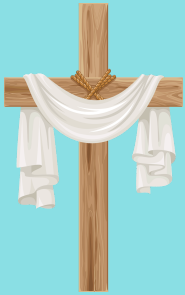


ST. ANDREW'S

NEWSLETTER



March 2026



EASTER

Reverend Dave



EASTER SERVICES



EASTER HUNT

CD Team



PIE DAY 2026

Affirm Team



SUMMER SOLSTICE

Green Team



RED DRESS DAY

LIRR Team

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE

VACANT

M&P Team



AGM

Easter - Holy Week - Reverend Dave

As I write this, I am in the midst of planning for Easter and Holy Week worship services, and thinking about sermons. I confess it – Easter is a challenging time for me as a minister. I want Easter for us to be as tangible as it was for those earliest disciples.

And so, I offer a prayer. This comes from the late Walter Brueggemann, one of our generation's premier Old Testament scholars. I was privileged to take a course from him; he begins each class with a prayer, and I found his prayers to be very powerful because they took both Biblical faith and "real life" completely seriously. Here is one of his prayers – slightly rewritten – for Easter. I hope it will mean as much for you as it has for me.

You God who terrified the waters, who crashed your thunder, who shook the earth and scared the wits out of chaos...

You God who with strong arm saved your people by miracle and wonder and majestic act.

You are the same God to whom we turn,

We turn in our days of trouble and in our weary nights;

We look for steadfast love and are dismayed,

We wait for your promises, but we are so tired of waiting,

We ponder your forgetfulness and lack of compassion, as we watch the news,

And we grow silent.

Our lives, addressed to you,

Have this bitter-sweet taste of loud-clashing miracles and weak-kneed doubt.

So we come in our bewilderment and wonderment,

Deeply trusting, and yet afraid to trust much,

Passionately insisting, but too timid to insist much,

Fervently hoping, and yet exhausted from hoping too much.

Look upon us in our deep need.

Mark the wounds of our brothers and sisters, both here and far away.

Notice the turmoil in our lives, and in the lives of our families.

Credit the incongruity of the rich and poor right here in this place,

And the staggering injustices we see in the world beyond.

Tend the rage out of control, rage justified by displacement and trauma,

Rage gone crazy by absence, silence, deprivation, powerlessness.

Measure the suffering.

Count the sufferers.

Number the wounds.

You tamer of chaos and mender of all the tears in the canvas of creation,

We ponder your suffering, your crown of thorns, your garment taken in lottery,

Your mocked life,

And we throw on your suffering humiliation, the suffering of the world.

You defeater of death, whose power could not hold you,

Come in your Easter,

Come in your sweeping victory,

Come in your glorious new life.

Easter us:

Salve wounds, break injustice, bring peace, guarantee neighbour.

Easter us in joy and in strength.

Be our God, be your true self, lord of life.

Turn our life towards yours,

And away from all this anti-neighbour, anti-self deathliness.

Easter us, and create in us an honest, real, grateful, unashamed Hallelujah! AMEN.





Easter Services

Good Friday service: 10:30 AM
Easter Sunday service: 10:30 AM



Easter Egg Hunt

You're Invited to Our Annual Church Easter Egg Hunt!

Hop on over and join us for a joyful, laughter-filled morning at our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Monday at 10 AM! This is a fun and welcoming event for kids and families in our church and community – everyone is invited.

We'll have lots of colorful eggs to find, exciting prizes to win, and plenty of smiles to go around as we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter together.

Bring your baskets, invite a friend, and come celebrate with us – we can't wait to see you there!



Affirm - Pie Day 2026

We celebrated National Affirming/PIE Day on Sunday March 15 this year. This included a PIE Day worship service and pie afterwards for coffee time. The Affirm Team wishes to thank all those who brought pie for the event. Especially the UCW Unit 1 and Unit 2, their contributions of pie helped to make the day a wonderful celebration.

Being Public, Intentional and Explicit is an important part our our Affirming Ministry.



MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2026

If you are interested in becoming a member at St. Andrew's, please speak with Dave or let the office know!

Membership Sunday

We will celebrate our Membership Sunday on April 12. If you would like to become a member, please contact Reverend Dave or the office prior to Sunday, April 12!

Save the Date with Friends of the Woodland Sanctuary.



Messy Church

Our next Messy Church will take place on Friday, April 10 at 5 PM. Hope to see you here!

Red Dress Day May 5, 2026 - Take Action!

Join us on Sunday, May 3 to recognize Red Dress Day on May 5. Red Dress Day is a day to remember and honour missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ peoples (MMIWG2S+).

Red Dress Day serves as a painful reminder of the ongoing genocidal crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. Researchers have reported that Indigenous women and girls are 12 times more likely to be murdered or missing than other women in Canada, and 16 times more likely than Caucasian women. Indigenous women are sexually assaulted three times more often than non-Indigenous women, and despite being only 4% of the overall Canadian population 50% of trafficked women in Canada are Indigenous and 25% of these victims are underage.

Search MMIWG2S for more information about this crisis in Canada and how we each can make a positive contribution. Wear your red dress pin on May 5!



Friends of Guatemala Benefit Concert!

Our FROG Team will be holding a benefit concert here at the church on Saturday, April 25, 7 PM. Tickets will be available at the door, we hope you can join us!

FRIENDS OF
GUATEMALA

BENEFIT CONCERT

FEATURING:
PARKLAND CLASSICAL SINGERS

POPLAR & 51ST

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 7:00 PM

\$25/TICKET
10+ UNDER FREE

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, 5226 51 AVE, LACOMBE
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: 403-782-3148

Garage Sale!

The garage sale will be held June 5 & 6. A sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please consider signing up for one of the following shifts:

Set Up Days:

Tuesday June 2: 1-4
 Wednesday June 3: 9-12, 1-4
 Thursday June 4: 9-12, 1-4
 Friday June 5: 9-12

Selling Days:

Friday June 5: 12-7, 10 volunteers including 2 people to do cash
 Saturday June 6: 9-2, 10 volunteers including 2 people to do cash

Clean Up:

Saturday June 6: 2-4

Lunch and Supper Volunteers (to bring a meal) 2 volunteers:

Wednesday lunch
 Thursday Lunch
 Friday Lunch and Supper
 Saturday Lunch

Ministry & Personnel (M&P) Vacancy.

The M & P Committee of St. Andrew's is a committee of trust and confidentiality that provides support, assessment of and consultation with all ministry personnel and non-ministry staff of the church. Comprised of individuals from the congregation appointed to 3-year terms, the committee provides a liaison between and among the congregation and the ministers and other staff of St. Andrew's. As an advisory body, the committee makes recommendations to the church board on ministry and personnel matters. The M & P Committee is represented on the Church Board.

Our membership for 2025 was: Sandra Smith, Ron Gish, Bob Jenkins, and Barry Brouwer.

After serving in this team since 2013 (12 years = 4 consecutive terms), Sandra Smith is leaving the team. We will miss her! This creates an opportunity for someone else to join our team and support our employees and contractors. We invite anyone who is interested to contact any of the four of us for more information about the position, or to put your name forward. Members are appointed by the board.



AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 12 following a finger foods potluck after our service. The Board is looking to fill a member at large position.




ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
LOOKING TO FILL A MEMBER AT LARGE POSITION
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Neighborhood Life

"Getting to Know Your Neighborhood"

April 24, 2026

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Lacombe Memorial Center
 County Room North

