

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge
First United Church, Bathurst
www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

June 3, 2018

Minister	Rev. Blair Lewis	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Nora McLean
Custodian	Alan Wilcox		Gary Branch

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>I Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)</i> <i>Psalm 81</i> <i>II Corinthians 4:5-12</i> <i>Mark 2:23-3-6</i>	<i>I Samuel 8:4-11</i> <i>Psalm 130</i> <i>II Corinthians 4:13-5:1</i> <i>Mark 3:20-35</i>

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where the congregation is invited to stand as able.*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

Choral Opening: `*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*` **#375 VU**
Spirit, Spirit of gentleness
Blow thro' the wilderness
Calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
Stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

Welcome:

In the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
 who calls us to be the church
 and to celebrate God's presence,
 let us worship.

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.
All: We come to celebrate God's presence,
 One: and God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.
All: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,
 One: and the life we are called to live.
All: We come as a pilgrim people
searching for ways to live out our faith.
 One: We come to celebrate new life and new hope,
 and to thank God for our heritage and our freedom ...
All: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

Call to Worship: (in unison)

O most blessed One,
as we enter into the life of your Spirit,
teach our hearts to be psalms,
singing forth your praise;
teach our minds to be proverbs,
shining forth your wisdom;
and teach our lives to be parables,
showing forth your glory
in every gesture and deed.

Prayer of Approach:

Gracious God,
 draw near to us with compassion,
 touch us with healing,
 and speak to us with love;
 so that we may arise and live
 to spread the good news of your saving power,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** `*For the Beauty of the Earth*` **#226 VU**
(tune Dix VU 81)

Children of All Ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

O God as we read the Bible
we pray that we will we will find you speaking to us.
We pray that we will be able to read carefully
and through our reflection we may be able to understand
the significance of your word for our lives.
We pray that all who walk through the doors of the church
will have the opportunity to think,
to ask questions, and to pray
in the name of Jesus who shows us the way. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Sherry Mitton

Old Testament :

I Samuel 3:1-10

Responsive Psalm :

Psalm 139 #861 VU

Gospel lessons:

Mark 2:23-3:6

*Hymn: *'Spirit God, Be Our Breath'* MV #150

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song,
Blow through us, Bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...
Sprit God, be our song.

Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear.
Comfort us. When we know you are near
We grow more certain, our vision is clear.
Patient God, calm our fear.

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
We seek your guidance through friendship and care.
Loving God, be our prayer.

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song,
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Message: "God's Call to Service"

Anthem: *'For Beauty of Prairies'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' #541 VU
***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.***

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

**God of the hungry,
make us hunger and thirst for the right,
till our thirst for justice has been satisfied,
and hunger has gone from the earth. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: Jesus taught us not to be anxious
about our lives or about tomorrow.
Are there anxieties that cause us to feel separated
from the peace which Christ promises?
Let us turn to God in prayer.

**All: God we pray that you will forgive us.
We are blind to our own brokenness,
yet focused on the failings of others.
We are deaf to the cries of those who need us,
numb to the needs of those who hurt.
We are silent when words are needed,
powerless when action is required.
Lord, hear are anguish,
have compassion for our brokenness;
we pray that we will hear your expression of life
and forgiveness
to our weary souls. Amen.**

Choral Response: *'How Deep the Peace'* #95 MV

***How deep the peace, the confidence,
Of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence
Of those whose hearts are healed.***

Assurance of Pardon

One: Brothers and sisters we hear the good news;
through Christ we are forgiven!

