

Between the Aisles

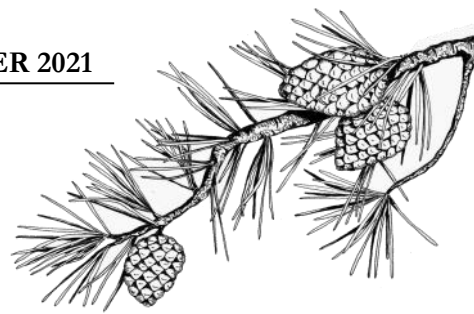
A Robertson-Wesley United Church Quarterly

WINTER 2021



○ little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
-Phillips Brooks

Editor's Welcome



Welcome to the winter edition. We have so much to be grateful for. A safe place to worship. Friendly faces. People seeking their path to the Creator.

I am so grateful to be back singing at R-W. I relish the challenge and discipline of being a chorister. It is more difficult singing separated distanced and masked. The effective support and genuine efforts of all choir members and the Director keep us standing. The camaraderie amongst the group grows stronger.

The pews are filling up again after the Covid induced hiatus. People look East!! The time is near!! Of the crowning of the year!! So much to celebrate and look forward to!!

Enjoy the beauty everybody.

Submitted by Maria Adria

Write for *Between the Aisles*

Do you write poetry? Have you read a life-changing book lately? Do you have a faith question you are exploring or a passion you want to share?

Then why not submit something for inclusion in the church's quarterly newsletter *Between the Aisles*? For guidelines and publication requirements, see www.rwuc.org/between-the-aisles.

Submissions for the Lent edition of BTA are due Feb 6, published Feb 25.



Composition by Richard Kennedy

Between the Aisles is published on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples. We also acknowledge the Métis, who are of mixed Indigenous and European heritage. Edmonton is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 4.

Cover image of stained glass from the Sanctuary taken by and edited by Elyse Munro.

The Spirit at Work

Who knew that I would have so much fun growing plants in our R-W East Side gardens this past summer?

At first it was tomatoes, sweet 100s, strawberries, and zucchini. All things that could be shared with our neighbours. And shared they were. Often, I would spot people picking a strawberry or tomato, or someone digging through the barrel looking for zucchini.

Every time I was tending the gardens people would stop by, ask questions about what I was doing and could they have a tomato and so on. Other times, people would stop to talk about our church. It's beauty, age, beautiful care of our yards. One lady asked about being in our bell choir. I took her to talk with Elyse.

Others just want to talk. I think we need to set up kiosk on the corner of 123 St and 102 Ave so the many comments and inquiries can be directed to someone who knows way more information about R-W. But, others just wanted to have someone to talk with. Sitting in the sun, on our grass, or on a chair is a wonderful way to interact with people and of course sometimes their children and pets.

As Autumn arrived, I tidied the flower pots first. But I kept the pot of succulents and set it up on the 1/2 barrel. They still seemed to be doing well. After a week or so though the plant was not there anymore.

As life at Robertson-Wesley would have it, as I arrived at R-W to hand out bag lunches, well, the pot of succulents was sitting on the outside table. Rev Karen was asking Brad where the plant came from. Brad said a man had dropped it off. Of course, I had to tell them my part about the succulents.

In no time a man came to tell me that he has brought the plant back because his neighbour had stolen it from a church. The man was quite upset by this. He just wanted to bring it back to us where it belonged.

We talked about the plant and then I asked him if he would like to have the plant. To take it home. Well yes, for sure he would. After a brief discussion about the plant's care, we noticed that there were crystals in the pot among the plants. Now, this plant was full of a new kind of energy.

The story of this plant goes on. As the young man and the plant and a bag lunch were just off down the street a different man came and said, "Hey did you notice someone stole your plant?" The young man with the plant heard this and came running back saying, "I did not steal the plant." ... you know that part of the story.

The other man said, "So what are you going to do with the bowl the plants are in? I really like the bowl."

At this point I am like so... what is it about the Spirit of this plant and this place that has brought these men together to have conversation and to make us laugh? I thought okay if a \$24 bowl of succulents can bring people together what else can we do to keep folks in our neighbourhood talking.

I must say the movement of the Spirit I found tending our East Side gardens brought me a lot of joy. And a lot of appreciation for the many folks who come by our church each day. Blessed Be!

