

14th after Pentecost

September 14, 2025



St. John's United Church of The United Church of Canada

75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3

506-858-8289 stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com

www.stjohnsmoncton.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>

<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsmoncton>

Office Hours: M-F, 9am–1pm

A warm welcome is extended to all.

Nursery service for infants and toddlers is available in the nursery on the second floor.

If you are a parent or caregiver, there is a kitchen and washrooms on the main and upstairs levels, as well as a diaper changing area upstairs.

Please feel free to return to the service at any time.

*The congregation is invited to join in responses printed in **bold**. Stand as you are able.)*

PRELUDE THE LORD'S MY SHEPARD

(Music: Jessie S. Irving; arr. Don Hustad)

DOXOLOGY (541 VU)

(OLD 100TH) (Thomas Ken, Genevan Psalter)

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lillian MacMellon – 70th Anniversary of Drew Nursing Home

CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired Psalm 51)

Let us enter the presence of our God
with a renewed heart and a right spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.**

Let us speak, hear, and embrace truth and the wisdom of God.

**Strengthen and empower us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.**

Let us hear joy and gladness. Restore our crushed spirits.

**Revive us again, O God,
according to your steadfast love.**

HYMN 608 VU *DEAR GOD, WHO LOVES ALL HUMANKIND*

(REST) (Words: John Greenleaf Whittier / Music: Frederick Charles Maker)

Dear God, who loves all humankind, forgive our foolish ways;
reclothe us in our rightful mind;
in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word rise up, and follow thee.

O sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity, interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire:
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Maker of Heaven and Earth, we rejoice in your presence. In you, we find joy and strength, comfort and courage, truth and insight. Speak to us again. Reveal your power in and through us. Show us your glory and be glorified in our worship. May your glorious light shine through hidden spaces. May your blessed darkness make space for rest. Fortify us for this journey and make us instruments of your kindom.

We pray with the words Jesus taught us, saying, “Our Father...Amen.” (960 VU) (A laminated handheld version of The Lord’s Prayer can be found in the hymnbook holder in the pew.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you seek us when we are lost.

You do not turn away from those who others minimize and demean. Help us to recognize the belovedness of every human being and all your creation.

Give us courage and curiosity to engage with those that others would ignore or isolate.

Let us rejoice on earth as your rejoice in heaven as we make restoration, redemption, and reconciliation abound among us. Amen.

(moment of silence to offer personal thoughts and concerns)

WORDS OF GRACE

Beloved, the Holy One seeks you and rejoices when you turn from the ways of the world that minimize and marginalize the community God has prepared for us. We can be builders of a future that celebrates the kingdom of God alive and rejoicing on earth.

OFFERING

Offering boxes are located inside the Sanctuary at the two main entrances.

OFFERTORY (537 VU)

YOUR WORK, O GOD, NEEDS MANY HANDS

(KILMARNOCK) (Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer / Music: Neil Dougall)

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus’ sake.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

God our Provider, receive these gifts in gratitude from your people. We pray that these offerings meet the needs of the world and our community. May they serve as a public witness of our commitment to being your church. Amen.

HYMN 135 MV *CALLED BY EARTH AND SKY*

(WILD MOUNTAIN THYME) (Words: Ruth Duck / Music: traditional melody)

*Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.*

Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain, the wash of love again. *R*

Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind-born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace. *R*

Precious these mountains, ancient sands; vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song. *R*

Precious the fire that lights our way, bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and justice one. *R*

Called by earth and sky; called by earth and sky.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children up to age 12 yrs. are now invited to go to our Sunday School program time. If you are a child here for the first time, please feel welcome to join the children's group upstairs, or remain here for the rest of the service.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Read by Lauren Campbell and Julie Campbell

Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28

The land shall be desolation; the earth shall mourn.

Psalms 14, p. 735 VU

The foolish say, "There is no God."

(Music: Hubert H. Parry)

*R: Dear God, who loves all humankind,
forgive our foolish ways.*

The foolish have spoken in their heart,
and said "There is no God."

**They are corrupt; they do abominable things;
there is no one who does what is good.**

God looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if any are wise and seek after God.

**But all have gone astray; all alike are corrupted;
there is no one who does good; no, not one. R**

Have they no knowledge, all those who do evil?
**They devour my people like so much bread,
and do not pray to God.**

But see, they will tremble with fear,
for God is on the side of the righteous.

**Do not mock the hope of the poor,
for God is their refuge.**

O that deliverance for God's people
would come forth from Zion!

**When God restores the fortunes of the people,
then shall Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad. R**

Luke 15:1–10 The parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 747 VU

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

(CRIMOND) (Words: Scottish Psalter / Music: Jessie Seymour Irvine)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me, the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, even for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou has furnishèd in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

SERMON

ANTHEM

DO NOT FEAR, FOR YOU ARE MINE

(Words: Herb Frombach / Music: David Lantz III)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(We pray for Summerside: Trinity Pastoral Charge)

HYMN 266 VU *AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND*

(AMAZING GRACE [NEW BRITAIN]) (Words: John Henry Newton / Music: from *Virginia Harmony*)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
The Lord has promised good to me, this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

BENEDICTION

As you go, rejoice that God knows you, recognizes you,
and communes with you.

