

Newsletter

St. Andrew's June 2026



Sunday Potluck & Referendum Discussion

This Sunday we will have a finger-food potluck following our service and then a discussion on the referendum questions. **Our discussion will be livestreamed so feel free to join us online as well!**



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Surgery, Sabbatical, & More Referendum

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2026 Indigenous People's Day: Plant Walk & Talk With Clare Butterfly

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Father's Day & Grad Celebrations

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Our First Online Zoom Coffee Fellowship!

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Coming Up!

St. Andrew's Newsletter

Surgery, Sabbatical, & More Referendum...

Well, this will be my last newsletter article for a while! As I write this, I am just returning to action after a spot of surgery - nasal surgery to help me, I hope, both breathe and speak more clearly! Many of you have been aware of my cough and loss of voice over the past year and more - hopefully this will help.

After our worship on July 5, I'll be off on sabbatical for a while - until October 19, to be specific. For the most part, I'll still be around Lacombe. I'll be doing things OTHER than church during that time, but no need to cross to the other side of the street if you see me!

Here's what I'll be "working" on:

- Sabbath rest: my tendency is to just keep getting busier, in life - to keep saying yes and adding things to my schedule until all I'm doing is getting stuff done! A time of rest allows me to reset, breathe, and pay attention.
- Discovery: being a minister is a big part of my life. I've been doing this, and training for it, for over 40 years. I feel a need to ask, now: "is there a "me" underneath this role I have played for all these years? As I think about my eventual retirement, is there a ministry, a calling, that will still be mine after I end my employment? What is the essence of what I in particular bring to ministry and to life? As much as possible, I'd like to discover and live in the centre of my identity and calling.
- Creativity: I think creativity is at least part of that centre, and so I'll be doing some experimenting with creativity - writing and music in particular.
- Health: We are always "works in progress," and there seem to be challenges at every age. Some long-standing issues have been cropping up for me in the last years, and I think I may have been led to some ways to address them! So I'll be doing a bit of counselling and "inner work" during the sabbatical time.

Matthew
11:28

"Come to
me, all
you who
are
weary
and
burdened,
and I will
give you
rest.

St. Andrew's Newsletter

Surgery, Sabbatical, & Referendum Cont'd...

I am tremendously grateful to all of you for the opportunity to do this! And grateful, too, to those who are stepping up during the time I'm away. Particular thanks to the sabbatical team that has put together what looks like a very interesting church program of worship, rest, discovery and creativity - to make this a sabbatical for all of us! And I know that there is considerable energy moving in the church, especially in our ministry with children, youth, and families. I expect the time will feel quite short, and I look forward to hearing some good stories in the fall. God's blessings on all of us!

Finally: I believe that the day I return to work will be Referendum Day. I know there will be quite a bit going on over the next months with respect to the referendum, and once again let me ask all of you to participate in this! Discuss, reflect, get out and vote. Ultimately, I think this is a matter of governmental integrity, and that we will need to send a strong message if we want our government to operate with honesty, accountability, and responsible public service. If we don't hold our government to account for that, who will?

Thank you for the very great privilege of being your minister! Bless you over the next months, and I look forward to the adventure to come!

Grace and peace, Dave

Financial Update as of May 30, 2026

	Jan-May Actual	Jan-May Budget
Income	\$109,911	\$127,583
Expenses	\$139,386	\$155,215
Surplus/Deficit	\$-29,475	\$-27,632

Going into our final month before the summer break our deficit has increased by \$5,527.

Philippians
1:9-10

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

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2026 Indigenous Peoples Day: Plant walk & talk with Clare Butterfly



June was a busy month for the Green Team! Look at this list:

- June 10 - Eco Design and Maintenance Workshop with Cynthia Pohl.
- June 17 - Installation of three benches at the Woodland Sanctuary with Austin Mahorney of Mischief Metalworks.
- June 20 - Plant Walk and Talk with Clare Butterfly.
- June 20 - Sanctuary Seasons: Creating Forest Reflections - Summer Solstice with Fran Kimmel, Carole Young, and friends.
- June 27 - Planting replacement trees and shrubs with enthusiastic volunteers.

Time for a break!

