



God, our maker, does provide  
for our needs to be supplied:  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of the harvest home!

All the world is God's own field,  
harvests for God's praise to yield;  
wheat and weeds together sown,  
here for joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear:  
Harvest giver, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For our God, one day, shall come,  
and shall take his harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away;  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the weeds to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner ever more.

Even so, God, quickly come  
to your final harvest home!  
Gather all your people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there for ever purified,  
in your presence to abide:  
come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.



## **PRAYER OF HUMILITY** (*responsively*)

Creator and Creating One,

for the times our harvests have been abundant, but our giving scarce,

**excuse us.**

For the times we've sown discontent and malice,

**pardon us.**

For the times we've reaped your love but hoarded it away,

**forgive us.**

For the times we've not trusted your provision and sustenance,

**excuse us.**

For the times we've lost hope in Christ's reign,

**pardon us.**

For the times we've been blind to miracles in our midst.

**forgive us.** (*Time of Silence*)

**CHORAL RESPONSE** – "Take, O Take Me as I Am" MV #85

***Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me, in me.***

**SHARING A STORY** (*with those of all ages*)

**\*SINGING A SONG** – "Small Things Count" VU #361

*WELCOMING [NEW MEMBERS]*

**SCRIPTURE READING** – 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 *Carter Lavigne*

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE** *(New members come forward)*

**PRESENTATION**

*(Cheryl Brewster, Secretary of Christian Development Team)*

On behalf of First United Church/Bathurst Pastoral Charge, I present the following persons whom we welcome into the membership of this community of faith:

Raymond Cletus Lavigne  
Beverly Anne Losier  
Alice Mary McLean  
Pamela Margaret Ellen Smith  
William Harold Stack

**COMMITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS**

Will you join with us, as together, we celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, love and serve others, seek justice and resist evil?

**I will, with the Spirit's help.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT** *(responsively)*

...let's pledge to these persons our support and care.

**As your siblings in Christ,  
we rejoice in the gifts you bring.  
We pledge our love and support to you.  
With God's help, we will live out the mission and ministry of  
Christ's church together.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** "A New Creed" – VU #918 *(in unison)*

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.  
We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has  
come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make  
new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to  
seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and  
risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**WELCOME**

...We thank God for your witness among us.

*(The congregation is invited to applaud.)*

**BLESSING & SENDING FORTH** *(responsively)*

...Go in peace.

**Amen**

*(Participants return to their pews)*

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Jini Palmer*

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**GIFT OF MUSIC – "All Who Thirst For Living Water"**

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Pat MacIntosh*

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD

**\*OFFERING HYMN** – “For the Gift of Creation” – VU #538

*For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Holy One,  
we give our brightest smiles, our best singing, our strongest  
movements, our best thoughts.  
We give that we may have love for one another in the Spirit’s  
presence.  
We give in the longing that earth may regenerate and that  
our earth neighbours will have enough for life.  
Amen**

### COMMUNING

**\*COMMUNION HYMN** – “Long Ago and Far Away” MV #195

Long ago and far away  
Jesus lived and worked and prayed  
healed the sick and the fearful and lonely  
lived his life to show us God’s way.

*Refrain  
Stretched his arms out as he said  
Fill the cup and share the bread  
Remember me in love and joy  
and blessing.*

Jesus gathered the children around him  
spoke of Love and the joy to be found  
told them stories of wisdom and wonder  
God’s creation in all that’s around.

*Refrain  
Stretched his arms out as he said  
Fill the cup and share the bread  
Remember me in love and joy  
and blessing.*

Jesus called all his friends to be with him  
share the bread and the cup once again  
life to you I will offer it gladly  
love will be with you right to the end.

*Refrain*

**\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER** *(responsively)*

...May the God of peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### INSTRUCTIONS

### INVITATION

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(responsively)*

God is with us.

**We are not alone**

Christ is present here.

