

WEEK AT A GLANCE – May 2 – May 8, 2021

Sunday	Virtual Service - Rev. Deborah & Rev. Mervin	10:00 a.m.
	Scripture Readings: 1 John 4: 7-21	
	Matthew 22: 34-39	
	<i>If you would like to partcipate in communion, please have your bread and drink ready.</i>	
	<i>The link to the May 2nd service will be on the church website.</i>	
Tuesday	UCW General Meeting via Zoom	9:30 a.m.
	Finance Meeting via Zoom	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Coffee Time via Zoom	11:00 a.m.
Thursday	Bible Study via Zoom	11:00 a.m.
	Choir via Zoom	7:30p.m.

WEEK AT A GLANCE – May 9 – May 15, 2021

Sunday	Virtual Service – Rev. Mervin	10:00 a.m.
	Scripture Readings: 1 John 5: 1-6	
	John 15: 9-17	
	<i>The link to the May 9th service will be on the church website.</i>	
Wednesday	Coffee Time via Zoom	11:00 a.m.
Thursday	Bible Study via Zoom	noon
	Choral Workout via Zoom	7:30 p.m.

**DUE TO NEW COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS
THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE.**

Sunday Service Participants – May 2, 2021

Minister: Rev. Deborah Hoekstra and Rev. Mervin Gallant
Service Assistant: Marilyn McSporrان
Musicians: Donna Graham, Amy Bautista, Lori Giesbrecht and Pam Sutherland
A.V. TECHNICIANS: Wade Hayden, Lionel Larcombe and Luke Sartison



Grapevine – May 2, 2021

CHURCH STAFF

Laurie Symbaluk (Office Administrator): 780-458-8355

Tuesdays – Fridays at home from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

office@stalbertunited.ca

Rev. Mervin Gallant Cell: 587- 989-3579

Tuesdays – Fridays at home from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

mervin@stalbertunited.ca

Rev. Deborah Hoekstra Cell: 780- 983-2148

Tuesday - Thursdays at home from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

deborah1@stalbertunited.ca

Sandy Skogstad (Church Treasurer)

treasurer1@stalbertunited.ca

Donna Graham (Organist/Accompanist)

donnalynngraham@gmail.com

Margaret Ward - Jack (Music Director)

wardjack@shaw.ca

Live stream Sunday Services at:
<https://vimeo.com/event/627219>

RED DRESS DAY – MAY 5, 2021

Excerpts from:

How Red Dresses Became a Symbol for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

BY CHRISTIAN ALLAIRE

PRINTED ON APRIL 7, 2021 VOGUE ONLINE

Artist Jaime Black created an ongoing art series, titled The REDress Project, which highlights the epidemic of violence against Indigenous women. Each dress symbolizes an Indigenous woman who has been murdered or is missing, representing just a portion of thousands of people. A Métis and Finnish artist based in Winnipeg, Ms. Black began this impactful art series in 2010.

In North America, the scores of missing and murdered Indigenous women—known as MMIW, an acronym created by Indigenous journalist Sheila North Wilson in 2012—don't get the mainstream attention they deserve. In the U.S., homicide is the third-leading cause of death among Native women ages 10 to 24, according to the Urban Indian Health Institute, and Native women are victims of murder more than 10 times the national average, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. In Canada, the government's National Inquiry found similar horrifying statistics, including that Indigenous women are seven times more likely to be murdered by serial killers than non-Indigenous women.

Small steps have been taken to address this epidemic, which is often the result of systemic racism. Earlier this month, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland—the first Indigenous woman in that role—announced the creation of a new unit that will investigate missing and murdered Native Americans. But the issue rages on.

With her *REDress Project*, Ms. Black hopes to give these Indigenous women a much-needed voice, while educating others who may not be aware of what's going on. The color red symbolizes many things—blood, anger, love—but was ultimately chosen because it's eye-catching. "Those dresses have such a powerful presence. They are a reflection of the power and strength of Indigenous women that have come before us," says Ms. Black.

Ms. Black's *REDress Project* has clearly played a big role in red becoming the official MMIW campaign color, though many wearers also say red is the only colour that spirits can see. They wear it so that the souls of those they've lost can be with them.

In Canada, May 5 is now Red Dress Day, when people of all backgrounds are encouraged to wear red to raise awareness.



