

The logo features a stylized wooden mast and rigging on the left, with three wavy lines in blue and green extending to the right. The text 'Robertson - Wesley' is in a large, dark brown serif font. Below it, 'UNITED CHURCH' is in a smaller, dark brown sans-serif font, and 'Spirited' is in a green, cursive script font.

Robertson - Wesley

UNITED CHURCH *Spirited*

An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada

2017 Nov 26

Whole Family Worship/Children's Sunday

Reign of Christ

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 injustice, alienation and oppression.

Don't forget...
to walk towards the light



Friends in Christ

The flowers in the sanctuary are in loving memory of Ray Goss. A gift from the family.

Prelude: *Variations on "Old 100th"*, Denis Bédard Tammy-Jo Mortensen, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Opening Prayer:

Gathering God our rock and shelter

We are here to meet with you.

Travelling God our way and wonder

We are here to meet with you.

Summoning God our joy and adventure

We are here to meet with you.

From what we know to what we have yet to discover

God is calling us on.

From all that binds us to the truth which frees us

God is calling us on.

From the blessings of today to the possibilities of tomorrow,

God is calling us on. Amen.¹

Opening Hymn: *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People* **Voices United 272**

Coming Into God's Presence

Garden Patch

M&S Bucket (Sept/Oct/Nov)

Let us celebrate the special events in our lives of the last 3 months (June, July and August birthdays, births, new homes, healing) with a special donation into the bucket for the Mission and Service Fund.

Hymn: *Rise Up, Rise Up*

More Voices 130

God's Holy Word

Prayer of Examen

God has given us a complete week.

It began on Monday and it is now Sunday.

Let us recall all that was accomplished this week, and give thanks to God. (silence)

Let us recall our fears and sadness, our joys and contentment and pray for God's love. (silence)

May our hearts be ever mindful of others and quick to do good.

Through Jesus Christ our Friend and Helper. Amen.

Choir: *Ave Maria*, Simon Lindley

Cantlon Children's Choir

Scripture:

Conall MacLellan

Isaiah 9: 1-7 • The Coming of a King

¹ Written by Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill, **Eggs and Ashes; Practical & liturgical resources for Lent and Holy Week.** (Glasgow: Wildgoose Publication, 2004.) p. 76. Used with permission.

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal for the Lord of hosts will do this.”²

This is the witness of Israel.

Thanks be to God our loving Creator.

Anthem: *Kwake Yesu Nasimama*, Kenya, arr. Scheer Cantilon Children’s Choir
(Text: Here on Jesus Christ I will stand, He’s the solid rock of my life.)

Reflection: *Remember to look to the future* Rev. Karen Bridges & Kids’ Church

Hymn: *Bathe Me in Your Light*

More Voices 82

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer

(*Voices United* p. 921)

Grateful Response

Offering: *Festive Alleluia*, Lyn Williams

Cantilon Children’s Choir

Offertory Hymn:

Voices United 541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Blessing of Light

Kids’ Church

Closing Hymn: *Jesus Bids Us Shine*

Voices United 585

Commissioning:

In our worship, you have been with us, O God.

From the prayers we have received inspiration.

In our greeting, we have known and expressed friendship. From our singing, we have received heartfelt joy and inspiration. From the scriptures, we have a message to challenge us. In the silence, we have felt God’s presence with us. And, in the fellowship time, we will know support.

² *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version.* (1991, Oxford University Press)

Go from here as God's chosen people, and go about God's work faithfully in the coming week.³

Postlude: *Final variation on "Old 100th"*, Denis Bédard

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

Music Notes

Thanks to the Cantilon Children's Choir for their leadership this morning, and especially to their director Elaine Myhre and pianist Eliza Voth.

They are sharing some marvellous music this morning from around the world. *Kwake Yesu Nasimama*, comes from Kenya and is sung in Swahili. It comes to us through the General Board of Global Ministries.

There are so many settings of Ave Maria, but this one is by the British composer Simon Lindley. This was commissioned for the Choir of Leeds Parish Church in the late 1970s and has since achieved widespread performance by choirs throughout the English-speaking world including recordings and broadcasts.

