

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

**June 16, 2024**

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

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<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b>	<b><u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u></b>
1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Mark 4:26-34	1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 Psalm 9:9-20 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41
The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of <b><i>Cleveland Jagoe</i></b> by the family	

*We welcome **Grace Lavigne** and **Mitchell Pettigrew**, our BHS graduates, and congratulate them on their well-deserved, hard-earned accomplishment!*

*We welcome **Amanda Godin**, our Mount Allison University graduate, who earned her BMus.*

*We extend congratulations to **Michelle Buzas**, UNB with BScE (Civil) & **Kaitlin Oliver**, Dalhousie University with BSc (Physiotherapy) on earning their degrees.*

*We welcome **Amanda Godin**, BMus, today's guest speaker.*

*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**

**\*PROCESSION OF GRADUATES** – “Land of Hope and Glory”

**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** (*responsively*)

*The Christ Candle is lit...*

Shine on us, Holy One. Warm us. Transform us.

**Smile through us.**

Touch others with love through our actions.

**Run errands that help others with our energy.**

Bless others through the words we share.

**Shine through us. Now and always.**

**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)*

Loving One,

**welcome us in.**

Peaceful One,

**calm our hearts.**

Strong One,

**lift us up.**

Truthful One,

**focus our minds.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** – “Make a Joyful Noise”

VU #820

*Refrain:*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!*

*Worship your God with gladness.*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth.*

*Come to this place with a song!*

Know that your God has made you.

Know it's to God we belong.

And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.

Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain*

Enter these gates, thanks giving.

Enter these courts with praise.

Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.

Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain*

Ages through endless ages,  
seasons of endless years,  
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.  
Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain:*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!*

*Worship your God with gladness.*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth.*

*Come to this place with a song!*

**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)*

...The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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

**\*SINGING A SONG** – “Draw the Circle Wide”

MV #145

*Refrain*

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.*

*Let this be our song, no one stands alone,*

*standing side by side,*

*draw the circle wide.*

God the still point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms.

*Refrain*  
*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.*  
*Let this be our song, no one stands alone,*  
*standing side by side,*  
*draw the circle wide.*

Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call.

*Refrain*

Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door.

*Refrain*

*PRESENTING*

**PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES**

*Anne Wilson, Christian Development Team Representative*

*Grace Lavigne*

*Mitchell Pettigrew*

*Amanda Godin*

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Jennifer Oliver-Lavigne*

*A Different Way (Based on 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49)*

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER**

*Martha Vickers, Interim Chair of Christian Development Team*

**MESSAGE** *(to the Graduates)*

*Amanda Godin, BMus*

**EXTENDING APPRECIATION**

*Martha Vickers, Interim Chair of Christian Development Team*

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*RESPONDING*

**YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS**

*Pat MacIntosh*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD**

**\*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,  
we bring forward our best.  
Use it, we pray,  
to help our church, our community, and the world.  
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.**

# Church News

**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**

*GOING OUT (as Spirit people)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CLOSING HYMN** – “Wherever You May Go”

MV #216

*Refrain*

*Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
and your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

Say the word and I will stay,  
I will never go away,  
we will travel side by side  
and God’s love will be our guide.

*Refrain*

From beginning to the end  
I will always be your friend,  
when you need me, I’ll be there,  
you can trust my faithful care.

*Refrain*

**\*BLESSING**

**\*RECESSION OF GRADUATES** – “Land of Hope and Glory”

*The Christ Candle is extinguished.*

**POSTLUDE**

**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**

**Next Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>** we will be celebrating **confirmation** of a number of new members to our church as well as **baptism**. Please join us for the wonderful celebration.

**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 June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we have collected 372 jars. We have funds on hand to purchase another 60 jars in the next couple of weeks.

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.

From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded. *Luke 12:48*

“Congregations and Christians everywhere are discovering that the best giving flows not from heads informed about the budget but from hearts that are tuned to the will of God.”  
*~ Thomas C. Rieke*

**Help Needed for West Bathurst Cemetery** – As soon as the Eddy Group receives the okay to clean up the site of the recent fire, the West Bathurst Cemetery will need help to remove about a dozen trees along the bank neighbouring the Eddy property. We will need workers to operate chain saws, move limbs, etc. and possible trucks and trailers to move some of the limbs to the city compost site. If you are willing to help, please give your name to Gary Branch, Lester Scott, or the church secretary

# Community News

## **Presentation on Death and Bereavement**

Alisha Nini, a Licensed Counseling Therapist, and Elizabeth Harmon, an intern in Counselling Psychology from Mind at Peace Center will be teaming up with the Venerable Perry Cooper to discuss and present information on Grief and Bereavement. The presentation will take place on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am** at **Christ Church Hall, 6836 Route 11, Clifton**. Topics to be presented include, the impact of grief on mental health, understanding the grieving process, building resilience and finding meaning, and a spiritual approach to grief and bereavement. A fellowship lunch will follow the presentation. You can register with Lesa Scott via email at [anglican.new.bandon@gmail.com](mailto:anglican.new.bandon@gmail.com) or by calling Lesa at 506-546-8293.

