

*The United Church of Canada*  
*Bathurst Pastoral Charge*  
**First United Church, Bathurst**  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

**September 6, 2015**

**Clergy** Rev. Blair Lewis    **Organist** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Isabel Clouston    **Greeters** Cheryl & Gordon Murphy  
**Custodian** Alan Wilcox

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<b>Lectionary for today</b>	<b>Lectionary for next Sunday</b>
<i>Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23</i> <i>Psalm 146</i> <i>James 2:1-10(11-13)14-17</i> <i>Mark 7:24-37</i>	<i>Proverbs 1:20-33</i> <i>Psalm 116</i> <i>James 3:1-12</i> <i>Mark 8:27-38</i>

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

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

**Organ 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:**

With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
He has shown you, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?    (Micah 6,6,8)

**Welcoming One Another:  
Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:  
Announcements:**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle:**

One: As we light the Christ Candle  
we celebrate life and offer thanks to God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: We are reminded that God has given us  
our world to learn about and our life to discover.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: God has gathered us into a community of care,  
learning and worship.

**All: Let us worship God with love,  
thanksgiving, and praise.**

**Call to Worship:**

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**All: inviting us to worship.**

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**All: inviting us by love.**

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**All: calling us by name,  
calling us to grow in faith,  
calling us to be made new.**

One: We come to worship in this season of the Spirit.

**Prayer of Approach:** (in unison)

**Our God as we come before you in prayer  
at the beginning of our worship service  
we thank you for meeting us  
at our point of greatest need and befriending us.  
You enable us to live in families and communities  
for purpose, fellowship, and support.  
You call us to your service and give us a mission.  
You encourage us to hear the affirmation of friends.  
Oh God we thank you for not accepting  
the limitations we place on ourselves.  
God, loved and trusted one, in time and beyond time,  
we praise you. Amen**

**\*Opening Hymn:** *'O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'*    **#326 VU**

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Prayer for Understanding:

Eternal God,  
who caused all scriptures  
to be written for our learning:  
grant that we may so hear them,  
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,  
that by patience and comfort of your holy Word,  
we may embrace and hold fast  
the blessed hope of eternal life,  
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*BCP 16th Century*

### Scripture Readings:

Isabel MacLaggan

#### New Testament Lesson:

James 2:1-10,14-17

#### Responsive Psalm:

Psalm # 125 **VU #849**

#### Gospel Lesson:

Mark 7:24-37

**\*Hymn:** *'Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love'* **#593 VU**

### Meditation:

**"What connection does your faith have to your life?"**

### Anthem:

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

### Presentation of Self and Gifts 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)

**O God, author of all goodness,  
who has entrusted us with material possessions  
and made us stewards of your bounty:  
except the offerings which we now present to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

#### Prayer of Confession:

**All: We repent of our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is a grief to us;  
the burden of them is great.  
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us,  
most merciful One;  
for Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve  
and please you in newness of life,  
to the honour and glory of your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

*BCP 16th Century*

One: God of the Exodus,

**All: you set Israel free.**

One: Jesus of Easter,

**All: you proclaimed freedom for all.**

One: Spirit of Liberation,

**All: empower us to live in freedom. 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:

God is the love that over and around us lies;  
the grace that is totally unearned;  
and the healing that makes the earth whole.  
Give thanks to God; we are forgiven!

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

### Pastoral Prayer:

One: Let us join in our historic prayer of General Thanksgiving:

**All: Almighty God, father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
to give the most humble and hearty thanks  
for all my goodness and lovingkindness  
to us and to all mankind.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life,  
but above all, for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world  
by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace,  
and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech the,  
give us that do sense of all life mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful,  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to thy service,  
and by walking before the in holiness  
and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen**

### Silent Prayer:

### Reflective Music:

### The Lord's Prayer

**\*Closing Hymn:** *'In Christ There is No East or West'* # 606 VU  
(Tune St. Peter VU 344)

**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:

Go out into the world in peace;  
have courage;  
hold on to what is good;  
return no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak, and help the suffering;  
honour all people;  
love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
*I Corinthians 16:13, II Timothy 2:1, Ephesians 6:10  
I Thessalonians 5:13-22, I Peter 2:17*

**Choral Closing:** *'When You Walk From Here'* #298 VU  
***When you walk from here,  
When you walk from here,  
Walk with justice, walk with mercy,  
And with God's humble care.***

### Organ Postlude:

# Church News

## **This Week at First United –Sept. 7 – Sept. 12**

Monday	Closed	Labour Day
Tuesday	1:00	Ways & Means Team – Eddy Rm

The bulletin today has been placed  
***in loving memory of Douglas Hinton***  
by wife, Barbara.

