, share music, offer social get togethers, and link up with the National office for education and interest.

Below is a list of what is offered through the national office. Please go to [rcco.ca](http://rcco.ca) or our facebook page to find us here in Thunder Bay. If you are interested and have questions, you may reply to my email, and I will do my best to help you. If you are already a member, put the renewal date on your calendar.....April 1st.

Your membership supports RCCO activities and resources such as:

- Organ Festival Canada
- The Summer Organ Academy
- Organist Launchpad
- Examinations and professional accreditation
- Scholarships
- The National Organ Playing Competition
- The FutureStops Podcast
- Our website and online resources such as the Buy & Sell forum and Positions Available listings

Membership also includes a subscription to the journal *Organ Canada/Orgue Canada* and access to the online discussion forums. Plus, members can benefit from members- only discounts on health insurance, music publications, registration for Organ Festival Canada, and reduced-rate subscriptions and memberships in partner organizations (the American Guild of Organists, Royal College of Organists, and the Fédération Québécoise des Amis de l'Orgue.)

The RCCO is also conducting a membership campaign this year. *New members can obtain membership for a 50% discount* (so be sure to tell your friends!)

And of course, thank you for supporting us through another year of music-making. It's only with your help that we are able to keep organ music and organ playing a vital part of our community.

Yours in Music,  
Nancy Wallace  
President, RCCO  
Thunder Bay Centre



THE ROYAL CANADIAN  
COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS  
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN  
DES ORGANISTES



Caring for seafarers  
around the world

## Mission to Seafarer Meat Sale

Janet Pike 807-627-1112 [jepike@tbaytel.net](mailto:jepike@tbaytel.net) will be coordinating the Meat Sale and Barbara Brayshaw Fontaine 807-344-8607 will assist her.

Canvassers are needed to make the Meat Sale a success.

Please contact Janet if you would like an order form.

Order forms will be given to MTS Congregation Reps and those who were canvassers last year and they will be available at the beginning of March.



# SERVICE PRIORITIZATION DECISION ASSISTANCE TOOL (SPDAT) TRAINING

**VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 10TH, 2024**

**1-4PM**

**FACILITATED BY NATALIE HACHE**



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## Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) Training

**Virtually Via Zoom**

**Wednesday April 10th, 2024, 1-4pm**

The SPDAT is an assessment tool for frontline workers at agencies that work with individuals experiencing homelessness. The SPDAT tools are also designed to help guide case management and improve housing stability outcomes.

Facilitated By Natalie Hache.

**This training is open to service providers in Thunder Bay**

**Click here to Register <https://www.lspc.ca/spdat/>**



# CAMP GITICHIGOMEE

## Two-Bit Auction

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**Beautiful baskets & prizes to bid on  
Two 50/50 draws during the event**

**Tickets only \$5.00**

(Available in advance and at the door)

**Friday April 12th, 2024**

**Where: West Thunder Community Centre  
(915 Edward St South)**

**Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
\* Doors Open at 6:30 p.m. to view baskets \***

[gitchigomee@shaw.ca](mailto:gitchigomee@shaw.ca)

Voicemail: 622-0020

*Camp Gitichigomee provides children the opportunity to enjoy a fun and exciting camping experience.  
Please join us to help reduce the operating cost and to subsidize registration for low income families!*

# MISSION TO SEAFARERS: Port of Thunder Bay Fund-raising Dinner Friday, April 19, 2024

5:30 pm Symposium    6:15 pm Buffet Dinner  
Current River Community Centre - 450 Dewe Ave.

### Guest Speakers:



**The Most Reverend Anne Germond,  
Archbishop of the Dioceses of Algoma and  
Moosonee; Metropolitan of the  
Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario  
and**



**Chris Heikkinen,  
Chief Executive Officer, Port of Thunder Bay**



**Chaplain, Canon Ed Swayze  
will present the  
"Year in Review"**

**Adults - \$45                  Children 6 to 12 - \$20**

See your MtS Congregational Rep or  
Contact Janet at 807-627-1112 or  
the Seafarers Centre at 807-344-8241.

Tickets must be purchased by Friday, April 12.

\$15 Charitable Income Tax Receipt for adult ticket

[www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay](http://www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay)

[www.facebook.com/missiontoseafarerstbay](https://www.facebook.com/missiontoseafarerstbay)



Caring for seafarers  
around the world

*"Congregational Health and Vitality"*  
*Deanery of Thunder Bay – North Shore*  
*Afternoon with Archbishop Anne*



Saturday, April 20, 2024

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

St. Michael and All Angels  
Parish Hall

675 Red River Road

Please indicate your attendance to  
Janet Pike by email: [jepike@tbaytel.net](mailto:jepike@tbaytel.net) or  
phone: 807 627-1112 preferably by  
Wednesday, April 17  
to help the organizing committee.

**All are welcome!**

12:30 – 1:00 – Gather and chat with refreshments and  
goodies.

1:00 – Opening Worship followed by presentation by  
Archbishop Anne and discussion groups.

2:30 – 2:45 Refreshment Break

2:45 – presentation and discussions continue

4:00 – Dismissal

For further information please contact: Carol Knox [carolknox3@gmail.com](mailto:carolknox3@gmail.com)  
or 807 476-0715 or Janet Pike [jepike@tbaytel.net](mailto:jepike@tbaytel.net) or 807 627-1112



**YOUNG ADULT  
RETREAT @LV**

**May 10-12  
2024**

Register online





"I KEEP THE WINDOW OPEN TILL AFTER MY PRAYERS.  
I GET BETTER RECEPTION WITH IT OPEN."

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