**The Spirit is among us.**

Let us give thanks to God,

**in memory and in hope.**

...And so it is that we join with every voice and tongue on earth and  
in the heavens to give you praise, singing...

"Holy, Holy, Holy" – MV #203

*O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.  
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.  
Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.  
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name  
always!*

... Great is the mystery of faith. This we remember; this we believe:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen!**

...We gather these and all our prayers, thankful we may turn to you  
as to a loving mother, saying together, ecumenically...

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** – VU #921 (Ecumenical Version) *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kindom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kindom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever...**

"Great Amen" – MV #205

**Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!  
Amen, amen, O Holy One, Hosanna and Amen!**

The bread of tomorrow.

The cup of new life.

**Congregational Response – "Amen" or "Thanks be to God"**



**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(in unison)*

**Gracious One,  
may your gifts of love transform and enliven us  
that we may live lives of thanksgiving.  
May your presence among us  
provoke such longing for your way,  
that we will never be satisfied  
until the whole earth knows  
your justice, your peace, and your love.  
Amen**

*GOING OUT (as Spirit people)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** – "Praise God for the Harvest" VU #517

**\*BLESSING**

**\*CHORAL CLOSING** – "As We Now Go"  
*(Seasons of the Spirit Songbook vol. 6)*

***As we go now from this moment,  
as we leave behind our time together.  
May we walk with one another,  
may we help each other on the way.***

***As we go now from this moment,  
as we go into the future together.  
May we treasure one another,  
may we realize how precious we are.***

***May we realize how precious we are.  
May we realize how precious we are.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**POSTLUDE**

# Church News

## This Week at First United October 10<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>

Monday	Office Closed	Thanksgiving
Tuesday	1:00 – 3:00 PM	TAB – DEMH Rms 1,2 & 3
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wednesday	9:00-11:00	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Friday	1:00 – 3:00 PM	TAB – DEMH Rms 1,2 & 3
Saturday	10:00am	UCW – Fall Rally

**Church office hours** – Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Peanut Butter Update** – As of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 297 jars of Peanut Butter has been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center.

**Our goal is 900 jars for the year** and we currently have **587** including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

**Sunday School** will begin October 16<sup>th</sup> for an eight week rotation, ending with the White Gift service December 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Fall Rally** for all UCW Members, active and inactive, will be held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the sanctuary. Officials from the Miramichi Presbytery will be presiding and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will also take place. A “new and used” book sale will be set up in the Narthex.

**Welcome to Ukulele Church!** Ukulele Church welcomes YOU to join on Sundays at 12:30pm Atlantic starting on September 11, 2022!

**Ukulele Church** is a 75-minute ONLINE (Zoom) Sunday worship time for children and all ages. It brings together Music, Ukulele Teaching, Biblical Storytelling, Art, Play and Liturgy, following a rhythm of Celebration – Contemplation – Devotion with Linnea Good, Catherine Stuart and Nancy Callbeck. Absolutely no ukulele or church experience necessary! If you have questions, email [cstuart@united-church.ca](mailto:cstuart@united-church.ca). To register, check out our website <https://ukulelechurch.com/>. We cannot wait to see you! See our invitation at the following link – [https://www.youtube.com/supported\\_browsers?next\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DXiww6q6xQvc](https://www.youtube.com/supported_browsers?next_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DXiww6q6xQvc)

# Church News

## **Thank you to our volunteers in September:**

**Counters** – Shirley Sealy and Bob Willis; **Greeters** – Cheryl & Gordon Murphy; **Minute for Mission** – Bev Murphy; **Scripture Readers** – Sandra Boone, Gary Branch, Cheryl Brewster and Anne Brooks; **Vocalists** – John and Isabel Clouston; **Sharing a Story** – Margaret Payne-Chénard, Cheryl Brewster, Brenda Parrott, Sandra Boone and Anne Wilson; **Sound System** – Brenda Parrott, Shirley Allain, and Ralph Jamieson and **Videographer** – Don Eddy as well as to Josh Gammon for uploading our services to the website and Facebook.

