



## **Hello, Mount Royal United Church Community of Faith members:**

While that new terminology for "congregation" is a bit of a mouthful, it is a great description of us as a church family. And boy what a lot has happened to our church family this past 6 months!

In March, our Minister, Rev. Dr. Daley, announced her retirement effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. Two very distinct and dedicated committees were struck. One sought input from our Community of Faith and developed and posted our Profile on Church Hub, the United Church's on-line repository where vacancies for ministers are listed. Next, the Search Committee was formed. September 15<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for applications. They have begun meeting to plan the process and schedule interviews for applicants. We are all anxiously awaiting their presentation of a candidate for our approval as the search process plays out.

The church was closed in August providing, a well-deserved rest for staff and volunteers. Thanks to the Worship Committee, we had supply ministers and lay worship leaders during July and September. Rev. Dr. Daley is returning full time in October on an interim basis for six months or until we call a new minister; providing us with much needed stability. My sincere thanks to everyone for efforts to keep things functioning normally while we have been without a permanent minister.

I hope you have been able to enjoy the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations to date. In September, we focused on groups and committees that are active at Mount Royal. I think we were all surprised and pleased at the numbers of people meeting in our church building on a regular basis. At the end of this letter you'll find a list of upcoming special events. I encourage your active support and participation.

We are always looking for volunteers for BLAST and to serve on committees, ushers, tellers, scripture readers, visitors, to prepare the elements and/or serve communion, run the screens during worship, funerals or special services, provide drives, assist with coffee and conversation and to help in a variety of ways with FUNdraising activities. This fall we are trying very hard to improve our website and we need your help by taking photos of activities around the church and sending them to the office. We all tend to say " You know I'll help any time you ask me" but wouldn't it be so much easier for Committee chairs and activity organizers if you would step forward and offer your assistance? Please consider how you might be able to help.

I am happy to announce that the work on the bell tower has concluded. While it cost more than estimated, we do hope our building entrance will be both attractive and safe for all. Efforts continue to make our sound system function optimally. Please provide your feedback on the system to me or the church office as we know it is an important part of making everyone feel included in the services.

If you have an email address and have not yet provided it to the church office, please do so. The email address for the church is: [office@mountroualuc.ca](mailto:office@mountroualuc.ca)

If you have provided an email address, you may be receiving this letter, event calendar and financial statement electronically. Nevertheless, please check your mail slot at the back of the church weekly. Normally the only time we use sealed envelopes is for mailing confidential correspondence. You can help us cut costs by removing any mail and leaving the unsealed envelope for reuse. It will help us save paper and money and be good Earth stewards. Thank you for your consideration.

And now to everyone's favourite part of a church letter...Included with this letter is an envelope for a special Thanksgiving offering. I invite you to make an extra donation if and as you are able. Any amount is appreciated.

I would also like to remind you that signing up for PAR (pre-authorized remittance) is a convenient and helpful way to ensure you make a regular contribution even when you are unable to attend church. You can cancel or amend your contribution at any time by contacting the church office.

It is also possible to make provision for Mount Royal in your Will or with your estate or to donate cash or securities at any time. Please feel free to speak to our Treasurer, David Close, about how to make such arrangements.

Members of Council appreciate your suggestions for changes and improvements at any time. On behalf of Council, thank you for worshipping at Mount Royal and participating in the life and work of your Community of Faith.

Enjoy the beauty of the fall season and Happy Thanksgiving to you and your friends and family!

**Susan Fowler**  
**Council Chair**  
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**Events coming up at Mount Royal United Church:**

Fri, October 25	Fall Rummage Sale 5-7pm
Sat, October 26	Fall Rummage Sale 8-10:30am
Tues, October 29	UCW Halloween Coffee and muffin party 9-11am
Sat, November 2	Smiley-face pancake breakfast 8-11am
Sat, November 30	Display of Nativity scenes 10am-1pm.
Wed, December 4	UCW Candlelight communion Service 7pm