

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer of Approach: (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. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:**

'Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom' #10 MV

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
She who danced when earth was new,
Follow closely what she teaches,
For her words are right and true,
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
Showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
Crying in the marketplace,
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
Full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
Peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
Nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit guide and close companion,
Bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
Holy friends of God and earth.

Children of all ages:

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)

**Eternal God,
in the reading of the scripture,
may your Word be heard;
in the meditations of our hearts,
may your Word be known;
and in the faithfulness of our lives,
may your Word be shown. Amen.**

Scripture Readings:

Chesley Eddy

Old Testament Lesson: Proverbs 31:10-31

Responsive lesson: Psalm 1 # 724 VU

Gospel Lesson: Mark 9:30-37

***Hymn:** *'This is God's Wondrous World'* #296 VU

Message: "Welcoming and Wisdom"

Anthem: *'It Moves in Creation'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Invitation to the offering:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

***Praise God whose joy within us flows.
Praise to the One whose blessings flow.
Lift up your voice in songs of praise.
Let grateful thanks shape all your days.***

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

**Through these gifts, O God,
may all heed the voice of justice,
hear the call to compassion,
embrace the way of sharing,
and know solidarity with the loving Christ. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: O God forgive us,
renew us,
send us out as a useable instruments,
that we might take seriously the meaning of your cross.

**All: O God we confess our failure
to be true even to our own accepted standards;
our choosing the worst when we know the better;
our unwillingness to apply to ourselves the
standards of conduct we demand of others;
our complacency toward wrongs
that do not touch our own case
and are over sensitiveness to those that do;
our slowness to see the good in others
and to see the evil in ourselves;
our hardness of heart toward
our neighbours' faults
and our readiness to make allowances for our own;
O Lord forgive. 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:

The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding and forgiving.

Silent Prayer and Reflection:

Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

The Spirit helps us in our weakness;
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,
but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

Romans 8:26

Gracious God,
we pray for the faithful all over the world,
that all who love you may be united in your service.
We pray for the church

God, hear our prayer,
Response: and in your love, answer.

We pray for the peoples and leaders of the nations,
that they may be reconciled one to another
in pursuit of your justice and peace.

We pray for the world
God, hear our prayer,
Response: and in your love, answer.

We pray for all who suffer from prejudice, greed or violence,
that the heart of humanity may warm with your tenderness.
We pray especially for all prisoners of politics or religion,
and for all refugees.

We pray for all who are oppressed
God, hear our prayer,
Response: and in your love, answer.

We pray for all in need
by reason of famine, flood or earthquake,
that they may know the hope of your faithfulness
through the help of others.

We pray especially for the people of
God, hear our prayer,
Response: and in your love, answer.

We pray for the land, the sea, and the sky,
that we may live with respect in creation
and use your gifts with reverence.

We pray for the earth
God, hear our prayer,
Response: and in your love, answer.

We pray for all who suffer the pain of sickness,
loneliness, fear or loss,
that those whose names are in our hearts,
in the hearts of others,
or known to you alone,

Church News

may receive strength and courage.
 We pray for those in need
 God, hear our prayer,

Response: and in your love, answer.

God of compassion,
 into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,
 trusting in your mercy now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life' **#681 VU**

Commissioning:

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:

***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:

This Week at First United –Sept. 24– Sept. 29

Monday	9am	Ways & Means – Eddy Rm
	6:15 pm	Beavers – Rooms 1,2,& 3
Tuesday	4pm	Pastoral Council – Eddy Rm
Wednesday	9am – 12pm	TAB - Rooms 1,2 & 3
	3:00	Office Closed
Thursday		Beef BBQ

The bulletin today has been placed

in loving memory Bill McCallum
by Dorothy Ann and family

in loving memory of Jack E. McKinney
by Tammy & Jules Robichaud

The potted mums in the sanctuary today are

in loving memory of Edythe and Wilmot Hatheway
by Hayden & Mildred, Ann and families.

in memory our loving husband and father,
Roger Fulton
by Ann and family

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **473**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
 30-31 jars of peanut butter per week.

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





Beef BBQ

Sponsored by "The Hatheway Group"

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

309 St. Patrick Street

5:00 - 6:30 pm

Takeouts available 4:00 – 5:30 pm

\$15. Adults \$6. Children (under 12)

All tickets sold in advance.