## **Call for United Church Calendar Photos**

Are you a photographer? We're looking for photos of United Churches from all parts of Canada for the 2024 Canadian Church Calendar.

### **Submit online –**

[https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/calendar\\_submission](https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/calendar_submission) **for the 2024 calendar.** The deadline is January 15, 2023.

- We're looking for photos of churches from all parts of Canada, unique or traditional, urban, suburban, and rural.
- Please send interior and exterior shots of church buildings or worship spaces, and architectural and other details.
- For exteriors, we can always use more winter photos.
- Try to avoid distractions such as hydro wires, microphones, etc.

We print a photographer credit and offer a \$100 honorarium for each photo chosen.

### **Tips**

- Make sure calendar photos are horizontal.
- Submit high-resolution JPEG, TIFF, or PNG photos (2-8 MB) via our online form or mail them to us on a USB key accompanied by a contact sheet or colour printout, your contact information, and details about your photos.
- We can't accept responsibility for lost or damaged prints or USB keys. Please send duplicates only, not originals.

Looking to buy the 2023 Canadian Church Calendar? Visit the [United Church Bookstore](#) for more details.

# Church News

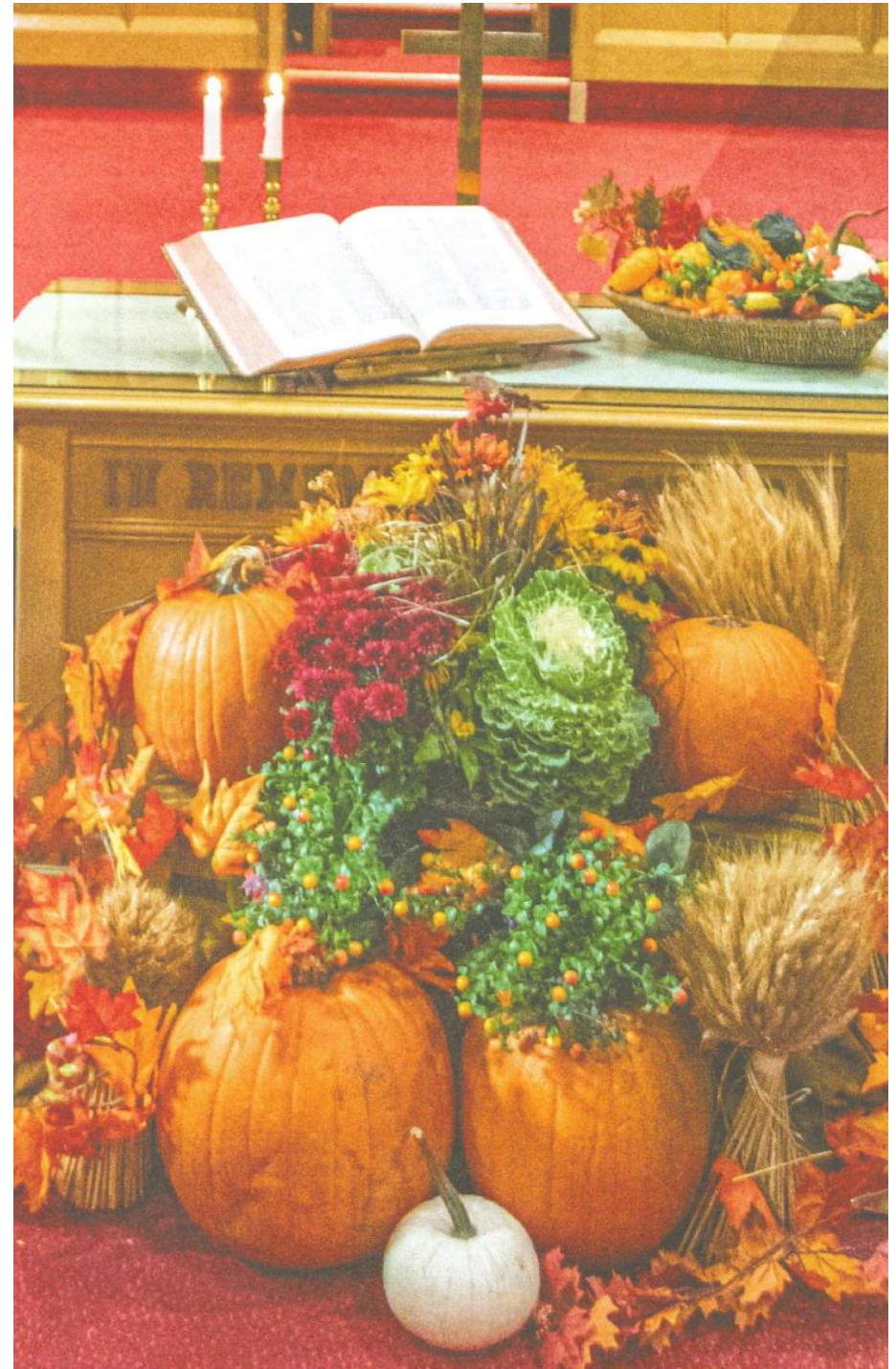
**The Nominations Team** is looking for individual/individuals who are willing to coordinate the Mission & Service program. The United Church Mission & Service Team emails the following months suggested readings for each weekly service. If you are interested, or know of someone who is interested in volunteering, please contact Rick Watling to discuss 543-0053. We would like to thank Bev Murphy for her many years of service to Mission & Service work for First United Church.

