

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

June 2, 2024

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Greeters Beth Sullivan & Gary Branch
Audio & Visual Technicians Brenda Parrott & Donald Eddy

Today's Music Leader: *Linda Knowles MacPherson*

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We welcome and thank **Wayne Lord**
for leading us in our worship service today!

Focus scripture today is Psalm 139

We welcome and thank **Linda Knowles MacPherson** 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 not to summon God's presence, but to remind us that we gather in the presence of the One to whom even darkness is as bright as the noonday sun—the One whose light will never be quenched.

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 (Adapted from Psalm 139) *(responsively)*

Lord, You have searched us and known us

You are acquainted with all our ways

And you invite us to become acquainted with all Your ways, to live and move and have our being in you.

You hem us in, before and behind,

You rest your hand upon us

Such knowledge is wonderful beyond imagining.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “For the Beauty of the Earth” VU #226

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

(Refrain)
God of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,

(Refrain)

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

(Refrain)

For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,

(Refrain)

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

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)*

Based on Psalm 139

***SINGING A SONG** – “Jesus Loves Me” VU #365

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong,
in his love we shall be strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know,
As he loved so long ago,
Taking children on his knee,
Saying, “Let them come to me.”
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today,
walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give
Light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isabel MacLaggan

Psalm 139

REFLECTION – “Together We Worship” – Jeff Cork

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “I Have Called You by Your Name”

RESPONDING

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**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #916 (A Translation) *(in unison)*

**Our Father/Mother/Creator
who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, The Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

***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 joy 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 AM	Ways & Means - RMR
Friday	Office Closed re summer hours	
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market

Helen Knowles will be leading us in our worship service next Sunday.

Summer church office hours are now in effect until after the Labour Day Weekend in September. The office will now be open Monday to Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM – closed Friday

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.

Thank You: The Ways and Means team would like to express a sincere thank you to all who helped in anyway with our Ham & Scallop Potato Supper from the planners, to the food preparers, cooks, bakers, servers, set uppers and take downers, dishwashers, ticket sellers and to all who purchased a ticket to support us.

The West Bathurst Cemetery Committee wishes to extend a sincere **"Thank you!"** to Audrey Ronalds, Community Schools Engagement Coordinator; B.H.S. teachers – Sheena Daley and Jennie Chapman; B.H.S. students from the Rotary Interact Group and International students; and to the students and staff (Shannon Scott, Roberta Whelton, and Jim Chamberlain) of the Positive Learning Center who spent time cleaning the grave stones at the cemetery. Your volunteer time spent washing each memorial stone after the fire of the neighbouring Eddy Group Company is very much appreciated.

Your commitment to good citizenship and helping others is amazing!

Church News

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.

"What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?"

Luke 9:25

The two things that most clearly identify where our values lie are our cheque book and calendar—that is, how we make and spend our money, and how we use our time.

~ Author unknown

Community Outreach Updates

- To date, 355 jars of peanut butter have been received & relayed to Volunteer Center for delivery to needy families.
- \$100 will be sent to 5 schools in support of breakfast programs at the beginning of school in the fall.
- Occasionally, food is given to needy folks requesting same, from our pantry. Sufficient supplies are available but donations will be accepted at any time.
- Several individuals have donated bedding & towels to Second Chance.
- Following the White Gift Service, we delivered food items, winter & night attire, along with socks to the Volunteer Center.
- Calls to Passage House indicated that due to transition, no donations were being accepted. An update will be requested.
- We have learned that partnerships could be beneficial in supporting new families, so an appointment is being made with the Multicultural Assoc. to learn more.

Trust that this additional info will be helpful but inquiries can be made to Helen Knowles (506-546-9563).

Church News

Thank you to our volunteers in May:

Greeters – Edie & Peter Gammon and Cheryl & Dave Brewster;
Counters – Gayle Ferron & Barbara Davis; **Your Generosity Matters** – Martha Vickers, Clinton Ronalds, Pat MacIntosh and Bev Murphy; **Scripture Readers** – Anne Wilson, Judy Losier, Helen Knowles and Jini Palmer; **Sound System** – Brenda Parrott, Ralph Jamieson and Shirley Allain; **Hospitality & Friendship** – Shirley Sealy & Wilma Dempsey, Gayle Ferron & Jini Palmer and Sharon McKinnon & Cathy McLaughlin; and **Videographer** – Don Eddy as well as to Josh Gammon for uploading our services to the website and Facebook.