**Stonehaven New Bandon Union Cemetery Service** will be held on **Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM** at the Community Chapel in Stonehaven. The service will be led by the Rev. Paul Gwese. Offering from this service may be designated to cemetery maintenance, chapel restoration or perpetual care fund.

**St. George's Anglican Church** will be hosting the ***Hospitality Days Breakfast*** on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM to 10AM. Tickets to be sold in advance by dropping into the Church Office or calling 506-546-3225. Adults – \$ 10 and Children under 12 - \$ 5

**Bathurst Community Market** will be celebrating their ***First Anniversary*** of serving the community in the Donald Eddy Memorial Hall on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. The Property Management Team of First United Church would like to thank the Market Group for working with them and also congratulate them on their success.

## **50th Anniversary - Central United Church**

*Remember the Past,  
Celebrate the Present, Grow the Future*

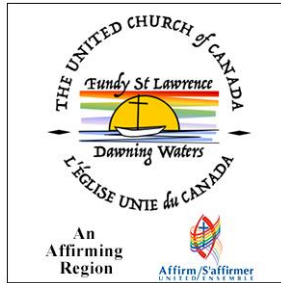
*You are invited to join the Congregation of Central United, Clifton NB  
to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ministry*

*Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 during the 10:00 am worship service*

# Community News

**A summer kids' event called Scuba VBS** will be hosted at *St. Lukes Presbyterian Church*, 395 Murray Avenue, Bathurst from **July 22 to July 26**, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. At Scuba, kids explore what it means to have a friendship with God, participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, and test out sciency-fun experiments that get imagination bubbling. Family members and friends are encouraged to join-in daily for this special time at 11:30. Scuba is for kids from 4 to 12 and we welcome teenagers to volunteer as crew leaders. For more information, call 506-546-4645 or email [stlukes@bellaliant.com](mailto:stlukes@bellaliant.com).