The two organ pieces this morning come from Quebec-born Denis Bédard. He is music director at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver. These are terrific variations on the "Old 100th", and my last chance to play a couple of them this morning because we will change to a new offering hymn for Advent next week!

Cover Image

Cover image: Kids' Church Jan 15, 2017. Taken by Rhonda Black.

Minister of Spiritual and Pastoral Care Development: Rev. Leigh Sinclair
Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges
Director of Music: Tammy-Jo Mortensen
Office Administrator: Tanya Eckenswiler
Facilities Manager: Brad Campbell

10209 – 123 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1N3
Phone (780) 482-1587 · Fax (780) 482-1580
mail@rwuc.org · www.rwuc.org



³ Written by David Sparks, **Gathering** Pentecost 2 2017, p. 40. Used with permission.

R-W REPORT NOVEMBER 26, 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

December 3, 2017, 10:30 am

Advent 1

Second for Stewardship

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: Daniel 3: 1, 8-30

Music: Robertson-Wesley Ringers; 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 Leadership- We are seeking several individuals who would like to be part of the leadership team that will coordinate our monthly Community Dinner. Full details are on page 2.

Wanted: Magic Pantry Coordinator- We are seeking an individual to coordinate our weekly bag lunch program. Bag lunches are given out over the noon hour on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. We have volunteers that sign up to do this. The coordinator would ensure that there are supplies to make the lunches and would coordinate Sandwich making parties when needed. The coordinator will also help to train and orient volunteers. If you would like to know more about this program please contact Rev. Karen Bridges.

Magic Pantry- Responding to the need in our own neighbourhood, R-W provides a free bag lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from

12-1. This outreach program relies on volunteers to be available with a bag lunch ready for people that come to the door. This program is a great way to connect and provide outreach in the community.

Community Dinner; A sign-up sheet is posted in Memorial Hall for people wishing to bring in some goodies for the Christmas Dinner on Dec 2. The team is requesting squares, cookies, mandarin oranges and Christmas cakes.

Polishing Party; Tuesday, Dec 5 at 1:30 pm; It is that time of the year again where we get a bunch of people to come together in the kitchen at Robertson-Wesley and polish the brass candle sticks that get used at several of our Advent and Christmas services. It will take anywhere from 1-2 hours depending on how many people come. Bring a treat to share! It is a lot of fun and a great way to meet some new people. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in memorial hall or email Rev. Karen Bridges.

Thank you; Thank you to **Sheila Carr-Stewart** and **Pat Stewart** for organizing the Art sale on Sat., Nov 18. The sale raised over \$1700.00!

Staff News

Rev. Leigh Sinclair is on holiday from Nov 13-Nov 26

R-W News & Notes

MISSION AND SERVICE CELEBRATIONS

About every three months we have a Mission and Service (M & S) Celebration in worship, when we invite those who have had a special event in their lives recently (e.g., a birthday, a birth, a move, a new job) to put a special donation into the bucket for the Mission and Service Fund. The next celebration is today, November 26.

COMMUNITY DINNER LEADERSHIP CONVERSATION

Today! Sunday November 26, 12:00 pm

We are seeking several individuals who would like to be part of the leadership team that will coordinator our monthly Community Dinner, which happens on the 2nd Saturday of every month with the exception of December which falls on the first Saturday of the month. We are going through a leadership shift in this program and are seeking people who are good at organizing events and working with an amazing group of volunteers. We will be meeting with interested people at 12:00 PM in Room 11. You are welcome to attend and see what it is all about, and to discern if this is a leadership role for you! The community dinner is a free meal that serves approximately 100 – 300 people from the community each month. If you have questions feel free to talk with Dawn Allan, or Rev. Karen Bridges.

BETWEEN THE AISLES

The Winter edition of the R-W newsletter “Between the Aisles” is hot off the presses! Pick yours up today.

ADVENT RECITAL SERIES

Thursdays from 12:10 pm to 12:50 pm

Robertson-Wesley is hosting a noon-hour concert series again this Advent, for three Thursdays beginning December 7. Freewill offering.

