

Mavis Peddie Peters



My life has held a vast range of adventures. I am full of gratitude; God seems to be full of *surprises*. The years since receiving God's call into ministry have been some of the most fulfilling and happy ones of my life. As I take this step (perhaps as the eldest Ordinand in UCC history – and rather proud of that record), I am more than deeply humbled – and profoundly grateful for the many people who have helped and encouraged me along the way.

Born in Ontario but raised in Banff, Alberta, I have since lived from coast to coast to coast, in such places as Igloolik in Nunavut, Vancouver, Halifax and several places both large and small in between. Where am I from?

Canada! ☺ In a similar way, life's experiences have led me through several church denominations. My father was a Presbyterian minister, and I have served in a variety of leadership positions, in a range of congregations. What church am I from? I have found the only way to suitably answer this question is - I am a PresbyBaptiAngliCostaLutherUnitedTerian. I have a passion for all things ecumenical, as a result.

I am the mother of five children, four of whom are in Saskatchewan and one is married and in Michigan. My child-rearing years were all in and around Regina. Prior to that I took my undergrad degree at the University of Toronto, received my Master of Social Work from the University of British Columbia, and directed a prison outreach ministry in BC's Lower Mainland. While in Regina, I was self-employed – as a note-taker to hard-of-hearing students at the University of Regina, and as a piano teacher in my own studio.

It was while I was a member of Knox-Metropolitan United Church in Regina that I heard God's call – into ministry, yes – but specifically, into ministry *within* the United Church of Canada. I am fairly new to this denomination. My years on campus at the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax were rich, formative and meaningful to me. I will always treasure the relationships formed there, with both students and faculty. Those years also allowed Nova Scotia to take hold of my heart. I served my Internship back in Saskatchewan to be closer to family. In April I accepted a call back to Nova Scotia, at the Hopewell-Eureka-East River Pastoral Charge, just south of New Glasgow.

To my sister and her family here in Nova Scotia – thank you for the many ways you have walked with me these past 4 years!! To my home church - Knox-Met in Regina, my field placement church - Fairview, in Halifax, and to my Supervised Ministry Education church - St. Andrews in Esterhazy, I owe a special debt for the encouragement, support and learning opportunities I received from each of you. To have come to this place of actually being ordained into ministry in The Church quite overwhelms me. May ALL the praise and glory be given to God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.