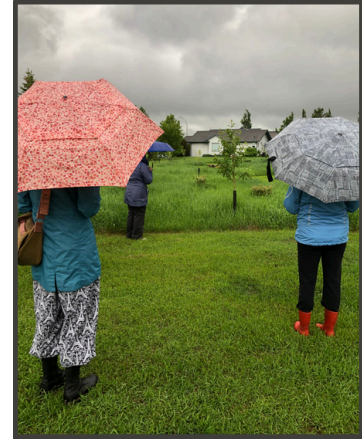


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RETURN PART 1

You've been away a long time.
Heart-leaved alexander
Smooth beard tongue
Three-flowered avens
Blue-eyed grass
High bush cranberry
All in bloom.
The land embraces you.
Welcome home.



PART 2

It's sooo green! - the path, the grass, the trees, the shrubs, the perennials.
Sooo green!

Raindrops glistening pitter patter
On my umbrella roof.
Nature-loving souls
Breathing in each direction.
And Robin's trill greets us:
Welcome home.

By Cecile Fausak

Creating Forest Reflections June 20, 2026, Woodland Sanctuary

Woodland Sanctuary Bench Installation

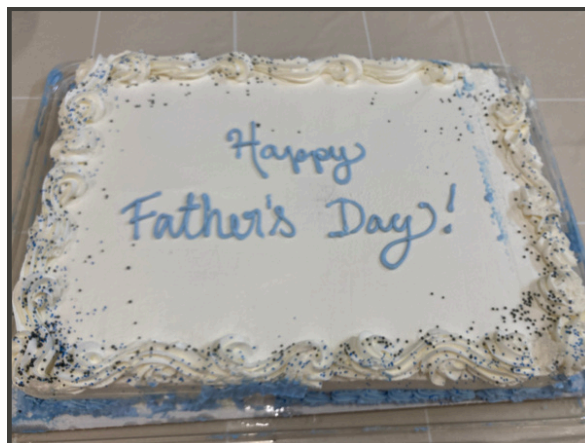


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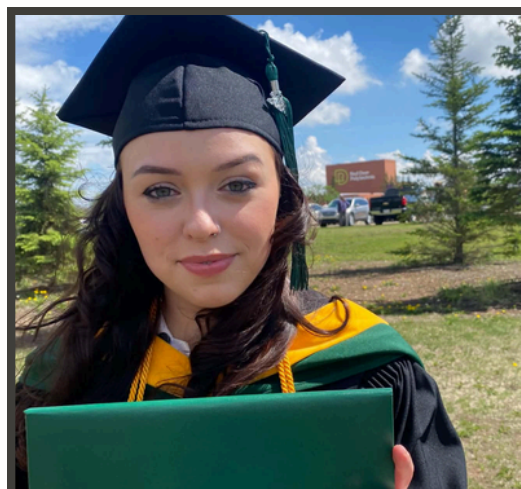
Father's Day / Grad Celebration



Sunday June 21 was a great day of celebration for Father's Day. Ko and Doug cut the cake served by Congregational Life!



