



*An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada*

2017 September 10

Creation 1

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



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## Friends in Christ

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*The tropical flowers in the sanctuary are in gratitude for the life of a dear friend and travelling companion and are placed there by **Clara Dyck**.*

*The second bouquet this morning are to honour **Margaret Andrews** who celebrates her 106th birthday on September 13th. They are a gift from her friend, **Karen Hansen**.*

Prelude: *Slow & Allegro (Voluntary No. 1)*, Henry Heron  
Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Hymn of Response: *Gather Us In* (In English or French) **More Voices 7**

*Gather us in, ground us in you. Gather us in, ground us in you.*

*Gather us in, gather us in, ground us, ground us in you.*

Introit: *Jubilate Deo*, Michael Praetorius Choir of Robertson-Wesley  
(Text: Praise God.)

Call to Worship:

God we praise you for all the places along the journey!

Some of us are just staring out in faith:

**Thank you God!**

Some of us are just starting out in teaching our faith to others:

**Thank you God!**

Some of us are just starting to question our faith:

**Thank you God!**

Some of us are just starting to trust God's answers:

**Thanks you God!**

Prayer of Approach:

**We gather in worship, God, grateful for your ongoing presence and the renewing power of your love.**

We thank you for this community of faith that worships and works together. We thank you that we all come with things to teach and things to learn. Help us to bless one another through the power of your Holy Spirit! Help us to be open to receive the blessings abounding all around us!

**We pray in the name of Jesus, the one who draws us close to one another and to you. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**

Procession Hymn: *One More Step* **Voices United 639**

Blessing of briefcases, backpacks, purses and pockets!

THE WATER IS POURED

We are a people of water!

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<sup>1</sup> Dianne Astle, **Gathering**, Pentecost 2 2017, p. 33. Used with Permission.

**We worship a God whose love flows through water.**

Water and Love go together. Rain awakens the seed in the ground; Love awakens the soul and lures it to blossom.

**We worship a God whose love flows through water.**

Water and Love go together. Water can splash and inspire delight; Love too can surprise us and inspire!

**We worship a God whose love flows through water.**

Water and Love go together. A bath or shower cleanses the body; Love cleanses and warms us in our sorrow or joy.

**Holy Spirit come and stir up this water with your Love! May this water become for us a sign of the love in this family of faith and the love of Jesus.**

BLESSINGS

Let us pray,

**May Jesus, who calls us each by name to follow him, give us the courage and confidence to be his disciples wherever we may be.**

**When we are at school, at work, and at play may the gifts God has given us be a source of blessing for others. Amen.**

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### God's Holy Word

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Scriptures:

Marilee Stephens

Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a

John 1: 1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

This is the witness of Israel.

**Thanks be to God our loving Creator.**

Anthem: *Before the World Began*, John Bell      Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *God Promises Blessings and Beginnings*      Rev. Leigh Sinclair

Hymn: *Soil of God*

**More Voices 174**

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

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### Grateful Response

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Offering: *Slow (Voluntary No. 1)*, Henry Heron

Offertory Hymn: *For the Gift of Creation*

**Voices United 538**

Prayer of Gratitude

Recessional Hymn: *Three Things I Promise*

**More Voices 176**

Commissioning:

We have worshipped! We have joined our hearts and voices in

praise of God: Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

Let us depart, blessed and challenged to live by the Spirit.

May your love of God and love of neighbour show forth in all you are and all you do.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.<sup>2</sup>

Postlude: *Allegro (Voluntary No. 1)*, Henry Heron

*Following worship, all are invited to the Memorial Hall  
for fellowship, and refreshments.*

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## Music Notes

Welcome back to the Choir of Robertson-Wesley this morning! They are sharing a joyful, celebratory round in honour of returning to church and praising God. It is a traditional text and the round is by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621). He was a German composer, organist and music theorist. One significant contribution was his assistance in the development of musical forms based on Protestant hymns, many of which reflect an effort to improve the relationship between Protestants and Catholics. He was the son of a Lutheran pastor, he also studied divinity and philosophy, and was fluent in many languages.

Henry Heron (1730-1795) was an English late Baroque composer with a similar style to John Stanley or Maurice Greene. He wrote a lot of light music, but these 10 voluntaries are great music intended for the church.

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## Cover Image

Cover image:

Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair  
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges

(On Sabbatical until November 1)

Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen  
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiller  
Facilities Manager: Brad Campbell

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<sup>2</sup> Written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet, **Gathering**, Pentcost 2 2017, p. 40. Used with permission.

**R-W REPORT September 10, 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**

**September 17, 2017, 10:30 am**

**Children & Youth:** Children begin in the sanctuary, then go to their Kids' Church program. Youth meet in the youth room at the beginning of the service.

**Scripture:**

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

**Sermon:** *God Promises that Seasons Will Turn*

A whole year's Liturgical Calendar (12 months of worship and learning) in one service? Yes we can! What songs, colours and stories make up each season in the Christian traditions? How does each season raise questions in our spiritual journey anew each year? Come see how preparing for Christmas leads to preparing for Easter leads to preparing for Pentecost!

**Music:** Choir of Robertson-Wesley; Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

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

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**Volunteer Opportunities:**

**Garden Patch & Kid's Church-** Grandparents, parents, youth and adults are encouraged to volunteer Sunday mornings on a regular rotational basis. More details are on the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall. Sign up today!

**Staff**

Rev. Karen Bridges is on sabbatical Aug 1 to Oct 31.

