

A NEW VISION

Sunday, May 18, 2025



We are an Easter people. People who celebrate the Risen Christ! The Season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until June 8th, which is Pentecost Sunday. The cross remains in the sanctuary with the white cloth on it until Pentecost. Easter is the most important and oldest festival of the Christian Church, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Our Vision

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

There are many ways to get involved at St. Andrew's. Everyone is welcome so please reach out and step into places that inspire you the most. More details on our website.

FIND YOUR PLACE

WASHROOMS: A wheelchair-accessible and gender-neutral bathroom is located in the hallway North of the lower auditorium. It can be accessed by the elevator near the office or any of the stairways and is available to all 24 / 7. The Childcare and Nursery have full and exclusive use of the washrooms in the lower hallway Monday to Friday 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The use of the lower Narthex washrooms is for church use 24 / 7 plus the lower hallway washrooms may be used by all on evenings and weekends when the childcare and nursery are closed.

Share Your Story On A Recipe Card

As part of our 100th Anniversary celebrations, we are inviting everyone to reflect on their journey with the United Church. This Sunday at Worship, and outside Karen's office, there will be recipe cards for you to take. Instead of asking you to share a favourite recipe or dish, we are asking you to share a slice of your faith story.

You will have the chance to answer one of the following three questions, whichever one you choose:

1. **What brought you to the United Church?**
2. **What is your most memorable or enduring recollection affiliated with being part of the United Church?**
3. **What has kept you engaged over the years in the church?**

You can bring your idea to church today, or take your card home, reflect on your response, write it down, and bring it back next week. You can either post your card on the bulletin board in the sanctuary or drop it in the offering plate, and we will make sure it is posted there and in the upcoming E News.



OUR LAND - We remember, as we celebrate God's presence in Worship that St. Andrew's River Heights United Church gathers in Treaty 1 land, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. As Treaty people, we seek to live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with all our relations.

A New Vision

GATHERING MUSIC: *Medley on 'Lord Jesus Christ be present now'* Chorale tune by J.G. Walther
Ann-Marie Bakkeland, organ

WELCOME

HIP HAPPENIN' NEWS

WORK OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon Minster's Manual, 2016, adapted.*

Gather, Easter people, raise your voices in praise.

Let all creation praise our God and Creator!

Stars and planets, suns and moons - shine forth with joy!

Our God grants life, rebirth and a future!

Fire and hail, blizzard and flood cannot overpower our Lord's hand.

Even death holds no sway any longer.

Gather, Easter people - sing praise to honour our risen Christ!

We come into your holy presence with joy! Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRAYER

HYMN: **VU367** *Come Down O Love Divine*

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **MV115** *Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *The Abingdon Minster's Manual, 2016, adapted.*

God of new things, forgive us when we try to make the new heaven and the new earth look like the old. Gently guide us, when we try to make the ways of the present and the future conform to the norms of the past. Shake us with the ongoing power of your Spirit, which constantly creates and re-creates. Forgive us when we cling to the status quo. Help us to understand why we must let go and change. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *Let the Heaven Light Shine on Me* (trad. Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan)

Let the light from heaven shine on me.

Let it shine on me.

Let the heaven light shine on me,
For low is the way to the upper bright world.
Let the heaven light shine on me.

Let it shine on me, Lord, shine on me.
Let the light from heaven shine on me.

SCRIPTURE READING: Revelation 21:1-6 read by Susanne Reimer
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

REFLECTION & TIMELINE OF THE UNITED CHURCH:

Question: What decade did the United Church come into your life?

HYMN: **VU713** / *See a New Heaven*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We are followers of Jesus. **Go make a difference in your world.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *See insert* (Music, Shauna Sperry. From Gathering, Pentecost 1 2025, pg.60. Used with permission)

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *'Adagio' for flute and organ* Michael Baker
Rachel Tarrant, flute

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE: **MV182** *Grateful* (refrain)

♪ **Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.** ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **MV214** *May God's Sheltering Wings*

♪ **May God's sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you
May God's nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love,
and hold you in her love.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Sonata* Anonymous, 17th century

Music Note

Today's anthem is by Moses Hogan, who is well-known throughout the choral world for his arrangements of traditional Spirituals. Born in New Orleans in 1957, Hogan began his musical training at home playing piano with his siblings and parents. Eventually, he pursued higher education at Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Julliard School of Music, and in Europe. He was an advocate for the African-American Spiritual, and founded 3 ensembles to showcase his arrangements. He passed away in 2003 from a brain tumour, but his legacy is ongoing and far-reaching, with choirs around the world still performing his music.