### **Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre**

Commitment December 31, 2015 **900**

Total to Date **545**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect

21-22 jars of peanut butter per week.

The Volunteer Center supplies, on average, 430 households monthly.



### ***Beef BBQ***

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

309 St. Patrick Street

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Takeouts available 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

\$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.*

**Pictorial Directory:** First United along with Universal Portrait Studios, will be compiling a Pictorial Directory this fall. The photos will be taken Sept 22-26 and, if needed, Sept 28- Oct 2. Universal Portrait studios will be contacting you to set up an appointment time for your photo shoot starting Sept.1st. If you wish, you can set up a time convenient to you online at [www.universalportriats.com](http://www.universalportriats.com)

**Thank You** to Margaret Payne-Chénard and Jean Young for being the counters and to Margaret Demmings, Linda Newell, Margaret Payne-Chénard and Chesley Eddy for being our greeters for the month of August.

### **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 5, 2015. The annual subscription rate is \$20 (Tax included) Renewals are also payable at the office.

**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.

*Faith  
is putting all your eggs in God's basket,  
then counting your blessings  
before they hatch.  
~Ramona C. Carroll~*

## 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 2016 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 15, 2015. 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".

### **The Anglican Parish of New Bandon Salmon Supper**

Will be held on Saturday September 19, 2015. Christ Church Hall , Clifton

Settings at 4, 5 & 6 pm. Adults \$15.00 and children under 12 \$7.50. All tickets sold in advance. For tickets contact: Kay Addison 350-0960, Lorna Veneau 546-2948, Elaine Good 546-2970, Norma Ellis 546-9638, Elsie Daley 546-5972, Laura McNulty 546-2890, Mitzi Whelton 546-9469, Kim Scott 546-5012.

### **Herman J. Good VC Branch 18, The Royal Canadian Legion**

Turkey Supper Sunday, September 13, 2015  
Served from: 5:00pm-6:00pm Cost: \$14.00  
Tickets are on sale at the Legion.

**Community & Family Breakfast** Saint George's Anglican Church Hall  
Saturday, September 12, 2015 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

**Bathurst Christian Women** invite you to their "Artistic Impression" Luncheon Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at Danny's Inn and Conference Center \$15.00, 11:15 to 1:00 pm. Rita May Gates, President of the Bathurst Art Society, will show how Art is Therapeutic. Sue Ferguson, a summer resident of P.E.I, and guest speaker who knows that no matter what has happened to you or where you are in your life you can "Dare To Dream". Reservations are necessary. Call Edith 548-3924 or Connie 546-2127.

**Central United Church, Clifton**, will be holding a Fall Fair on Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 1-3pm. Baked Goods, produce, pickles, jams, jellies, relish, crafts, hotdogs and lemonade. Come and enjoy the afternoon. Everyone is welcome.

**Old Fashioned Turkey Dinner**, Sept 19, 2015, 5 pm, Evangel Pentecostal Church. Tickets \$10.00 (assorted desserts will be auctioned) A limited number of Take-out meals available. \$12.00/dessert included. For tickets call Joyce or Glen Daley 546-3764. In support of Evangel Dominican Mission Team.

*Faith  
makes things possible,  
not easy.  
~Author Unknown~*

## *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*

## **James 2:1-10, 14-17 New International Version (NIV)** **Favoritism Forbidden**

2 My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in.

3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet,"

4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

6 But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself,"<sup>[a]</sup> you are doing right.

9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

## **Faith and Deeds**

14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food.

16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

## **Mark 7:24-37 New International Version (NIV)** **Jesus Honors a Syrophenician Woman's Faith**

24 Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre.<sup>[a]</sup> He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret.

25 In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet.

26 The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

27 "First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

28 "Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

29 Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter."

30 She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

## **Jesus Heals a Deaf and Mute Man**

31 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.<sup>[b]</sup>

32 There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue.

34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "*Ephphatha!*" (which means "Be opened!").

35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it.

37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

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