



An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2017 June 4

Pentecost Sunday



Welcome and Inclusion

We open our hearts and our church family to all people in our community regardless of ethnicity, economic circumstances, sexual orientation, age, gender, or differing abilities. Many people's lives continue to be devastated by hatred, prejudice, and inequality, therefore we stand with those who are adversely affected by injustice, alienation and oppression.

Friends in Christ

The flowers in the sanctuary are in memory of **Derek Field** and are a gift from his loving wife, **Lois** and family.

The second bouquet of flowers in the sanctuary are in memory of our parents, **Max Allan** and **Phyllis & Allan Wigmore**, and our Grandparents, **Arthur & Maud Wigmore**, **Matilda & Hugh Allan**, **Oliver & Wyn Ingraham** and **Victor & Florence Swanson**.
They are placed here with love by **Jim & Dawn Allan**.

Prelude: *The Lord's Name Be Praised*, Alfred Kunz Robertson-Wesley Ringers
Embracing Our Spirit

Prayer of Approach:

Waiting for a word of hope,

the disciples listened for Good News.

Speaking full of the gift of Spirit,

the disciples proclaimed Good News.

Together with the Spirit, they birthed the Church!

Holy One, help us to be disciples, to listen and be ready to proclaim.

We pray for your Spirit to move and speak with us, Amen.

Processional Hymn: *The Spirit in Me* (license# 606241)

The spir-it in me greets the spir-it in you, Al -

le - lu - ia. God's in us and we're in God, Al -

le - lu - ia. 1. etc. 2. ia.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. The third staff features a double bar line, a repeat sign, and two endings: '1. etc.' and '2.'.

Coming Into God's Presence

Rev. Karen Bridges

God's Holy Word

Introit: *Come Holy Ghost*, Orlando Gibbons

Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Scriptures:

Susan Wirtanen

Acts 2:1-4 • The coming of the Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Romans 8:18-39 • The Spirit Intercedes

This is the witness of the Church

Thanks be to God for the power of the Holy Spirit.

Anthem: *Veni Creator*, Patrick Wedd

Choir of Robertson-Wesley & 4 Robertson-Wesley Ringers

Sermon: *The Holy Spirit Reveals*

Rev. Leigh Sinclair

Hymn: *Long Before My Journey's Start*

More Voices 63

Pastoral Prayers

Rev. Karen Bridges

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

Grateful Response

Learnings from Leadership

Donna Chmielewski

Offering: *My Spirit Sings*, Christopher Bowman

Robertson-Wesley Ringers

Offertory Hymn:

Voices United 168 v 4

**May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Blessing of the Bells

Leigh Sinclair

Recessional Hymn: *When Hands Reach Out*

More Voices 136

Commissioning:

We have heard God's word of hope,

What good news!

We are filled with the Holy Spirit,

We can now proclaim this Good News.

Together with the Spirit, God has birthed the Church!

We go now to share the peace of Christ, the love of God.

Know that you go with the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God!

Handbell Concert

Robertson-Wesley Ringers and Nova Bells

*Following worship, all are invited to the Memorial Hall
for fellowship, and refreshments. Stay for the bell concert, as you are able.*

Music Notes

Lots of great Canadian music again today! We start with a lively, energetic piece by Alfred Kunz, a composer from Ontario. He has written and self-published a lot of handbell music, choral music as well as for piano, voice, strings etc. both sacred and secular.

The anthem is by Patrick Wedd, another Canadian. He is the Music Director at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, and I had the pleasure of singing evensong every Sunday and many special services under Patrick for three years while I was studying in Montreal. I love the ways he'd use handbells in the services there, especially during chanted psalms. You'll get a glimpse of his handbell style in this piece. Keep in mind that on the day of Pentecost people were all speaking in tongues, yet could all understand each other. This is what I think that Patrick is trying to achieve in this marvellous setting of the ancient text and chant "Veni Creator". There can be chaos, but sometimes we can still strive to understand. He wrote this piece for the BC Choral Federation Chorfest in June 1994.

"Long before My Journey's Start" is a new hymn for us, but is a wonderful addition to the repertoire. Author Steven Warner has been in Campus Ministry at University of Notre Dame since 1979 and a group he founded "The Notre Dame Folk Choir" has turned into an incredible program at Notre Dame, inspiring many church music leaders, singers, and instrumentalists. They continue to be inspiration for him to write church music.