Submitted by Jill Lambie

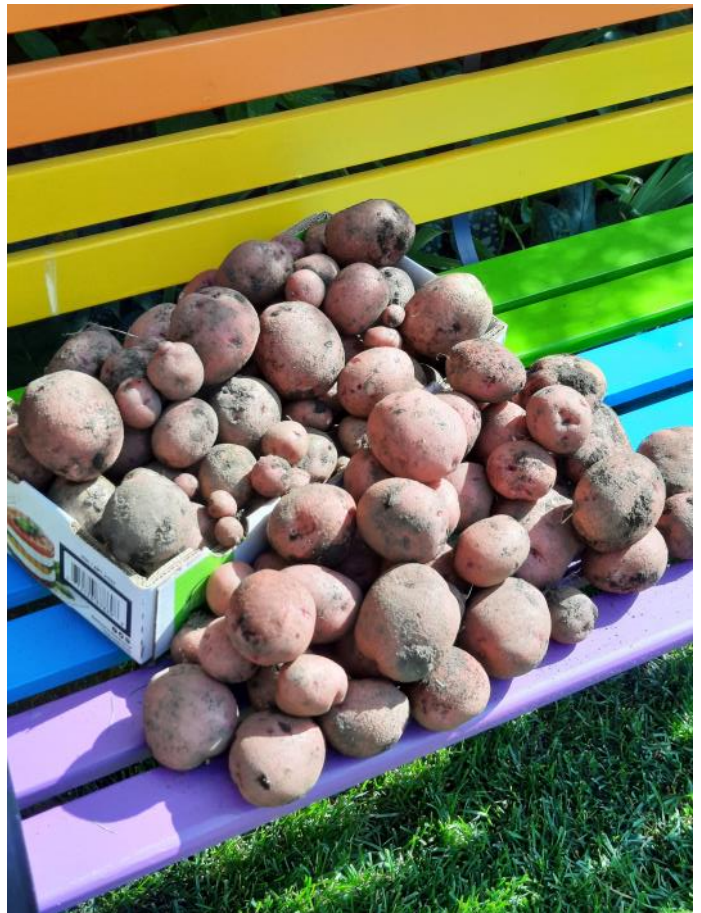


Photo of these bountiful potatoes from the R-W garden taken by Jill Lambie.

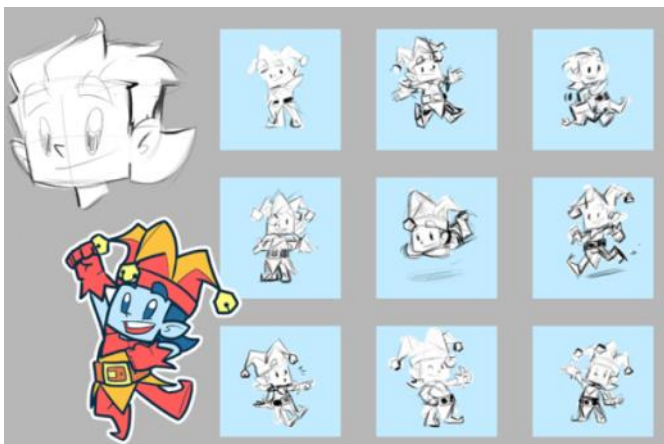
A Message from the Gratitude Team

Do you know or have you met an Angel? Angel in Greek means messenger and Angels come in many forms: Even as a person you know. Sharing a message from God is the primary role of Angels in the Bible.

Are you still so sure you have not met an Angel? The Gratitude Committee searched for a symbol that would remind us to be grateful.

Spirituality is connecting with something greater than ourselves – the source of all that is. That is why we thought of our symbol as a spirit of gratitude and called our symbol SPRITELY. Spritely reminds us to be joyful and grateful.

Welcome Spritely! (Them/Them)



Spritely is an original character created for R-W by Matthew McGuigan

Think of King David dancing before the Ark of the Covenant to give thanks. In the words of 2 Samuel chapter 6: They carried the Ark of God on a new cart and Ahio went in front of the Ark.

David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals. What a way to say THANKS!

If Spritely could speak to you today Spritely would speak the following words attributed to David from the Psalms:



“Make a joyful noise to the Lord,
Come into God’s presence with singing,
O give thanks to the Lord,
Sing praise to God,
Tell of all God’s wonderful works,
Praise the Lord!
O give thanks to the Lord for
God is good
God’s steadfast love endures
forever.

