



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Monthly Beacon

Volume 1 Issue 7 August 2021

REFLECTIONS

Greetings and blessings to the St. Andrew's community as we begin another school year! As I write this, in late August, I am grateful for the reprieve we have had this summer – to meet with family, share a meal with friends, breathe freely (smoke notwithstanding)... But it seems that COVID is not done with us yet; case numbers are spiking again and I'm not sure what new restrictions we'll be facing as you read this. It looks like a still longer haul, and I know we're all more than ready to be done with the pandemic.

Vaccinations (please get yours as soon as you're able!) give us an advantage that we didn't have in previous waves, but children under 12 and some adults still can't be vaccinated yet. Masks and distancing don't FEEL like loving gestures but they actually are, and it looks like we're stuck in this place for a while yet.

Add to this a hot, dry summer that has, I believe, left many farmers in difficulty, and which has brought incredibly destructive forest fires, and we enter the fall with a long list of challenges.

We WILL get through this. And I do believe that God is in this with us, turning hard circumstances towards good. Humility, patience, humour, and creativity will help us to bring depth and growth from these challenges. Once again this fall, we won't be going back to normal – we may never go back to what we knew as normal. But I encourage all of us to find ways to be social, to find ways to build each other up, to find ways to do ministry, so that our new normal will make us glad to leave behind the old.

I doubt any of us *like* any of this – generally we make major changes because we *have to*, not because we *want to*. But there's a silver lining for me at any rate – that I am here at St. Andrew's, sharing these challenges and changes with you. I'm very glad of that.

Dave

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St Andrew's United Church

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403-782-3148
Email:
office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

Office Hours

Monday—Friday
9 am-1 pm

BOARD CHAIR GREETING

Board Chair Greeting

The last couple of years have had a different look as far as the Board is concerned. Normally, the Board and the church teams take the summer off, and the first planning meeting is the second Tuesday in September. Not so, recently. The Board met on July 25 and on August 29. Congregational members can be proud of the diligence with which volunteers are working on your behalf. I would also like to thank congregational members who have told us that they appreciate the efforts of the Board members.

Sunday morning services have been operating with fewer restrictions. **Masks are now mandated by the provincial government for everyone inside the building.** Social distancing is to be respected for those who still wish to do so, and we encourage people to sign in or to have their name written down in case we need to contact them. As much as we all miss our coffee time, this is on hold for the time being. Weddings and funerals, for the time being, are operating the way things were pre-covid.

These conditions will be reviewed at the next Board meeting on Tuesday, September 14. If you have any feedback, please share your thoughts with a Board member.

The church is open for members to access during the week. There is always someone there from 10 a.m. to noon, and often at other times.

Live streaming will be a permanent feature at St. Andrew's. However, assistance is needed in this area. Please see the Worship message for more information.

St. Andrew's will have a table at the Active Living Fair, which is going to be held on Wednesday, September 8, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the LMC.

Our Outreach Team reports that the Food grains harvest will take place sometime in September. Stay tuned for the exact date.

Christian Development has the next sequence of **Faith at Home kits** available. These can be picked up at the church.

Most of our regular users of the church (Scouts, Music Festival, etc.) have signed up for their programming so we are starting to open our doors once again.

As always, take care. Please feel free to call or email me on anything that you wish to talk about.

Lawrence Hrycan

Email: lhrycan@shaw.ca

Telephone: 403-782-4076

FINANCE

Monetary Contributions

If you wish to make a monetary contribution to St. Andrew's , there are many different ways for you to do so. You can donate by cheque, cash, PAR (pre-authorized remittance—monthly deduction automatically from your bank account or credit card), or Interac e-transfer. For more information please contact the office. If you wish to go on PAR please complete the [PAR Authorization Form](#), and send it in to the office either through email, mail or make arrangements to drop off.

All financial matters and e-transfers should be referred to:

finance@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

Please feel free to contact anyone from the finance committee with any concerns that you may have, or any suggestions for how we may take advantage of government programs that we may have missed.

We are all volunteers together, so we do what we can to make this family stronger and happier together!

On behalf of the finance committee: Hans Haefliger

Linda Hueppelsheuser

Henk Kassies

WORSHIP

Ushers

We are looking for ushers for the upcoming months. If you are willing to help, please contact Sarina King at giantshrimp@gmail.com or 403-782-3438.

