



Rejoice

THE VOICE OF ST. ANDREW'S
Spring Issue; April 2015

Message from the Minister

Throughout this Lenten season we've been studying Marcus Borg's new book "**Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most**." One of Borg's biggest convictions is that Christianity is about how we as followers of Jesus experience transformation right here and now.

As we look forward to the Easter season I hear much of that same sentiment in the words of Joan Chittister, another of St. Andrew's favourites when she writes this about the resurrection.

"To say 'I believe in Jesus Christ . . . who rose from the dead,' is to say I believe that the Resurrection goes on and on and on forever. Every time Jesus rises in our own hearts in new ways, the Resurrection happens again. Every time we see Jesus where we did not recognize him before — in the faces of the poor, in the love of the unloved, in the revelatory moments of life, Jesus rises anew. The real proof of the Resurrection lies not in the transformation of Jesus alone but in the transformation awaiting us who accept it. Until we find ourselves with new hearts, more penetrating insights, fewer compulsions, less need for the transient, greater awareness of the spiritual pulse of life, resurrection has not really happened for us. Jesus has risen but we have not. Resurrection is change at the root of the soul. It marks a whole new way of being in life."

We have been transformed, and transforming a lot at St. Andrew's over the last little while. We've seen increased participation in our worship and music leadership, the growth of our Sunday morning children's program into two groups, the doubling of the size of the community children's garden, and the desire of the Ebenezer United Church to join with us are all signs of the transformation within our midst--not to mention the tremendous efforts of our Long Range Planning Task Group to ensure the long-term viability of our ministry. We are doing all this in faith--not the faith that some way things will work out, but the faith that our response to the transformation of Jesus through the resurrection transforms us as well. As we look to the Easter season, and the days that lie beyond it, may the presence of the resurrected be the power that sustains us all. Happy Easter!



Children's Program: What a great past few months we have had! The children participated in a messy (but fun) pumpkin carving contest, An Advent event (where they got to meet Santa) and our monthly Family Movie nights! We have had so much fun in class, doing everything from arts and crafts, and baking to gardening and relay races! Our class focuses mainly on God's love and all the different ways in which we can share it. We spend a lot of time encouraging inclusiveness and sharing (not only our toys, but our talents/gifts).

Every third Friday of the month we host a Family Movie night. The Children (and some adults) come in their jammies, bring their favourite blankie, and snuggle up with their parents and friends and enjoy the movie! We serve popcorn, cheese puffs, juice, and hot chocolate. It is a free night for families to get out of the house and spend time together and with their friends. (Doors open at 6:45pm and we start the movie at 7:00pm)

This year we have some very exciting activities lined up! We will be



planting a garden once again this spring/summer. However this year we are doubling the size of it and have purchased and built a plant stand with a UV light system that will allow us to get started on some growing right away indoors. We are hoping to have two harvesting seasons this summer/fall. During the summer we run our Sunday morning children's program outside

in the garden enjoying and caring for God's gifts.

During the months of July and August, we will be having four special nights for families and all who wish to join. We are hosting campfire nights, where we will gather outside around a campfire and sing some songs, play guitars, do some skits and tell some stories. We will have marshmallows for roasting and chocolate bars and graham crackers for s'mores! It will be a great deal of fun! And if you are so inclined, bring your own guitar, or hand drum! The nights of our campfires will take place on, July 11 and 28 and August 8 and 22 at 7:00pm.

Worship Committee: The well-planned, coordinated Sunday services don't happen by accident. Every month the worship committee meets to look ahead at the work of the church and Geoff and Helve meet frequently with other staff as well to reflect the season of the church year and plan for meaningful worship. With Sheila Brown as chair, and other hard-working members, we thank the worship committee for all they do!



Film Club: Reserve your calendar for a great night out on the first Friday of each month, starting at 7:30 p.m. (except for our summer break), and be prepared to be surprised, inspired, and entertained.

