

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026



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.

Children are asked to remain with their parents for the service.

Sunday School will resume in September (date to be determined).

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

ON THE WINGS OF THE MORNING

(Music: Anthony Giamanco)

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 149)

Praise the Holy One! Make our praise known in the gathering of the faithful, the hopeful, and even the questioning.

Let us praise God with a new song.

Let the rhythm of praise resonate in our being.

The Holy One takes pleasure in the presence of God's people.

**Let us glorify God with our senses,
our hearts, and our spirits.**

Let us praise the God of justice with high praise!

**We worship the Holy One in truth and righteousness!
Praise God!**

HYMN 245 VU

(PRAISE THE LORD) (Words/Music: Natalie Sleeth)

PRAISE THE LORD WITH THE SOUND OF TRUMPET

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord; never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord every moment,
nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord everywhere in every way!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Spirit of the Living God, may your presence reign among us as we gather. We give thanks for your abiding covenant and the path of life you set before us. We delight in your revelatory word and your compassionate care. We come to you because you come to us. Keep our hearts tuned to your hopes and promises. Receive our prayers and praise with grace and love.

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 (Inspired by Romans 13)

Holy One, Romans 13 reminds us that, “Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.” Forgive us for those moments when we had the opportunity to choose love and did not. Forgive us for the days we kept silent when love required our voice. Forgive us for the instances when we could have extended grace and mercy and, instead, chose bitterness and resentment. Forgive us for the times when we have been hard to love and failed to appreciate the love given to us. Transform our lives and our hearts into vessels that reflect your love in the world. Amen.

(moment of silence to offer personal thoughts and concerns)

WORDS OF GRACE (Inspired by Romans 12)

Beloved, rest in the love of God that is faithful and true. Know that love may be replicated through each of us toward one another and our neighbours. Be assured that the reservoir of love never runs dry and is amplified the more you draw from it. Let your love flow and the grace of God will sustain and strengthen you.

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

Gracious God, may these gifts shift us from scarcity to abundance and from hoarding to sharing. Continue, Holy One, to plant seeds of generosity within us, and allow us to see these gifts bloom in and beyond this faith community. Amen.

REMAIN SEATED

HYMN 138 MV ***MY LOVE COLOURS OUTSIDE THE LINES***

(Words / Music: Gordon Light; arr. Andrew Donaldson)

My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find;
and takes me into places where I've never been before,
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

*We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared
to die and realize there are worlds outside the lines.*

My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;
and takes me into places where I've never been before
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines. *R*

My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries,
where I've never been before,
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines. *R*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are asked to remain with their parents for the service.
Sunday School will resume in September (date to be determined).

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 13:8–14

Owe no one anything but love.

Psalms 149, Refrain 2, p. 873 VU

Sing to God a new song.

(Music: Melchior Vulpis; arr. Ernest Campbell MacMillan)

R2: All children of Zion, rejoice and give praise.

Sing to God a new song;

give praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in its Maker;

let the children of Zion exult in their Sovereign!

Let them praise God's name with dancing;

let them sing God's praise with tambourine and harp! R

For you, O God, take delight in your people;

you crown the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in their glory;

let them sing for joy as they feast. R

Let God's praise be on their lips,

the two-edged sword in their hands,

to bring the nations to justice,

and call to account the peoples,

to bind their rulers with fetters,

their great ones with bonds of iron,

to execute on them the sentence decreed.

This is the glory of all God's saints! R

Matthew 18:15–20 Where two or three are gathered in my name.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 460 VU

ALL WHO HUNGER

(HOLY MANNA) (Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan / Music: William Moore; arr. David Kai)

All who hunger, gather gladly;

holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.
All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

SERMON

ANTHEM

LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

(Words / Music: Arnold B. Sherman)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(We pray for Welsford Pastoral Charge)

HYMN 402 VU

WE ARE ONE

(WE ARE ONE) (Words: Doreen Lanshear-Smith / Music: Jeeva Sam; arr. David Kai)

We are one as we come,
as we come, joyful to be here,
in the praise on our lips
there's a sense that God is near.
We are one as we sing,
as we seek, we are found;
and we come needful of God's grace
as we meet, together in this place.

We are one as we share,
as we share brokenness and fear,
in the touch of a hand
there's a sense that God is here.
We are one as we care,
as we heal, we are healed;
and we share warmth in God's embrace
as we pray together in this place.

We are one as we feast,
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;
in the bread and the wine
there's a sense of love divine.

We are one as we come,
as we feed, we are fed;
and we feel God's refreshing grace
as we meet at table in this place.

We are one as we hear,
as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive
there's a sense that God is light.

We are one as we leave,
as we love, we are loved;
and we seek justice in God's ways
as we move together from this place.

BENEDICTION

Go...in the peace of Christ.

Live...in the love of Christ.

Hope...in the name of Christ.

And rest...in the abiding presence of Christ,

Who is among us in our coming and our going.

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.

POSTLUDE

COME, YE FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAIN

(Music: Mary McDonald, Arthur S. Sullivan)

During the postlude the congregation is welcome to depart.

