

## Welcome!

A warm welcome to all who gather here today.

### Thank you to those offering leadership today

Welcome and Introduction..... Rev. Dr. Randy Crozsmán  
Worship Leadership..... Anne Cameron, Valerie Mosher  
Presbytery Representative..... Rev. Michael Mugford  
Historian..... Rev. Krista Anderson  
Organist..... Kenneth Hassell  
Soloists..... Cynthia Bruce, Barbara Rushton  
Greeters..... Maxine Phinney, Rev. Ray Francis  
Keepers of the Memories: ..... All of Us

## Reception

You are invited to stay after the service  
and enjoy refreshments.



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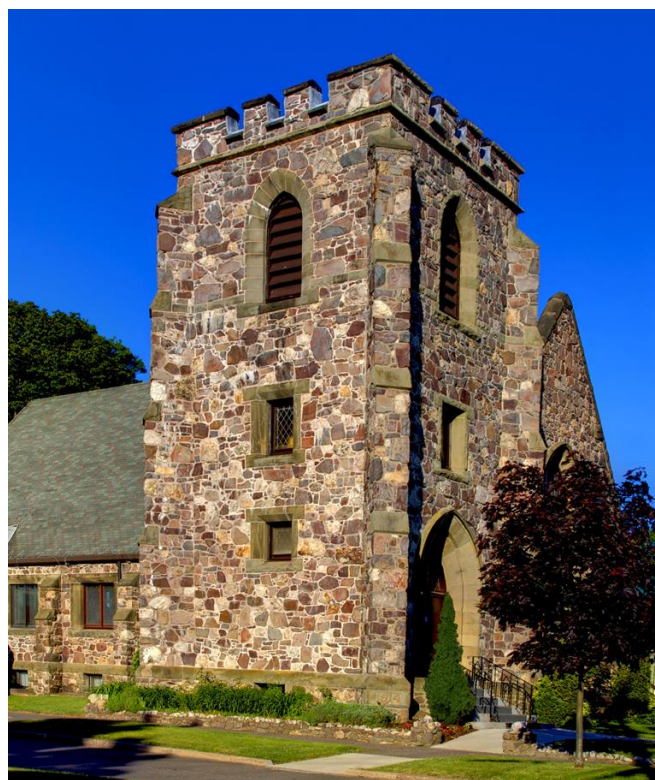
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## THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA Orchard Valley Pastoral Charge

### *Service of Decommissioning*

Sunday, August 17, 2014 7:00 pm



***United Church of St Paul & St Stephen***  
***440 Main St, Kentville NS***

**ORCHARD VALLEY PASTORAL CHARGE  
The United Church of Canada**

***United Church of  
St Paul & St Stephen, Kentville NS***

***Service of Decommissioning***

Sunday, August 17, 2014 – 7:00 pm

**Music as We Gather**

**Hymn:**               **“We Gather Here  
to Bid Farewell”**

*We gather here to bid farewell  
to friends who leave for other parts;  
our prayers we pledge, our love we tell,  
and lift to God our grateful hearts.*

*We bless the hand that brought you here  
and richly blessed us all in you:  
as now you leave for wider sphere  
God's covenant mercies we review.*

*In friendship's bonds our souls unite  
in prayer and praise and holy vow:  
to God's great heart of love and light  
your friends in Christ commit you now.*

*God guide you, keep you, lead you on  
from hope to hope, from strength to strength,  
until, in God's all-glorious dawn,  
we meet before the throne at length.*

**Words of Welcome and Introduction**

**Purpose:**

The time has come for the members of Christ's Holy Church, under God's leadership, to take leave of this building. It has been dedicated for the ministry of God's Word and Sacraments. It has provided refuge and comfort for God's people. It has served this household of faith. It is fitting, therefore, that as we take our leave of this house, we lift up our hearts in thanksgiving.

**Prayer of Intercession**

**Hymn:**               **“The Day Thou Gavest,  
Lord, Is Ended”**

*The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended;  
the darkness falls at thy behest;  
to thee our morning hymns ascended,  
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.*

*We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,  
while earth rolls onward into light,  
through all the world her watch is keeping,  
and rests not now by day or night.*

*As o'er each continent and island  
the dawn leads on another day,  
the voice of prayer is never silent,  
nor dies the strain of praise away.*

*The sun that bids us rest is waking  
our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
and hour by hour fresh lips are making  
thy wondrous doings heard on high.*

*So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,  
like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
thy kingdom stands and grows for ever,  
till all thy creatures own thy sway.*

**Reading: Psalm 122**

(honouring the pilgrimages that first  
brought us here and now lead us forward)

**St. Paul & St Stephen Church History**

**Special Music: "Pie Jesu"**

**A Time for Memories**

**Hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.  
Open now the crystal fountain,*

*whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.*

**Litany of Thanksgiving:**

One: In your great love, O God, you have blessed the  
many ministries carried on in this place by St.  
Andrew's United Church.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: As generations have prayed their prayers and  
sung your praises, your Spirit has blessed  
countless worshippers.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: We have celebrated the Lord's Supper and been  
nurtured in our journey in faith.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: We have rejoiced here as believers confessed  
their faith in you.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: Here we have baptized our children and grandchildren.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: We have celebrated the lives of those who have gone on before us.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: We have witnessed vows to love, honour, and cherish one another always.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: From within these walls, many have gone out to serve you in the wider church and in the world.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

One: The time has come for us to go now from this house, and to journey in faith in new and unfamiliar ways. We do so with sadness but also in hope. We do what so many faithful people have done before, walking with trust and confidence in you, knowing you do not abandon us, but lead us always with your Light.

**All: We give you thanks, O God.**

### **Declaration:**

This building, having been dedicated and named the United Church of St Paul & St Stephen, together with the land on which it stands and all objects remaining in it, we now commend to other purposes. We declare that it is no longer the place of meeting of a congregation of The United Church of Canada.

### **Sung Closing: "Go Now in Peace"**

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

### **A Time for Refreshments**

**Many thanks to all who helped organize  
and offer today's service.**