This year, Film Club is continuing its tradition of enjoying an eclectic mix of films ranging from dramas and comedies to documentaries. As part of our recent season, we have marvelled at the incredible performance of Judi Dench in the moving film, *Philomena*; laughed at the antics of the Newfoundland outport community in the Canadian comedy, *The Grand Seduction*; grooved to Motown music featured in *The Sapphires*; and watched the amazing, stranger-than-fiction story of an unknown American musician-philosopher in the documentary *Searching for Sugarman*.



Selections being considered for upcoming film nights are *The Theory of Everything* (about physicist Stephen Hawking and featuring an Oscar-winning performance for best male actor) and *Walking the Camino*, a delightful documentary following people along the pilgrimage route in northern Spain. Film Club is BYOJF – Bring Your Own Junk Food! Note -- April's film club meeting will be moved to the second Friday (April 10) due to Good Friday.

Book Club: The lively group that meets to discuss books on the second Thursday of each month is known for its good conversations and digressions into many different topics. Book club follows a successful formula where a wide variety of titles are selected each year. For our 2014-15 season a meeting was devoted to First Nations work -- the riveting *Indian Horse* by Richard Wagamese and *The Inconvenient Indian* by Thomas King. The club also enjoyed a great historic fiction selection -- *Kisiskaciwan* by Vernon Wishart, whose sister-in-law is in the book club. In honour of Mary Woodbury, the novelist and poet who started our book club, book club members choose a young reader's work each year, and this year novels by Edmonton author Dianne Linden were featured, including *On Fire*.

A mystery or two is always a must-read for the club, and our



recent selection was *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent, set in Iceland in 1829. The title for April is *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini, and the club will wrap up as usual in May with a movie based on a book -- this year's movie is TBA.

We Salute Our Neighbours: Pilgrims Hospice, located just south of us at 9808 148 street. Pilgrims provides supportive and compassionate family-centered care to enhance the quality and dignity of life for those diagnosed with a progressive, life-threatening illness as well as solace to those who are bereaved.



Pilgrims is celebrating 20 years of service to the community with three major events in upcoming weeks: on Sunday, March 29th, an intimate five-course fundraising dinner at Il Forno Restaurant, will be held, with reception at 5:30, dinner at 6:30 and wine and entertainment will be provided. Tickets are \$150 but a tax receipt is given for \$90 with all proceeds going to Pilgrims Hospice. Seating is limited so reserve your seat by phoning Liz Bartlick at 780

413-9801 ext 113 or by email at lizb@pilgrimshospice.com.



On May 1, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm everyone is invited to the 20th annual Walk in My Shoes Gala and Auction will take place at the Chateau Lacombe Hotel with Danny Hooper as emcee and auctioneer. Tickets are available online or by calling 780-413-9801, ext. 113. This is a major fundraiser and tickets are \$200 each, but a great time is always reported by those attending. Honourary chair is Miss Sarah Chan.


Sponsored by Flaman Group of Companies, proudly supporting Pilgrims Hospice.

And on Sunday, May 3, Hike for Hospice will raise funds for the Hospice Palliative Care. Hike Location is through our very own MacKinnon Ravine beginning at 149th Street and Summit Drive. Follow this link to register as an individual hiker or as a TEAM!

http://chpca.convio.net/site/TR/Hike/General?pg=entry&fr_id=1353.

Do you think we could get a team from St. Andrew's?

There are plenty of rewarding volunteer opportunities as well. If you or someone you know has recently lost a loved one, Pilgrims offers a consoling grief program as well. Check out Pilgrims website at www.pilgrimshospice.com/ for more information and for a full description of their services.



Crestwood School Playground Fundraiser

Where: Crestwood Hall

What: Adult only event. Get a babysitter!

When: Saturday, May 23rd - 8:00 to 11:00 pm

Why: Raise money for a much needed school playground

Tickets available thru <https://www.eventbrite.ca/event/15920840663/>

Email Desireehughes@me.com with any questions

Next up for the Crestwood Community League is a fundraiser for the school park redevelopment project. Come on out and meet your neighbours and help a worthwhile cause at the same time.

Did you know the Crestwood Community Hall offers a beautiful venue to rent for a wedding reception, family reunion, workshop, speaker event, or conference? Conveniently located close to two major shopping centres, Crestwood Community League is Edmonton's oldest, about to celebrate 100 years of service to the residents in 2017.