**Hospitality Time** after church has resumed in the Ruth Morrison Room. The Friendship Team is looking for individuals to prepare the room each Sunday prior to the service which includes covering the tables with tablecloths, setting up the coffee and tea pots, putting out water, juice, napkins and other condiments and clean-up afterward. Please see the weekly volunteer sign-up sheet in on the bulletin board in the Ruth Morrison Room.

# Community News

**Pokeshaw/Black Rock Cranberry Festival** - is being held Saturday to Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. There are a variety of tours, markets, nature walks, demonstrations, heritage & elder/knowledge keeper information as well as a dance on Saturday night and a concert on Sunday afternoon. For more information see the notice on the bulletin board or on Facebook see "Pokeshaw & Black Rock Recreation Council Inc."

**Gloucester Chapter IODE Harvest Festival** will be held on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11 AM to 4 PM in the Bathurst High School cafeteria.



**SCRIPTURE READING** *(New Revised Standard Version)*

**DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11**

1 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,

2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us."

4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God,

5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,

7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;

9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God.

11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.





## The United Church of Canada L'Eglise Unie du Canada



Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council  
21 Wright Street, Sackville, NB E4L 4P8  
Tel: (800) 268-3781 ext. 6137 • Email: [info4rc14@united-church.ca](mailto:info4rc14@united-church.ca)

October 6, 2022

To all Communities of Faith in Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council:

On Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, tropical storm Fiona slammed into the Atlantic Provinces. Parts of our provinces experienced torrential rain and winds of up to 160km/h (99mph), with trees and power-lines felled, houses washed into the sea, and dune systems completely destroyed. Hundreds of thousands of people were left without power for days and, even as I write this letter, there are approximately 9,000 households on Prince Edward Island who are still without power.

When I was able to venture out into the community, it was scene after scene of complete devastation. Some roads were completely impassable and had to be opened up with bulldozers. I saw some homes completely moved from their foundations, one had moved all the way onto the main road and the double yellow line was going into the front door. I saw barns whose entire sides had been ripped away and telephone poles snapped in two.

