



**All are WELCOME at St. Paul's Cathedral**

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<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsAnglicanCathedralRegina.ca>

## **SIGNS OF SUMMER**

Angie Friedrich

We know summer has arrived when the sun lingers well past our usual bedtime, freshly seeded fields turn green, then ripen to gold, the scent of newly mown grass fills the air, flower beds bloom in a dazzling array of colour, songbirds chirp from the trees and children's laughter rings out as school gives way to freedom.

Summer brings the fresh, delicious tastes of Saskatoon berries, strawberries, apples, and plums. Lemonade and iced tea seem especially refreshing when sipped under a tree that offers welcome shade from the hot summer sun.

Summer offers a welcome break from the routines of work, school, and everyday life. It is a time to escape to cottages, parks, mountains, and lakes, gather with family and visit with friends and enjoy the quiet solitude of a backyard shaped by loving care.

Summer is also a time when church activities slow down, offering space for relaxation and reflection. Jesus invites us to "come apart and rest awhile." In that spirit, rest becomes a gift of restoration; rejuvenation; and renewal.

There are many ways to continue receiving God's message. Watching your church service online means you can watch in your pyjamas at home or sitting in your lawn chair at the lake. Take time to read your Bible and reflect on His words. Attend



Camp Harding to enjoy fellowship and activities with the new friends you will meet. Stop in for worship at a church you discover while travelling.

Most importantly, enjoy this season of rest, however you choose to spend it.

## **BELONGING**

Susan Gorges

Christine Burton asked an important question one Sunday: “How do people know they are welcome here?” It gave me plenty to consider, and my thoughts quickly moved to an even deeper question: “How do people come to feel that they belong here at St. Paul’s?”

Our greeters do a wonderful job of saying “Good morning” and offering bulletins, large-print materials, the Lord’s Prayer, and, when needed, the Order of Service. These gestures clearly say, “You are welcome here,” though they do not necessarily create a sense of belonging. Greeters are a familiar part of most Sunday church experiences. Their welcome is brief, but it can be the first step toward helping someone feel included and, eventually, at home.

We share the peace during the service, which is certainly a sign of inclusion. Still, it is brief, and the service soon continues, leaving no time for conversation.

After church, we move to the hall for coffee. The officiant invites everyone to share in fellowship and a cup of coffee. But do newcomers to St. Paul’s feel confident enough to walk into a room of strangers when, so far, no one even knows their name?

Not everyone feels comfortable entering a room and introducing themselves to strangers. Depending on when newcomers arrive in the hall, many people may already be seated, and joining an ongoing conversation can feel like an intrusion. Of course, we do not intend to exclude anyone. We simply want to catch up with people we may see only once a week. Still, a newcomer is likely to choose a seat apart from an established group and remain an observer.

So, what can we do?

Here is one possible first step. At the end of the service, as people form the reception line to make their way to coffee, take a moment to look around. Do you see a newcomer, or someone you have not met before? Offer your hand and say, “Good morning, my name is...” In most cases, they will respond with their name and shake your hand. Then ask whether they have time to join us for coffee or tea. If they do, walk with them and introduce them to one other person. That simple gesture is welcoming, inclusive, and an invitation to begin belonging at St. Paul’s. It is a first step.

***Belonging cont'd***

If that is the first step toward belonging, what else can we do?

St. Paul's depends on people power, and most of that work is done by volunteers. Many of our volunteers are aging, as they themselves often note. After retiring from work inside and outside the home, they have poured their energy into the life of the church. Now, many would like to slow down or retire from volunteer work. A newcomer could become your partner in the area of church life where you volunteer.

I admit I may be a little too eager when I ask every new person I meet on Sunday whether they would like to join the choir. A new choir member becomes part of a close-knit group, with opportunities to put down roots through Thursday evening practices, Sunday morning singing, and the occasional choir party. Of course, not everyone wants to sing, and not everyone has time for choir. Still, I will keep asking because our choir needs new members.

You, too, can look for someone new to invite into your volunteer work. Most people do not volunteer on their own, but many will respond to a personal invitation. Ask. They may say, "No, thank you," because they lack the time or interest in that particular role. Still, if St. Paul's is to continue growing and thriving, we need new volunteers for the work before us: Coffee Hour, Altar Guild, Greeters and Readers, the Cathedral Fair, and more. Volunteering helps newcomers put down roots, and once rooted, they begin to feel that they belong.

**YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU . . .**

Stewardship Committee

Did you know that St. Paul's now has an active stewardship committee?

