

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

May 19, 2024

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Greeters Edie & Peter Gammon
Audio & Visual Technicians Ralph Jamieson & Donald Eddy

Today's Music Leader: Linda Knowles MacPherson

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35 <i>b</i> Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27; 16:4 <i>b</i> -15	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17
The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of <i>Fran & Elmer Daley</i> by Glen, Joyce and family	
We welcome and thank <i>Linda Knowles MacPherson</i> for sharing her gift of music with us this morning	

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where you are invited to present yourselves, body, mind, and spirit, as is comfortable for you today...*

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME & TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *(in unison)*

...As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original peoples, the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and in friendship with its people.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

...We light this candle remembering a time when the Spirit came down like flames of fire, praying that we too, may be warmed, inspired, and ignited by the dancing flames of the Spirit working in us in this time of worship, and all the days of our lives.

The Christ candle is lit...

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP – “Wind is Moving”

Seasons of the Spirit vol. 1 pg. 39

***Wind is moving over water,
patterns shifting out across the bay.
Grass is bending on the hillside;
clouds are drifting right across the sky.
O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.
O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

The Spirit's at work in our Community of Faith,

bringing us together in joy, comforting us in sorrow.

The Spirit is discovered in our Community of Faith,

helping those bereaved, listening to those who are troubled.

The Spirit's with any who are downhearted in our community,

the voice of hope, the unseen good deed.

The Spirit will not be overcome, because here in our community,

the Spirit is inspiring, the Spirit is eternal.



GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” VU #375
(with Refrain after verses 2 & 4)

Refrain

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro’ the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

You swept thro’ the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro’ your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE – “And When You Call for Me” – MV #96

***And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.***

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (*responsively*)

...Peace be with you.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (*with those of all ages*)

Youth Confirmands

Acts 2:1-4

***SINGING A SONG** – “Small Things Count”

VU #361

Small things count, so Jesus said:
cups of water, crumbs of bread,
small things done because we’re kind
count as big things in God’s mind.

Small things make the big things grow:
grains of yeast inside the dough,
puffs that fill a big balloon,
notes that make a happy tune.

Every hair that’s on our head,
every sparrow, Jesus said,
God takes care of, counts and knows,
God loves us from top to toes!

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Helen Knowles

Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “Spirit of Life”

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Pat MacIntosh

INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING**THE OFFERING IS GATHERED*****OFFERING RESPONSE –**

VU #541

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***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.***

***OFFERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Holy One,
with all we have and all we are,
we bring our offerings.
May your Spirit fill our words.
May your Spirit fill our actions.
May your Spirit fill our lives.
And always.**

Amen**SHARING OUR CONCERNS****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE LORD'S PRAYER – VU #916 (A Translation)** *(in unison)*

**Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
may your name be made holy,
may your dominion come,
may your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts,
as we have forgiven our debtors;
and do not put us to the test,
but rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power,
and the glory forever.
Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS***CLOSING HYMN – "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**

VU #382

Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou would do.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
for thine eternity.

BLESSING**CHORAL CLOSING –**

MV #222

"May the Peace of God Be Your Peace"

***May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the job of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see
be found in you.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)***POSTLUDE**

Church News

This Week at First United Church		
Monday	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Church Office Closed		
Tuesday	3:00 PM	M&P and Council Executive
Thursday	6:00 PM	Youth Confirmation Session
Friday	4:30 PM	Adult Confirmation Session
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market
Sunday	After worship	Search Team/ Focus Groups

Church office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Please note the church office will be closed on Monday, May 20th in honour of Victoria Day

Peanut Butter – Once again this year we have set a goal of **900 jars** of peanut butter to donate to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Up to May 16th, 2024 we have collected 352 jars.

As part of our **Stewardship Program** here at First United, information on Planned Giving through Wills and Bequests is available to our congregational membership. All members / adherents are encouraged to review this information and take the appropriate steps pertaining to your wishes. The information is available from the church office

Below you will find a stewardship quote relating to the same.

"But strive first for the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." *Matthew 6:33*

We make a living by what we get.

We make a life by what we give.

Author unknown

Eat in or Take out Ham & Scallop Potato Supper will be held on **Thursday, May 30th**. Tickets are available starting Monday, May 6th. \$18 for adults and \$6 for children. Please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or drop by or call (506-546-3532) the church office for tickets.

