



# ST. ANDREW'S

Website: [www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca](http://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca)

Email: [office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca)

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9AM-1PM

Youtube Facebook 403-782-3148

Shout Out!



A big **THANK YOU** to our Christian Development Committee who worked so hard to put on a fabulous Easter Egg hunt!

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# LeaderShift

COME BE PART OF THE SHIFT 

## Reflection: Greetings, St. Andrew's!

Reverend Dave

Well... this past month has gone quite differently from what I hoped and expected, thanks to the COVID virus! Instead of diving into events like the meeting of the Chinook Winds Region, and our garage sale, I have been home trying to get well. For all of you who have been through your own turn with COVID, I now have some extra sympathy!

My thanks and appreciation for Ross Smillie, who stepped in at the last minute to lead worship, and to all of you in the congregation who have provided such quality leadership over the past few weeks! From worship leadership (Bob, Dieulita) to the garage sale crew (CD and many others) to the Camp Kasota supporters and leaders, to the leaders, organizers, and participants in Messy Church, the life of this church has continued without missing a beat. It's great to be unnecessary, as a minister, and I mean that in the healthiest possible way. This is not a congregation that sits back and waits for the minister to be the professional Christian – instead, we are in ministry all together, and let me tell you, that feels great.

As we move towards summer, I also want to say again that we are in a time of change. One of the things you'll probably notice is some change and experimentation in the way we do worship and Sunday school. At this moment, we are doing children's programs (separate from worship) on the second Sunday of the month. The other Sundays the kids will be with us in worship, and we are trying to make some changes to accommodate that! Communion (first) Sundays we'll try to make completely intergenerational. Third to fifth Sundays of each month will be "hybrid" worship – we'll focus on the kids for the first part of the service and be more traditional for the latter parts.

Including the kids means doing some teaching on Sundays – spending some time learning or re-learning the various practices that form our Sunday worship. Why and how do we pray? Why do we sing together, and what significance does that have? How do we listen to the witness of Scripture? Why do we make an offering? I am hoping that teaching our kids about these things will renew some of these practices in the rest of us, even if we've been doing these things for decades. Continued on page 3...

# Posture

## Reflection continued...

Reverend Dave

It's all part of the "posture" we are taking as we move into a still-uncertain future. As a congregation (board) we are part of a year-long course offered by a United Church group based in BC called "LeaderShift." The course is called "Moving from decision-making to discernment." The idea, in a nutshell, is to bring our spirituality more consciously into play as the board provides leadership for this congregation. We are trying to learn how to hold our own opinions and thoughts more lightly, and to listen more carefully for the Spirit. I invite you into that kind of posture as we move into the summer, and then into the fall.

Let us know how you are responding to the changes in worship. What's working, and what's not? What yearnings do you feel, in you and in this community? What opportunities do you see opening up for us? What doors seem to be closing for us, and where are the new openings? What's challenging you right now, and what's giving you life?

Neither church nor life is likely to be easy, in the next months and years. But to be together, to be facing the challenges in the midst of this very gifted community of faith, to be accompanied by God every step of the way – that makes it not only bearable but exciting.

Dave

## Financial

APRIL 30, 2022

Revenue	Current Month	Year to Date
Contributions and Other	\$22,380.25	\$68,509.54
Expenses	\$21,050.55	\$93,241.68
Net Income (Loss)	\$1329.70	\$(24,732.14)





## Messy Camping!

After 22 months of not having Messy Church, we did it!

On Friday, May 6, 54 adults, youth, and children came together for Messy Camping. The crafts and theology dealt with family and friendship. Camping experience allows us to feel the presence of something great.

After 60 minutes of crafts and activities (the parachute games were the noisiest!) everyone was led into the sanctuary where music, stories, celebrations, and prayers (including grace) were held. After 20 minutes, it was mealtime. The meal was a typical camping menu – hot dogs, chips, vegetables, and ice cream!

The volunteers and participants enjoyed the afternoon. We are looking forward to going full time with Messy Church once again in the fall.

Our next venture is VBS, which is being held August 15-18. Check out the church website or contact the office for further information.





# Congratulations

## Happy Anniversary!

On July 24, 2021 Bob and Sarina King celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss. They didn't celebrate with a party then because of COVID restrictions. When Sarina's 70th birthday was coming up on April 5, Bob planned a surprise Anniversary/Birthday party for Sarina with family and friends in attendance. The celebration continued after church on April 10 with cake being served!



## Happy Birthday!

Del McIntyre celebrated her 90th birthday! Congratulations Del!





## VBS - Mark Your Calendars!

### AUGUST 15-18

VBS registration forms are available on our website here:  
<https://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/VBSRegistration-form-2022.pdf>

We are looking for volunteer youth and young adult leaders...if you would like to volunteer or know of someone who would please contact the office!