Let the people give thanks for their deliverance,
We will give thanks with all our hearts in the congregation of the faithful!”

-Psalm 100

Reflections on the Structure at Robertson-Wesley (Seven Peas in a Pod)

Some within the community of Robertson-Wesley United Church have expressed confusion over the unique structure of our Church. Our community is built on a foundation of volunteers, including committees, pods, Board of Directors, and program volunteers.

What is the difference between these volunteer groups and why the differentiation? These reflections were submitted to the Board of Robertson-Wesley in June, 2021 by the Discerning Envisioning And Policy (DEAP).

Recently members of DEAP gathered to do what we do – to listen and discern what we observe, hear, and feel when we are gathered. We reflected on the unique structure at Robertson-Wesley United Church (“R-W” or “Our Church”) and why it is so confounding to many, including to those of us who have been worshipping at R-W for many years.

A few of us even become playful with the word “pod” – Jill thought that it could be intended to reflect our

group (i.e. “whale pod”). Carol Anne identified it more with peas in a pod. Even the word for some of our collectives can evoke a different image to different people (iPod? Detergent pod??)

Our Church’s Leadership Manual*, adopted by the Board in 2016 with amendments in 2018 and 2019, actually refers to a collective of collectives:

“We use the term “Group” in a generic way to refer to a committee, a pod, a board, a team, a unit, etc. For each area of the life of the church, there is a group which takes primary responsibility. For each area, there is a description that is intended to define the area clearly. The area descriptions, however, do not include purpose, goals, procedures or duties.

These are left for each group to define for themselves so that the group has ownership, and to enable revision with periodic review. We think of these as “Role” descriptions which might include purpose, goals, mission, duties, procedures, resources, etc.”

The R-W Leadership manual recommends that each Group engage in periodic review, evaluation and goal setting. These are extremely broad terms and many of us would prefer greater clarity of purpose for each pod, team or unit.

We are challenged to allow the spirit within the Church to move within the groups. Just as we embrace a world where gender identity can be non-binary, we expand our idea of what it means to be Christian and our roles within our community of faith and love.

The community of R-W is comprised of many people united to worship and serve God but motivated differently perhaps more than any other church. The church recently reflected on how one lives their faith through the lens of Janet Gear’s the Theological Banquet which postulates that people may express their Christianity through five different expressions or combinations thereof: messenger (Evangelical), servant (Ecclesial), neighbour (Missional), partner (Ecumenical), and pilgrim (Spiritual).

Each expresses their love for Jesus differently. Because each of us is driven by our own passion and reasons, expressions of our love and worship manifests itself in different ways. These varying forms of expression make our community stronger and more complete.

Most churches the size of R-W are governed by Boards of Directors and supported by committees specializing in finance, property, worship, and outreach. R-W is no different with volunteers dedicated to seeing our church achieve its full potential through their work with the Board and committees.

Our Board and committees meet regularly with a specific mandate. Formal minutes are taken and volunteers generally have longer term commitments. However, there are some in the church that may not have the interest, specific skills, or time to dedicate to these longer term obligations. Many have served previously but would like to remain vital in the life of the church while “stepping back” from the rigors of responsibility and time commitment associated with serving on the Board or a committee.

When the subject of church structure was raised at the DEAP meeting, many of us struggled to define what a pod TYPICALLY does. With Rev. Karen answering our questions and asking her own to us, we came to the beautiful realization that our church structure with its Board, pods, committees, teams, units, and gatherings facilitates and enables members of our community to become involved in ways that we may not even realize.

As an example, the Mission and Outreach Pod is exploring Environmental Stewardship through a variety of activities and everyone is welcome to join the pod....for an hour, several weeks, or longer. This can include someone who may not have the time to dedicate to something more permanent, someone just starting to explore their inner partner, or for someone that would just like to be involved in a group that cares about the environment.

This “loose” undefined structure enables us all to explore our love for God through various means – what better way to let the spirit work in our faith community than to provide an outlet for our faith without the confines of definition, limits, and parameters. As confounding as it may first appear, this structure supports our mission to become an inclusive community.