Dec 7 – Mingmei Xu, violin & Jim Findlay, guitar

Dec 14 – Nansee Hughes, soprano & Spencer Kryzanowski, piano

Dec 21 – Matthew McGuigan, flute & Tammy-Jo Mortensen, keyboards

CANTERBURY CHRISTMAS

Once again Robertson-Wesley is providing Christmas Cheer for our friends at Canterbury Court. On **Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 pm**, there will be Christmas music in the Chapel - your favourite carols, enthusiastic singing, musical instruments. You are invited to join us and if you play a musical instrument, bring it along. For more information contact Marg May: maycroft@shaw.ca or 780-454-9226

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

We need donations for male and females of all ages (about 350 total) of **NEW** (purchased, re-gifted, or handmade): **Hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and socks**. These will be stored, then placed around a tree in the chapel, and offered as gifts to Dec. 2nd Christmas Community Dinner guests.

NOTE: This is NOT affiliated with White Gift Sunday which is the unwrapped gift donations that will be located in the main sanctuary.

OBSERVER RENEWAL

It's time to renew your Observer subscription. New subscriptions are also welcome! The Observer is a great resource for spiritual development as well as a way to keep up with what is happening in the United Church. The cost is \$25.00 for one year (11 issues, July and August is combined). Renewals and subscriptions can be handed in to the church office or the offertory plate on Sundays. Please make your cheques payable to Robertson-Wesley United Church with Observer noted in the memo section of the cheque. Subscription deadline is **Dec 15**. Email or phone the church office if you have any questions.

GROCERY CARDS

Please consider purchasing grocery cards from Robertson-Wesley in Memorial Hall after Sunday Worship. Any grocery cards that Robertson-Wesley purchases from Superstore in November & December and Safeway/Sobeys from October to December are subject to an additional discount for the church. Specifically, the church gets 5 per cent from each Superstore grocery card you purchase and 8 per cent from each Safeway/Sobeys grocery card you purchase. Save On Foods provides a 6 percent discount all year long. Grocery cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100. Cash and cheques are accepted. These make great gifts!

LESSONS & CAROLS

The service of Lessons and Carols takes place at Robertson-Wesley United Church on **Sunday, December 10 at 4:00 pm.**

This is an afternoon of traditional congregational carols, scripture readings and music sung by the Choir of Robertson-Wesley, directed by Tammy-Jo Mortensen and accompanied by Belinda Chiang. The music includes several traditional favourites and some newly composed music. Our featured composer this year is the English composer Bob Chilcott. The gentle beauty of the dissipating winter light combined with the music, candles and the Christmas story creates a magical afternoon. Please come and invite your friends and neighbours! This has become a favourite tradition for many. No charge, freewill offering.

LIVE NATIVITY & FREE BBQ AT ROBERTSON-WESLEY

Robertson-Wesley United Church invites the whole community to our Live Nativity scene this Christmas. Young and old alike will have an opportunity to interact with the nativity characters and even become some of the characters if desired (bring along your cameras for photos) with Christmas music in the background. There will be a fire to cozy up to while listening to stories and roasting marshmallows and enjoy a free smokies and hot chocolate!

This all-age event is on Saturday December 16th from 4-5:30 pm on the front lawn of the church. Stop by with your family, friends and neighbours for a picture with Baby Jesus.

There is no admission charge, but the church will be accepting donations of mittens, gloves, socks, toiletries or non-perishable food for the Bissell Centre.

CHORAL MORPHOSIS and CHORAL ARTS CONCERT

Our outreach choir and arts program for lovers of music, singing, acting and dancing has their Christmas concert on Sat. Dec. 2, 10:30 am at St. Timothy's Anglican Church (8420 145 St NW). Come and enjoy some great music/acting and support those who love to sing their hearts out!

Community Events

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA AUTHOR'S BREAKFAST

Author's Breakfast and Talk featuring Laurel Deedrick-Mayne
Hear Laurel Deedrick-Mayne, Edmonton author and winner of the \$10,000 Alberta Readers' Choice Award, speak about her first book **A WAKE AT THE DREAMLAND**. DKG, an international women educators' society, invites you to its 10th annual Author's Breakfast to hear about the ten-year process of researching and writing the book which takes place in Edmonton, Peace River and Europe during WW II. Tickets make an ideal Christmas present.

