

Minister's Message, Sunday, June 8th, 2025

Beyond Sunday: Indigenous Day of Prayer

Ten years ago, the Truth and Reconciliation Report was released. Within it are 94 "Calls to Action." Most of them call upon each of us to learn. To learn about the past, to learn about each other, to learn about the way that institutions have impacted First Nations and Metis. There are actions that can be undertaken by individuals, schools, churches, the medical profession, the legal system, and more. September 30 has been set aside as a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known as "Orange Shirt Day."

June 21 is Indigenous People's Day. The United Church has designated the Sunday before it as, Indigenous Day of Prayer. The focus of these days is about what is happening now. It is a day to celebrate and honour achievements. It is a day to offer thanks. It is a day to sing and dance and pray. It is also a great day to learn. Who are the Indigenous actors, singers, and artists who are carrying Indigenous stories in creative ways? Who are the First Nations lawyers and doctors who are tending to Indigenous and Canadian communities? Who are the Inuit leaders guiding their people and Canada?

The residential school system was designed to extinguish First Nations, Inuit, and Metis culture and language. June 21 is a day to celebrate and honour resiliency and the continuing presence of unique Indigenous communities and cultures across Canada.

Let us give thanks to our Creator
for the Creator is always with us.

**God is with us in the call of a loon
and in the flight of an eagle.**

Our Creator is with us in the changing of the seasons.

**God is with us when we gather together
and when we are alone.**

Our Creator is with us in our giftedness
and in our search for new understandings of ourselves,
new visions of our communities.

Let us give thanks to God, our Creator.

—A prayer from *The Dancing Sun* (United Church of Canada/Anglican Church of Canada), alt.,
for Aboriginal Sunday



That All May Be One

Celebrating 100 years as the
United Church of Canada

10am Sunday June 8



<https://youtube.com/live/6s881-dbRqQ?feature=share>

Pastoral care

For Pastoral Care, please contact Rev Kirsty Hunter at 705 717-1918. She wants to know if you are in hospital and seeking a visit from her. You can email her at revkirsty@gmail.com. **Please use Rev. Kirsty's direct phone number at all times to reach her**, as there isn't always someone in the church office to answer the regular phone line.

Covenanting service for Rev. Kirsty Hunter June 12, 2025

Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. followed by the service at 6:30 p.m. If you want to volunteer to help prepare dinner, greet or serve communion, please send an e-mail to Rev. Kirsty at revkirsty@gmail.com. Dinner is by free will donation.

The Connections Group meets every Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the Atrium. Anyone wishing coffee and informal conversation is welcome to drop in!

Coffee Hour

Our next coffee hour is **Sunday, June 15th** following worship.

Volunteer still needed

We are looking for a volunteer to do coverage for our Custodian while he is on vacation. This would be light duty work and would be for the periods of June 19 and 20th, June 30th to July 4th and August 5th to August 8th. Please contact Bruce Wilcox at 705-529-6728 if you can lend a hand.

"Thank you all for the amazing send off on

Sunday, all of the kind words, your very generous financial gift and the beautiful plant. It is definitely a nice addition to my front entrance. To all who were involved in making the lunch - thank you! I will always hold dear my time at St. Paul's and the friendships I've made. St. Paul's is truly an amazing place to work and I'm so thankful you 'picked' me eight years ago." * Louise *



Congregational Life

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, June 28th at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversations. All men are welcome.

UCW June Meeting

Tuesday June 10th - 11:45 - Operation Grow - 436 Bay St

Soup / salad / dessert luncheon

\$10.00 - please bring cash

Program and tour of this innovative social enterprise focused on empowering women facing challenges of poverty and trauma!!

RSVP essential to Judy McConnell - 705 529 1826 by June 4th

United Church of Canada 100-year anniversary



Picnic on June 8th (UPDATE)

All are invited to a picnic immediately after church on June 8th at Little Lake Park Picnic pavilion down by the baseball fields - parking out front or up top. If you pre-ordered a box lunch, they can be picked up at the Picnic Pavillion. If you are bringing your own lunch - there will be free watermelon, cake and drinks for all.

Seating on picnic tables or bring your own lawn chair if more comfortable. Please wear comfortable clothes and wear your most fun summer hat. Rain or shine as the pavilion has a covered roof. Estimated time: 11am to 12:30pm. There will be opening comments, grace, sing along and games and races for the children. You are welcome to stay later as we have booked the pavillion for the day.

If any questions please contact pat@patriciafile.ca or cell 705 795 5610.

Butter Tart Festival

The Butter Tart Festival will once again be happening on King St. on Saturday, June 14, and St. Paul's will repeat their successful Loonie Raffle on the church lawn. Sheila is looking for a few more volunteers to sell tickets on the lawn.

Pick your times and participate in this 'fun'd raiser. Please contact Rick Thompson (call or text) 705-543-9805 or Sheila at 705-526-2186. Thank you!!



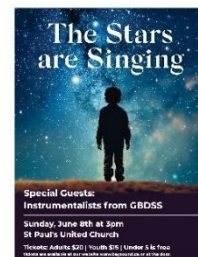
Faith Formation

SAVE THE DATE! St. Paul's Discovery Kids Camp will be held August 11-15, 2025. It will be a FULL DAY program running from 9-3. Details soon...

Community News and events

Travel with Carol - Come and travel with Carol MacDonald as she presents her Cycle Tour from Victoria Falls to Cape Town. Travel from lush green scenery in Victoria Falls thru the deserts to the greenery in South Africa. A river cruise and a safari will bring you up close to the animals and birds of South Africa. Carol is looking forward to sharing her adventure with you on June 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Room.

The Bay Sound Choir concert will take place at St Paul's on **Sunday, June 8 at 3:00 p.m.** This year's concert will, of course, include all the Bay Sound Choirs: Little Treble Makers, Children's Choir, VIVO and the Bay Sound Singers and our special guests will be young musicians from Georgian Bay District Secondary School. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for youth and under age five is free. Tickets are available on our website at www.baysound.ca or at the door.



Sing It Women's Choir presents "Singing from the Heart", on Monday, June 9th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for youth between ages 13 to 16, kids under 12 are free. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling 705-875-5438.

St. Paul's website

Want to know what's going on at St. Paul's? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/>. There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

This Week's Minute for Mission



A hundred years ago, people of faith across Canada imagined a church united not only in belief, but in bold action. They dreamed of a community that would live out God's love by reaching out to neighbours, both nearby and across the world. That vision became The United Church of Canada.

Since then, through times of joy and challenge, we have journeyed together, answering Christ's call to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly. Along the way, something remarkable took shape: a shared ministry that we now know as Mission and Service.

Mission and Service is not just a program. It is a heartbeat of compassion. It means meals shared in communities facing food insecurity. It means emergency relief when disasters strike. It means youth finding a sense of belonging, churches learning and growing together, global partnerships rooted in trust, and voices long silenced being lifted and heard. None of this is possible without you. Your generosity, your care, and your belief in a better world make all the difference.

As we approach 100 years of being church together, we give thanks for the faithful gifts that have sustained and shaped this ministry. And as we look to the future, we invite you to continue this journey with us. The road ahead will require courage, creativity, and compassion. But we are not alone. With your continued support for Mission and Service, we can keep building a world where love leads, justice thrives, and hope is made real for all.

Let's keep writing this story together.

Take a few moments to watch [this video](#) featuring the high points of our history and the impact we have had.

Blessings everyone

Minister: Rev. Kirsty Hunter, **705-717-1918** revkirsty@gmail.com

Church Administrator – John Craig (New) office hours are Monday thru Friday 9am to 12pm Noon
stpaulsunited@rogers.com