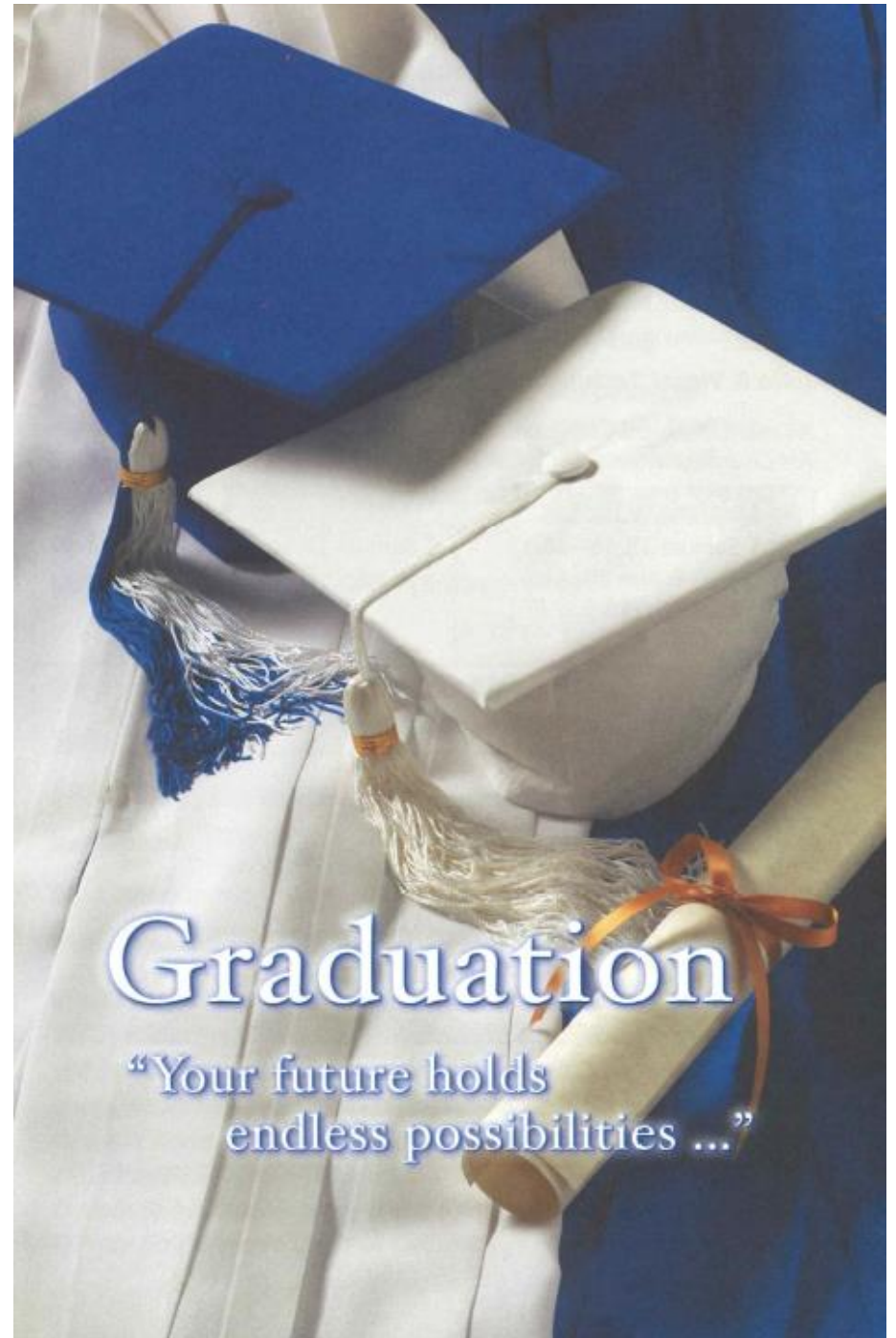


***Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning  
Waters Regional News***  
**BERWICK CAMP 2024**

Berwick Camp will be holding its 152<sup>nd</sup> 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!





## A Graduation Blessing

*Embarking on a journey which began some time ago,  
how could you have imagined all the things  
you'd come to know.*

*You learned to use each challenge as an opportunity,  
to overcome each problem, despite adversity.*

*It wasn't always easy keeping up with what was "cool", but  
you held on tight to your beliefs  
and carried them through school.*

*You found your voice and chose a path that honors  
who you are, and that, I think, may be  
your greatest lesson learned thus far.*

*For no one could be prouder of the person you've become,  
and that is why we're confident that  
the best is yet to come.*

*May you never waste a moment  
"wishing" life was not unfair.  
Rather use the gifts God gave to you,  
to change the world out there.*

*Your Graduation signals us that you are on your way,  
so spread your wings and fly my dear, forever and a day!*

*By Barbara D. MacAdam*



## Graduation 2024

*Bathurst High School*

*Grace Lavigne and Mitchell Pettigrew*

*Michelle Buzas*

*- UNB with BScE (Civil)*

*Amanda Godin*

*- Mount Allison University  
with BMus*

*Kaitlin Oliver*

*- Dalhousie University  
with BSc (Physiotherapy)*

*Guest Speaker*

*Amanda Godin*

*First United Church  
309 St. Patrick Street  
Bathurst, New Brunswick*

## SCRIPTURE READING

*A Different Way (Based on 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49)*

Have your parents, caregivers, or teachers told you not to fight? Rather handle problems by talking and not hitting? Many parents, caregivers, and teachers have this conversation.

Today's story provides us with a bit of a challenge. The Israelites and the Philistines are in a battle, a long and violent fight. The Philistines decide to send their biggest warrior to the front of the battle – he was over 3 metres/9 feet tall! The Israelites are afraid of Goliath and did not want to fight him.

Meanwhile, a young boy named David is sent to take food to the army. When he arrives, he overhears King Saul and the army talking about how no one wanted to fight Goliath. David, who is very brave, speaks up and says "I am not afraid!" But King Saul says he is too small. David does not like being told he is too small or too young. "I can do it. I promise! Plus, I know God will be with me," he argues. Finally, King Saul agrees and gives his armour to David.

King Saul's armour is way too big! David knows there is no way he could fight in clothes that don't fit. David looks around and picks up five stones and a slingshot. Moving towards Goliath, he puts the stone in the slingshot and slings it at Goliath. The stone hits Goliath in the head, and Goliath falls to the ground and dies. The battle is won.

But do you see the problem with the story? David killed Goliath. Violence is not the best way to handle a problem, and we try hard not to use it now. When we only use force to solve problems, the problems do not go away. After this battle, the Israelites and David still have fights, and many more people died. Killing Goliath did not end the battles at all.

This is an amazing story about a young person overcoming a big threat. But the story is not about the battle. It tells how David did not come with a sword and a spear. David's strength and courage to stand up to a threat came from the Spirit. David used his skills – skills he had learnt and practiced as a shepherd.

I wonder what other ways the Israelites and the Philistines could have worked out their differences?

I wonder if there was another way?

Violence is not the way to solve our differences. I wonder if we can solve our differences without hurting one another?

I wonder how we know God is with us in difficult times?

*May the Spirit bless to our understanding this significant part of our Christian story...*