My Spirit Sings is a piece that we've gained from a new colleague, Christopher Bowman in Truro, NS. This arrangement is for handbells, but can also include a vocal line, as it was originally a hymn tune written by Chris and the minister he works beside, Rev. Valerie Kingsbury at First United Church, Truro. The handbell arrangement was made for the Truro Rings – Handbell Festival in 2016. The hymn they wrote is based on a paraphrase of Psalm 23. Some of the lyrics include: "My spirit sings and this I know: my every need is filled. My soul finds rest, my mind is clear, the ground of life is tilled....in love's embrace my life is held and I'm empowered to be a sign of hope, a light for all, a voice of liberty."

After the service, we are thrilled to be performing a concert for you with both our handbell choirs – R-W Ringers and Nova Bells. This year marks 50 years of handbell ringing here at R-W, and we're thrilled that you might be able to stay for a while to listen and to celebrate with us!

Cover Image

Cover images: These were taken in Slave Lake 2011 by CircleM program.

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Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges
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R-W REPORT June 04, 2017
Robertson-Wesley United Church

A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE

Washrooms are located by the elevator.

Baby changing facilities are available in washrooms.

If you wish to use it, a children's activity centre is set up in the Chapel with nursing space in adjacent room (Millson Room).

Activity kits for children are available from the ushers.

Large print bulletins, large print hymnbooks,
and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

Please do not leave valuables unattended anywhere in the church.

Next Week

June 11, 2017, 10:30 am

Celebration of Faith/Whole Family Worship

Scripture:

- Ephesians 4:1-16 Unity in Christ

Sermon: *Jesus Gathers*

This is the Sunday when we celebrate our faith, when we take time to acknowledge where we are on our faith journey. Paul begs the people in Ephesians to not only answer God's call but to live a life worthy of that calling. To do this we must live with humility, patience, gentleness, and love. We have been given gifts, now let's share them with love.

Music: Choir of R-W; Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

After Worship: After worship all are invited to gather in the Memorial Hall for fellowship and refreshments.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Community Dinner Cook: We are looking for a volunteer cook to prepare the community dinners. A group of volunteers get together to plan and prepare a nutritious meal for the needy in the community. This meal is prepared once a month on the second Saturday of every month of the year. The Christmas meal in December is held on the first week of the month. Numbers vary from 125 people to over 200 people for the Christmas meal. This program has been in operation for over 20 years and is self-sustaining. A trust fund was provided by a wonderful person to look after the costs these meals.

We meet new friends and have a lot of fun preparing these meals. If you are interested, you may contact Robertson-Wesley at mail@rwuc.org. We are looking forward to meeting you.

Communion Servers: Our next Communion, by Intinction, is **Sunday, July 9**. Servers are needed for this Communion. If you are able to serve please sign up on the sheet in Memorial Hall.

R-W News & Notes

BETWEEN THE AISLES (quarterly newsletter)

The Summer edition is now available in the brochure rack and Narthex.

PHOTO DIRECTORY- TODAY!



Everyone in our Robertson-Wesley faith community is invited to include their picture in our Photo Directory. Next photo session is today, **June 4**, at 10:00 am and again right after the worship service in the **Club Room**.

50TH ANNIVERSARY HANDBELL CONCERT- TODAY!



Did you know it's been 50 years that there have been handbells at Robertson-Wesley? Come celebrate with us at our concert **today, June 4 after church**. See the insert for more info.

CELEBRATION OF FAITH

Sunday, June 11

The Celebration of Faith is a time where we celebrate all that we have learned together since September as followers of Christ. On this Sunday the children and youth share a few things they have done over the year, we welcome children from Grade 6 into the youth group, we acknowledge any youth who will be finishing High School, and we find ways to share our stories of faith with one another. This is truly a morning to celebrate! We hope that everyone will join us for this colourful and playful morning, and join us to decorate your own cupcakes after the service in fellowship.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Year-End Luncheon on Tuesday, June 13 at 12:15 pm

Program: Luncheon catered by Food for Thought as usual, \$8:00.

Agenda: Social. A few items of business. Discussion of future plans for UCW.