Submitted by the DEAP team

*if you would like a copy of the leadership manual please email mail@rwuc.org

Advent & Christmas

Christmas Stories of Robertson-Wesley Video

December 25, 11:00 am online

Join us for an hour long video where we will hear funny, heartwarming, and interesting stories from our community members about their favorite Christmas moments.

Watch on: www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live

Advent Services will be in-person and livestreamed.

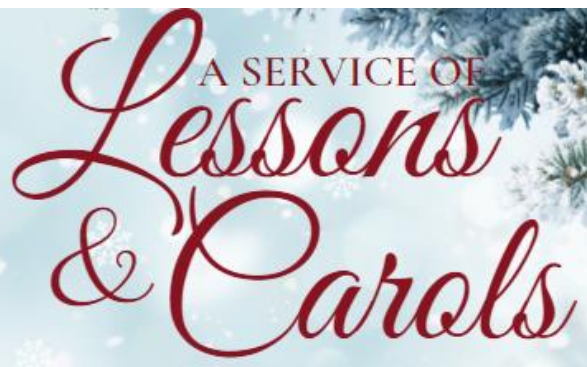
No registration required.

Advent 1 November 28, 10:30 am
God's House on the Move.

Advent 2 December 5, 10:30 am
Imagine... the Peace which surpasses all understanding .

Advent 3 December 12, 10:30 am
What keeps us from going home?

Advent 4 December 19, 10:30 am, Worship
Power of Love.



December 5 at 4:00 pm
in person and online on rwuc.org/live

A gentle candlelight service to celebrate the season with words and music for Christmas. This service is a classic tradition, featuring a series of scripture readings that take us through the whole story of God's promise, Israel's longing and waiting, and the fulfillment of that promise in the birth of Christ. The story is accompanied by music from the Robertson-Wesley Choir, and R-W Ringers.

Registration is required for in person attendance, please email mail@rwuc.org or call 780-482-1587 with your name and number of people attending.



December 21 at 7:00 pm
In person and Online

Christmas is a holy time that is not always happy. It brings up so many memories that heighten our feelings of grief or sadness, pain or loneliness. This is a service of quiet reflection, remembrance and peace. We hope that this service will bring a sense of peace in this sacred season with quiet music, scripture, silence and candle light. Everyone is welcome.
No registration required.





Christmas Eve December 24th

4:00 pm

Online only

Family Celebration

A celebration for all ages

8:00 pm

In person & online

Contemporary Service

Christmas Eve for all ages with candlelight

11:00 pm

In person & online

Candlelight Service

Music and songs of joy for the Holy night

Christmas at R-W is going to look a little different this year with a mixture of in-person and online services. Online services can be found at rwuc.org/live or YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live

The 4:00 pm **Family Service** will be livestreamed only with no in-person attendance. The 8:00 pm **Contemporary** and 11:00 pm **Candlelight** services will have both in-person attendance and be livestreamed.

Due to limited numbers we do require you to pre-register for the 8:00 pm Contemporary and 11:00 pm Candlelight services.

To register please contact the church office at 780-482-1587 or by email at mail@rwuc.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT R-W

In-person, online and hybrid events

SPIRITED ART STUDIO

The Spirited Art studio is a place for people to explore art and connect with each other in an informal creative environment. Tune in any time and try out different art-making processes, facilitated by Laura David Foster. **Mondays** from 7:00-8:30 pm in person, and **Wednesdays** from 1:30-3:00 pm on Zoom. To register for in person on Mondays please email spiritedartstudio@rwuc.org. Proof of vaccination is required.



Scripture Reflections

On **Tuesdays** at 12:00 pm, we take time to reflect on the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday.

We use the practice of Lectio Divina which means we read through the scripture three times. You will be invited into some moments of silence, and if you are willing you are invited to share what the scriptures stirred in you with the group. You don't need to be a Biblical Scholar. God speaks through the scriptures and it is always wonderful to hear the diversity of messages that are received. Come watch with a bible and a journal, or simply yourself! Tune in when you can.

Join by visiting rwuc.org/live, on Facebook, or by requesting the Zoom link to join the discussion by speaking to Rev. Karen Bridges.

ADULT STUDY GROUP

Adult Study Group meets via Zoom on **Wednesdays** at 10:00 am. You do not need to have been a previous participant nor do you need to commit to attend every session, just when you are able.

