

## ***A brief history...***

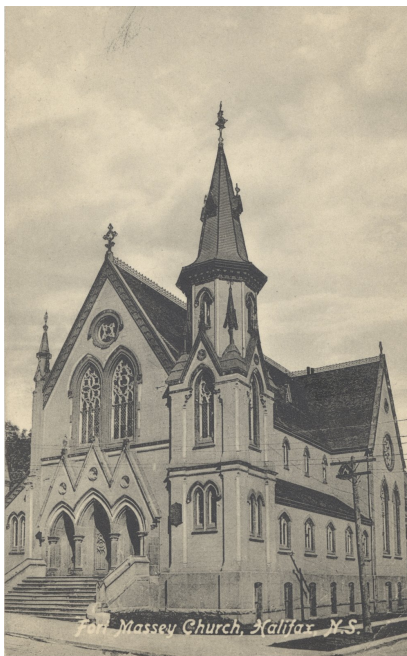
**The Name:** The unique name of Fort Massey Church recalls the early years of the garrison town when there was a blockhouse on the site. The fort was named after *General Eyre Massey* who was commander-in-chief at Halifax from 1776-1780.

**The Building:** From the *Halifax Reporter*, 1871: "The interior ... has almost a cathedral appearance. In form and style there is nothing like it in Nova Scotia." From the *Canadian Illustrated News*, 1873: "...one of the most handsome specimens of Gothic architecture to be met in the Dominion." Opened in 1871, the Scottish architect, *David Stirling*, made skillful use of Gothic designs with more than a dozen window shapes and sizes and numerous versions of decorative window tracery. Inside there are richly-carved ceiling braces supported by hammer-beams, ornamental kings' heads and bands of trefoil arches punctuated by protruding, small winged creatures which gaze down into the nave below. The church hall with gymnasium was added in 1898, and is shared with numerous community groups.

**The Organ:** The three manual Casavant organ, installed in 1913, was played by television's first lady of the organ, *Diane Bish* (Joy of Music) to a full house; and each October the local chapter of the *Royal Canadian College of Organists* (RCCO) brings together organists and musical guests for an evening of 'frighteningly fine music' at the *Phantoms of the Pipes* concert!

**The People:** Fort Massey, along with many other Presbyterian churches, joined the Methodists and Congregationalists in the union of *The United Church of Canada* in 1925. Over the years many notable Halifaxians attended Fort Massey including *Lucy Maud Montgomery* (author of *Anne of Green Gables*) and *Anna Leonowens* (Governess to the King of Siam's children).

**Today,** the congregation consists of long-time south-enders, students, seniors, and new residents who live in the neighbouring buildings, as well as people from throughout the HRM. We strive to be a welcoming oasis in the midst of city living.



# *Fort Massey by the Sea*

*Watching over Halifax  
Harbour since 1871*

*A Congregation of The  
United Church of Canada*



T. D. Cleveland-Thompson, Minister

Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session  
John Walter, Assistant Organist  
Kevin Robarts, Flutist  
Ruth MacKenzie, Chief Steward  
Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons  
Elliott Prouty, Head Usher

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***Warning!*** *To enter into the life of this people of God is to encounter God's soul-challenging, life-changing, radicalizing love. Will you join us? Do you dare?*

# THE GATHERING

\* Indicates all who are able may stand

## PRELUDE

The bell is sounded three times in the name of Creating God, Jesus, and Spirit.  
The Community Candle is lit reminding us that we are bearers of light & love.

## OPENING WORDS

**\*OPENING HYMN** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty VU 220

**\*RESPONSIVE PRAYER** Beatitudes for Workers (United Church of Christ, USA)  
*Blessed are you poor who have no work or too little income.*  
**God has promised: yours is the kingdom of heaven.**  
*Blessed are you who are hungry now.*  
**God has promised: you shall be filled.**  
*Blessed are you who weep over unpaid bills, the loss of a job,  
or your children's lack of opportunities.*  
**God has promised: you shall be comforted, you shall laugh.**  
*Blessed are you who are merciful.*  
**God has promised: you shall receive mercy.**  
*Blessed are you who hunger and thirst for justice.*  
**God has promised: you shall be filled.**  
*The time is surely coming when God's justice and peace  
shall reign throughout the land.*  
**Thanks be to God.** (Matthew 5:3-6; Luke 6:20-21)

**\*DOXOLOGY** Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures high and low;  
Give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One. VU 541

**\*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION**  
We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace"  
or "the peace of Christ."

## WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES** Christian Summer Activities: # 5

**OFFERING** Offertory Music:  
Response: Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands vs.1&2 VU 537

## SILENCE

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Response: **God of justice, hear our prayer.**

**PRAYER OF JESUS** The Lord's Prayer VU 921

*HYMN	God of Freedom, God of Justice	VU 700
READING	Ecclesiastes 2:4-13	
SERMON	<u>Whistle While We Work</u>	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	A New Creed	VU 918
*CLOSING HYMN	How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord	VU 504
*PARTING WORDS & BLESSING		
POSTLUDE		

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**Welcome** to *Fort Massey by-the-Sea*. We are delighted to have you joining us at our Sunday morning gathering. **Visitors** are invited to sign our Guest Book and fill out a **Welcome Card** at the left of the main doors upon exiting the nave, leaving it with the guest book. Join us after the Service for **lemonade and conversation**.

**Welcome home to our musicians**, *Simon and Leah*, who are back from a two month tour of cathedrals and organs in Europe. This tour had an educational component to it. Check out their pod-casts at: <http://organsafari.wordpress.com>

**Mandate**, the United Church's mission magazine, is available on the Welcome Table in the Tobin St. lobby – FREE!

**Church School** and Nursery re-open next Sunday, Sep 7.

**Volunteer(s) needed** for an outreach project in support of the Alzheimer Society, to be held during a Sunday morning Coffee & Conversation in September. Please speak with the minister or our Outreach Chair, *Ian MacDonald*.

**Welcome Back Sunday** will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please speak with Nancy Riggs or the minister if you would like to help organize this year's event.

**Board of Management** meets Tue, Sep 2, 7:30 PM, Music Room.

**“KAIROS”** is a Greek word meaning a God-given ‘opportune time’ for decisive action. It is also the name of the ecumenical justice coalition in Canada uniting eleven churches and religious organizations in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights – locally and globally. Are you concerned about: Indigenous Rights .... Water .... Peace with Justice in Palestine and Israel .... Corporate Social Responsibility .... Violence Against Aboriginal Women .... Climate Change .... ? *Join us!* The Halifax group meets monthly: Next meeting is Wed. Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1:30 PM at the Anglican Diocesan Centre, next to All Saints Cathedral, 1330 Martello Street. The Atlantic regional network gathers this fall at the United Church Centre, Sackville, NB, Sept. 20 & 21, speakers/workshops will focus on Indigenous Rights and Ecological Justice. New members and guests are welcome! For more info contact: *Linda Scherzinger* (425-0339; [lindakseven@gmail.com](mailto:lindakseven@gmail.com) )