Crestwood Community League is promoting an annual international contest-game, Mathematical Kangaroo for students in grades 1-12, being hosted by Concordia University College of Alberta on Sunday, March 29, 2015. The activity introduces participants to math challenges in an enjoyable way, thus inspiring their further interest and advancement in mathematics. Registration is accepted up to March 23, through the online registration system at www.mathkangarooncanada.com. For more information, please visit the Canadian Math Kangaroo Contest (CMKC) website or www.mathkangarooedmonton.com.

In the meantime, don't forget to support our neighbourhood businesses and services to keep our community vibrant.

Writing From the Heart: one of our newer activities at St. Andrew's, Writing From the Heart encourages our participants to record their memories from their childhood as well as the important people in their lives. Members write a story or two at home, then join the others on the first Thursday (exception is April 9, held later because of Easter) of the month at 1:15 in the cozy St. James room to read and share those memories. The goal is to eventually get a good collection of stories from all periods of their lives to leave a written record for themselves and for generations to come. But it's so much more than that: it's a much-enjoyed social time too! More information is available at hcmiller@shaw.ca or by calling 780-487-5949. This group is open to everyone and participation is optional – even if members didn't get a chance to write and read a story, they contribute by listening and giving valuable feedback to those who do. The saying "every life has a story" is so true!



Plant Sale for Flower Beds. Our second annual bedding plant sale of flowers and hanging baskets has begun and orders with cash or check payment can given to Joan Yee or Art Deane through and including Thursday, April 30, 2015. *"Spring is in the air"* so please get your order in as soon as possible. Last year we received 89 orders for plants. Help us reach over 100 orders this year. Pictures and prices of the plants are available at the end of this newsletter and a worksheet is attached to help you track additional orders you receive from others. If you have any questions contact Art Deane 780 436-8723 or akdeane@shaw.ca. We will have Marigolds, Petunias, Matrix Mix Pansy, Tuberous Begonias (Red, Rose, Yellow, Apricot or Orange. We will also have Trailing Snowflake Bacopa, Geraniums (Red, White, Pink, Salmon and Violet) and Sweet Potato Vines in Lime Green or Deep Purple. We will also have beautiful hanging baskets of flowers. We did well with the plant sale last year and expect to have a bigger plant sale this year given the great support we had from the congregation. Joan or Art will be at or near the big table after church on Sundays to receive your orders. Look for the Green top hat!

Music at St. Andrew's: Our congregation always goes away from Sunday Worship full of good thoughts from an inspirational message from Geoff, along with beautiful music ringing in their ears. There are many opportunities to be involved in music at St. Andrew's, whether it's singing on selected Sundays in the chorale, playing hand bells or hand chimes, hand drumming, playing guitar, or one of many brass instruments. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings. Newly added are drop-in ukulele classes on Friday mornings. Our music director Helve knows how to get the best out of all accompaniments! And the fellowship and teamwork required as we make beautiful music together is one of the bonuses of participating in the activity. Carefully chosen hymns reflect contemporary and traditional themes and everyone is welcome to sing along.



LONG RANGE PLANNING UPDATE: In spite of concerns about attendance, a deficit budget and our beautiful sanctuary needing expensive upgrades, which we cannot presently afford, the St. Andrew's congregation has purposefully chosen not to move on a downward spiral to closure but to create a new vision for the future. In light of that decision, the Long Range Planning Group with assistance from consultant, Joel Den Han, has assessed the situation as an opportunity to create a new reality at our present location. Initial plans for action based on using the least amount of St. Andrew's Capital were presented at the Annual Meeting on March 8. Our aim is to:

1. Sell some of the south portion of St. Andrew's land for cash. The Memorial Garden will be respectfully relocated.
2. Create a suitable and operationally efficient church space with no debt, using the money obtained from land sale and partnering with a developer.
3. Create a long-term income stream for St. Andrew's through a business plan based on a Holding Company.