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you.

Thank you to our singers, our scripture reader, Susanne Reimer, and our Flautist, Rachel Tarrant. Thank you to Ann-Marie Bakkellund for playing the gathering music.

Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Choir Director	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
Organist	Wes Elias	weselias.mail@gmail.com
Sunday School	Jan Demeduk	j.demeduk@hotmail.com
Council Chair	Rob Siddall	rgs123@mymts.net
Treasurer	Bill Craddock	wjcdlc@mymts.net
Church Office	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

Announcements

Bible Study continues until the end of May. This week, we will be highlighting a few Women of the Bible. Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the lounge

Blue Jean Sunday School begins today. Dress casually for the outdoors if the weather permits.

Fifty Years! The Anna Blair Circle - 1975-2025

Sunday, May 25, 2025, Special service and free lunch!

Come celebrate with the Anna Blair Circle. Please invite those you know who may be interested in this event - Friends of ABC (formerly UCW), and of St. Andrew's - to join us. We are looking forward to greeting old and new friends. Please sign up at the back of the church if you are attending the lunch.

Celebration Concert! Sunday, May 25, 2:00pm, at St. Andrew's River Heights.

Come celebrate 100 years of music in the United Church of Canada with the choirs of Westworth and St. Andrew's! The program features favourite hymns and anthems from each congregation and the United Church over the past 100 years. Everyone is invited to attend and join in singing the hymns! Entry is by donation (suggested \$20). You can get your tickets after Sunday service, or stop by the church office during the week.

Upcoming Services

- **Sunday, May 25th** - Herstory (The Celebration of the Anna Blair Circle)
- **Sunday, June 1st** - Pride Sunday, Service at St Andrew's with Westworth and others will be walk-

ing in the park (more details to come)

- **Sunday, June 8th** - Celebrating UCC 100th Anniversary with Westworth at Westworth United Church at 10:45am.

Walks on Tuesdays with Westworth continue every week at 1pm. If you would like to be informed about the routes of these walks and would like to have your email provided to the organizers, please let the church office know.

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Rental—Charmaine Bacon (sanctuary) @ 2pm

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 5:15pm

MONDAY, MAY 19

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm

Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6:15pm

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, MAY 24

ABC Setup (auditorium)

SUNDAY, MAY 25

ABC 50th Anniversary Service (sanctuary) @ 10:30am

YOUR GIFTS MATTER.

Get the benefits of a Tax Receipt for your Donation! Let us know who you are and sign up for PAR. Pre-authorized remittances throughout the year make it easy to donate to the United Church.

Donations are always accepted either through your weekly giving envelopes, the weekly worship offering, through E-transfer by contacting Bill Craddock, our Treasurer at 204-488-1130 just leave a message on the phone and Bill will return it, or can be dropped off at any time through the church office.

Check out our website for more information and forms. The church is very grateful for any and all donations. Thank you so much.

'DID YOU KNOW' Message From Your Stewardship Team

The 2025 budget for St. Andrew's includes an anticipated draw of \$32,000 from capital sources to balance forecasted revenues and expenses. The year 2024 just past anticipated a similar capital draw. The good news is that for 2024, we did not have to use any capital to meet our financial needs. A number of members gave significantly more than they pledged, particularly towards the end of the year. And we added several new members and their contributions. There is no guarantee that this will repeat itself in 2025. **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.**

ABC 50th Anniversary Lunch (auditorium) @ after service
100th Anniversary Concert (sanctuary) @ 2pm

MONDAY, MAY 26

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 27

ABC (lounge) @ 5:30pm