[A Special Note from Properties...](#)

This past year has been, what shall we say, unforgiving in many ways! The Church has been closed, the congregation cannot socialize physically, people in general are getting frustrated and many activities have been affected, so much has kind of come to a screeching halt or been put on the back-burner. However, upon saying this other Church activities are still taking place virtually.

During this long “unforgiving” time-frame, the properties team have been kept busy with many duties inside and outside the Church and I would like to publicly thank each of our team members for their due diligence in keeping the facility in good working condition. They are: Robert Poirier, Mike Anhorn, Gord Welsby and Neil Lonsbury.

Myra Lonsbury
Coordinator

Safeway/Sobey's Gift Cards

\$50, \$100, and \$250 Safeway/Sobey's Gift cards in stock for prompt delivery or pick-up.

are available for purchase thru Ken Hutchinson.

Email: kdhutchkenson@gmail.com

OR CALL (780) 217-6961



News From The Outreach Committee

Re: Lunch May 16, 2021

Our congregation is joining with Robertson-Wesley to provide Lunch for the Inner-City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM) on Sunday, May 16.

Due to Covid restrictions, we are purchasing single-packaged food items to prepare 100 lunch bags, as requested by the ICPM.

In order to cover the cost, we are inviting the congregation to make a donation \$20.00 will buy lunch for four of our inner-city friends.

If you are able to assist, an e-transfer to the Church with ICPM Lunch in the message box, or a cheque to the Church with ICPM Lunch on the bottom. A tax receipt will be issued.

If you have questions call:

Percy at 780-458-1481, or Betty at 780-459-8872.

Thank-you.

Stay Safe Everyone.

Outreach



AGM 2020-2021 REPORTS DUE ONCE AGAIN

Laurie Symbaluk is working on the 2020-2021 Annual Report which needs to be completed by June 2021. **The following committee reports should be sent to Laurie no later than MAY 25, 2021.**

Email address: office@stalbertunited.ca

- Rev. Mervin Gallant and Rev. Deborah Hoekstra
- Council
- Property
- Board of Trustees
- Worship and Education
- UCW
- Broadview Discussion Group
- Music Ministry
- M&S
- Outreach Committee
- Community Refugee Committee
- L.I.R.R.
- Affirm Team
- Finance Report
- Budget Report



CELEBRATION SUNDAY – JUNE 13th

Each year, St. Albert United Church takes the opportunity to celebrate the meaningful milestones that the end of a school year brings for our young members! This year, our Celebration Sunday Service will be on June 13th, and at this time, we will recognize some of these important transitions in the lives of the children at our church!

If a child in your family is transitioning from Kindergarten to Grade 1, from Grade 3 to Grade 4, from Grade 6 to Grade 7 or is graduating this year, **please email Rev. Deborah Hoekstra at: deborah1@stalbertunited.ca** and let us know - we would be so delighted to celebrate them specifically on Celebration Sunday! This celebration will include your child being congratulated by name during our service, and the delivery of a small gift to acknowledge this exciting milestone in their lives.



**Community Refugee Committee of St. Albert Serving
Greater Edmonton (CRCSA):**

Recently a generous St. Albert couple has stepped forward, committing to match anonymously, dollar for dollar, all donations made to the Community Refugee Committee of St. Albert Serving Greater Edmonton (CRCSA) between April 1st and May 31st, 2021 to a maximum of \$15,000. **For example, if you donate \$25.00 it becomes \$50.00 in support of these Syrian refugee families** who are currently living precarious lives in Beirut, Lebanon.

We are inviting individuals, service clubs, churches, and businesses to make a difference for these families by donating by **e-transfer to crcsarefugee@gmail.com or by cheque payable to CRCSA and mailing the cheque to 78 Fawcett Crescent, St. Albert AB T8N 1W3**. A tax receipt will be provided for any donations of \$25.00 or more for the 2021 tax year.

St. Albert United Church is the Sponsorship Agreement Holder. Many of you may remember that we co-founded the CRCSA in January 2016. Since then, we have successfully settled one refugee family in Edmonton and are currently raising funds to settle two more families who are relatives of the original family. Sincere thanks for your consideration!

Further Information:

Judy Evans (587-599-5176)

Helen Arnott (780-983-2105)