Volunteer Opportunities: We are looking for

- People who are interested in running the AV (live streaming) equipment. We have 2 young adults who are currently filling this role, with an adult as additional assistance. Training will be made available to anyone who is interested. If this is of interest to you, contact Lawrence Hrycan at 403-782-4076 or lhrycan@shaw.ca
- People who would like to read scripture. Please contact Shelley-May Lloyd at 403-782-5966 or sm.lloyd@telus.net
- An individual or two who are interested in helping set up PowerPoint for Sunday Worship. Please contact the church office at office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

A tripod for a camera has been found in the parlor and is looking for its owner. If its yours, contact Pat Crozier at 403-598-9310 or tpcrozier@shaw.ca

Any thoughts about things you would like to see in our Sunday service? Let Pat Crozier know if you have some ideas for us.

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

Faith At Home kits are now available. Contact the church at 403-782-3148 or email office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

The theme for this kit is 'Embracing Welcome'. A number of suggested activities are provided. Materials for the various crafts are also included.



MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

We are Hiring!

St. Andrew's is once again looking for support staff in the church office. We are looking for someone who can handle the administration tasks and coordinate our communications work. As well, we need someone to be responsible for our book keeping. We are flexible in how we fill this position and would consider two people. If you are interested, please contact Karen Yakimishyn at 403-782-7252 to discuss further.

Thank you to those that have diligently volunteered their time to get the tasks done in the meantime. Your support is very much appreciated.

Karen Yakimishyn

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



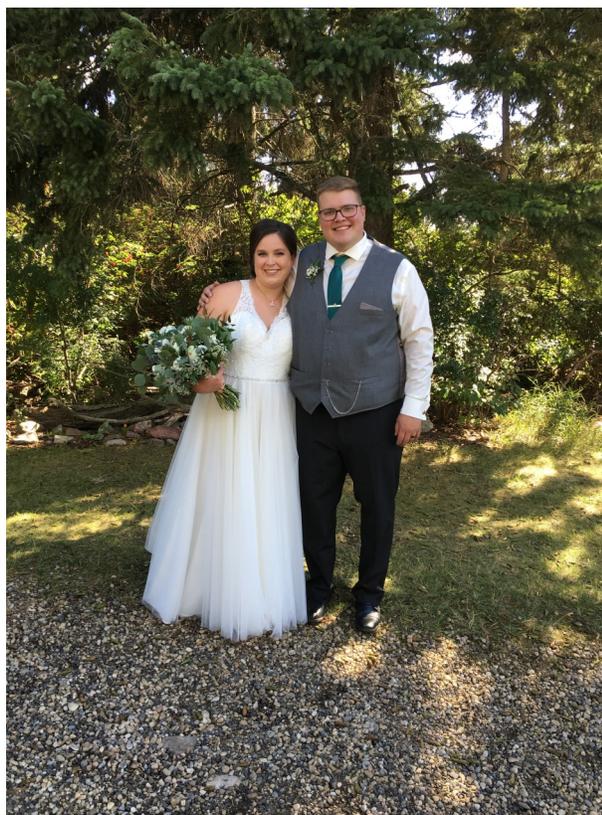
Sarina and Bob King celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 24.



Louise and Ross Pickett celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 31st.



**Marci McLenahan and Tom
Waddell
Married August, 28, 2021**



**Emma Burnard and Robbie
McPherson
Married August 28, 2021**

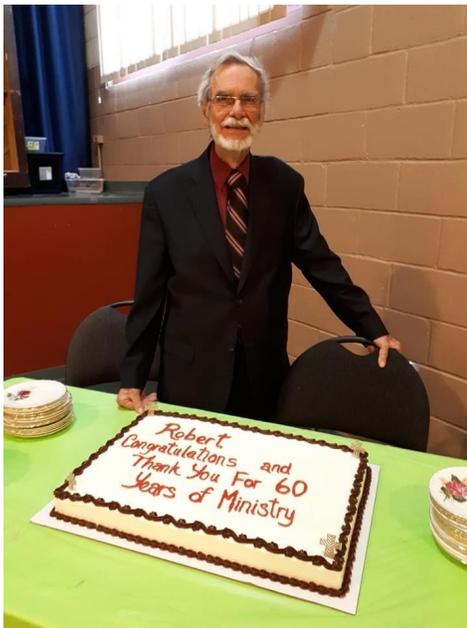
Church Family

Pearl MacLeod sends her best wishes to all her friends at St. Andrew's. She is doing well but misses her Sunday's at Church in Lacombe



Family and friends joined Jim Helm for a potluck supper at the Kiwanis Park in Red Deer. A great time of fellowship and song. Jon and Lisa, two of Jim's children, arranged this lovely evening for their dad.

In Remembrance



Rev. Robert Wright

April 18, 1932 – Aug. 21, 2021 (Born in Kerrobert, SK.)