Please let Janet M Clark know by Friday, June 10 am. for food ordering. (clarkwinchesters@shaw.ca; 780 483-4261)

MISSION AND OUTREACH POD

Guest speaker Paula Kirman

A gathering of the Mission and Outreach Pod is called for **Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 12:00 noon in the Club Room**. At this gathering our guest speaker will be Paula Kirman. Paula is the marketing project co-ordinator with Mill Woods United Church. She is also the e-mail list manager and social media co-ordinator for the group ***Moving Forward with Reconciliation***, which includes members from the United Churches throughout Edmonton. She will share with us the progress to date of the many actions that are taking place in moving forward to healing and reconciliation. Everyone who is interested is invited to be part of this gathering.

THE UNITED VOICES OF EDMONTON AND R-W RINGERS ARE GOING ON TOUR IN JUNE!!!

The United Voices of Edmonton (combined choirs of United on Whyte and Choir of Robertson-Wesley), and the R-W Ringers are going on tour! As we continue in the work of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, we are thrilled to have Cree singer/songwriter Karen Donaldson Shepherd collaborating with us in healing and harmony. We received a Canada 150 community grant to do five concerts in four days in the Edmonton region including all four surrounding counties. We will be performing all Canadian music. See the insert for more info.

SYRIAN REFUGEE UPDATE

Here is some exciting news from the Syrian Al Masoud family. Nineteen year old Abdul Fettah has been chosen to represent Canada as a youth ambassador on “Canada C3,” a 150-day sailing expedition from Toronto to Victoria that follows the Northwest Passage. Three hundred Canadians — including youth, scientists, artists, historians and elders — will visit communities along the route, conduct research and collaborate on artistic projects. Only 33 youth were chosen out of 1300 applications, and Abdul Fettah is the only representative from Edmonton and one of only three newcomers to Canada chosen to take part. Abdul Fettah's leg of the trip — the 11th of 15 — will travel from Kugluktuk, Nunavut, to Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T., in early September. For more information please visit www.canadac3.ca

SANCTUARY LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT GROUP

On June 13 at 5:00 pm we would like to gather a group of people who are interested in creating sacred environments for the different liturgical seasons. We want to explore symbols and come up with some ideas for how the sanctuary could be set up for the coming year based on our

themes, to help deepen our experience of worship during the different liturgical seasons. In the past we have done this through candles, fabric, the communion cloths/paraments, flowers, stars, mirrors, rocks, words, etc. No special skill is required. At this first gathering we will explore all the different bits of what can be done, and do some dreaming of what we might need to create. And then we will see if there are people willing to take on creating some of this.

Please let Rev. Karen know if you are interested and able to come.

WOMEN’S WEEKEND- SEPTEMBER 15 – 17

Theme: Earth’s Weavers: Making Connections

This weekend will include: celebration, creativity, friends, laughter, spiritual practice, time outdoors, and most of all, the time to get to know the women at R-W. Registration forms can be found in the literature racks and on R-W’s website. For more information you can email Jill L: jilllambie@shaw.ca or the church office by phone or email:

mail@rwuc.org. Deadline to register for the weekend is **July 2, 2017**.

UPCOMING IMPROVEMENTS AT ROBERTSON-WESLEY

Two projects will be completed at Robertson-Wesley this year, likely by the end of July. Those projects are:

1. Replace the present elevator. No elevator June 5-July 31
2. Upgrade the basement washrooms to make them accessible. (June 22-July 31)

Bear with us during these renovations as the lack of an elevator will inconvenience some people. The east entrance with the ramp will be used by those who can’t manage the stairs.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun June 04	Photo Directory sessions– Club Room	10:00 am
	Handbell Concert– Sanctuary	11:30 am
Mon June 05	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
Tue June 06	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	DEAP– Club Room	5:00 pm
Wed June 07	Canterbury service– offsite	10:30 am
	R-W Choir rehearsal– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu June 08	M&P, staff meeting– Room 11	8:30 am
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat June 10	R-W Youth, Pride Parade– offsite	10:00 am
	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Mon June 12	Spirited Art Studio– Art studio	7:00 pm
	United Voices Concert– Sanctuary	7:30 pm

Tue June 13	Ministry & Personnel– Club Room	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	7:30 pm
	United Church Women– Memorial Hall	12:15 pm
	Property Committee– offsite	7:00 pm

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Office hours: Tues. – Fri. 8:30 am to noon & 1 pm – 4:30 pm

We wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory and a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples.