



An Affirming Congregation of The United Church of Canada

2024 May 19

Discipleship Sunday

Pentecost Sunday



Discipleship

Welcome and Inclusion

We open our hearts and our church family to all people in our community regardless of economic circumstances, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, differing abilities, or ethnicity. Many people's lives continue to be devastated by hatred, prejudice, and inequality, therefore we stand with those who are adversely affected by injustice, alienation and oppression.

Welcome to Robertson-Wesley


Please know that in the eyes of God you already belong here and you are welcome to participate in any of the activities of the congregation.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground for Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 4.

ACCESSIBILITY

There is an elevator located inside the building with the glass door entrance. Access ramps can be found: inside leading from the lobby to the sanctuary and outside at the rear of the building, leading from the parking lot.

There are accessible washrooms on each floor located near the elevator.

 For hearing assistance download the Listen Everywhere app on your cell phone and connect to the R-W network by scanning this QR code. Please bring your own headphones to listen on. Classic hearing assists headsets are available from the ushers.

Large print worship bulletins, and hymn books are available from the ushers.

Service animals are welcome, except where food is prepared.

We commit to make R-W a comfortable space for people with cognitive impairment. If you require accommodations please contact the office.

There is a sensory-friendly worship space in the Club Room every Sunday, the service is live streamed into the room with reduced lighting and volume.

BABY/ CHILDREN'S AMENITIES

People can breastfeed anywhere in the building, should you want more privacy there is designated nursing space in the Millson room, located by the grand piano. Baby changing tables are installed in all washrooms. If you wish to use it, a children's activity centre is set up in the Chapel. There are also activity books available for children. Please ask an usher.

INFORMATION

The ushers located at the entrances are here to help should you have any questions. More information about the church and church activities can be found in the pamphlet racks outside Memorial Hall.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please do not leave valuables unattended anywhere in the church.



10209 123 St, Edmonton T5N 1N3 780-482-1587
mail@rwuc.org www.rwuc.org

Friends in Christ

Announcements at 10:15 AM

Prelude: *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*, Johannes Brahms arr. by Billie Nastelin
Raydene Koch, piano; Dr. Allan Bevan, organ

Embracing Our Spirit

Introit: *Spirit, Open My Heart* Trad. Irish Melody arr. by Alfred Fedak
Ilona Bevan, recorder; Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Call to Worship:

Gather us, O God

and we will know your life that makes us one.

Gather us, O God

and we will celebrate our variety and uniqueness.

Gather us, O God

and we will give you the pain of our brokenness.

Gather us, O God

and we will share the gifts of your spirit.

Trinity of love bind us as one;

**that our brokenness be healed by you; that our fears be held by you;
that our gifts be used by you; that our lives be offered to you; so may
the world believe. Amen.¹**

Hymn: *The Spirit in Me*

All God's Children Sing 8

The spirit in me greets the spirit in you, Alleluia.

God's in us and we're in God, Alleluia. (repeat)²

Coming into God's Presence:

Gratitude Team

Here at Robertson-Wesley United Church all people are called by God to be disciples of Jesus. To dare to dream of a world where love reigns. To be a hope filled Community of Faith, united in deep spirituality. Spiritely has invited the DEAP group to come to the table.

Hymn of Invitation: *What Can I Do?*

More Voices 191

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Learning about the DEAP Group:

What does your group do at R-W?

Why have you chosen to do this?

How do you see the Holy Spirit at work in what you do?

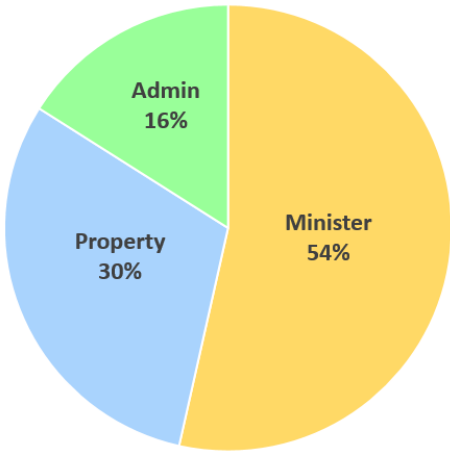
¹ Written by Ali Newell, **Holy Ground; Liturgies and worship resources for an engaged spirituality**, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2005), p. 278.

² Used under Onelicense # 606241

Giving Thanks:
The sharing of PIE

Congregational Blessing:

We are grateful for your commitment and dedication to living out the call of R-W through the ministry and outreach you do. We thank you for giving us what we need to be grateful. Without you, the body of Christ is incomplete. We recognize that we are all needed. Wanted. Loved! We thank you God for these beloved people. We have been blessed.



DEAP Group Costs

This total of this pie chart is \$3,361 which is the DEAP Group cost.

The slices of the pie represent what areas in which the DEAP Group cost is spent.

Property \$1,024.42

This is based on the hours of facility usage, used by DEAP Group and includes the cost of Facility staff time working with the DEAP Group.

Admin \$537.94

These is the cost of administrative costs of DEAP Group, this includes printing, photocopying, materials, postage, etc. and includes the cost of the Office Administrators time working with the DEAP Group.

Minister \$1,798.76

This is the cost of the Ministers time working with the DEAP Group.

All of the staff costs are part of the current wages staff are paid, and these numbers represent the part of the wages allocated to work done with the DEAP Group in the year.



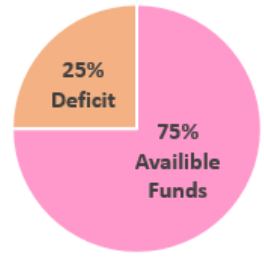
Volunteer & Staff Time

This pie chart represents the hours worked by staff and volunteers for DEAP in a year.

Staff:	45 hours
Volunteers:	105 hours
Total:	150 hours/year

Deficit & Available Funds

The budget for 2024 includes a significant deficit. We have divided the deficit up proportionately to the various groups. This chart represents the expenditure percentages that will be covered by projected 2024 givings, along with what we predict the deficit will be.



Deficit: \$840.28

Available Funds: \$2,520.84

Gratitude Bucket (Mar/Apr/May)

God's Holy Word

Prayer of Illumination:

Open us to your Spirit, O God. Help us to truly open to you in this time of receiving scripture. Let us do more than go through the motions of worship. Give us fresh perspectives as we receive your word in this time of worship. Give us fresh voices to share your good news with others. Give us fresh hearts and minds to wrestle with your will for us and to find the commitment to strive with passion toward your glory. Be with us in this time of worship. Be in us as we receive your word. **Amen.**³

Scriptures:

Acts 2:1-4 • Pentecost

Jay Ferguson

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 • Gifts of the Spirit

Now concerning spiritual gifts, siblings, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the

³ Written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet, **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2024, p. 45. Used with permission.

same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, through many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: *The Lone, Wild Bird*, American Folk Melody arr. by David N. Johnson

Claire Rolheiser, soloist; Choir of Robertson-Wesley

Sermon: *A Manifestation of the Spirit!*

Rev. Karen Bridges

Hymn: *Deep in Our Hearts*

More Voices 154

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.**

Grateful Response

Pastoral Prayers

Lord's Prayer:

Voices United p. 921

**Our Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kin-dom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kin-dom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Offering:

Your donations today support R-W Church programs and operations, as well as outreach projects and programs in the city and around the world. You can donate by e-transfer to pay@rwuc.org, cheque, debit/credit by speaking to an usher, pre-authorized remittance, or PayPal by scanning the QR code. Tax receipts are issued at the end of the year for donations over \$20 if your name and address are provided.



Offertory: *O Breath of Life*

Voices United 202 vv. 1 & 3

**O Breath of life, come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us
and fit your church to meet this hour.**

**O Breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart;
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.**

Offering Prayer:

With open hearts and open spirits, we come to you, God most holy. With all that we have and all that we are, we bring our offerings and we lift our voices in prayer and celebration that you are our all.

May your Spirit fill our words. May your Spirit fill our actions. May your Spirit fill our lives. In Christ's name, we ask these things. Amen.⁴

Hymn: *On Pentecost They Gathered*

Voices United 195

**On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,
a band of Christ's disciples, to worship, sing, and pray.
A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,
and tongues of fire a-glowing inspired each person there.**

**The people all around them were startled and amazed
to understand their language, as Jesus Christ they praised.
What universal message, what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear.**

**God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe,
on women, men, and children who would God's grace receive.
That Spirit knows no limit, bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.**

**O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us ears to listen and tongue a-flame with praise,
So folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.**

⁴ Written by Richard Bott, *Gathering*, Pentecost 1 2024, p.38. Used with permission.

Commissioning:

We have opened our hearts to God’s Spirit on this day of Pentecost. As you go from this place, let your breath give life to others and to all of God’s creation. Let God’s Spirit breathe into you with goodness, and breathe out of you in love. With your every breath and with the breath of all that lives, give praise to God. **Amen.**⁵

Postlude: *Be Thou My Vision/My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*, arr. by
Brant Adams Rhondda Gower, flute; Dr. Allan Bevan, piano

Questions for Reflection:

- What does it mean to be one in Spirit?
- How has the Spirit manifested in your life?
- How do you feel called to live out your faith at Robertson-Wesley United?

R-W Report

Next Sunday

Sunday, May 26, 2024

Sacrament of Communion & Pentecost 2

Children & Youth: Children & Youth: Children begin in the sanctuary, then go to Kids’ Church. Youth meet in the youth room at the beginning of the service.

Scriptures: John 15:1-17 • Jesus the true vine.

Sermon: Faithful Friends Abide.

Where do you receive your life force from? What Jesus taught went against the norms. Jesus was a rule breaker but only when the rules harmed others. Jesus teaches us that there is always room to grow, change and learn from one another. In order for growth to happen, not only do we need to let go of past hurts and things in our lives that no longer nourish us, but we need to forgive, and love one another. What needs pruning in your life? What rules or norms need to change in our community of faith in order for all people to thrive?

Music: Dr. Allan Bevan, organist; Robertson-Wesley Choir; Jean Triscott, flute

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun May 19	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids’ Church - Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
Mon May 20	Church Closed	
Tues May 21	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
Wed May 22	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	Gratitude Team Meeting - Club Room	5:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm

⁵ Written by Robin Wardlaw, **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2018, p. 28. Used with permission.

Thurs May 23	Not Falling For You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm

ON THE HORIZON

Sun May 26	Sunday Worship - Sanctuary & Online	10:30 am
	Youth Discussion - Youth Room	10:30 am
	Kids' Church - Air Room	10:45 am
	Fellowship - Memorial Hall	11:30 am
	Membership Class - Club Room	12:30 pm
	Koinonia - Memorial Hall	5:30 pm
Mon May 27	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	7:00 pm
Tues May 28	Scripture Reflections - Club Room & Zoom	12:00 pm
Wed May 29	Spirited Art Studio - Art Studio	1:30 pm
	R-W Choir - Lower Hall & Sanctuary	7:30 pm
Thurs May 30	Not Falling For You - Memorial Hall	10:00 am
	Nova Bells - Lower Hall	5:15 pm
	R-W Ringers - Lower Hall	6:45 pm
Sat June 1	Talent Show - Memorial Hall	7:30 pm

Volunteer Opportunities

COMMUNION SERVER VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, **May 26**, we will celebrate communion, sharing Jesus' meal. All people, all ages, are welcome to serve Communion. If this is your first time, know that someone will assist you in learning how to serve Communion. You only need to come a little earlier (10:00 am). If you are able to serve, sign up on the tablet in the outer office, or visit rwuc.org/volunteer.

R-W News & Notes

STAFF & HOURS

Rev. Dirk Jessen will be on Study leave from **May 13-25**. The church will be closed Monday, **May 20** in observance of the Victoria Day stat holiday.

THANK YOU

My sincere thanks to Rev. Karen, Rev. Dirk, Colleen and Vital Ouellette, Donna Krucik, Susan Huston, Ruth Belford, Jim Triscott, and Pat Stewart for helping to make May 12th, my 70th anniversary at Robertson-Wesley, such a special day for me. Blessings to you all. -Karen Hansen.

THANK YOU

Thanks very much for supporting last Sunday's bake sale. We raised an amazing \$615.15 for the R-W Anniversary Legacy Fund. Thank-you! - Sylvia Post

AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY HEATHER WARKENTIN FROM THE MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Rev Dirk Jessen has been with Robertson-Wesley as a bridging minister, which is meant to be a temporary ministry while a congregation goes through a time of transition. We have been fortunate to have had Rev. Dirk with us for almost 2 years, since the summer of 2022, which is longer than originally expected and for this we are very grateful. Now, the Northern Spirit Region has another bridging assignment for Rev. Dirk and has asked him to start in June. His final Sunday at Robertson-Wesley will be June 2, 2024. He will be taking some Study Leave starting this week and will be back Thursday, June 23. We here at Robertson-Wesley have benefited greatly from Rev Dirk's ministry during our time of transition. We will celebrate Rev. Dirk properly as we approach his final Sunday with us, but for now I would like to thank Rev. Dirk for his ministry at R-W and wish him and his new congregation all the best.

TALENT SHOW

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, **June 1**, at 7:30 pm. A Talent Show entitled "The Very Best Times of the Year" will take place in Memorial Hall. The event will feature our choirs, talented soloists and members of the congregation. Wine and cheese will be served. This will be a fun evening in support of the church so please plan to attend! Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased after church today and next Sunday from Marilee Stephens or John Fleming.