[office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca)

**ST. ANDREW'S**  
**FREE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**AUGUST 15-18**

FUN & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS AGES 4-11  
MONDAY-THURSDAY AUGUST 15-18, 9AM-12PM  
INTERESTED VOLUNTEER YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT LEADERS  
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE  
<https://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/>

## Tech Tip!

Have you heard that we now post our weekly bulletin online? Follow this link [www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/bulletin](https://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/bulletin) to get the order of service for each upcoming Sunday! A poster of the bulletin will also be placed at both entrances.

## Sunday School Is Back!

### 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

We have come up with a new and exciting program for Sunday School.

Our struggle over the past few years has been not knowing how many children will show up and what age groups.

We (the CD Committee) have committed to offering children's programs on the 2nd Sunday of every month. Other Sundays of the month we strive to make the services more intergenerational.

If you are interested in possibly helping with Sunday School, as a leader, or simply a second set of hands, your commitment could be as little as 1 Sunday a year. Please contact: Annerie Dunnewind [403-302-0846](tel:403-302-0846)

**Due to our policy handbook we need to have 2 adults present for Sunday School, it would be great if we had a list of people as back-ups.**





## Central Alberta Foodgrains Project

Year 27 is underway, as we have 50 acres of land beside Woody Nook Church west of Lacombe to grow canola.

The land was secured in late April and the field will be seeded in mid-May.

Crop proceeds and cash donations will be used to help feed hungry people internationally through the Christian based registered charity, Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

St. Andrew's has been a huge supporter of the growing project since inception in 1996 and we are looking for your continued support now. Cash donations to cover expenses such as crop insurance and some crop inputs can be forwarded via cheque. Please make cheque out to **Central Alberta Foodgrains Project** and mail to...

**Chris Dyck**  
**Site 13, Comp 21, RR1**  
**Lacombe, AB T4L 2N1**

You can also drop off a cheque to Doug Maas in Lacombe. Doug's phone number is 403-318-5733.

Thank you for your continued support!

## UCW Unit 2

Last week our Unit met in person for the 1st time in 2 years! We have kept in contact via phone calls and email and have continued our group's work as best we could during that time.

We have let the Funeral Home know that we are ready to cater Funeral lunches once again, but we are looking for some additional help from time to time.

If you think you could spare some time to help us prepare the lunches or if you could bake a square, we would greatly appreciate the help. Talk to any one of our members or email myself (Susan) at [slhrycan@gmail.com](mailto:slhrycan@gmail.com)

## Expense Claim/Reimbursement Forms

If you have a receipt to submit we ask that you please fill out an expense claim/reimbursement form to attach to your receipt. The expense claim form can be accessed from our webpage footer under **expense claim**:

<https://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/St.-Andrews-Expense-Claim-Template.pdf>

You may also stop by the office to pick one up. The use of an expense claim form lets our finance team know which committee the expense was for and makes budgeting for the future much easier!



PASSION LED US HERE

Thank you Nicole for sharing the following with us on Palm Sunday!

# SOCIETY'S GENERATIONAL VALUES

SUBMITTED BY: NICOLE MALONEY

When Jesus protested the Roman imperial system, he was showing that their oppressive system was wrong. The efforts of keeping people down and being seen as less equal was unfair and wrong to do. Their system was more cruel and harsh on the people in the society, except for a few selected special people. Our current society is also facing problems like this. Those that are seen as superior because of how rich they are or famous they are, are treated better, because of their importance. When Jesus brought a system of peace, instead of inequality, the people were so happy for the future and the right next step. When he was warned about the possible consequences, he said “if the people were silent, the stones would cry out.” This is a metaphor explaining how important the peaceful system was for society and the world. The peacefulness was so important to the world, even nature knew the importance. The current world we live in also has important values that the stones would cry out for, the important message we all would need to hear.

The current events in the world all lead the next generation to ask themselves about the future. The main question being “Why Bother”, due to economic crashes, extreme climate change, environmental pollution, and society breaking down around us, with wars, discrimination, poverty, and inequality. It seems hard to find yourself standing up and living without fear. Learning to not let fear hold you back and trust yourself enough to keep moving on, no matter how hard life gets, is important for motivation. I struggled finding motivation after leaving high school, especially during current events. As I moved on with my life, I learnt that your values make life worth living. Your values are what you find important in life, like honesty, love, loyalty, and respect. Our values help us create the future we want, like valuing the importance of friendships, helps you make connections with others. Living life is everything, and everything you already need is within you, like your love or peacefulness. I want to give you congratulations on powering through each day, even the hard ones. You're doing your best and that's good enough, after all progress is progress no matter how small.

So, after looking at all the current events and thinking about what the young generation needs to hear, I can say that for every bad thing in the world, there is good to balance the negativity. If you are able to push past all the bad things around you, you find the good things. The important part is to remember that we are human, and all good and bad experiences are needed to make us who we are. Looking forward with excitement and preparation, helps us prepare for the hard work it'll take to reach the exciting good in life.