We will maintain ultimate control over the building and land in which the new church facility resides. The business model will be a simple corporation, mandated to develop and manage the project so maintenance and repairs will not be our responsibility. Church volunteers will not be in charge of new construction, as we will partner with a professional Developer/Development Manager providing access to expertise and financing. Going forward, we will work only with a selected development firm willing to build a business model tailored to our needs.

The committee is presently creating proposals for a new wider ministry at St. Andrew's and seeking funds from Edmonton Presbytery, Alberta and Northwest Conference and the National Church, who will also be involved in developing bylaws for the new corporation. Retaining United Church control and participation in the Holding Company ensures that our mission and outreach to the community remains the focus of the project.

The planning group pledges to continually strive to be faithfully stewards of St. Andrew's building and land resources as we actualize the new vision. Please feel free to contact Sheila Brown if you have any questions or concerns at shejbrown@yahoo.ca. Phone 780 487 4097.

**Westmount's 124th Street Grand
Market opens for its fourth season
on May 12.**

The market is located at 124th street and 108th avenue and will run until October 8th. Be sure to stop by for your fresh produce, food offerings, and locally produced crafted items.

*For more information, email
124grandmarket@gmail.com.*

***DID YOU KNOW?
MINERVA STUDIES FOR ALL***

*From learning how to use Windows 8,
to historic walking tours around
Edmonton, Minerva offers affordable
learning opportunities geared to adults
50 plus, although everyone is welcome.
See MacEwan.ca/Minerva for more
information. Fun for everyone!*



NOTICE FOR
THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THE CRESTWOOD COMMUNITY LEAGUE

MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE HALL
Saturday APRIL 11, 2015 4 PM
Come and see how your league works

5 pm free dinner until supplies run out

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE DINNER
WANT TO BE INVOLVED

780-455-0321 Sandra 780-455-0434 Laurie

Come out to meet your League Board
CRESTWOOD COMMUNITY LEAGUE MEMBERS MAY SUBMIT AGENDA ITEMS TO
cclsecretary@crestwood.ab.ca 780-455-0434 Laurie

Crestwood Memberships may be purchased prior to meeting ONLINE.
or go to the Rink office during skate hours
all League Members are entitled to vote

The Crestwood Community League offers a range of programs and activities for residents as well. Keep up to date on events at <http://www.crestwood.ab.ca/> and “like” us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter to be fully informed!

Fund and Fun Raising Committee at St. Andrew's

Our FUND/FRIEND/FUN raising committee has organized some great events, all offering a great opportunity to learn more about each other and be informed about a variety of topics. We hosted two major fundraisers – the bedding plant sale and the Mundare sausage sale which were very successful. And, we hosted several really enjoyable and informative speaker events! Thanks to everyone who donated their time and brought lunch items and especially to our speakers who entertained us royally. Folks from other United Churches and from the community at large also attended. Look forward to more events, with planning already underway for October and November speakers. Watch your bulletin for more information, or go to the calendar on our website at www.saintandrewsunitied.com, or “like” us on Facebook to keep up to date.

NOTICE FOR

THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CRESTWOOD COMMUNITY LEAGUE

BUILDING SOCIETY

MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE HALL

Thursday JUNE 18 2015 7:30PM

CRESTWOOD COMMUNITY LEAGUE MEMBERS MAY SUBMIT AGENDA ITEMS TO

cclsecretary@crestwood.ab.ca 780-455-0434 Laurie

Crestwood Memberships may be purchased prior to meeting ONLINE

This is a Federal Registered Charity

all League Members are entitled to vote

St. Andrew's Quilting Group: The St. Andrew's Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. Twenty members combine their many and varied talents to produce about 100 quilts for our annual sale in October. We are assisted by two ladies from the Viking area who design and sew quilt tops and donate them to us.

As always, we welcome donations of good quality cotton fabric and also knitting yarn of every kind. Our faithful knitters produce beautiful blankets and afghans. All our money and surplus blankets and quilts are donated to charities around the city. We invite anyone interested in our work to drop in for coffee at 10:00 am on Tuesday and see our "factory"

at work. We welcome new members from the community. The fellowship within the group is great!



