

## **We celebrate these ministries:**

### **ADMITTED to the ORDER OF MINISTRY** **FROM ANOTHER DENOMINATION**

The Reverend John C. Rhoad Jr.  
from the Presbyterian Church, USA

### **RETIREE FROM ORDAINED MINISTRY**

The Reverend Mary Annan

The Reverend Edith Harnden

The Reverend David Wasyk

## **RETIRING FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY**

### **The Rev. Mary Annan**

How wonderful it has been to be a part of the United Church of Canada all of my life, and to have had the opportunity and privilege to have actively served the church in ministry for over 30 years!

After graduating high school, and a five year working stint with the Great West Life Assurance Co. in Winnipeg, I received my B.A from the University of Winnipeg and then journeyed off to Saskatoon, SK, to attend St. Andrew's College, where, not only did I receive my M.Div., but also met and married my life-long partner Steven. Together, we served faith communities in Saskatchewan (Redvers and Theodore, Springside) and Manitoba (Pilot Mound and Steinbach). During that time, we raised our two sons, Craig and Vaughan. Then we felt called to explore a bit further afield, and travelled to Edmonton AB when Steven received an appointment, later to become a call, to Knox Metropolitan United Church.

Since having moved to Alberta, my work with the church consisted of various appointments, helping to serve faith communities moving through various transitions. I also served the community of Camrose, AB for a very brief time. Throughout my ministry in Edmonton, I most remember and appreciate my time serving the good folks of the then faith community of Avonmore United Church. Whether they are aware of it or not, these folks served as my "home" church community for those first years in Edmonton, and we kept "reconnecting" over a number of years. I am also grateful I was able to be a part of laying the foundational work that is now Spirit of Hope United Church in Edmonton. Indeed, these were times of frustration, confusion, and weariness as often experienced with birthing something new, but I learned a great deal from that collaborative work learning new things about myself, as well as the many ways our faith communities share commonalities and also uniqueness in how we live and breathe God's word and work in our faith communities and beyond.

Although I am retiring a few years earlier than my actual scheduled retirement date, I look back on my ministry in our church as having been very fulfilling. With my low vision, mobility has always been somewhat of a challenge, especially in the rural charges I served. However, the folks in these faith communities always rose to the challenge, providing rides on Sunday mornings to the various points on the pastoral charges as well as rides for visits. Good conversation can happen while travelling from one point to another on a Sunday morning in rural Saskatchewan! With my vision changing and lessening with age, however, I found that mobility has became more challenging than what seemed reasonable for me to fulfill some of the responsibilities of serving a faith community. Retirement seemed the best option.

I am confident that with God's help, guidance and encouragement, as well as with the trust and faith of others who lovingly and faithfully serve our church along with me, I can look forward to new experiences in serving the United Church of Canada in my retirement. Blessings to all! And many thanks to you, the servant people of the church, for laying such valuable and memorable opportunities and relationships before me throughout the years.

Blessing to all!  
Mary.

## **RETIRING FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY**

### **The Rev. David Wasyk**

I was born in Edmonton, Alberta, in the General Hospital, although I don't remember the room number.

I grew up in Edmonton, attending Donan Elementary/Junior High school and Bonnie Doon Composite High School. I went to the University of Alberta and received a Bachelor's degree in Science.

After graduation, I went to St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon where I received my Bachelor of Divinity.

I was ordained in Grande Prairie by the Alberta and Northwest Conference in 1979.

After ordination, I was settled in the Devon-Calmar Pastoral Charge, where I served for 7 years. I was then called to the Pilgrim United Church, Edmonton, where I served for 34 years until my retirement in June, 2020.