Contact Elyse at mail@rwuc.org for the Zoom link. We want to do an Advent Study and welcome input from you on a topic which piques your interest. Contact Sally at: sally.boyle@rwuc.org.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship continues to be live streamed and in person at 10:30 am every Sunday.

How to join Worship online:

1. On Sunday morning shortly before 10:30 am, open your internet browser (chrome, firefox, internet explorer, safari or edge)
2. Type the address www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live in to your browsers search bar.

If you visit the page early it will open to our main YouTube page, but don't worry, if you visit the page a few minutes before the service at 10:30 am, it will open to the livestream.

You can also re-watch any of the live streamed services on Youtube.

IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES

R-W is participating in the COVID Restrictions Exemption Program. This means all attendees of REP events must show a valid personal ID and either: Proof of vaccination; or Proof of a negative privately-paid test result taken within the prior 72 hours; or An original (non-copied) medical exemption letter.

Stillness: Time to Just Be

DEC 4, 11 AND 18, 2021 FROM 3:00-4:30 PM

This is a workshop series of 3 Saturdays in December, **December 4, 11, and 18** from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm.

You can attend all three or as many as you can, please register online at rwuc.org/workshops. This workshop series is time and space for us to pause, so we can keep going. In each of the workshops, we will take time for meaningful connection with each other, and time for stillness in solitude with choices of artistic and spiritual practices for contemplation and reflection in the Sanctuary and Memorial Hall. Proof of vaccination required

R-W Choir & Ringers Call For Members

The R-W Choir and Ringer Groups are excited to be rehearsing again! Please consider joining as we rehearse music for Christmas time. Speak to Allan Bevan after service for further information, or contact him at music@rwuc.org



Journey through the Labyrinth

Wednesday nights from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Dec 1, 8, 15, 22.

As we journey through Advent come and experience the ancient practice of walking the labyrinth. Walking the labyrinth invites a person into a quieting of the mind, allowing a person to focus on a spiritual question or prayer. This is a form of contemplation and prayer. If the season of Christmas causes you anxiety and stress, if life is leaving you feeling exhausted or unable to focus, then this is a practice for you. The joy of walking the labyrinth is that there is only one way in and one way out. You need not worry about getting lost, and each step leads you closer to peace, stillness, clarity and God. Each week there will be some spiritual questions or words to start your journey if you so choose. And if you would prefer you can simply focus on your breathing as you slowly walk. Please allow yourself at least 20-30 minutes. Arrive when you can and leave when you are ready.

TRUTH and RECONCILI ACTION

*Decolonization is happening now!!!!

I am delighted at the changes happening around Edmonton, based on the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

On September 29, 2021, the Catholic schoolboard voted UNANIMOUSLY to change the long standing name of Grandin school to Holy Child school. The new name is writ extra large and hangs on the East side of the school for all to see. Bishop Grandin was a person of power who lobbied the Canadian government to initiate and fund "residential schools" in the late 1800s. The HOLY CHILD signage is the largest, clearest school signage I have ever seen anywhere in the world. It makes my heart inflate with hope.



Photo taken by Maria Adria

The voting wards of Edmonton have been changed to Indigenous names. The names were painstakingly chosen by a panel of 17 carefully selected women. The women representatives are from 1st Nations in Alberta Treaties 6, 7, and 8, as well as members of the Metis and Inuit communities.

RWUC is now situated in the "O-Day Min" voting region.

Glenora is now part of the "Tastawiyiniwak" voting region. TASS-TAW-WIN-EE-WOK is a Cree word for the "in

between" people. The "in between" people refer to the LGBTQ2spirit community. The Cree world recognized EIGHT GENDERS. Each person chose where they belonged. Each person was free to move between roles as they aged and matured.

These name changes serve as a dynamic starting point in the calls to Truth and Reconciliation. These name changes serve as public recognition of the devastating actions done to Indigenous Peoples. They are a vital and visible first step made by the Catholic church to make amends for past wrongs.

Renaming makes me wonder about our own faith community. RWUC is partly named after Reverend James Robertson. This man was brought from Eastern Canada to build and establish some hundreds of residential and industrial schools in the West. He was the Superintendent of the so called "Residential schools". Robertson was rewarded by the government. The government arranged loans to build the lavishly ornate building we worship in today.