As we move into Thanksgiving we are very mindful that we have endured a lot over the past couple of years. We have endured the challenges of COVID. Our native communities are reeling over the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential school sites across Canada. Here, in PEI, we have had the challenges of potato wart and its effects on our industry and our households. We are still picking up the pieces of tropical storm Fiona while inflation is hurting our pocketbooks, eroding the savings of our seniors, and overwhelming lower-income households with already tight budgets. Meanwhile, the war in the Ukraine still rages on. With all that we have faced and continue to face, the question is, "Can we be thankful during these times?"

My friends, we live in a broken world and we have faced, and will continue to face, life's storms. Yet when we do, be mindful as to who is the Master of the Storm.

In Mark 6, Jesus sent the disciples ahead of Him to Bethsaida while He went off by Himself to pray. It wasn't a long trip by boat, but a great tempest suddenly came up and they were blown off course by a storm. When Jesus saw them struggling against the wind in the middle of the lake, He came to their aid.

Does your life feel like the disciples' today? Are you struggling? Are you about to give up? Have you been blown off course by the storms life has brought our way and you're wondering, "Can I survive?"

What does Jesus do when you're at your moment of desperation? Mark 6:48 says, "**About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water**" (NLT). Notice that He didn't tell the disciples to come to Him. He knew they were so overwhelmed by the storm that they couldn't. So, He went to them instead.

...2

The same is true for you. When you're at your point of desperation, Jesus comes to you!

I love the fact that Jesus did not stand on the shore and shout instructions. When you're in a storm, you don't need advice. You need a miracle! You need somebody to show up, and that's what Jesus did. He intervened in the disciples' storm. This is the Gospel: God doesn't stand on the shoreline telling you what to do; instead, He comes out and meets you in your own storm—in your pain, fear, depression, and discouragement. He comes to you.

How can you look to Jesus in the midst of a storm? The Bible says, ***"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever"*** (Hebrews 13:8 NIV). In the midst of all this change, you can count on that truth. You can also know that God's love for you and your community has never changed. God's call on your life hasn't changed; He is still asking us to love our neighbours as ourselves. Don't let all the changes make you lose sight of everything that is still the same.

You may feel abandoned right now, but you're not. The Bible says in John 14:18, ***"I will not abandon you or leave you as orphans in the storm—I will come to you"*** (TLB).

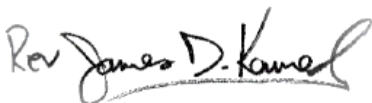
Maybe because of where you are, or perhaps good planning, or just plain luck, Fiona passed you by or left you relatively unscathed. If that is the case, I encourage you to turn your mind to our New Creed which says ***We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God who ... works in us and others by the Spirit.*** I encourage you to open yourself to the Spirit and allow God to work through you. When a person is in the midst of a storm they don't need advice, they need a miracle. They need somebody to show up, and that's what Jesus did. He intervened in the disciples' storm ... and if you open yourself to the Spirit, so can you ... you can be their miracle.

First Corinthians 12:26 NIV says ***"If one part suffers, every part suffers with it"*** Community is God's answer to despair. Romans 12:15 expresses a similar idea: ***"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn"*** (NIV). When someone is going through a crisis, they don't want advice; they often just want somebody to sit with them, hold their hand, put an arm around their shoulder, or cry with them. They want someone simply to be with them. Sometimes the best kind of encouragement is just sitting in silence, waiting and weeping with a friend.

Paul says, ***"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up"*** (1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV). That encouragement can take many forms. It can be a phone call, a meal delivered, an invite for coffee, an offer to run errands, or yard work done. We are all blessed with different skills and abilities. Whatever yours are, use them to encourage someone and build them up.

My friends, we have faced a lot this year and it has been overwhelming but still we gather ... in church ... with friends and family ... and we remember that no matter what we have faced ... and no matter what we will face ... that in life, in death, in life beyond death, that God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Many blessings to you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev James D. Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Mr. J.D. Kennedy  
President, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

---