Recycled Card Group: The foyer of St. Andrew's has a huge number of beautifully-recycled greeting cards on display, suitable for every occasion. Every Wednesday afternoon a group of dedicated volunteers practices their artistic skills, sharing not only their creativity, but fun and fellowship as well. Cards are available for purchase at one dollar each with funds going to various charities around the city. If anyone has greeting cards they wish to donate to this worthy project, please leave a ½ inch strip intact if you wish to remove the message portion; if the card is cut on the fold it's unusable. Thanks to the ladies of the card group for this wonderful work!

St. Andrew's Board of Directors: This is an exciting time in the life of the Board of St. Andrew's. Our friends at Ebenezer have sold their building and gained Presbytery approval for the merger with us. This process should be completed by June 30. The fine folks of Ebenezer will bring rich new initiatives to add to our extended array of outreach activities and this in turn will breathe new life into members on each side of the merger.

The Long Range Planning work is ongoing at the same time as this newsletter is being prepared. The diversity of activity described within this newsletter demonstrated clearly the hard work that Church Staff and volunteers do at St. Andrew's on a daily basis. We are so blessed to be able to carry out God's work in this worship community and beyond.

Please give some consideration to joining us at the heart of this work by putting your name forward for the 2015-16 Board. The nominating committee will begin to gather names shortly – but in the meantime you can leave your name and interest on my phone message centre at 780-461-0261. Yours in Christ, Ed Butler, Board Chair



St. Andrew's Board of Directors meets regularly to determine the operation and future plans for the church. Representatives provide two-way communication between the board and each committee or group.

Other board members, with their areas of responsibility, include:

Geoff Wilfong-Pritchard, minister; Andrea Pheasey, secretary

Rob Churchill, Building and Property

Chris Churchill, Contact and Caring

Mark Postma, Finance; Chair vacant, Memorial/Historical

Art Deane, Ministry and Personnel, and Fund Raising

Heather Miller/Mark Nicoll, Presbytery Delegates

Brent Roy, Stewardship; Molly Jenkins, UCW

Sheila Brown, Worship and Long Range Planning Task force

Maureen deRegt and Jennifer Postma, members at large

Betty Deane, Ross Gordon, Chris Standring, Carol Pernarowski, trustees

Board meetings are usually scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month from September to June in the St. James Room of St. Andrew's United Church. The board members can be reached through the office at 780-452-4454 or by e-mail at st.andrews@uccedm.org.

Weekly Study Group: Every Wednesday morning at 10:00 an enthusiastic group gathers to ponder ... well, everything. While the original intent of the study group is for Geoff to help us consider the meaning of the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday service, the participants often find the conversation going far beyond. The discussion is lively and stimulating and never the same two weeks in a row. Newcomers are always welcome!

Saturday April 18

St. Andrew's United Church Presents

A Central American Fiesta

ENSALADA MUSICALE

Community dinner: 5:30 pm

Family Concert 7:30 pm



This is a presbytery-funded event, so no admission charge.

Seats for the dinner are limited so you must RSVP by writing your name on the white board in the narthex or by contacting hcmiller@shaw.ca, 780-487-5949.

Concert is open with no RSVP required.

Menu: beef and chicken tacos, tacitos, flautas and more!

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF

WILLIAM RAMIREZ AND FRIENDS

PLAYING

An eclectic mix of classical, baroque and modern,
and vocals by Lorna Lampman

Enjoy good food, fun and fellowship.

If you can volunteer to help cook we could use four to six people in the kitchen – leave your name with Geoff or Heather. Learn how to cook Central American style.

Holy Week Services at St. Andrew's

Sunday, March 29, 10:00 am Palm/Passion Sunday

We begin Holy Week with the procession of the palms, music by the Chorale and the children of St. Andrew's and the Holy Week story told through the eyes of some who might have been there.



Thursday, April 2, 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday

We conclude our Lenten Study on "Convictions" with a Palestinian feast-the meal that Jesus might have shared with his disciples in Holy Week. As part of the feast we reflect on how the meal became the sacrament of the Christian Community. The menu includes hummus, lamb stew, salmon, baklava, tabouleh, pita bread, wine, tzatziki, and other delectable goodies.



