

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

July 8, 2018

Minister	Rev. Blair Lewis	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Bev Murphy
Custodian	Alan Wilcox		Pat Thibideau

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>II Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10</i> <i>Psalm 123</i> <i>II Corinthians 12:2-10</i> <i>Mark 6:1-13</i>	<i>II Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19</i> <i>Psalm 85:8-13</i> <i>Ephesians 1:3-14</i> <i>Mark 6:14-29</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.

Welcoming:

One: Behold, God is doing a new thing.

**All: Here and now,
in the midst of daily life.**

One: The Holy One who created heaven and earth
forms us afresh today.

All: Let our spirits rise to greet our Maker. Amen.

Isaiah 43:19

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Come, let us worship God
with the passion and joy of King David
and all the people
who sang and danced
before the ark of the covenant.

**All: Let us worship our Savior
with the songs of praise and thanksgiving
of the apostle Paul,
and all who are blessed
with every spiritual blessing.**

One: As we light the Christ candle
we celebrate God's blessing in our Lord Jesus Christ.
He freed us to be children of God;
God's love is sealed by the Holy Spirit.

All: Let us worship God.

Call to Worship:

Sculpting God,
you give galaxies their form,
shape granite mountains,
and design butterfly wings.
Dancing God,
you choreograph the paths of stars
and the flight of Canada geese.
Singing God,
your divine song is sung
by sparrows, flowing streams,
and the rushing winds.
Wonderful God,
we rejoice to be a part of the divine world
which you love and sustain. Amen.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)
O God,
where hearts are fearful and confined,
grant freedom and daring;
where anxiety is infectious and widening,
grant peace and reassurance;
where impossibilities close every door and window,
grant imagination and resistance.
Where distrust reshapes every understanding,
grant healing and transformation;
where spirits are daunted and dimmed,
grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. Amen

***Opening Hymn:**
"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" # 315 VU

Children of All Ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)
God, the words you speak have power:
power to create,
power to disturb,
power to heal.
Help us to hear your Word for us today. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Catherine Eddy
New Testament: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Responsive Psalm: Psalm 48 Pages: 772-773 VU
Gospel Lesson: Mark 6:1-13

***Hymn:** *'Tell Me the Stories of Jesus'* #357 VU

Message: "Power in weakness"

Anthem:

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)

Gracious triune God,
we thank you
for the suffering love of Jesus Christ,
and for your presence with us
in times of joy and of sorrow,
sickness and health,
faithfulness and brokenness.
We bring these offerings
as a sign of our gratitude
and as tools in the Ministry of the church.
Use them and us to make known
the good news of your healing love
and renewing power,
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
you are the God of glory.
We confess that we often forget
that your holiness is challenging.
We take our insecurities for granted.
We make excuses for the sins we commit,
and expect you to overlook the harm we cause
while still demanding justice from others.

**We do not deserve your mercy.
Forgive us,
and return us to a right relationship with you
for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.
You made us for the purpose
of praising you;
enliven us with the Holy Spirit
so that we can fulfill our calling
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.***

Words of Assurance:

According to the riches of his grace,
which God has lavished upon us
and sealed for us by the Holy Spirit.
Hear this good news, in Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

One: Holy God you are the beginning and the end of all that is;
you are the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
You sent the Holy Spirit to help us in our praying.
Open our senses to your creation
and our hearts to the needs of others.

**All: Grant us faith, hope, and imagination
to see your vision of the fullness of time
when weapons will be crushed by peace,
and stomachs will be filled
by abundant harvests generously shared.
Thirst is quenched by pure rain
falling from clean skies;
diseases will be healed,
minds made clear,
and bodies made new,
so that all things reveal oneness in Christ.**

One: Even now, Abba, father,
empower us by the Spirit
to serve Christ and experience love.
May we share your vision and work in the world
for which Christ died and rose
and brought forward completeness in his resurrection.
We pray these things
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah' #651 VU

Commissioning: (in unison)

**Hear our prayers, God of grace.
Help us to fulfill them
working according to your purpose
in peace, justice, and mercy in all we do;
through Jesus Christ to whom
with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all power and glory
now and forever.**

Blessing:

May the love of God,
power of Christ,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
dwell richly in you forever

***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:

*'Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth'
(Matthew 5:5)*

Church News

This Week at First United – July 9 – July 14

Friday	Closed	Summer Hours
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Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **346**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 20-21 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.

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

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.

Community Events

Hospitality Days Breakfast

Saturday, July 21, 2018 8:00 – 10:30 am

Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

Tickets available in advance or at the door: \$ 7.50 for Adults, \$ 4.00 for children (12 and under) or \$ 20.00 for Family of 4

Contact Church Office at 546-3225

Summer Sizzle: Free family fun day!!! BBQ, Cotton Candy, Games, Face Painting. Presentation by Guest Team "King's Castle" July 28, 2018 2-4pm. Coronation Park, Bathurst. (in case of rain, moved to 150 Basin St.) Adults bring lawn chairs.

Annual vacation Bible School at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, July 16 - 20. "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus". The fun begins at 9:am and children experience bible stories, music, games, sciencey gizmos, movies and more. Phone 506-546-4645 to register or for more information.

The annual memorial service for the Stonehaven – New Bandon Union Cemetery Inc. will be held July 8th, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Chapel. Offering envelopes will be provided at the door – allowing the donor to specify whether the offering will be used for general revenue, Perpetual Care or restoration of the Community Chapel. Donors wishing a receipt may add their name and mailing address. Everyone welcome.

The annual meeting of the Stonehaven – New Bandon Union Cemetery Inc. will be held July 9th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Chapel. Everyone welcome.

Central United Church presents: Treasures & Trinkets Tea With a Lucky Number Auction. Saturday, July 14th, at 10 am United Church Hall
Admission \$10/ person (includes light luncheon & refreshments)
** auction tickets sold separately at tea
For Tickets: Elan Dempsey 548-9160, Shirley Scott 546-8285 or Debbie Hachey 506-2926

Evangel Mission Team have a fundraiser Spaghetti Supper and Concert to be held at the Knights of Columbus Building (355 Douglas Ave, Bathurst) on July 21. Every dollar we raise is going directly to Servant's Heart Ministries to our "House Project" – we plan on building a home for a deserving family in Dominican Republic when we are there in March 2019. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 before end of 2018. Tickets are \$12/adult or \$5.00/child under 5. Supper is served from 4:00pm-6:00pm.

The concert is Smooth Jazz by Cameron Bauer
Tickets are available from Pauline (545-8182) or Pam (350-1483)

RSVP Ministries invites you to our "A Song in Your Heart" Luncheon at House of Lee – Grand Buffet, 315 Main Street, Bathurst on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 \$17.50 from 11:30am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. Vincent and Anne Vanoplynus will dazzle our hearts with a father and daughter musical duo, and Betty Anne Harwood, special guest speaker from Lakeville, NB will deliver her message on "Do You Know Where You Are Going". **Reservations and cancellations are necessary before Saturday, July 21.** Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or ejgodin@rogers.com or contact Connie at 546-2127. Note: for those who have dietary restrictions, please contact Joanne for the alternate meal. ***

2 Corinthians 12:2-10 New International Version (NIV)

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows.

³ And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—

⁴ was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell.

⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.

⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say,

⁷ or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.

⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

¹⁰ That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Mark 6:1-13 New International Version (NIV)

A Prophet Without Honor

⁶ Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

“Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³ Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph,^[a] Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

⁴ Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. ⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.

⁸ These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. ⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. ¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.