Madison Pattullo, Grade 12,
Riffel High School



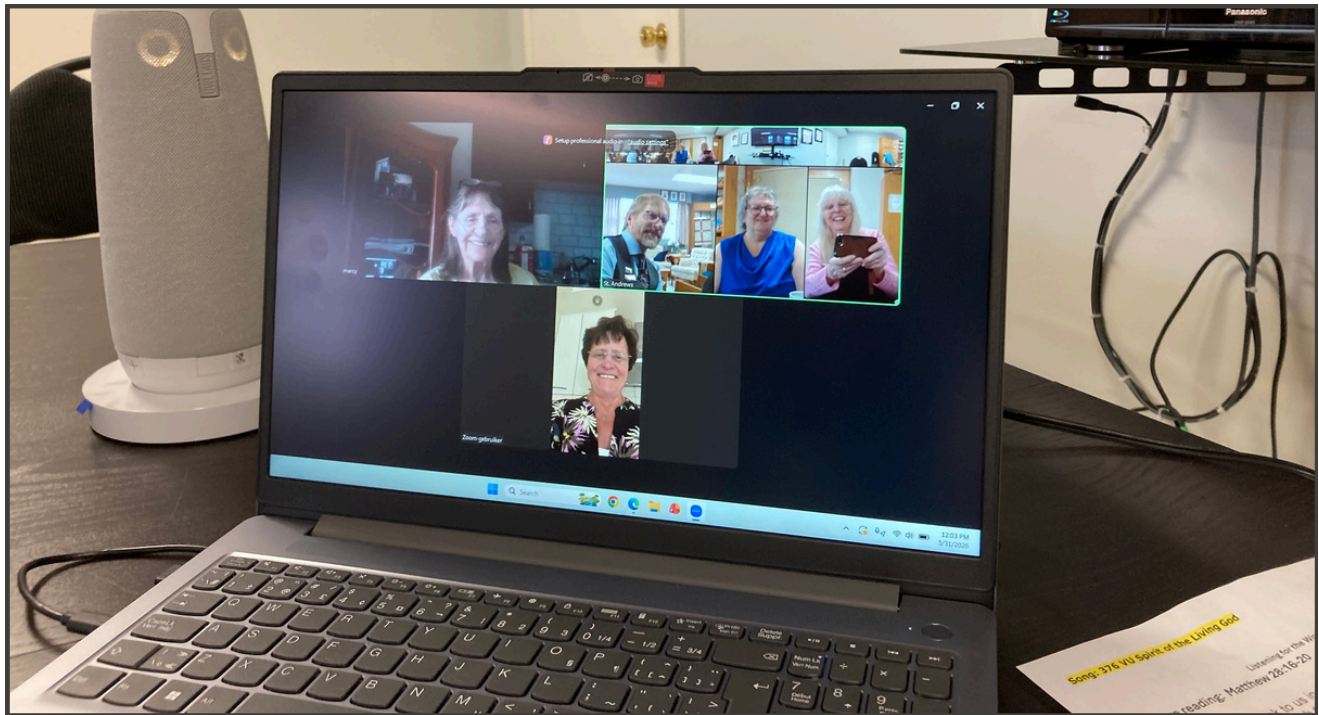
Skyler Georgina Umlah
Red Deer Polytechnic
Bachelor of Science in Biological
Sciences with Honours and is on
both the Deans and the
Presidents list



Michael Edmunds
Energy Science UofC

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Online Coffee Fellowship!



“Coffee On-line” May 31, 2026: St. Andrew's United Church held our first ever on-line coffee time with our friends that often livestream Sunday services from their homes - as far away as the Netherlands! We had a very interesting conversation! This fall we will plan another “Coffee Online”.

BLESSING

SABBATICAL BLESSING SERVICE
SUNDAY, JULY 5!

Ecumenical Service
Sunday, July 12
MEGlobal Athletic Park

St. Andrew's Newsletter

Finger food potluck following Sunday's service...then discussion on the referendum questions!



OUR NEW OFFICE
EMAIL ADDRESS IS:

standrewslacombe@gmail.com

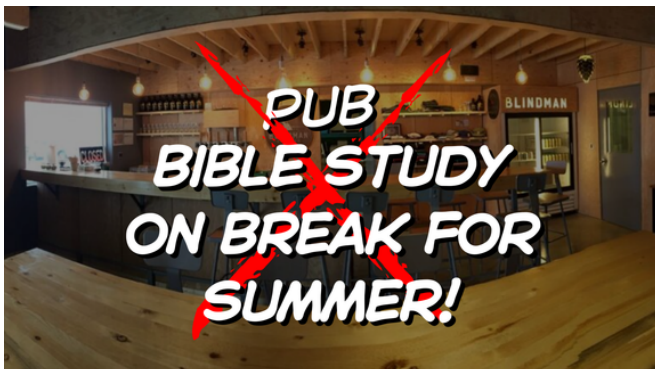


Discussion about referendum questions following our potluck this Sunday!



OUR NEW E-TRANSFER
EMAIL ADDRESS IS:

standrewslacombefinance@gmail.com



MEN'S BREAKFAST!

START YOUR DAY WITH US!

KICK OFF YOUR MORNING WITH OUR DELICIOUS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY
JULY 18
9 AM

