

## 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 skilful 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 and faith 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 the majority of Presbyterian churches, joined the Methodists and Congregationalists in the union of *The United Church of Canada* in 1925. Over the years many notable Haligonians have been affiliated with Fort Massey including *Lucy Maud Montgomery* (author of *Anne of Green Gables*), *Anna Leonowens* (Governess to the King of Siam's children – *The King and I* musical), and Nova Scotia's reformer *Joseph Howe* (Premier & Lt. Gov.). Some of the original subscribers included politicians such as *Hiram Blanchard*, Premier of Nova Scotia in 1867; *William Garvie*, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) and Commissioner of Public Works; and *Sir Robert Boak*, President of the Legislative Council and Provincial Treasurer. Other noted subscribers included merchant *William Robertson*, proprietor of Robertson's Hardware (now part of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic) and President of the Union Bank; *Andrew Muir*, who had fought at the Battle of Trafalgar; and *Captain J. Taylor Wood*, grandson of American President Zachary Taylor.

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

(Adapted from a brief history of Fort Massey Church written by Dr. Elizabeth Pacey OC, for the occasion of FMC's Provincial Heritage designation on Sep 12, 1996.)

# Fort Massey *United Church*

HALIFAX ~ NOVA SCOTIA

*Creating Community c. 1871*

**W**elcome to Fort Massey. We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, hockey dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organized religion.' (*We're not that keen on it either!*)

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to the ol' Kirk.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost on the Armdale roundabout and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters... and you! (adapted - used with permission, *Coventry Cathedral, England*)

**After Service**, join us in the Tobin St. lobby for lemonade.

**Sundays after Pentecost**  
August 4 – Sept 1, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

**ORDER of SERVICE**

\* indicates standing for those who are able

**PRELUDE**

**SILENT REFLECTION**      Trinity bell is rung; Community candle is lit.

**OPENING WORDS**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**\*THE PEACE**                      *Peace be with you.*  
**And also with you.**

**WELCOME & NOTICES**

**OFFERING** Offertory

\*                      Response:      What can I do? standing                      MV 191  
**What can I do? What can I bring?**  
**What can I say? What can I sing?**  
**I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.**  
**I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

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

**READING(S)**                              *Offered as wisdom for the journey.*  
**May we walk in its light.**

**\*HYMN**

**SERMON**

**\*AFFIRMATION**                              A New Creed                              VU 918

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**\*PARTING WORDS**                              *Amen. May it be so.*

**POSTLUDE**

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**Recycle** your bulletin by placing it on the table from which you took it; or please feel free to take it with you.

**Berkeley Book Group** will meet Thursdays this fall, reading *Unbelievable* by John Shelby Spong, which can be ordered at the *Bookmark*, 5686 Spring Garden Rd, 902.423.0419.

**Minister's Vacation:** Aug 5-Sep 2.

**Emergency Contacts:** *Ruth MacKenzie* @ 902.477.5365  
*Alison McDonald* @ 902.476.2720

**Pulpit Supply:** **Aug 11, 18, Sep 1** – *Rhonda Schofield*  
**Aug 25** – *Vurain Tabvuma*.

**Church Office** re-opens **Sep 3**. Tamara is back **Sep 5**.

**Stretching summer.** The minister preached a sermon (Jun 23) that talked about expanding time, keeping the following pieces of advice in mind: Keep learning; Visit new places; Meet new people; Try new activities; Be spontaneous. Beginning **Sep 8**, we will invite you to share what new thing you tried. Sign-up!

**Church School** re-opens **Sep 8** with a BBQ; salads welcome.

**Ghost Walk**, Friday, **Sep 20**, 7-9 PM. \$5 adult/\$10 family.

**University of Heidelberg** award-winning choir *Camerata Carolina* will be with us at our 10:30 Sunday Service on **Sep 29**. A sign-up sheet will be available Sep 8 if you would like to help contribute to the lunch menu to feed this 50-voice choir. We will need volunteers to help prepare, set-up, serve, and clean-up.

**Mission Breakfast** with Lt. Gen. *Romeo Dallaire* (ret), **Oct 9**; call 902-423-4605 to purchase tickets. Let them know that you want to be at a Fort Massey table.

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T. D. Cleveland-Thompson, Minister  
Rhonda Scholfield, Student Minister  
Vurain Tabvuma, Liturgical Assistant,  
Kevin Robarts, Liturgical Assistant  
Jenny Trites, Music Director/Organist  
Diemo Landgraf, Assistant Organist  
John Walter, Assistant Organist