

ST ANDREW'S IN THE GRANGE SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2025

GREETINGS FROM THE MANSE

Summer invites us to slow down, to notice the warmth on our skin, to linger in beauty, and to breathe deeply. It is a season when God's creation sings in colour and light, reminding us that rest is part of the holy rhythm of life. In these long days and gentle evenings, many of us have found moments to reconnect with ourselves, with one another, and with the God who delights in our wholeness.

As summer draws to a close, I invite you to reflect. Where have you noticed God's goodness in recent months? Was it in laughter shared with friends, in the quiet grace of a morning sunrise, in the courage to try something new, or in the healing that comes from rest? Perhaps it was in an act of kindness you received or offered, in moments of advocacy for justice, or in spaces where all were welcomed and affirmed just as they are.

Let us give thanks for a God whose love knows no boundaries, who embraces every person, every story, and every journey. And as we step into the busier rhythms of life, may we carry with us the gratitude and restoration this season has offered, trusting that the same God who met us in stillness and beauty will guide us with deeper love, greater compassion, and the joy of true community.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER:

- 7th SONGS OF PRAISE
- 21st BAKE, PRODUCE, AND PLANT SALE

OCTOBER:

- 4th PET BLESSING at 10:00
- 5th HARVEST SERVICE & LUNCH
- 19th SERVICE AT THE URC

Blessings, Justin



THE EARLY BIRD WEE SERVICE CONTINUES

After the joy and connection of our very first Early Bird Wee Service, we're excited to keep the tradition going. Join us on the last Sunday of each month for a warm and welcoming gathering for all ages. We'll start with a shared breakfast at 8:45 am, then move into a 30-minute, family-friendly service at 9:00am. It's a relaxed and joyful space to connect, reflect, and worship together before the day begins. Everyone is welcome, so come and see what the Early Bird joy is all about.



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CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – WE'RE ALMOST THERE

We're excited to share that our building project is nearly complete. After months of planning, hard work, and the patience of our congregation, we can finally see the finish line. If all goes as expected, we hope to have everything wrapped up by the beginning of September.

This has been a labour of love, creating a space that will serve our church family and community for years to come. We are deeply grateful for the generosity that has brought us this far, and we're still seeking additional funding to help cover the final costs. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us open our renewed space free from financial strain.

As part of our fundraising efforts, Justin will be running the Butterfield Half Marathon this September, and you can sponsor him to help us reach our goal. It's a great way to show support, cheer him on, and invest in the future of our church all at once.

Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and excitement as we prepare to begin this next chapter together.

PET BLESSING ON SAT, OCTOBER 4

All creatures great and small are welcome at our annual Pet Blessing on Saturday, October 4, at 10:00 am at the church. This is a joyful occasion to give thanks for the animals who share our lives and bring us love, companionship, and laughter.

If you'd like your pet blessed, simply bring them along. If that's not possible, you're welcome to bring their collar, favourite toy, or even a photo so they can be part of the celebration in spirit.

Come and join us for a morning of wagging tails, gentle purrs, and God's blessing over the creatures we cherish. Everyone, two-legged and four-legged, is welcome



HARVEST SUNDAY AND LUNCH

Join us on Sunday, October 5 as we gather for our Harvest Service, a time to give thanks for God's abundant provision and the blessings of the changing seasons. Together, we will celebrate the beauty of creation, the fruits of the earth, and the generosity that flows through our community. The service will be filled with uplifting music, words of gratitude, and opportunities to reflect on how we can share what we have with others.

Following the service, everyone is invited to stay for a Harvest Lunch in the church hall. This will be a wonderful time to enjoy good food, warm conversation, and the joy of being together. Whether you bring a dish to share or simply bring yourself, your presence will make the celebration complete.

REQUEST FOR LEGO AND DUPLO

We're building something exciting—literally! Our church is looking for donations of LEGO and DUPLO bricks for upcoming children's activities and community events. They don't need to be complete sets; loose pieces are more than welcome. Whether it's a small bag of bricks or a big box of colourful creativity, every donation will help us create a fun and welcoming space for kids (and kids at heart!) to explore, imagine, and build together.

If you have LEGO or DUPLO you no longer use, please drop it off at the church on Sunday.



VISITING THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On Sunday, October 19, we will be joining our friends at the United Reformed Church for a shared time of worship and fellowship. This special service will take place at their church, offering us the opportunity to strengthen our connection, celebrate our shared faith, and enjoy the blessing of worshipping together as one community in Christ.

Please note that there will be no service at our building that morning. We look forward to seeing you at the United Reformed Church as we gather in gratitude, friendship, and unity.