Memorial Hall, Saturday, February 3, 2018, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Cost: \$20.00

Questions/reserve: lornaber@telus.net; clarkwinchesters@shaw.ca

CANTILON CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Cantilon's family of choirs invite you to their annual choral celebration of the holiday season on **Sunday, December 10, 2:30 pm**, at the Francis Winspear Centre for Music. This year's concert, "Along the Road to Bethlehem", will feature William Mathias' *Salvator Mundi*, a carol sequence for treble voices. Cantilon Choirs' classic Christmas concert has become an audience favourite. Please join the Cantilon family of choirs for an afternoon of holiday musical splendour where you will hear over 150 voices fill the Winspear Centre with the beautiful sounds of both familiar and new seasonal choral music. To order tickets and learn more about Cantilon Choirs, visit cantilonchoirs.ca or 780-732-1262. Tickets are \$25 in advance, or \$30 at the door.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun Nov 26	Community Dinner conversation– Room 11	12:00 pm
Mon Nov 27	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Nov 28	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
Wed Nov 29	Choir of R-W– Lower Hall	7:30 pm
Thu Nov 30	Nova Bells– Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers	6:45 pm
Sat Dec 02	Choral Morphosis– offsite	10:30 am
	R-W Youth Group– Lower Hall	4:00 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	5:00 pm
	Community Dinner– Memorial Hall	5:00 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Mon Dec 04	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tue Dec 05	Yoga– Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Scripture Reflection Group– Club Room	12:10 pm
	Spirited Art Studio– Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Polishing Party– kitchen	1:30 pm
	DEAP Pod– Room 11	5:00 pm
Wed Dec 6	Canterbury service– offsite	10:30 am
Thu Dec 07	Advent Recital Series– Sanctuary	12:10 pm
Sat Dec 10	Choral Morphosis– Lower Hall	10:00 am
	Craft Class with Tony J– Memorial Hall	10:00 am

10209 – 123 Street, Edmonton AB T5N 1N3

Phone: 780-482-1587 . Fax: 780-482-1580 . mail@rwuc.org . www.rwuc.org

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.

DECEMBER 10, 2017 IS WHITE GIFT SUNDAY!

This year the Bissell Centre has made a few minor changes. Rather than request a wide assortment of individual items as we have done in the past, we simplified our Wish List into “Men’s Stockings”, “Women’s Stockings”, and general presents for Infants, Children and Teens. These gifts will be collected and delivered to the Bissell Centre on Sunday Dec 10, 2017. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Women’s Stocking

- Small Sweets/ Chocolates/ Gum
- Shampoo/ Shower Gel/ Lotions / Razors
- Cosmetics (Mascara, Lip Balm, Eye Shadow)
- Small Perfume/ Body Spray
- Hand Warmers
- Thermal/ Wool Socks
- Travel Mug with Hot Chocolate Pack
- Bus Tickets
- Coffee Gift Card
- NEW underwear
- Gloves/Toques/Scarves

Men’s Stocking

- Small Sweets/ Chocolates/ Gum
- Razor/ Shaving Cream
- Body Wash/ Shampoo
- New Underwear
- Gloves/Toques/Scarves
- Hand Warmers
- Thermal/ Wool Socks
- Deck of Cards
- Travel Mug with Hot Chocolate Pack
- Bus Tickets
- Coffee Gift Card



- **Infant (0-2):** Clothes, Rattles, Plush Toys, Musical Toys
- **Children (3-11):** Coloring Books, Puzzles, Lego, Cars & Trucks, Barbies, Dolls, Sesame Street Toys, Children's Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Bubble Bath

- **Teens:** Remote Control Vehicles, Craft or Science Sets, Hand Held Electronic Games, Sporting Goods (Soccer/ Footballs). Cosmetics (Nail Polish, Hair Accessories, Makeup), Hoodies, Gift Cards