Community News

A Spring Plant Sale is being held at Central United Church in Clifton on Saturday, **June 8th from 9 AM to 12 Noon**. Come and enjoy a coffee while you shop!!!

A FAMILY AND COMMUNITY BREAKFAST will be held at St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, June 8th from 8 AM to 10 AM**. As this community event serves to fund our local mission projects, we rely on donations and ask that you consider a minimum donation of \$ 8.00 to help defray costs. We appreciate your kindness and support. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food.

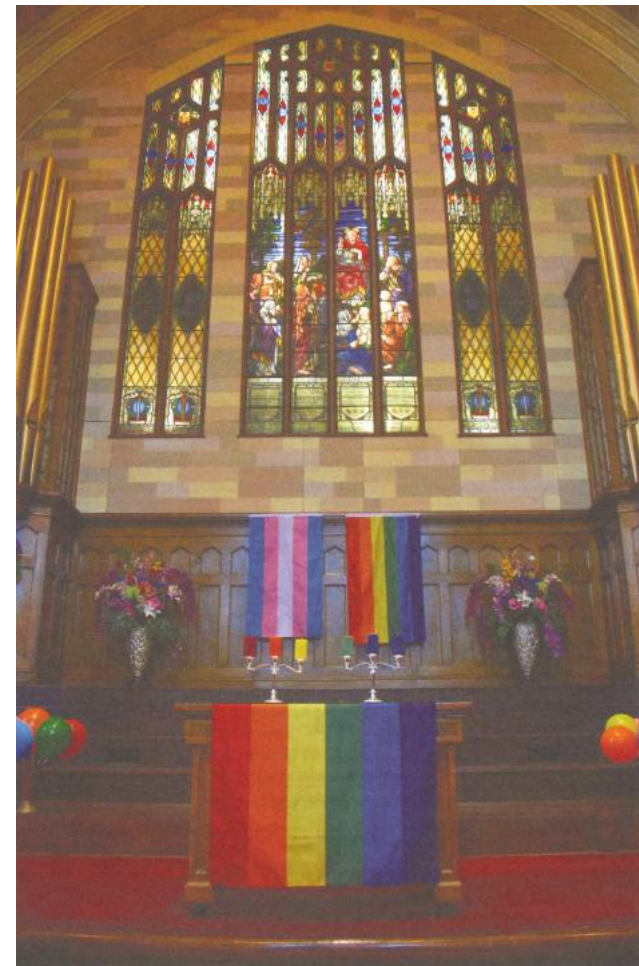
Samuel Gauvin, Classical pianist who was taught by Ludima Hussey, will be performing, along with his students at Central United Church, Clifton. The concert will be held on June 9th at 2 p.m. Sam has performed for us before and he is an exceptional entertainer. You won't want to miss this show. Come, bring a friend and join us. A free-will offering will be collected.

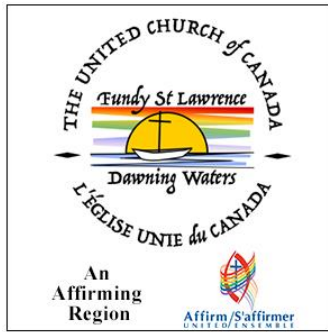
Community News

"The Treble Makers Welcome Summer at the Bathurst Heritage Museum"

The event will be held on **Friday, June 14th** starting at 2 PM. Selections will include songs such as "In the Good Old Summertime", "Sentimental Journey", "Let Me Call You Sweetheart", "Blueberry Hill", "Partons la mer est belle", "Yellow Bird", "Viens Voir L'Acadie", some instrumental music, toe tapping jigs, reels and much more.

Admission is free - however, a good will donation towards the museum is always appreciated.





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!

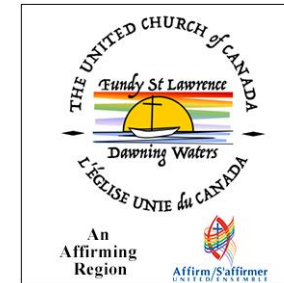
When: Wed, Jul 3 - Sat, Jul 6 2024

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>

***Note - There will be a bus travelling from the Maritimes
Registration Deadline – June 15, 2024***



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!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PSALM 139

The Inescapable God

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night',
- 12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
- 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

- 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
- 17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
- 18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.
- 19 O that you would kill the wicked, O God,
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—
- 20 those who speak of you maliciously,
and lift themselves up against you for evil!
- 21 Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
- 22 I hate them with perfect hatred;
I count them my enemies.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
- 24 See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

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