**All: Our hope is in the Lord our God,
who keeps faith with us forever.
God's mercy is everlasting!**

Silent Prayer:

Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

One: O God, lover of the world,
you hold all that you have created
within your compassionate embrace.
As you hold our lives
torn by pain, sorrow or hatred
within your aching heart,
we cry out for wholeness:
for ourselves, for those we love,
and for our world.
May your healing presence gently transform
the places of our lives where we hold pain.
May your loving presence be a comforting reality
for all those who find themselves
in despair, lost or alone.
May your transforming presence
create generosity in place of greed,
harmony in place of hatred,
and everlasting justice where evil now reigns.
O God, lover of the world,
from the silence of our own hearts,
we bring before you
these people and places that need
your healing, loving, transforming presence:

(silence)

**All: O God, lover of the world,
this is your world,
our home Canada is your country;**

**All: may our city of Bathurst
be a community open
to the transforming power of your love.
We reach out to you
to claim the gift of your love and your presence.
May the power of your love
show us the way to better tomorrows.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom' #643VU
(tune Stuttgart VU 2)

Commissioning:

One: O God,
as we go to our homes and our work this coming week,
we ask you to send the Holy Spirit into our lives.

**All: Open our ears...
that we may hear what you are saying to us
in the things that happen to us
and in the people we meet.
Open our eyes...
that we may see the needs of people around us.
Open our hands...
that we may do our work well,
and help when help is needed.
Open our lips...
that we may tell the Good News of Jesus
and bring comfort, happiness,
and laughter to others.
Open our minds...
that we may discover new truth about you
and the world.
Open our hearts...
that we may love you and others
as you have loved us.**

Blessing:

Light of God to give us hope
Power of God to protect us,
Light of God to give us joy
Peace of God to calm us,
Light of God to give us faith
Grace of God to save us,
This day and forevermore.

***Choral Closing:** *'Take Up His Song'* **#213 MV**

***Take up his song of hope
And go into the world
Take up his song of hope
in every moment.
In every moment of the journey,
We're laying down our lives;
Lay them down in peace,
Lay them down,
And take up his song.***

Organ Postlude:

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord,
saying, "Whom shall I send,
and who will go for Us?"
Then I said,
"Here am I. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8*

Church News

This Week at First United –June 4 – June 9

Monday	7pm	JNAC - RMR
Tuesday	6:15	Scouts – DEMH GYM
Wednesday	3:00pm	Office Closed
Friday	Closed	Summer Hours

The Canadian flag currently being flown has been donated
in loving memory of
Clinton CL Gammon, a D-Day Veteran,
by Bev & Brian Murphy.

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **278**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 21-22 jars of peanut butter per week.

The Volunteer Center supplies, on average, 500 households monthly.



The Upper Room for July and Aug. are in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with the publication.

Calling all Graduates: If you are a potential graduate of the class of 2018 for either BHS or ESN please advise the church office by June 12. The First United Church service honoring our graduates will be held on June 17, 2018.

Thank you to Margaret Payne-Chénard & Beth Sullivan for being the counters and Edie & Peter Gammon, Margaret Payne-Chénard and Mike Kierstead for being the greeters for the month of May.

Summer Hours: Starting June 1 until the end of August the church office hours will be Monday - Thursday, 8-4. Closed 12-1.

Thank You The Friends of First Team would like to thank all who helped in any way with the Chicken Salad Take-Out. Approximately \$1400.00 was raised.

Notice from the Property Management Team For security reasons, all doors to the sanctuary will be kept locked except the one closest to the office. To enter the church during business hours, please use the St. Patrick Street entrance.

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a meeting of the congregation of First United Church on Sunday June 17, 2018 following the regular Sunday morning Worship service.

The purpose of this meeting is two-fold:

- To present the report of the JNAC (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) and obtain the approval of the congregation to forward the report to Miramichi Presbytery for their approval.
- To choose individuals to serve on the Search Committee for our new minister. Once chosen these names will also be forwarded to Presbytery for their approval.

Interested members of our congregation are welcome to submit their names as potential members of the Search Committee. Please contact Sandra Boone by phone at 546-5453 or by email at boonies@nb.sympatico.ca if you feel you might like to be a committee member. Once the congregation has chosen the committee members and we have received Presbytery approval, the Search Committee will commence their work.

If you are an adherent of First United Church and wish to be part of the Search Committee, contact the church office at 546-3532 to arrange for confirmation or transfer of membership.

