

## **Pastoral Care**

The ministers are called and trained to provide support for your spiritual journey as well as accompanying you with a faith-filled perspective in times of change and challenge. You may wish to meet for coffee or tea to discuss a current issue on your mind or to have us accompany you through the making of a hard decision. They meet with individuals, couples and families of all sizes and love to meet newcomers to our community.

## **Home Visiting**

Visiting participants in our faith community in their home or community allows our church body to care for one another in faith-based companionship, no matter what the circumstances of its members. This ministry is done by our ministers and many volunteers. We seek to offer fellowship, support, and friendship to church members especially those who cannot travel to Robertson-Wesley due to long or short term circumstances.

## **Coordination**

We have a volunteer coordinator in this program who helps keep a record of those willing to visit and those needing a visit. Our goal, as a team, is to respond to the changing needs of all ages and stages of those involved in Robertson-Wesley. If you choose to become a pastoral visitor, you will be provided with the resources and training to offer safe, caring visits.

## **Hospital**

We endeavour to visit all those in our faith community and outreach circles who are in hospital. Our ministers usually make an initial visit and additional visits according to the need and as time allows. If the person is in hospital for an extended period of time, we connect with a volunteer to visit them as well.

A few of our volunteer visitors choose to specialize in visiting at hospitals. We are able to register them through Alberta Health Services and obtain an identification badge and parking permit which facilitate extensive hospital visiting.

## **Home Communion**

Every time the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated at Robertson-Wesley, we consecrate elements and bless our visitors to share communion with visitees at home. They share a simple service of communion with them, either in small groups or individually. In this way, even those who are unable to attend are included in the fellowship of the sacrament.



## **Pastoral Visiting Workshops**

Robertson-Wesley hosts an annual weekend workshop for those who are hoping to volunteer as pastoral visitors. It is open to current visitors and also those pondering if they would like to join in our visiting ministry!

Each workshop is an interactive exploration of the ways we care for one another and ourselves in ways faithful to God's love for all. We also review listening skills, the needs of confidentiality and safety, as well ways to talk about illness, suffering and death from a faith perspective. Each year also has a particular focus such as praying with others, active listening or palliative care companionship.

Please see our website for this year's themes and dates.

Please see *Spiritual Formation and Learning Opportunities* pamphlet for other classes in spirituality and service.

## Canterbury Worship

The ministers of Robertson-Wesley conduct a monthly worship service, on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM, in the chapel at Canterbury for the residents of the Canterbury Manor, Court, or Lane. It is a short service with hymns, scripture, prayers, and a message followed by a fellowship time. Communion is included in the worship twice a year.

## Canterbury Tea

Robertson-Wesley puts on an annual tea in May at Canterbury to which all of the residents are invited. We typically have an attendance of 100 to 150. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet several of the residents and to let them all know that the church cares about them. We always have lots of squares and cookies donated by Robertson-Wesley people, a wonderful team of servers, and our Music Director entertains all on the piano.

## Rosedale Social

Robertson-Wesley holds an annual Social in September at Rosedale Assisted Living for residents of "the Park", "the Villa", and "the Estates." It is a celebratory gathering, usually 20 to 30 people, with an invitation to Robertson-Wesley people and their friends.

## Ministry of Flowers

On the first Sunday of each month, single flowers will be available for anyone to take out in their community.

When you visit friends and neighbours informally, we invite you to do so with a flower of love from Robertson-Wesley congregation. Even a single flower, like a carnation, can be a cheerful reminder that people unable to attend worship are remembered and that God is with them. It may also be a sign to someone who has never participated in worship at R-W, that they are a part of God's family.



## Robertson-Wesley United Church

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## Visiting Ministry

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