Humbly submitted by Maria Adria

*Decolonization refers to any and all actions made that serve to make amends for past harms inflicted on Indigenous peoples.

Advent Theme: The Trip to Bethlehem



I keep pulling it out –
the old map of my inner path
I squint closely at it,
trying to see some hidden road
that maybe I've missed,
but there's nothing there now
except some well-travelled paths.
they have seen my footsteps often,
held my laughter, caught my tears.

I keep going over the old map
but now the roads lead nowhere,
a meaningless wilderness
where life is dull and futile.

"toss away the old map," she says
"you must be kidding!" I reply.
she looks at me with Sarah eyes
and repeats "toss it away."
It's of no use where you're going."

"I have to have a map!" I cry,
"even if it takes me nowhere."
I can't be without direction,"

"but you are without direction,"
she says, "so why not let go, be free?"

so there I am – tossing away the old map,
sadly fearfully, putting it behind me.
"whatever will I do?" wails my security
"trust me" says my midlife soul.

no map, no specific directions,

no "this way ahead" or "take a left".
how will I know where to go?
how will I find my way? no map!
but then my midlife soul whispers
"there was a time before maps
when pilgrims travelled by the stars."

It is time for the pilgrim in me
to travel in the dark,
to learn to read the stars
that shine in my soul.

This poem is written by Joyce Rupp, and found in the
book: Dear Heart, Come Home: The Path of Midlife
Spirituality

We enter Advent looking for direction. In reality how-
ever, there are no maps for the soul, only guidance.
Long before the pregnancy, long before Herod and
Mary and Joseph, there was a star. The Wise Ones
chose to follow. It was an adventure, a pilgrimage, a
wandering.

And so our Advent adventure begins. We are headed
to Bethlehem but where is that? What do we hope to
find there? And what or who will give us direction as
we go? We have 4 weeks for the trip of a lifetime. En-
joy.

Submitted by Rev. Sally Boyle

Volunteer Opportunities

Nominations Announcement

If you have the desire to serve the community of faith at R-W with your gift of leadership, the nomination team at Robertson-Wesley is seeking to fill the following 3 roles on the R-W Board starting March 2022: Incoming Chair of the Board, Regional Council Representative, and Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Chair. These roles are very fulfilling and allow you to get involved while familiarizing you to the inner workings of the church. If you feel called or want to know more please email mail @rwuc.org.

- Ron Soans ,Garnet Thomas, and John Fleming

Incoming Board Chair

Role:

The role of the Incoming Board Chair is to support the Board Chair as needed, and to develop the experience and knowledge of the church, its mission, and its ministry that are needed for upcoming terms as Board Chair and Past Board Chair.

Duties:

The Incoming Board Chair shall:

- Assume the duties of Board Chair in their absence or as appointed by the Board Chair.
- Attend (all) Board, Executive and Board of Management meetings.
- Update the Board Manual as needed.
- Become Board Chair at the end of term as Incoming Board Chair.
- Undertake additional duties as requested by the Chair.

Term:

The Incoming Board Chair will be a one year term with a three year commitment. This three year commitment consists of one year term as Incoming Board Chair, one year term as Board Chair, and a one year term as Past Board Chair.

Skills:

- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Facilitation and diplomacy skills
- Good listener
- Ability to identify skills and resources in the con-

gregation

- Communication skills and basic computer skills
- Basic budget understanding
- Basic understanding of parliamentary procedure

Regional Council Representative

Role:

Robertson-Wesley United Church belongs to the Northern Spirit Region (wider church) of The United Church of Canada. The church is structured in a similar way to the Canadian Government at this time. We have 3 courts of governance. The congregation of Robertson-Wesley sends 4 lay representatives to attend the annual meeting of our region which, in our location is the city wide level of the church.

The Regional Council functions in a similar manner to the church board. We elect four lay members to this wider church decision making circle, and they report back to the congregation decision and information that pertain to our mission and ministry of the church.

Four lay representatives are elected to the Northern Spirit Regional Council on behalf of Robertson- Wesley United Church

Duties:

- To attend a weekend gathering each year to decide on vision, policies and practices. Robertson-Wesley will pay for the lay reps participation in this meeting.
- Share information with the congregation on wider church activities and resources (through Between the Aisles, R-W report and the bulletin boards in Memorial Hall)
- Attend 3 board meetings per year (the reps rotate) as a corresponding (non voting) member.