We are taking a broad and exciting view of Stewardship that sees stewardship as how we manage our God-given gifts—our skills, our abilities and our approaches to each other. While financial giving is included in this it is just one aspect of responsibly planning and managing our resources in support of our mission and ministry here at St. Paul's. Who we are, what we have and what we can do to serve God and our world is all part of our stewardship efforts. Our Baptismal Covenant offers a basis for this approach in its emphasis on commitment to the community and its common life.

***Your Church Needs You cont'd***

**The Stewardship Committee currently has three members. All three are currently on Vestry. We'd like to recruit another two who are not vestry members and are ready to try something new.** The committee meets monthly, about 10 times a year, either in person or electronically.

We welcome your thoughts and questions in person, e-mail, text or phone.

**If you are interested in joining us, please contact one of us no later than July 31.**

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**QU'APPELLE HOUSE TURNS 60 IN AUGUST**

Janet Craig

Qu'Appelle House is located at 1425 College Avenue and serves as a special care home providing assisted living and long-term residential care. It is affiliated with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and the Anglican Diocese of Qu'Appelle, ensuring a faith-based, community-oriented environment.

Up to 57 residents call Qu'Appelle House home. An auxiliary from the Anglican churches in Regina has been assembled to assist with activities and entertainment. Teas and bake sales are held twice a year, while birthday cakes are supplied every two months. Summer picnics are organized that include KFC or pizza.

The teas are especially enjoyed by the residents. Ruth McLeod plays the piano while tables of gently used jewellery, cards and knickknacks are assembled. You many even see Ron McLeod modelling some earrings.

The Qu'Appelle House auxiliary needs additional volunteers. The time commitment is not big but the impact to the residents is gigantic. It is a fulfilling and fun ministry. If you're interested, contact Ruth McLeod or Janet Craig.



**NOTES FROM THE LECTIONARY**

William Stahl

**GENESIS 1**

The first reading for Trinity Sunday is the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. Genesis 1 is the first of three creation stories in the Bible. Psalm 104 is poetry, a hymn of praise. Genesis 2 is an ancient origin myth. Genesis 1 is pure theology, written by the priests in Jerusalem after the return from exile in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Although differing considerably in detail, all three accounts proclaim that God is the creator and that the creation is good.

One cannot emphasize too strongly that Genesis 1 is theology. While there are some allusions to Ancient Near Eastern creation stories, all of the mythological elements have been stripped out. Nor does it pretend to be a “scientific” text. Genesis 1 is not concerned with questions of when, or even of how, but of why.

One of the most common ideas that people today impose on the text is that God created the world *ex nihilo* (out of nothing). In all three creation stories something existed “before” creation. In Genesis 2 the world was a lifeless desert. Before creation there was a chaotic sea in Genesis 1 and Psalm 104. The point of all three accounts is that God imposes order on chaos and creates life from lifelessness.

The most literal translation of v1 is “When God began to create ...” The emphasis in the original Hebrew was on verbs and active processes, while the English translation puts the emphasis on nouns and objects. The word translated as “wind” in v2 also means “breath” or “spirit.” God separates the waters of chaos by a solid dome of beaten metal (sometimes translated as “firmament”) and divides the chaotic sea from the dry land. This is the Ancient Near Eastern view of the world as a flat disk surrounded by the ocean and separated by the dome of the sky from the waters of chaos above and below.

In subsequent days God creates the sun, moon, stars, plants and animals, proclaiming them all to be good. All of the things God creates just happened to be deities of Israel’s neighbours. Genesis 1 secularizes creation, proclaiming there is one creator God, not multiple gods and spirits of nature. An element of satire creeps in here, as the Hebrews are basically saying “We know that our God created your god.”

### **Genesis 1 cont'd**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day God creates humans. The Hebrew word here is *ādām*, which is not a proper name but is plural, correctly translated as “humankind.” In creating humanity God creates sex and declares it to be good. But sex is separated from divinity, unlike the fertility religions of Israel’s neighbours.

God then instructs people to “have dominion” over the world. Some today take this to mean humans have *carte blanche* but that is not what the text says. The word translated as “dominion” refers to the powers of a Persian *satrap* (provincial governor) who ruled in the name of the Shah and had to be accountable to the Shah for everything.

Lastly, God creates the Sabbath, a day of rest. People and animals were not to be worked until they dropped. And God sums up creation by declaring it to be very good. Unlike some other religions and philosophies which saw the created world as an evil from which people had to escape, Genesis 1 proclaims that, regulated by God’s law, people should cherish and enjoy the world.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**



The St. Paul’s Sunday School children enjoy Sunday school. Even the youngest members ask questions about the Bible stories which is so exciting because then you know “they get it”. It fills your heart with such joy to share the Bible stories and lessons with these incredible young people so they can foster a closer relationship with God.