After attending the University of Alberta, Robert enrolled at the Union Seminary in New York, where he obtained a Masters in Theology. Rev. Wright was a Candidate and was ordained in 1958 in Lacombe. He also held an honorary doctorate from McGill.

His early years were spent in New York's Spanish Harlem before arriving in Welland, Ont. in the early 1960's, where he served as Minister of All People's United Church for 25 years. He then moved west to work in the United Church's Western office.

In 1997, he took the opportunity to move and work with the Whitefish and Saddle Lake First Nations serving as minister, social worker and friend to many, a position he held until 3 wks prior to his death.

Darlene Fay Crawford

March 2 1941—Aug. 30, 2021

Darlene was born in Sherridon, Manitoba. She lived in Flin Flon, Manitoba for 4 years after which the family moved to Rosetown, Sask. When Darlene was in Grade 7 she arrived in Lacombe where she met Ross Crawford and from high school on they were inseparable. They were married in 1962 and enjoyed & loved each other for 59 years. She began her teaching career in 1961 and taught grade 2 for 30 years. In 1991 she was presented with the excellence in teaching award. She always said she loved her job & loved the children. Darlene enjoyed skiing, curling, trail riding, knitting and sewing in her younger years. Later she loved card making, scrapbooking, aqua size, traveling, golf and quilting. Darlene joined Ross at numerous team roping jackpots over the years as well. Darlene supported Ross in their efforts to build and enjoy a farm life beginning in 1965. She and Ross raised two sons on the farm, Doug & Rob. She loved her garden & her beloved tiger Lily's. Dar always volunteered her time; such things as the UCW, IODE, Brownies, Girl Guides & 4-H clubs were dear to her. Darlene adored her granddaughters & great grandson. She always made sure everyone in the family was well looked after as well as anyone else in need. Visitors to the farm were always welcomed in for coffee, a meal and a visit.

Darlene will be dearly missed by her family and friends.



Church Family

Memorial Bench for Brick Thackeray has had a facelift. Looks great against our beautiful brick façade.



St. Andrew's United Church, a caring community

Anyone knowing of a milestone birthday (90, 95, & 100) or anniversaries (50, 60 & 70)? Please let us know as we would like to recognize them.

Congregational Life:
Tilly Meyer 403-782-9887

OUTREACH



The **Foodgrains** harvest will take place in early September. We will post the date on Facebook and through email once it is confirmed.

Friends of Guatemala

Even though we are not sponsoring a specific project, we still offer help wherever it is most needed. This could be for emergency disaster aid, pandemic-related urgent needs, or ongoing programs that focus on education in areas of health and nutrition, pastoral care, and economic self-sufficiency.

Donations are welcome at any time and will be directed where they are needed the most. These can be made through the office of St. Andrew's and marked for Guatemala.

Here are some links to the organizations that we work with in Guatemala. Check them out to learn more about who they are and the work they do.

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

<https://www.fraternidadmaya.com/>

Lacombe & District Volunteer Link

Volunteer Link continues to be a valuable service to seniors in our community, as we provide rides to medical/dental appointments in Lacombe and area and occasionally to other Alberta locations.

These seniors have no friends or family that are available to take them to appointments and there is no cost for the service.

Jean Cheek is our office co-ordinator and she took over for Sheila Chapman last August when Sheila retired. Jean's office is in St. Cyprian's Anglican Church. Eight local churches are members of Volunteer Link.

Madeline Hendrickson and Winnie Chesney Settle are our St. Andrew's volunteer co-ordinators, and Doug Maas is our church representative and currently is the Board Chair for the registered Canadian charity.

We do need your help. Activity is picking up once again and we can use more drivers. The more we have, the more the work can be distributed amongst the volunteer pool.

Please talk to Madeline or Winnie about volunteering. Our clients are so much appreciative of our much needed service. You can also call Doug at 403-782-1860 if you wish to help or want more information on what may be required.

Submitted by: Doug Maas

WEBSITE



NEW Check out Dave's Blog "Turning a Corner"

Located on our Church web site,

<https://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/>

Click on About us, Located on the top menu then on "Dave's blog Turning a Corner", or on the following link.

<https://www.lacombeunited,church.ca/about-dave/>

VISION STATEMENT

Inspired by the Spirit of Christ, St. Andrew's United Church is to be an inviting, welcoming, and engaging community of faith.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Andrew's strives to be a caring Christian community which nurtures love of God and neighbour through worship, teaching, fellowship and service.

Website <http://www.lacombeunitedchurch.ca/>

Email office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

Check us out on Facebook

[St. Andrew's United Church, Lacombe, Alberta](#)

Check us out on Youtube

[St. Andrew's United Church, Lacombe](#)

