



# Adventures with Christ

St. Andrew's & St. Paul's United Church

Russell, ON 613-445-3111

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[www.russellunitedchurch.org](http://www.russellunitedchurch.org)

[facebook.com/groups/107464516102468](https://facebook.com/groups/107464516102468)

Minister Rev. Laurelle Callaghan

*Our mission: To Know Jesus and share His Love*

Ed. # 134

April 2026

Sunday Worship is at 10:00 am.

Sunday School & Nursery available

Everyone is welcome in the Sunday school hall after worship for Coffee & Conversation.

## Coffee and conversation in the Upper Hall

Everyone is welcome to join in  
on Thursdays @ 10:00 am.

Feel free to bring your knitting or other crafts.



## A Note from Rev. Laurelle

As Easter approaches two very important questions jump to mind:

*How do we find Easter on the calendar?*

**First**, we need to think about how time was calculated before we could find everything we need to know about our day on our watch. For centuries, time was calculated by either watching the movements of the sun (solar calendar) or the moon (lunar calendar). The Jewish people used a lunar calendar and the annual movements of the moon used to calculate special days—like Passover. As we know, Passover was the time of Jesus' death and resurrection.

One of the most significant councils of the early church, the Council of Nicaea 325, determined that using the Jewish calendar to find a date for Easter, did not meet the needs of the Christian church. It was not that the date of Easter could change every year, or that the date was calculated using the movements of the moon (Gregorian calendar) but that the day of the week for Easter changed annually and did not always fall on a Sunday. The leaders of the early church felt that Easter had to be on a Sunday!

So, modifications were made to formulate a calculation—however, they didn't necessarily make reforms in a straight line! Still using the lunar system, March 21<sup>st</sup> was decided to be the date of the spring equinox. (The Jewish calculation of Passover still rests on an annually

different date of the spring equinox). March 21<sup>st</sup>, seems great start to an equation for Easter but ...the Council decided that Easter would fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon, before or after March 21<sup>st</sup>. On a Sunday, but a different one every year!

**Second, why do bunnies deliver eggs?** Believe it or not, there is an explanation that almost makes sense and can be seen as, at the least, tangential to Easter Sunday.

As with many things in Christianity, roots can be found in pagan traditions that were changed and incorporated into Christianity. The Easter Bunny comes from Eostre, the pagan goddess of spring and fertility in the ancient of spring and fertility. Christian tradition of Easter is also linked with regeneration of life.

And the eggs, in early 1700s, German settlers brought a legend of the Osterhase—a magical rabbit that delivered eggs—another sign of life. The legend of Osterhase seems to be lost—but not the bunnies delivering eggs.



**Rev. Laurelle Callaghan**



**Rev. Laurelle is away April 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**Supply minister for:**

- **April 19<sup>th</sup> to be determined,**
- **April 26<sup>th</sup> will be David Patterson (LLW).**



Our Church will be running a confirmation class in May for anyone seeking **confirmation** or to get a refresher on what it means to be a member.

Please send a message to the church office.

**Below is the link to the 2025 Annual Report:**

[https://www.russellunitedchurch.org/files/ugd/e87f53\\_d636a0d3cbc74944809d28f3c4fb0fa2.pdf](https://www.russellunitedchurch.org/files/ugd/e87f53_d636a0d3cbc74944809d28f3c4fb0fa2.pdf)

## Annual Report 2025

St. Andrew's & St. Paul's United Church  
Box 400, 38 Mill Street  
Russell, ON  
K4R 1E2



### Church Office Hours:

Tuesdays 9:00 – 11:00 am  
Thursdays 9:00 – 11:00 am

Emails and voice messages will be checked on these days only.

## Metcalfe St Andrews United Church Fundraiser

### Spring Medley Concert

Saturday April 18, at 2:00 pm

At the Church

2677 8TH LINE ROAD

Our concert includes the Ottawa Police Chorus, Russell Village Ringers, Guitarist Iain Clogg

Friends family and the Community are invited to share in this wonderful music Event.

Tickets \$20.00

For tickets contact

Brenda Reaney - 613-821-2104

Refreshments will be served after the concert in the basement hall

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A motion to **change our current governance from a board to a council** was approved at our ACM on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

To that end a committee of 3-5 people, along with the Chair, will be struck to define the roles and responsibilities of each committee.

If you are interested in sitting on this committee, please speak to our Chair, Susan Gray.



**Meeting on Tuesday,  
April 7<sup>th</sup> at  
10:00 am.**

**All women are welcome.**

## Annual Good Friday Community Walk – April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026

Credits: <https://www.russellamic.com/good-friday-walk>

A procession of the Cross on Good Friday is an annual tradition where locals from Russell Township symbolize Jesus' journey while carrying the cross prior to His crucifixion. People walk through the town to listen the story of what happened on Good Friday. We will begin at the Russell Arena at 10:00am and proceed through downtown Russell, stopping at six stations to offer prayers and celebrate through songs.

Station 1: Concession and Craig

Station 2: Veterinary Clinic (across from First St.)

Station 3: Post Office

Station 4: Dental Parking Lot (across from Big Bite Bistro)

Station 5: Parking Lot (beside the Real Estate Office)

Station 6: Parking Lot (by the Castor River)

ALL are welcome! Bring your families!  
Children are welcome to help carry the cross!

**Pastor Vinita Baker**  
**Ambassador Ministries in Covenant**



## UCW ongoing Program: "ReCycle and ReUse"

- 1) used postage stamps
- 2) cups/dishes/cutlery
- 3) pop can tabs
- 4) eye glasses
- 5) milk bags



Your help is greatly appreciated. Bring to church with you and feed our bins. With everyone's help we can do great things for others and help to reduce waste in our landfills.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- April 1<sup>st</sup>, April Fool's Day
- April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Good Friday.
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday.  
COMMUNION
- April. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Earth Day.



- May 10<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day
- May 18<sup>th</sup>, Victoria Day
- May 23<sup>rd</sup>, PBJ sale in the church upper hall (Plants, Books, Jewelry)



- June 14<sup>th</sup>, Strawberry Social following the service
- June 21<sup>st</sup>, Father's Day



**Gift Cards for FOODLAND and GIANT TIGER are available from Graham. The church is gifted 5% of the card's value. They make great gifts too.**



## UCW - PB & J Sale Plants, Books & Jewelry Sale (not peanut butter & jam)

**Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 from 9 a.m. to Noon** (in upper hall & outdoors)

We are looking for used or new soft &/or hardcover books, as well as all types of costume jewelry bracelets, necklaces, earrings, broaches and rings. 'Better' jewelry and decorative scarves will be priced accordingly.

**Starting April 6<sup>th</sup>, these can be left** in the upper hall with last day of accepting May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026. **(No magazines, dictionaries, or encyclopedias).**

We will also be selling plants, setting up outdoors.

Please mark your calendar and hope you all can come and check out our sale.

Thank you for our continued support in the on-going works of your UCW

# A look at some last month events:

On Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>, the UCW presented Rev Ed Barbazat with a cheque for his Ugandan Orphanage. Ed and the reverend from the orphanage who was visiting expressed their gratitude at the fellowship following the service and shared a few photos of their children.

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, our Church and the Russell community enjoyed an afternoon of Irish music celebrating Saint Patrick's Day by the Gallagher family. The concert was presented by the Russell Historical Society.



We welcomed Rev. Kathryn Peate and her husband David for worship on Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>. She spoke of "Christ-ed Eyes" and we enjoyed their company following the service for Fellowship in the upper hall.