Term:

Two years, renewable.

Skills:

- Basic knowledge of how The United Church of Canada "works".
- Should have good listening/reporting skills.
- Willing to learn as we live into the new structure.
- Should be a full member of The United Church of Canada.

Ministry and Personnel Chair

Role:

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) chair is a member of Robertson-Wesley's Board and leads a committee of volunteers who are responsible for the Human Resources related functions of the Church. Review the United Church of Canada policies and manuals and work through questions and issues with the support of the Pastoral Relations Minister, Regional Council.

Duties:

To lead, coordinate and represent the M&P committee in all the following functions:

- The M&P Committee is responsible for being available for consultation and support for matters involving the pastoral charge staff, including maintaining close contact with the regional council Pastoral Relations Committee or equivalent.
- The M&P Committee is responsible for overseeing the relationship of the pastoral charge staff to each other and to people in the congregation.
- The M&P Committee is responsible for supervising staff, including:
 - ◆ Regularly reviewing the working conditions, responsibilities, and compensation of all pastoral charge staff, making any recommendations needed as a result of these reviews to the governing body.
 - ◆ Making decisions about compassionate leave (in addition to approving staff using regular leave benefits)
 - ◆ Ensuring pastoral charge staff make use of opportunities for continuing education that they have been given.
 - ◆ Revising position descriptions of pastoral charge staff as needed.
 - ◆ Conducting annual performance reviews of the pastoral charge staff.

Term:

Two years, renewable based on the incumbent's ability to serve in this role.

Skills:

- Ability to listen
- Ability to discern
- Compassionate
- Ability to lead meetings effectively and keep records using various platforms.

Christmas Cookie Crew

Last year R-W started a Christmas cookie delivery program to bring some Christmas cheer to people in our community. This year we would like to continue the cookie program and we need your help! There are a variety of positions open: Bakers, Coordinators and Deliverers! Cookies will be packaged up on **December 16**, so if you are baking please drop off your cookies by **December 15**. For more details see the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall or contact the office at mail@rwuc.org or 780-482-1587.

Candlestick Polishers

Help the R-W Sanctuary shine! Help polish R-W's brass candlesticks that are used in Lessons & Carols and Christmas Eve services. Sign-up in Memorial Hall. Polishing will be done on Thursday, **Dec 2** at 10:00 am.

Christmas Eve Ushers

If you are interested in greeting people, handing out bulletins, collecting offering and other minor duties on Christmas Eve, please add your name to this list. The Head Ushers will send out an e-mail or give people a call when volunteers are needed. Don't worry if you have never done this before you will be working with others who can mentor you in this role. Sign-up in Memorial Hall or contact the office.

Scripture Readers

Each Sunday, one or two scriptures are chosen by the Ministers to be read by a volunteer during worship. The scripture readings are emailed to you in advance, in case you like to practice! Printed copies are also ready for Sunday morning.

If you sign-up one of the Reverends will contact you with a date to read. Please Sign-up in Memorial Hall or contact the church office if you have any questions 780-482-1587 or mail@rwuc.org



HOLY MANNERS

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CREATION OF SAFE SPACE

We come to this space knowing that God loves us as we are and yearns for us to be in closer relationship with all of God's beloved.

In our behaviour, our words, and our attitudes we promise to relate to one another with:

- Respect
- Humility
- Patience
- Open mindedness
- Courage
- Compassion
- And we promise to treat ourselves with kindness.

Keeping God at the centre, we will:

- Listen empathetically to others with our whole selves: our physical senses, intuition, imagination, and intellect.
- Speak for ourselves in the spirit of truth and gentleness, avoiding unhelpful judgments, generalizations, and stereotypes
- Allow others to speak without interruption
- Pause before speaking to ponder what others are saying and what we feel
- Affirm the deep wisdom of silence
- Be sensitive to differences in the way we each communicate and learn
- Keep confidentiality
- Keep the discussion at the table
- Commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our Holy Manners
- Honour the decisions made by the body
- Lean into God's transformative love.

GIVE SOMEONE YOU LOVE

an inspiring gift!