Rejoice knowing that you have the power to do the same
with all you encounter. Go, and rejoice!

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG POSTLUDE

GO NOW IN PEACE

(Words: Don Besig, Nancy Price / Music: Don Besig)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Joy in Heaven: Service Prayers for the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

***You are invited to join us in the Owen Fraser Hall
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.***



*The bulletin and pastoral letter are dedicated
in Loving Memory of
Ross Weatherby
by his Family*

*The Church extends its deepest
sympathies and condolences to the
family and friends of
Jennifer Johnston
(wife of Will Johnston)
who died on September 4, 2025*

MEMORIAL

*Donations have been made to
St. John's United Church in loving memory of*

Jean Cameron
*(sister of Evelyn Pyke and
mother of Debbie, Dannie, Robert and Brian)
by Carolyn Beers*

*A donation has been made to St. John's Organ Fund
in loving memory of our friend*

L. Maude Fawcett-Colpitts
*(September 1, 1919 - February 2, 2023)
(mother of the Rev. Melvin Fawcett)
by Anne Hobbs and Carole Shaddick*

IN HONOUR

*A donation has been made to St. John's Choir Fund
in honour of*


*Art & Sonja Buck's milestones
by Gerrie & Mary Baycroft*






Welcome back to Sunday School!

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Check our website at www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
for **Sunday online Worship links**, calendar, and more.

Sept. 14	Sun.	11:00 a.m.  SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Sunday School resumes (see note)
Sept. 15	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 16	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Finance & Property Management Committee (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 17	Wed.	6:15 p.m.	Sparks, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 18	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Choir Loft/Fellowship Room)
Sept. 18	Thur.	7:15 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Sept. 21	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - International Day of Peace

Sept. 24	Wed.	2:00 p.m.	Drew Nursing Home 70th Anniversary Celebration , Sackville (see note)
Sept. 28	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Truth & Reconciliation Sunday; wear an orange shirt - Grocery Sunday (see note) 
Sept. 28	Sun.	4:00 p.m.	A United Hymn Sing at Mount Royal United Church (see note)
Sept. 29	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	UCW (monthly-Fellowship Room)
Sept. 30	Tues.		National Day of Truth and Reconciliation & Orange Shirt Day 
Sept. 30	Tues.		Church / Office closed – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
Sept. 30	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Church Council (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Oct. 5	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - World Communion Sunday 
Oct. 8	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	UCW Fashion Show (see note) (Owen Fraser Hall)

Announcements from other United Churches, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region 14 and the community are shown on the TV in the Owen Fraser Hall and also located on the bulletin boards located at the Alma St. entrance and outside the Church Office.

SOBEYS & SUPERSTORE GIFT CARDS are sold each Sunday in the Sanctuary before and after Worship and at the Church Office M-F, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



We make 4% on every card sold. Your support is needed and appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School resumes on **Sept. 14th**. Please fill out the Sunday School Registration Form located on our church website and at our two main entrances. Return the form to the church office either in person, by mail, drop off in our church mail slot (on Victoria St. door) or email stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com. Thank you.



ART & SONJA BUCK would very much like to **THANK** those who joined us on our special day here at the church - September 6th, to celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary and Art's 90th birthday. Special thanks to Brenda McFarlane for organizing the volunteers to prepare and serve the food - Roberta Bunker, Susan Fowler, Kathy Isaac, Grace Kell, Terri Lovegrove, Susan McLeod, Phyllis Perry, Trudy Richards and Mary Ann Robertson. Thanks also to Bruce Lawson, Pat Arsenault and Karing Kitchen volunteers as well as Julie Hicks, Ann Wesselby Higgins and Marlene Godfrey for helping to prepare and decorate the day before. It was a wonderful celebration! 🎉

WELCOME!

We would like to warmly welcome any new faces to our church family today! Please feel free to introduce yourself to a fellow member or reach out to our minister if you have any questions. We invite you to stay after the service for fellowship. Fill in the "welcome" envelope located on the table at our two main entrances and place in the offering box or email the church office at stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com to let us know you are worshipping with us.



Join the Celebration!

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Drew Nursing Home

Coates Lounge

165 Main Street, Sackville, NB E4L 4S2

2:00 pm Welcome & Presentations

2:30-3:30 pm Food & Refreshments

Join us to celebrate the **70th anniversary** of The United Church Home for Senior Citizens, which opened July 15, 1955, and was officially dedicated on September 29, 1955.