*Tickets available at the office 546-3532
or from Ways and Means team members.*

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

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.

Employment opportunity Due to the upcoming retirement of Alan Wilcox, the Property Management Committee is seeking an individual for the position of Custodian starting October 1, 2018. Your resume may be dropped off at the church office addressed to the Ministry and Personnel.

Observer

Would you like to receive the Observer, a United Church of Canada publication? For a new subscription, please contact the church office at 546-3532 before Monday, Oct 1, 2018. The annual subscription rate is \$25 (Tax included) Renewals are also payable at the office.

Badminton will be starting on October 1st. For more information call Joyce Daley at 546-3764.

Thank You: The Ways and Means team hosted a dinner for the last session of Miramichi Presbytery. Ham and Scallop was enjoyed by all who attended. A profit of \$535.00 was realized. Thanks to those who helped in any way.

Community Events

"Help Lesotho" Calendars

The Anglophone School District – North has been sponsoring "Help Lesotho" since 2006 as part of its global awareness initiative. As a fund raiser where all of the money raised goes to help finance its work with orphans, vulnerable children, and grandmothers in Lesotho, Africa; "Help Lesotho" has 2019 calendars for sale at a cost of fifteen dollars. You are invited to support this initiative with your donation. Gary Branch (546-9208) (egbranch@rogers.com) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 9, 2018. Payment can be made in advance by cash or cheque or when the calendars are delivered. Cheques are to be made payable to "Help Lesotho".

"Let It Be Love" tour by the Canadian Christian band "The Color" will be hosted by The Point Church, 789 O'Neil Ave., Bathurst on September 23 at 7:00 pm. The group have won 12 GMA Covenant Awards and received a 2018 JUNO award. It will be a night of worship, fun and entertainment for all ages and we would like to invite you to join us. Tickets – Advance: \$7 groups of 5+/\$10 single/\$25 family pass/door \$15 Further info available at info@thepointchurch.ca/506-622-4540

Family & Community Breakfast

Saturday, October 13, 2018 8:00 – 10:00 am
Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

Wellness Invitation: Are you interested in wellness within your own household or within your community? Do you have suggestions and concerns you would like to share? Do you have something to contribute to your community? We want to hear what you have to say!!! Come and join us at a Wellness Forum on October 2nd in Belledune in English, at Danny`s on the 3rd, bilingual and/or on the 3rd in the evening in Allardville in French. More information located on bulletin board.

Fall's Chores

*Summer's getting drowsy now;
Soon she will be dozing;
Flowers are folding up their heads,
Another season's closing.*

*Fall is waiting in the wings,
Impatient to get going,
He has a lot of work to do,
Before it's time for snowing.*

*"I have to paint the leaves," he says,
"In shades of red and gold,
And send the geese along their way
Before it gets too cold.*

*"I'll ripen pumpkins on the vine,
For sweet Thanksgiving pies,
And plump the apples on the trees
To make cider that satisfies.*

*"Sunshiny days will be shorter now;
I'll add a cool, crisp breeze;
For this relief from summer heat,
I make no apologies.*

*"I have just one more thing to do;
My work is almost done;
I'll turn the leaves to crunchy piles,
So kids can have fall fun!"*

By Joanna Fuchs

Proverbs 31:10-31 New International Version (NIV)

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

- ¹⁰ [a] A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
- ¹¹ Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
- ¹² She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
- ¹³ She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
- ¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.
- ¹⁵ She gets up while it is still night;
she provides food for her family
and portions for her female servants.
- ¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.
- ¹⁷ She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.
- ¹⁸ She sees that her trading is profitable,
and her lamp does not go out at night.
- ¹⁹ In her hand she holds the distaff
and grasps the spindle with her fingers.
- ²⁰ She opens her arms to the poor
and extends her hands to the needy.
- ²¹ When it snows, she has no fear for her household;
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.
- ²² She makes coverings for her bed;
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.
- ²³ Her husband is respected at the city gate,
where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.
- ²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them,
and supplies the merchants with sashes.
- ²⁵ She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.
- ²⁶ She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

- ²⁷ She watches over the affairs of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ "Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all."
- ³⁰ Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
- ³¹ Honor her for all that her hands have done,
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Mark 9:30-37 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

- ³⁰ They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, ³¹ because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." ³² But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.
- ³³ They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" ³⁴ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.
- ³⁵ Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."
- ³⁶ He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."