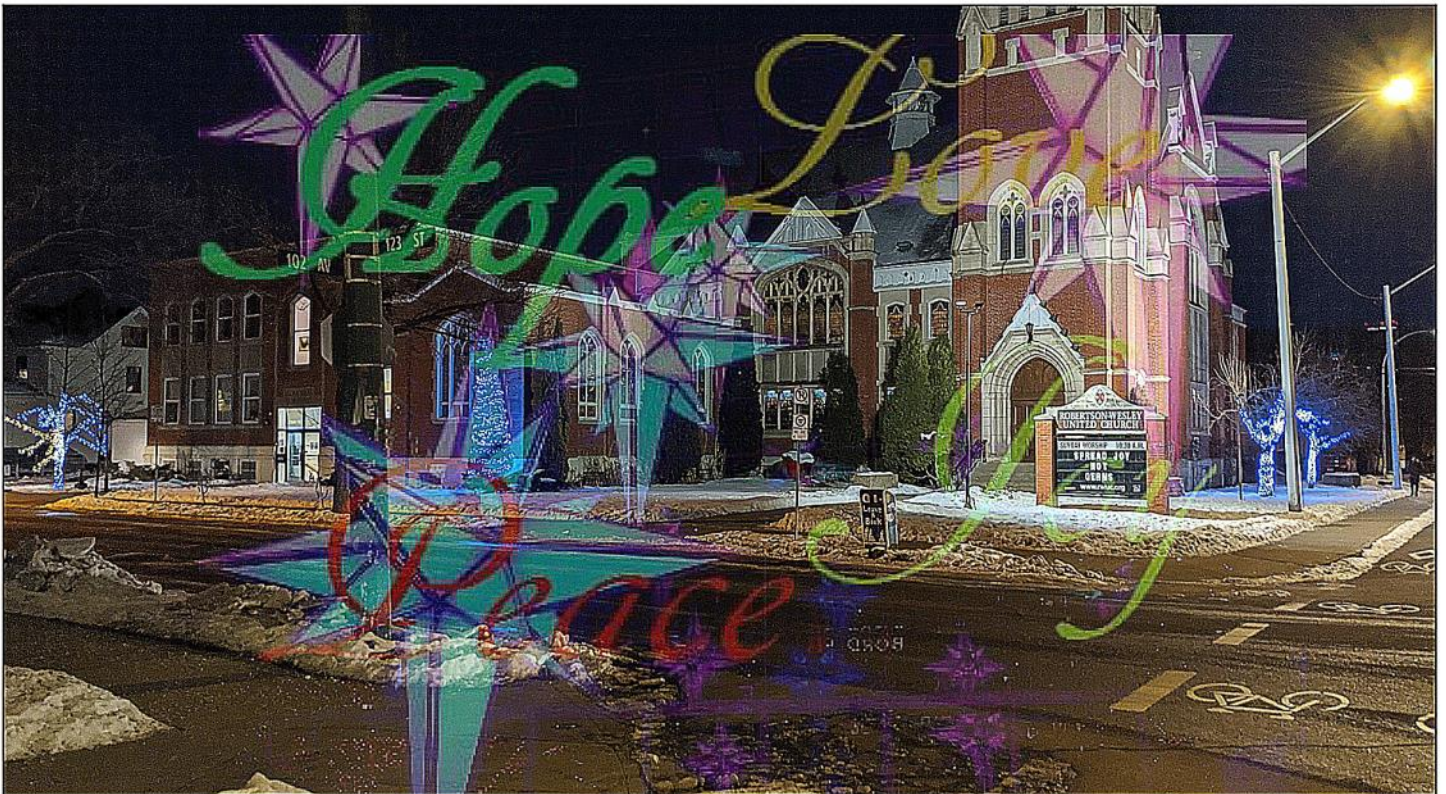


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Broadview

*Plus tax. Offer valid for Canadian addresses only. Order by Dec 24th and your gifts will start with the Jan/Feb issue.



Composition by Richard Kennedy



Composition by Richard Kennedy

United Church Calendars

R-W has received 2022 United Church calendars. The calendar features United Church photos from all across Canada. They are available for sale for \$10 and will be for sale during fellowship after worship next week. If you aren't attending church physically and would like to order, please contact Elyse in the office at 780-482-1587 or email at mail@rwuc.org to have a calendar mailed to you.



Did you know?

You can donate to the church using PayPal?



Visit www.rwuc.org and click DONATE

Robertson-Wesley United Church

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