Church News

Calling all graduates – from high school, university and/or college. If you are aware of anyone graduating this year please let either Rev. Neal or the church office know by Monday, June 3rd. The annual celebration for the graduates will be held during our worship service on Sunday, June 16th

The Christian Development Team is pleased to provide a display of flowers in our sanctuary honouring all mothers and those who "mother". We are grateful to report \$1,335.00 has been raised through this Mother's Day Flower church fundraiser event. The funds will be used for flowers in our sanctuary as well as in the life and work of our church. *We thank all who have generously donated.*

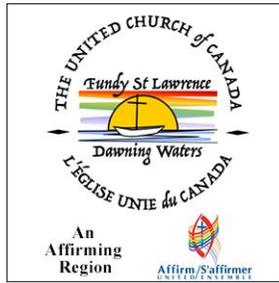
Immediately after church on **Sunday, May 26**, the Profile Committee will be hosting several small group sessions to allow our congregation to express their views, suggestions, concerns etc. regarding our selection of a new minister for First United Church. We hope that you will be able to join us at that time. ***We value and need your input.*** Light refreshments will be served and we should be able to wind everything up by 1:00 pm.

Sandra Boone

on behalf of the Profile Committee.

Youth Confirmation Final Session will be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:00 PM.

Adult Confirmation Final Session will be held on Friday, May 24th at 4:30 PM.

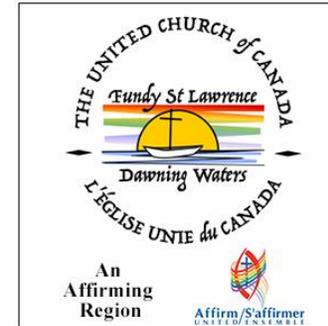


***Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning
Waters Regional News***
BERWICK CAMP 2024

Berwick Camp will be holding its 152nd encampment this summer from July 26 to August 4. This year we will be welcoming our United Church Moderator, the Right Rev Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, as Minister in Residence. She will be conducting the service on Sundays at 10am, and Monday to Friday evenings at 7pm. We'd love to welcome members of congregations from all over the Maritimes and beyond to spend some time with us this year. If your church is in the Berwick area, we would love to have the whole congregation celebrate Sunday services under the hemlocks with us. Have further to travel? We are hoping that churches from outside of the area will pool for transportation for a day visit, and stay for the evening service. Or, come and experience the whole week! Registration is now open. More information can be found on our website (<https://www.berwickcamp.org>), including the link for registration and the daily schedule (with more details on events to come as we get closer). So come check it out!

We are sending along here a promotional video giving a bit of a snapshot of what Berwick is all about. If you are able to show this at your churches on camping Sunday (or any time!), please do! Many churches have campers that attend that would be happy to answer questions about the camp experience. Link to video: <https://youtu.be/aDoCbTSbSK8>

Hope to see you there!



***Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning
Waters Regional News***

REGISTRATION FOR YOUTH@REGION IS NOW LIVE!

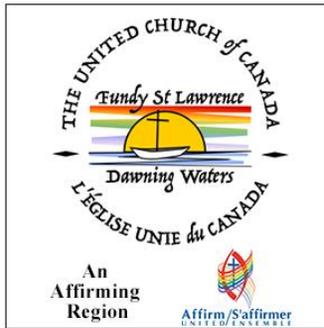
Y@R is a place of community and a place of faith where United Church youth, between grade 6 and 12, meet from across New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, Quebec. It takes place during the Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (FSLDW), May 31 - June 2, 2024. As some delegates are coming to the meeting Thursday evening, youth are welcome to come as well. Please indicate on your registration your arrival date.

Please make [this link](#) available to the youth, grades 6-12 in your community of faith.

If you have any questions, please email Catherine Stuart, Regional Minister for Children, Youth and Young Adults at cstuart@united-church.ca, or Lisa Folkins, Director, at lisa.folkins@gmail.com.

FSLDW AGM Facilitators Needed

We are looking for facilitators for Y@R (Youth @ Region). If you are looking for a fun weekend (May 30 to June 2) and love spending time with our youth, message Lisa Folkins for more information at lisa.folkins@gmail.com



***Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning
Waters Regional News***

RENDEZ-VOUS 2024: AUDACIOUS HOPE

You are invited to join us for the Audacious Hope National Gathering, a transformative event designed for youth, young adults, and their leaders. Early-bird pricing is now open! Sign up today!

When: Wed, Jul 3 - Sat, Jul 6 2024

Where: Brock University
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way
St. Catharines, Ontario L2S 3A1

Presented by the Rendez-vous 2024 team of The United Church of Canada and the LIFT team of The Presbyterian Church in Canada in an exciting new partnership!

For further information please see the brochure in the narthex and go to <https://united-church.ca/events/rendez-vous-2024-audacious-hope>

SCRIPTURE READINGS

ACTS 2:1-21

- 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
- 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
- 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
- 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
- 5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.
- 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.
- 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"
- 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?
- 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
- 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
- 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."
- 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"
- 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."
- 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

JOHN 15:26-27; 16:4B-15

26 "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf.

27 You also are to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.

4b "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

5 But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'

6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you.

8 And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:

9 about sin, because they do not believe in me;

10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, and you will see me no longer;

11 about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

14 He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

May the Spirit bless to our understanding these significant parts of our Christian story...