Thursday April 2: 8:00 pm Maundy Thursday

After the feast we gather in the sanctuary for the ritual of hand-washing, communion, and the stripping of the sanctuary in preparation for Good Friday.

Friday April 3: 10:00 am Good Friday

The chorale leads the music and we reflect on the seven last words from the cross.

Sunday April 5, 10:00 am Easter Sunday

We light the new fire of Easter, celebrate the sacrament of communion, and hear the story of the resurrection.

St. Andrew's United Church, 9915 – 148th Street

Phone: 780-452-4454 * Fax: 780-451-9567

* Email: st.andrews@uccedm.org

*Website: www.saintandrewsunited.com; follow us on Facebook!

Staff and volunteer staff:

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Wilfong-Pritchard

Office & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Anne Chorley King

Music Director: Helve Sastok

Children's Program Co-ordinator: Jennifer Postma

Handbell Director: Hazel Burn

Congregational Co-ordinator: Chris Standring

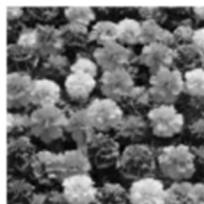
Communications Coordinator: Heather Miller

Spring 2015 Plant Sale

St. Andrew's United Church 9915 – 148 Street

- Orders will be received between March 15 and April 30, 2015.
- Plants will be available to pick up at St. Andrew's on May 15 & 16, 2015 (10 AM to 6PM).
- Payment can be made by cash or cheque and must accompany the order form.
- Please make cheques payable to **St. Andrew's United Church**.
- To drop off order forms or for inquiries, please speak to or e-mail Art Deane (780-436-8723 or akdeane@shaw.ca)

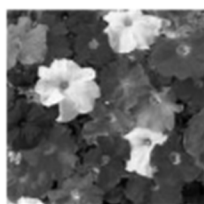
Spring is in the air!



Bonanza Mix Marigolds
Jumbo 6 Packs.
6-8" in height.
Yellow, orange, bi-colour
mixture.
\$4.50 each.



**Trailing Snowflake
Bacopa**
4" pots.
White only.
\$4.50 each.



Ultra Mix Petunia
Jumbo 6 Pack.
10-12" in height.
Blue, pink, red, white,
violet, vines & striped bi-
colour.
\$4.50 each.



Sweet Potato Vine
4" pot. Lime green OR
deep purple.
\$4.50 each



Matrix Mix Pansy
Jumbo 6 Pack.
8-10" in height.
Blue, rose, red, yellow,
white, violet blotched and
clear mixture.
\$4.50 each.



Geranium
6" pots.
Red, white, pink, salmon,
violet.
\$9 each.



Tuberous Begonia
4" pot.
Red, Rose, yellow, apricot
or orange.
\$4.50 each.



Hanging Basket
12" pot.
Ivy geranium combo. Full
sun only.
\$40 each

Plants supplied by



Thanks for supporting
St. Andrew's United Church!

Spring 2015 Plant Sale Order Form
(Please Print)

St Andrew's United Church

9915 – 148 Street Edmonton, AB T5N 3G1

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ Postal code _____ Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Cheque _____ or Cash _____

Please write number of items ordered and indicate total amount for each item. **Orders with payment must be received by April 30, 2015. Orders can be picked up May 15 or 16 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.**

Item Name	Quantity	Price	Total
Bonanza Mix Marigolds		\$4.50	
Ultra Mix Petunias		\$4.50	
Matrix Mix Pansy		\$4.50	
Tuberous Begonia - Red		\$4.50	
Tuberous Begonia - Rose		\$4.50	
Tuberous Begonia -Yellow		\$4.50	
Tuberous Begonia - Apricot		\$4.50	
Tuberous Begonia - Orange		\$4.50	
Trailing Snowflake Bacopa		\$4.50	
Sweet Potato Vine – Green		\$4.50	
Sweet Potato Vine – Purple		\$4.50	
Geranium – Red		\$9	
Geranium – White		\$9	
Geranium – Pink		\$9	
Geranium – Salmon		\$9	
Geranium - Violet		\$9	
Hanging Basket		\$40	
Total			