St. Paul’s Sunday School may come to an end without volunteers to co-ordinate and teach. You do not need to have children in Sunday School to help with Sunday school. You do not need to be a mom to help with Sunday school (yes, I’m talking to you Dad, Grandpa, uncle, brother).

Please take a moment to consider joining the children’s ministry. If you have further questions, contact Angie at 306-570-2236 or [wa3f@sasktel.net](mailto:wa3f@sasktel.net).

## **VESTRY BRIEFS**

The Vestry met on June 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Below is an outline of items discussed:

- Cathedral Fair 2026 (aka Strawberry Fair) was held June 6, 2026. Without strawberries and with competing venues throughout the city, the attendance was down significantly from 2025. Total sales amounted to \$8,845.13.
- Even with some updated equipment, the sound system continues to be a problem during church services. Instead of purchasing equipment that 'should' help, vestry will engage a professional firm (possibly electrical engineering firm?) to create a report regarding what is required to bring a solution to this problem.
- A reminder was issued about the need for a Criminal Record Check for new Vestry members and that all Vestry members need to sign the Vestry Declaration.
- Federal Security Fund has withdrawn from the grant which was to provide funding to apply to capital projects.
- The finance committee is working with RBC Wealth Management to create an investment portfolio.
- The church property north of the church and the alleyway received an upgrade when D&J Paving delivered another 3 yards of reclaimed pavement to cover the rocks on the alley side of the hall and slope things away from the foundation.
- D&J Paving were on site on May 30<sup>th</sup> to remove the majority of the rock from the south and west side of the church. Screened topsoil was then delivered and to level the area. It does look great!
- On June 4<sup>th</sup>, Forever Fence started the installation of the fence located on the McIntyre Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue sides of the church. The gates and a small section on the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue side will be completed once the Rose window has been removed.
- New lobby entrance doors with two remote lock-release fobs have been ordered. The delivery is expected in 4 – 6 weeks.

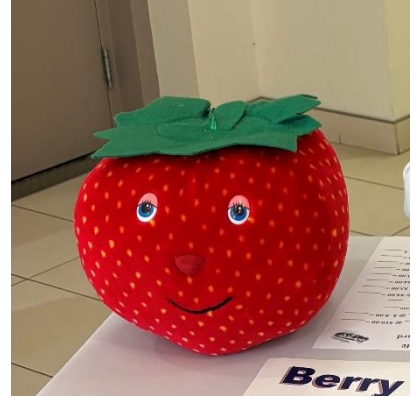
The next Vestry meeting will be held on September 15, 2026.

# ST. PAUL'S IN PICTURES



# CATHEDRAL FAIR





**RON & RUTH M<sup>C</sup>LEOD: SIXTY-SIX YEAR ANNIVERSARY**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**September 13**

**Eucharist Service, 10:00 a.m.  
The 15<sup>th</sup> Primate of the Anglican  
Church of Canada, The Most Reverend  
Shane Parker, will be presiding and  
preaching.**



Join us for **FELLOWSHIP** following the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. Come for the coffee and tea but stay for the people.

### St. Paul's Cathedral Contact Information

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**If you have comments or concerns regarding Cathedral Calling contact:**  
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### THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee is a standing committee of the Vestry of St. Paul's Cathedral. An article has been placed in Cathedral Calling looking for two non-Vestry people to join the committee. (See above)

Stewardship is complex, but also it is simple: Stewardship simply means taking care of our congregational life, programs and practices and to engage more deeply

in serving one another and our community. Campaigns to increase member involvement in the volunteer work of the church has a critical symbiotic partner. Our operations and our projects require financial contributions.

The Vestry sets priorities of projects to undertake. They will have looked at available finances to support each project to its success, in priority sequence. This might mean that a stewardship campaign will specifically point out where the money is intended to be used, but the stewardship committee cannot determine how the money you donated will be spent. Donations may have to be directed to a project that suddenly jumps in priority – for example, the problem with the doors to the office and hall. Since this is an issue regarding the safety of the church and the people in the office/hall during the week, available dollars will be moved to address the issue of the doors.

But rest assured, the priority project you had in mind will be addressed. The Vestry does understand that the original project is something to be handled as soon as possible. And the Stewardship Committee will be bringing up the project to each Vestry meeting until the project is completed.