



# *Christ is Risen!*

## *Rejoice!*

Easter greetings from Rev. Blair Lewis.

As I write this letter snow is falling and many workers are up in the kitchen in the Donald Eddy Hall preparing for our roast pork dinner. We are coming to the end of an old-fashioned winter here in Bathurst and we look forward to the changes that spring will bring.

Over the last few days I have been reading the study material from Seasons of the Spirit in preparation for this week's Bible study lesson. "*Water for the Thirsty*" is today's subject for discussion and I think it touches on a foundational element of our journey of faith.

In our world today we are searching for a meaningful direction forward in our community, our province, our country, and our world. We are very mindful of the struggles that are taking place in the Ukraine and Russia as well as in other parts of the world. People are searching for a meaning filled path forward.

A meaning filled path forward is the message of Easter. Jesus came into this world to stand in solidarity with us as we live our lives and by doing so he shows us the way to the liberating power of God's love.

As we prepare for the sacrifice of Good Friday and the liberating resurrection of Easter Sunday morning we share of ourselves with God. In his life and ministry Jesus breaks down barriers that exist in society. God provides water for the thirsty.

Walter H Farquharson In the hymn "**Walls that Divide**" says:

**"Walls that divide are broken down; Christ is our unity!**

**Chains that enslave are thrown aside; Christ is our liberty!**

**The truth we seek in varied scheme, the life that we pursue,  
unites us in a common quest of self and world made new.**

The love of Christ expressed at Easter is alive as our broken world seeks lasting health and vital unity.

**Please join us for special services on Good Friday at 7 PM and Easter Sunday morning at 10 AM.**

**May the blessings of Easter be with you and your loved ones.**

*Rev. Blair Lewis*



**Celebrate Spring!** Saturday, April 12, 2014 at 6:30pm, First United Church, 309 St. Patrick St., Bathurst. An evening of beautiful, uplifting music will be presented by the string quartet, *Jolina*, guitarist, Ken Enman of NS, and the local Bathurst vocal ensemble, *Take Note*. Tickets are \$15 and are available at First United Church office 506-546-3532, Captain's Cabin, Main St., Bathurst and at the door. Limited seating. A reception to follow. Proceeds will go towards for the life and work of First United, and donations of peanut butter will be gratefully accepted for the Bathurst Volunteer Center.

## Schedule of Events

|                           |          |              |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Celebrate Spring, Concert | April 12 | 6:30pm       |
| Good Friday Service       | April 18 | 7pm          |
| Easter Sunday Service     | April 20 | 10am         |
| Sunrise Breakfast         | April 27 | 8:30am –noon |
| Chicken Salad Take-out    | May 30   |              |
| Tommy & Friends, Concert  | June 21  | 7pm          |



From left to right: Norman Young, Lorne Stymiest, Cheryl Murphy, Haines Scott, Doug Henderson  
Some of our willing workers getting ready for one of our suppers.

### **Easter Word Search**



BRZEASTERFBD  
AIUNBCAVODSY  
SGYCHOCOLATE  
KERANLAGLSRB  
EGGMXONFBKOU  
THUNTRDIYDBE  
OLBUNNYTFUNA

#### **Word List**

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| basket    | Easter |
| bunny     | egg    |
| candy     | fun    |
| chocolate | hunt   |
| color     | roll   |
| dye       |        |

Q: How do bunnies stay healthy?

A: Egg-xercise!



### **Memorial Hymn Sing.**

The letters have been distributed for our Memorial Hymn sing to be held on May 25, 2014 at the 10am worship service. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar and plan to join with us as we sing many of our favorite selections.

**Calling all Graduates:** If you are a potential graduate of the class of 2014 for either BHS or ESN please advise the church office. The First United Church service honoring our graduates will be held on June 15, 2014.

**Confirmation Classes:** Rev. Lewis is looking for people interested in attending confirmation classes. Contact the church office at 546-3532 if you would like to be involved and classes will be scheduled.

**PAR:** Pre Authorized Remittance (PAR) is a convenient way to support the ongoing work of your church. Your monthly contributions are taken directly from your bank account or charged to a Major Credit Card. Currently we have 91 households using this method of support. Signing up for PAR takes only a few minutes and can be done for you at the church office. All that is required is a void cheque or your credit card number.

**Did You Know:** A couple of really good ways to keep updated on First United Church events are to check out our website [www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca) or to follow us on Facebook. Here you will find upcoming events as well as cancellations if the need arises.

**UCW** are no longer collecting Campbell Soup labels or 4lt plastic milk bags. They would like to thank everyone who helped with these projects in the past.

**First United Beaver Scout Colony** is asking for donations of used eye glasses. These are then forwarded to Medical Ministry International, in Stoney Creek, Ontario.

### **West Bathurst and St. Luke's Cemeteries** **"Endowment Fund" Update:**

- As of March 31, 2014, a total of \$ 38,960.00 has been donated to this fund.
- A total of 126 donations has been received.
- The fund raising campaign will continue until June 30, 2014.
- Appreciation is expressed to family members as well as church family supporters of this fund to ensure the long term maintenance of these two cemeteries.
- All donations no matter the amount are thankfully received. They may be placed in the weekly offering, dropped off at the church office, or mailed to First United Church, 309 St. Patrick Street, Bathurst, N.B. E2A 1E2. Cheques should be made out to – "First United Church". Remember to indicate that your donation is for the W. B. and St. Luke's "Endowment Fund".
- Committee members are: Brenda Parrott, Donna MacKay, Isabel MacLaggan, Bev Murphy, Robert Willis, and Gary Branch.

## **BATHURST PASTORAL COUNCIL** **Highlights**

Things have been going smoothly at First United Church in spite of all the snowstorms which have kept the custodian very busy. Many people braved the weather to make the Roast Pork dinner a success.

Pastoral Council met on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. The Policy regarding rental of church facilities was modified to include a less ambiguous wording dealing with the charge for custodian fees when an event is held outside of regular hours.

Brenda Parrott reported on Dave Morison's behalf that despite two cancellations of Sunday worship services our local givings will be very close to budget as of March 31<sup>st</sup>.

All but one position on Church Teams and Sub-teams have been filled. A new Talk Mail service is in place and seems to be working well. A music concert is planned for April 12<sup>th</sup> with tickets on sale for \$15. 'Let's Break Bread Together' Cookbooks are available for sale at the church office.

*Judy Losier*

### *Just Prayers*

*No colored eggs  
Or bunnies here,  
Just deep-felt love  
For Christ, so dear.*

*No Easter baskets  
Full of fluff,  
No jelly beans  
And other stuff.*

*No superior looks,  
No strife, no fights  
With those who keep  
The worldly rites.*

*No condemnation  
For those who do,  
Just prayers for them  
To love Him, too.*

*By Joanna Fuchs*