*All the arms we need
are for hugging.
~Author Unknown~*

Community Events

The Ladies Auxiliary to Herman J. Good VC, Branch # 18

Royal Canadian Legion Meal of the Month
BBQ Chicken Dessert – Tea & Coffee included
Sunday, June 10, 2018 5 p.m.
Cost: \$15.00 Take-Outs Available
Tickets can be purchased at the Legion Office.

Family & Community Breakfast

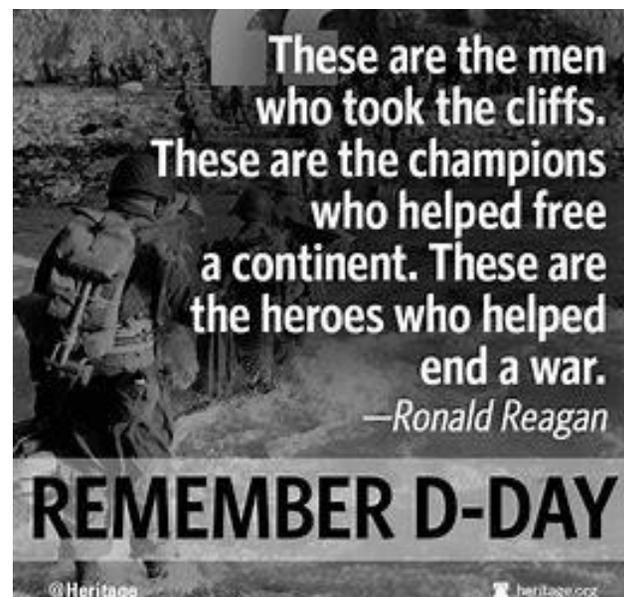
Saturday, June 9, 2018 8:00 – 10:00 am
Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

Clothing Drive for Lesotho - Once again, Parkwood Heights Elementary School will be collecting bags of clothes in support of ASD – N's "Lesotho Initiative". As you are working on spring cleaning, why not set aside bags of clothes for Parkwood Heights Elementary School. Acceptable items include - men's, women's, and children clothing as well as belts, blankets, linens, purses, shoes, and towels. The bags are then sold to the New Brunswick Association of Community Living. The money raised will be given to the Canadian Agency – "Help Lesotho". For more information, contact Gary Branch ([546-9208](tel:546-9208)/egbranch@roger.com) or Parkwood Heights Elementary School at 547-2770. Clothing bags can be dropped off at the school during school hours at 1125 Highland Drive. The deadline for donations is June 15, 2018.

Exhibition of Newborn Baby Photography and Nursery Wall Décor Shannon (Knowles) Newton

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings, June 13th and 14th, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, the Bathurst Heritage Museum and the Bathurst Art Society will co-sponsor an Exhibition of Newborn Baby Photography and Nursery Wall Decor. The photographer/artist, Shannon (Knowles) Newton, who was raised in Bathurst, currently lives and runs her photography and nursery wall art business in Halifax. Sweets, tea and coffee will be available, and Shannon's mom, Linda Knowles MacPherson will provide background piano selections.
Website: Newborn Photography: www.ShannonNewtonPhotography.com
Website: Nursery Wall Art: www.SomethingCutePrints.com
Nepisiquit Heritage Museum, Gallery 360 360 Douglas Ave. Bathurst, NB

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church A fund-raising yard sale and used book sale will be held at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 395 Murray Avenue, Bathurst at 9:00 am on Saturday June 2 and June 30. Included with the yard sale are a large number of used books. There will be a wide range of genres available, fiction (most genres including children's) and non-fiction (self-help, cook books, hobbies, war, devotional/inspirational, biographies etc). There will also be a limited number of music related items, yard sale items and crafts. New items added weekly. Proceeds to support the mission work of the Atlantic Mission Society.



1 Samuel 3:1-10 New International Version (NIV)

The LORD Calls Samuel

³ The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

² One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place.

³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am."

⁵ And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

⁶ Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸ A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy.

⁹ So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Mark 2:23-3:6 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

²³ One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain.

²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

²⁵ He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need?"

²⁶ In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."

²⁷ Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

³ Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there.

² Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath.

³ Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

⁴ Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.

⁵ He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.

⁶ Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.