## R-W News & Notes

### **KIDS' CHURCH AND YOUTH GROUP; Begins TODAY!**

Fall start up begins with registration on Sept 10 with programming for Children ages 2 – Grade 6 and youth Grades 7-12. The first youth group event of the year is Sept 16, 2017 with our season opener, games and sundaes from 7-10 pm. Your friends are welcome to join us.

### **UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

**Tuesday, September 12 at 1:15 pm**

Everyone is welcome to join us for the first UCW meeting of the season with guest speaker Rev. Catherine Christie.

Catherine is overseas personnel returning from global partnership work in Korea and will share some of her Mission and Service experience.

### **R-W MEN'S GROUP: a reminder of the first R-W Men's Group**

Meeting will be held **September 13, 2017**, in Memorial Hall at 9:30 am.

The agenda will be to review the Groups schedule of activities for the coming year. Looking forward to some 'creative' ideas.

### **PRAYER SERVICE**

The Spiritual Pod is excited to host three worship experiences this fall to help us all experience different forms of prayer. They will be 30 minute services, held the third Sundays of each month at 9 AM in the Chapel. Each service we will learn about a way of engaging in prayer and then experience it together.

**Dates: September 17, October 15, November 19**

Time and Place: 9:00-9:30 am in the Chapel

### **RIBBON CUTTING AND FREE BBQ AT NOON**

**On Sunday September 24, 2017**, MLA David Shepherd will be joining us for the ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of our new elevator at Robertson-Wesley United Church which was made possible because of the Provincial CFEP (Community Facility Enhancement Program) Grant that we received.

Join us for a free BBQ in celebration where we will be serving smokies and lemonade to the community.

### **BOOK BUDDIES- Earth's Blanket**

Do you like to read, then talk about what you have read? If so, you are a Book Buddy! The next Book Buddies' selection is Nancy J. Turner's *Earth's Blanket*. Discussion takes place on Saturday **September 23 at 9:30 am**. Copies are available for sale from the church office or after Sunday service in Memorial Hall. Price is \$25.

## **MESSY WEDNESDAYS**

Starting on **September 27, 2017**, in Memorial Hall on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month from 5pm – 7pm**, families with children gather for dinner, activities and discussion. The families gather to eat a meal together at no cost to the family, which is served around 5:45pm. We have a couple of volunteers who do the cooking for us, so it is night off for parents! This is part of our outreach ministry and a way to welcome all families to gather together for a time of fellowship. There are activities for the children before and after dinner and adults take the opportunity engage in conversation during the evening. Don't worry if you can't make it right at 5pm. Families are invited to help with clean up and children's activities. Grandparents are welcome to join us! This is a wonderful way to get to know other families in the church and the neighbourhood. It is a messy and fun time for all!

## **FLOWER DONATIONS**

We invite you to take part in offering flowers to our sanctuary. Anyone can donate flowers to be displayed for Sunday morning worship. Flowers can be donated to celebrate any season or to mark an important day, anniversary or in memory of someone.

**To donate:** just bring your bouquet on Sunday morning and give it to an usher!

**Remember:** take it home with you or gift it to someone to take home with them.

**At this time:** the Church office can mark the occasion in the bulletin if you let them know by Wednesday at noon, before the Sunday you choose. The Church office cannot receive donations of flowers on your behalf. This is how we will receive flowers during the transition as we explore new ways to continue this ministry. **We will celebrate** the amazing ministry of the Flower Group on **October 15**.

## **R-W IS DESPERATELY ACCEPTING ARTWORK!**

**Art Sale: November 18, 2017, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

R-W will be holding its annual Art Sale in November and we are accepting art donations. Art is "in the eyes of the beholder" - so we accept art of every kind - oils, drawings, wood working, pottery, and jewelry, etc.. **You will receive a tax receipt for the actual cost of the article at the sale. WE are in desperate need of art.** If you have any art or wish information, please contact Sheila or Pat at 780-481-0056 or leave a message at the Church Office. All the money from the Art Sale stays within the church for future community projects and activities.

## **ART STUDIO**

Facilitated by Laura David Foster

**Mondays, 7:00–8:30 pm, and Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00pm**

The studio is a place for people to explore art and connect with each other in an informal creative environment. People are welcome to drop in

any time and try out these different art-making processes. Some people like to work on their own ongoing projects, and this is encouraged as well. The studio's purpose is to bring people together, to enjoy art, and be in community. We are all creative and the studio community nurtures creativity, authenticity, and friendship... and it's just a fun place to hang out! Regular attendance is not required but registration via email is recommended to stay informed with studio developments. For example, this fall we have expanded our program times, and we're looking at new possibilities like exhibiting our art. For more information, please contact Laura at [spiritedartstudio@rwuc.org](mailto:spiritedartstudio@rwuc.org)

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Sep 10	Soul OUTing– Chapel	7:00 pm
Tue Sep 12	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	United Church Women– Memorial Hall	1:30 pm
	Property ctte– Room 11	7:00 pm
Wed Sep 13	Men's Group– Memorial Hall	9:30 am
	Choir of R-W– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Sep 14	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers– Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Fri Sep 15	Women's Weekend– offsite	
Sat Sep 16	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	R-W Youth Group– all of church	7:00 pm

### ON THE HORIZON

Sun Sep 17	Prayer Service– Chapel	9:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	DEAP Pod– Club Room	5:00 pm
Mon Sep 18	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Sep 19	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Board meeting– Room 11	7:00 pm
Thu Sep 21	Stewardship ctte– Room 11	1:30 pm
Sat Sep 23	Book Buddies– Club Room	9:30 am

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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.