

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH
MARCH 01, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church
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Reverend Deborah M. Hoekstra Cell: 780 983-2148
WELCOME to our service this morning!

A United Church of Canada Historical Moment

March 01, 2026: The United Church of Canada has long welcomed ministers from many countries. One long-serving example is Rev. Neville Smith, the first, and to date the only minister born in the Dutch Antilles to serve the United Church of Canada. He and his late wife Joan, a diaconal minister, served congregations in Alberta (including Stony Plain United Church) and Ontario after their arrival in the 1980s. .
- Gayle Simonson

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE GATHER TOGETHER BEFORE GOD
on traditional territory of Treaty Six Peoples and of the Métis Nation

CALL TO WORSHIP

Written by Ann Siddall, and posted on the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre website. <https://stillpointsa.org.au/>
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TENEBRAE LITURGY:

CALL TO THE LIGHT

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PRAYER

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LETTING THE LIGHT IN (MEW: Uncovering a window SP: Lights up)

HYMN: VU #82 "A Light Is Gleaming" Refrain, verse 2, Refrain

REFRAIN:

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.**

Verse 2

When night is round us and every shadow grows, a star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say: "God's light will ever stay."

REFRAIN

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A CANDLE IS LIT**PRAYER** (*Unison*) **Lent 2 - Following the Light**

Dear Lord, as I embark on this Lenten journey, I ask that you help me to hear Your voice and follow the inner light of Your Spirit, guiding me away from darkness, and doubt. Purify my soul and guide my steps, so that I may walk in Your truth and reflect Your love in all that I do. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS**PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS****THE LORD'S PRAYER: SING VU #960**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Adapt. From a chant by R. Langdon

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD FOR OUR LIVES**GIFT OF MUSIC: Choir: "At the Table of the Lord"**

Words and Music by Jay Althouse

THEME TIME**HYMN: MV #115 "Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New" (2x)**

Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.

REPEAT

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SCRIPTURE READINGS

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READING FROM THE EPISTLES:
READING FROM THE GOSPELS:

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

REFLECTION: “Engaged in Faith” by Rev. Deborah M. Hoekstra

HYMN: VU 356 (seated) “Seek Ye First, The Kingdom
Verse 1:

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness,
 and all these things shall be added unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.

Verse 2: Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and you shall find,
 knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Hallelu, hallelujah.

Verse 3: We do not live by bread alone, but by every word t
 hat proceeds from the mouth of God. Hallelu, hallelujah.

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THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY: Then Let Us Sing #60 “There’s Enough For All”

There’s enough for all if we would learn to share it,
 there’s enough for all, oh, help us to believe.
 There’s enough for all. Let’s bring our loaves and fishes, and offer them to Jesus.
 There’s more than enough for you and me

~ Words & Music: Bryan Moyer Suderman, alt. © 2024 Bryan Moyer Suderman/Small TallMusic. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (Unison)

Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
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INVITATION TO THE TABLE: “The Things We Seek”

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive)

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of the lost and the found, surely it is right for us to give our thanks and praise;

.....

Until your promised day, we will pray. Until your promised day, we will seek.

Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD and THE POURING OF THE CUP

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS: MV #199 “When at This Table” Vs 1, 3, 5;
MV #198 “When We Gather at the Table Vs. 1, 3, 5; MV 195 “Long Ago and Far Away”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*Unison*)

**God of manna and mustard seeds, we came to this Table hungry
and we leave feeling full—full of hope, full of promise, full of what could be.
For we not only found glimpses of you at this Table,
but we caught a glimpse of the way things could be:
in a meal where all are welcomed and all are fed.
Is there anything holier than that?
So thank you for nourishing our curiosity
alongside our spirit and our conviction.
May we always seek you the way you seek after us.
With grateful hearts we pray, Amen.**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

SENDING HYMN: MV #161 “I Have Called You by Your Name”

Verse 1

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

Verse 2: I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus’ body given long ago.

Verse 3: I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation’s ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus’ robe, then let it go.

Verse 4: I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

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COMMISSIONING

Adapted. Written by Rev. Kathryn Matthews Huey and the Rev. Susan A. Blain.
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BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE: “Threefold Choral Amen”

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 01, 2026

NEW OR REVISED

WED. MARCH 4 WHISPERING WATERS: We will have our monthly service at Whispering Waters on Wed. Feb 4 at 7:15 pm. If you would like to help, please contact Linda Maki. The choir will come back to the church afterwards for its practice.

REMINDERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 - CATERING SERVICES COMMITTEE: We will have a meeting after church on Sun. March 1. We will be going over menus, pricing and scheduling.

LENTEN JOURNEY 2026 "JESUS IS THE LIGHT" – COLLECTION FOR THE FOOD BANK:

Again this year, Mewassin has provided us with a Lenten Journey, "Jesus is the Light". As part of this, we will be collecting specific items for the Parkland Food Bank each week of Lent, starting Sun Feb 22, the first Sunday in Lent, up to Palm Sunday. There are sheets on the table outside the Sanctuary and on the bulletin board listing the items for each week. Many thanks to Mewassin Sunday School for providing us with this year's Lenten Journey.

STARTING SUNDAY FEB 22 FROM 4 TO 5 PM: LENT PRAYER SESSIONS: Northern Spirit has organized Lenten Prayer sessions every Sunday afternoon from 4 to 5 pm during Lent (Feb 22 to Mar 29). Various churches in our region are hosting the sessions – the schedule is on the bulletin board and also on the table outside the sanctuary. You can join the sessions on zoom with this link: [connection link](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86475167860?pwd=HKXBqMbin1oADzFCFbapYgKa9bLz0c.1#success); Meeting ID: 864 7516 7860; Passcode: 803578).
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86475167860?pwd=HKXBqMbin1oADzFCFbapYgKa9bLz0c.1#success>.

WED. MAR 4 UCW MEETING: Noel Cairney is well again and will present her program the Spirituality of Laughter. We have our program before the meeting, so any interested woman is invited to attend.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 4:00 PM - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: This year's Annual World Day of Prayer service will be held at **St. Augustine's – Parkland Anglican Church, 131 Church Road, Spruce Grove on Friday, March 6 at 4:00 pm**. This ecumenical worship service is open to everyone and was written and prepared by WDP Nigeria. For more information, please see Karen Fitzgerald.

PURDY'S EASTER CHOCOLATES: As Easter is early this year, now is the time for our popular fundraiser! Since 1907, Purdy's fine chocolates have been proudly made in Canada, with premium quality ingredients and sustainable cocoa. Get your holiday gifts for your family, friends, neighbours, and co-workers by supporting our church. There are no-sugar and vegan options. Join on-line at Welcome to the Purdy Fundraiser: "Easter Chocolates for Stony Plain United Church" and order at [:https://fundraising.purdys.com/campaign/000024869](https://fundraising.purdys.com/campaign/000024869) Alternatively, you may submit a paper form to the church office.

Place Orders & Pay By: Sunday, March 15, 2026 at the latest.

Pickup: April 2, 2026 (or earlier - you will be notified when the orders arrive)

At: Stony Plain United Church, 5012 – 51 Ave, Stony Plain

Thanks for supporting our church!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, SUNDAY, MARCH 15 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS: The Community of Faith AGM will be held on Sunday March 8, and Stony Plain United Church's AGM will be on Sunday, March 15. Both meetings will take place right after the morning service.

PASSING ON YOUR CONCERNS: If you know of anyone who would like a visit or needs a card, please contact the Care Committee, Rev. Deborah or call the Church Office (780 963-4745) or email stonyuc@telus.net.

REV DEBORAH'S SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

Sun. Mar. 1, 2026	COMMUNION Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW
Sun. Mar 8, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW
Sun. Mar 15, 2026	Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW
Sun. Mar 22, 2026	Rev. Deborah in Devon – recorded service for us.
Sun. Mar 29, 2026	PALM SUNDAY Rev. Deborah in person at SP and MEW

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Ukuleles & Choir: Wednesdays: Ukes 6:00, Choir 7:00 pm
Card Recreators: Thursdays, 10 am

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun Feb 22-Mar 22	Collection for Parkland Food Bank (see insert)
Wed. Mar 4	1:30 pm UCW Meeting with speaker Noel Cairney
Wed. Mar 4	7:15 pm Service at Whispering Waters
Fri. Mar 6	4:00 pm World Day of Prayer at St. Augustine's-Parkland Anglican Church, Spruce Grove
Sun. Mar 8	Community of Faith Annual General Meeting
Sun. Mar 15	Stony Plain United Church Annual General Meeting
Apr. 9-11	Chinook Winds & Northern Spirit Regions Conference & AGM at Providence Renewal Centre, 3005 – 199 St. N.W, Edmonton

Sundays, Feb 22 to Mar 29 from 4 – 5 pm Northern Spirit Lent Prayer Sessions (see announcement and poster)