PASSION LED US HERE

Thank you Lexi for sharing the following prayers with us on Palm Sunday!

## PRAYERS

SUBMITTED BY: LEXI SCHMIDT

Dear God,  
We give thanks for your love.  
We give thanks for our family, friends, and community.  
We give thanks for full bellies and safe places to sleep.  
We give thanks for homes full of love, laughter, and joy.  
We pray for peace and an end to war.  
We pray for safety for people near and far.  
We pray for love and belonging for those who feel alone.  
We pray for the hungry.  
We pray for comfort for people who are grieving.  
We pray for equality and justice for all people.  
We pray for everyone to be welcome.  
Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer** (Chance Hunter)

Breath of Life,  
In whom we live and move and have our being,  
Your presence fills all of Creation.  
May justice and mercy reign,  
In our lives and in our world.  
Today may our bellies be full,  
Our hearts warm,  
And our fellowship open.  
May we reconcile with the people we've hurt,  
Just as we reconcile with the people who've hurt us.  
Lead us not into a time of trial,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For wherever grace and community abide,  
There you are with us;  
We are not alone.  
Blessed be.  
Amen.



# FRIENDS OF GUATEMALA UPDATE

SUBMITTED BY: DONNA PIERSON

As with elsewhere in the world, people in Guatemala have found new ways to continue forward. CEDEPCA's Women's Ministry and Disaster Ministry are working together to create new and relevant programs, always with the goal to develop and improve the quality of life of the Mayan women and their families.

One of these projects was a forest nursery, planting 200 pine and cypress tree seeds for later reforestation, and also as an opportunity to market in the future. Another activity was training on family gardens and learning how to connect with the land and food production in a healthy way. Since CEDEPCA has been unable to host international groups, they have put on several virtual tours and events, allowing people around the world an inside view of Guatemala, and also as a way of funding.







## FRIENDS OF GUATEMALA CONT...

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"Headquartered in Guatemala City, CEDEPCA (the Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America) has been offering people tools to eradicate violence and injustice in their world, especially violence against women and children. CEDEPCA supports four primary programs: Intercultural Encounters, Disaster Ministry, Women's Ministry, and a Biblical and Theological Seminary." To learn more about CEDEPCA or check out upcoming Virtual Tours, follow this link:

<https://cedepca.org/en/>

Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas

MISSION

*"We are an organization of Christian women that promotes sustainable development, to community groups in rural areas, favoring the formation of capacities in theological, health, family nutrition, environmental and productive activities to improve the quality of life of families."*





## FRIENDS OF GUATEMALA CONT...



Initially in Covid, Fraternidad was distributing emergency food packages to families, and some of St. Andrew's donations helped to fund this. Fraternidad offers programs in four areas: Women's Ministry, Health and Nutrition, Productive Partner and Environment. They provide microloans and education to promote independence and self-sufficiency for Mayan women. Here are some pictures we received, showing the different programs offered: including emergency food distribution, safe food production for families, medicinal gardens, and production for marketing to earn money. To learn more about Fraternida follow this link:  
<http://www.fraternidadmaya.com/>

Donations for Guatemala can be made through the church office, designated for Guatemala. If you would like to learn more about Friends of Guatemala – FroGs in St. Andrew's you can talk with Donna Pierson [403-350-7109](tel:403-350-7109) or Doug Maas [403-782-1860](tel:403-782-1860) or anyone from the committee. We meet the second Thursday on the month at 7:00pm. Anyone is welcome to join us.





# Garage Sale Results...\$2450.00

Submitted by: Annerie Dunnewind

**Have you ever heard the saying...  
Team work makes the dream work!**

Well is it ever true and especially to this amazing congregation. You all are amazing and all I can say is thank you. There were over 30 people involved in the last 4 days at the church garage sale. We worked hard, laughed hard, and just had a ton of fun (at least I did). So, thank you!

So thank you whether you donated items, donated baking, helped organize, price, set up, or sell, or you were one of the amazing people that fed the volunteers. This would not of been possible without all of you.

I found this poem on the internet and did not find an author but I thought it was very fitting.

## Dedicated Hearts

Dedicated hearts like yours  
Are not so easy to find.

It takes a special person to be  
So generous and kind.

To care so much for your fellow man  
Is a quality all too rare.  
Yet you give of your time and talents,  
For all in need to share.

So thank you for being a volunteer,  
We're privileged to work with you.  
We want you to know how appreciated you are.  
Not just today, but the whole year through.

## Sale Items

We have a few garage sale items left and thought we'd give you first chance at them! If you see something you are interested in please contact Annerie Dunnewind: [anneriedunnewind@hotmail.com](mailto:anneriedunnewind@hotmail.com) to make an offer!