BOOK SALE: DONATIONS WANTED

With two great book sales last summer we are going to do the same this summer - one in June and the second in August. If you have any children's and/or adult books as well as magazines please donate them to the church. You can drop books off at your convenience.

GREEN THUMBS AND PERENNIALS WANTED

Do you miss having a garden or want to get outside and learn about gardens hands on? R-W needs help in keeping up our gardens for everyone to enjoy. Individual beds are available for any greenthumbs to plant and maintain e.g., weed. Please call Lea at 780-451-1684 OR 780-905-4861 (cell). NOTE: We also need perennial plants, so if you have any perennials that need splitting we will gladly accept them to be planted in the church flowerbeds. Hoping to hear from you soon.

WILD CHURCH

Wild Church gathers **today** at 1:00 pm at the Paul Kane Park fountain (one block east of RWUC - accessible for wheelchair/walker/ stroller users). The theme is "Sounds like Spring." Pets welcome! All-age friendly! Rain or shine! Follow Wild Church on Instagram @wildchurhyeg. Have questions? Contact us at wildchurch@rwuc.org

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Membership class is being offered for 4 weeks on **Sundays** from 12:00 to 1:30 pm (**May 26, June 9, June 16, and June 23**) in the Club Room. This is an opportunity to talk about your faith, to learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. It is also an opportunity to learn about the history, polity and faith practice of The United Church of Canada, and how we live out our faith in the world. After the class you will be asked to discern for yourselves whether or not you wish to publicly proclaim your commitment in this dynamic faith organisation. If you wish to participate in the group please contact Rev. Karen at karen.bridges@rwuc.org to register.

YEG FAMILY COUNSELLING SERVICES

We are pleased to be working with YEG Family Counselling services to provide mental health support to community members. We have a student therapist who provides free to low cost therapy **Wednesdays** 12:00 pm - 4:00pm by walk in or appointments. YEG Family Counselling will also be offering a low cost 6 week parenting support group that will provide group therapy to parents of adult children starting June 4th, 2024.

SPIRITED ART STUDIO

Spirited Art Studio is a free secular community art program providing an informal, welcoming and inclusive space where we come together to nurture our creative spirit through art and craft activities. There are as many pathways to creativity as there are individuals! Come see what adventures await you as you create, learn and make new connections. **Mondays** from 7:00 - 8:30 pm and **Wednesdays** 1:30 - 3:00 pm.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm on Zoom and in the Club Room. Reflect on the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday. We are using the practice of Lectio Divina which means we read through the scripture three times. You will be invited into some moments of silence, and if you are willing you are invited to share with the group. You don't need to be a Biblical Scholar. God speaks through the scriptures and it is wonderful to hear the diversity of messages that are received. Contact the office for the Zoom link. Come with a bible and a journal, or simply yourself! Tune in when you can.

GREEN BITES

This coming week, on **May 22nd**, we can participate in International Biological Diversity Day. Many scientists believe that maintaining and promoting biodiversity is an excellent way to fight climate change. One of the special activities we can do on May 22nd is to pay attention to plants and animals that we have seldom noticed, and perhaps check out such things as the the shapes of leaves, the movement of wings in flight, or the exact location of Spring flowers in relation to the position of the sun. Take photos too so that you can share them with friends, and invite your children and/or grandchildren to join you in your observations. For more information consult the website un.org. - The Environmental Stewardship Group

In the Community

CANADIAN WOMEN FOR WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN

Together, Anything is Possible - Making the Right to Learn a Reality

Edmonton Supports CW4WAfghan is delighted to present an evening of dining and music by Juno award winning musician, Maria Dunn. Friday, May 24 from 5:00 - 9:00 pm at Robertson-Wesley. Tickets at <https://yeg-cw4wa.eventbrite.ca>

Worship Notes

Today is known as Pentecost Sunday. It is the day that we celebrate the birth of the Christian Church. We celebrate with the colour red designating the Holy Spirit descending on the people. The colour red, not only in the church but in life, represents blood, heat, fire, and love. In this case, it represents the passion of Christ and other followers who gave of their lives holding firm to their faith, love and devotion to God.

Cover Image

Cover image by Peggy Marco on Pixabay. Words added by Rev. Karen Bridges

Minister of Faith Development and Intergenerational Ministry: Vacant

Minister of Social Justice and Outreach: Vacant

Lead Minister of Congregation and Community Development: Rev. Karen Bridges

Bridging Minister: Rev. Dirk Jessen

Music Director: Dr. Allan Bevan

Office Administrator: Elyse Munro

Facilities Manager: Brad Campbell