The United Church Home
For Senior Citizens, Inc.
Drew Nursing Home
Tatnammar Residences

Everyone Welcome!

RSVP by September 22

office@drenursinghome.ca

506-364-4900



GROCERY SUNDAY FOR KARING KITCHEN

(Sept. 28 – last Sunday of the month)

The Outreach Committee would like to bring your attention to the Karing Kitchen's need for these groceries: cornstarch, can milk, soda crackers, alfredo sauce and honey-garlic sauce. *White baskets will be at the main entrance for your donations.* Thank you.



As we continue **The United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary Celebrations**, please join us for **A UNITED HYMN SING**, to be held at Mount Royal United Church, 106 Mount Royal Blvd., Moncton, NB, on Sunday,

September 28 at 4:00 pm. Bring your family and friends to join in singing lots of hymn favourites; special music will be provided by vocalists and instrumentalists. A time of fellowship will follow and refreshments will be provided. A donation of a non-perishable item for the **Karing Kitchen** will be gratefully received and appreciated. We look forward to this special celebration as, together, we unite our voices in song!! **ALL ARE INVITED!!**

SENB Youth Group: Expression of Interest ///

Groupe de jeunes : Manifestation d'intérêt

St. Paul's United Church (Riverview, NB) would like to start a regional youth group. This [SURVEY](#) is to gauge interest in this idea and get a better sense of who may be interested in participating. For the purpose of this survey, "youth" is **considered anyone ages 12 to 30**. We are happy to receive responses from younger youth or young adults, as **the ages of this group are to be determined based on interest**.

The deadline to complete this survey is **Tuesday, September 30th, 2025**.

If you have questions or comments, contact Olivia Finnamore at ofinnamore@gmail.com





UCW FALL FASHION SHOW will take place of **Wednesday, Oct. 8th at 7:00 pm.** Tickets are \$12.00 and available from members of the UCW and church office. Dessert and tea/coffee will be served. Door prizes. Fashions provided by Cazza.

DEDICATE THE BULLETIN/PASTORAL LETTER in memory of a loved one(s). The cost is \$50.00. Upcoming dates available: Oct. 12 and Nov. 2, 2025. If you dedicated last year, you will be contacted before your date to see if you want to dedicate again.

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving envelopes are located at both church entrances. If you use SJUC box offering envelopes, a Thanksgiving envelope is in your box. If you use PAR, your Thanksgiving envelope is in your packet of envelopes. You can place your envelope in the offering box on Sunday, mail or drop your envelope in the mail slot on the Victoria St. entrance; e-transfer also an option. The Church thanks you for your support.



100th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL FUNDRAISER



As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of The United Church of Canada, we invite you to take part in a special fundraiser — a meaningful opportunity to honour or remember someone who has shaped your faith journey. Special recognition will be held during a service later in the fall, to celebrate these lives.

Forms are located at the Church main entrances and in our Facebook files.

DIME BLITZ



This UCW fundraiser has now drawn to a close, and it's time to bring in the bottles of dimes you have saved over the summer. Please do this before the end of September

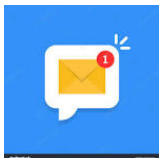


Deposit in the offering box on a Sunday morning or drop off in the mail slot located on the Victoria St. entrance door.

Thank you for your continued support of UCW projects.

Please ensure each container is labelled with your name.

NEW CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS



Please note, the church now has a new email address.

The old address was sjuc@nb.aibn.com, while the new address is stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com Please adjust your correspondence as well as your Interac email transfer contacts accordingly.

ST. JOHN'S HAS A NEW PRESENCE ON INSTAGRAM!

If you use Instagram, please give us a follow!

<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsmoncton/>

STEWARDSHIP SECOND – When you give generously, no gift is too small. Small gifts are often the most heartfelt.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH CARES... To notify the Minister of personal concerns, anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations or deaths, or to pass along a prayer request, contact Rev. Aaron Billard at 506-858-8289 or sjucrev@gmail.com

Greeters & Offering

South Door – Alma St

Rebecca Davis, Lauren Campbell and Julie Campbell

North Door – Victoria St.

Sylvia Ribble & Rheal Leger

CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



Rev. Aaron Billard, *Minister*
sjucev@gmail.com



Shelley Arsenault, B.Mus.B.Ed.
Music Director



Karen Geldart
Office Administrator
stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*



Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
Minister Emeritus
douglasimaceachern@gmail.com

Church Council

Chair: Roland Gallant

Secretary: Karen Teed

Treasurer: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Board of Trustees: Graham McCrea

Christian Development: Jennifer MacNairn; Sunday School: Sonja Webster

Finance & Property Management: Marlene Godfrey

Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region reps.: Rev. Aaron Billard,
Kimberley Buck de Jesus and Karen Geldart

Ministry & Personnel: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Pastoral Care & Membership: Valerie Roy

UCW: Brenda McFarlane

Worship & Music: Sheri Brooks