There Among Them: Service Prayers for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year A 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 is dedicated in Loving Memory of
my Mom & Sister,
Ethel and Cathy MacQuarrie
by Husband/Father Earl MacQuarrie and
Daughter/Sister Peggy McDougall & Family*

MEMORIAL

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

Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
(husband of June MacEachern)

*by Art & Sonja Buck, James Paterson,
Jason Paterson and Lois Thorne*

*Donations have been made to the
Mission & Service Fund in loving memory of*

Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
(husband of June MacEachern)

by Janice & Allan Bowness and Janet Ross

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

Sept. 6	Sun.	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP (note time)
Sept. 7	Mon.		Church / Office closed – Labour Day
Sept. 7	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 10	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Sanctuary)
Sept. 11	Fri.	10:30 a.m.	Worship with the Rev. Aaron Billard at Royal Court Chapel , 6 th Floor, Coverdale Rd., Riverview If you are a resident there, we ask you to help us spread the word to members of the congregation who live there.
Sept. 13	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP (note time change)
Sept. 13	Sun.	12:20 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee (Norman Sinclair Room)
Sept. 17	Thur.	6:45 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Sept. 20	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP
Sept. 20	Sun.	12:15 p.m.	M&P Committee (Church office)
Sept. 21	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	UCW (note date change) (monthly-Fellowship Room)
Sept. 22	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Finance & Property Management Committee (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 24	Thur.	6:00 p.m.	NB ACORN (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 27	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP - Truth & Reconciliation Sunday and Orange Shirt Sunday - Grocery Sunday (see note) - UCW Dime Blitz ends  
Sept. 29	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Church Council (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Sept. 30	Wed.		Church / Office closed – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

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 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.

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 (no money required) or email the church office at stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com to let us know you are worshipping with us and if you would like to receive our weekly email.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR FALL



The Sunday School needs two volunteers to share leadership of our Ages 3-6 group starting in Sept. and continuing until May 2025. If you can help or need more information, speak with Nancy Black or Sonja Webster or email the church office.

GROCERY SUNDAY FOR KARING KITCHEN

(Sept. 27 – last Sunday of the month)

The Outreach Committee would like to bring your attention to the Karing Kitchen's need for these groceries: VH Honey Garlic Sauce, corn starch, soda crackers and pepper. *White baskets will be at the main entrance for your donations.* Thank you.



DIME BLITZ



Don't spend a dime this summer - save them for the UCW summer fundraiser. Plastic pill bottles have been placed at the Church entrances for your convenience. 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. The fundraiser ends **Sept. 27, 2026.**



Please ensure each container is labelled with your name.

FASHION SHOW

UCW FALL FASHION SHOW will take place of **Tuesday, Oct. 6th** at **7:00 pm**. Tickets are \$15.00 and available from members of the UCW and church office. Dessert and tea/coffee will be served. Door prizes. Fashions provided by Cazza.



BROADVIEW MAGAZINE - Now is the time to **ORDER OR RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.**

Broadview is an independent Canadian magazine featuring award-winning coverage of spirituality, justice and ethical living. Through compelling stories and engaging images, *Broadview* challenges and inspires readers seeking to live a purpose-filled life.

To order or renew your subscription, place \$30.00 payment in an envelope with your name and address in the church offering box, church mail slot, send an e-transfer, send by postal mail or contact the Church Office. Deadline is October 11, 2026.

Broadview is current and topical. Through articles, columns and letters, it provides a forum for people to speak their minds on today's issues.

WORSHIP SERVICES are streamed on Facebook and YouTube. Links are on our church website at www.stjohnsmoncton.ca

SCRIPTURE READERS NEEDED – If you would like to read scriptures on Sunday mornings, please contact Karen at the church office and add your name to our scripture reader list. This will help us to plan Worship and to have more people participate. Thank you so much for helping with this ministry!



UNUSED OFFERING ENVELOPES - If you have any unused offering envelopes, please feel free to return them to the church. We recycle them as general purpose envelopes.

CHURCH DONATION

At St. John's we do not "pass the plate" as is done in some traditional churches. Donations are collected in an offering box near the entrance to the sanctuary.

You may donate to the church in a variety of ways:

- PAR (pre-authorized remittance) – application form available on our website and pamphlet/form located at church entrances and outside church office; PAR cards are available to put in the offering box
- e-transfer (use stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com - no password needed)
- box offering envelopes – contact church office
- Canada Helps - online
- cash or cheque - identified with giver's name with middle initial/address (for income tax purposes).
- mail to 75 Alma St., Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3
- drop off your donation in the mail slot on our Victoria St. door

Blank offering envelopes are located at both church entrances for donation purposes. Write your name and address to identify your donation in order for an official receipt to be prepared for income tax purposes. If you have any questions, contact the church office.

HYMNBOOK – Having a hard time holding the hymnbook? Do you find the hymnbook too heavy? We can print the "online" worship bulletin (with hymns typed out) for you. Contact the office if you would like an online bulletin available for you on Sunday.

KEEP YOUR VALUABLES WITH YOU - If you don't keep your coat with you during Worship, please ensure you do not leave keys, phones, or any valuables in your pockets. Please keep all valuables with you. Do not leave any electronics unattended.

HEARING LOOP - The church offers a hearing loop system for anyone who would like to enhance their listening experience during the Sunday morning service. Please feel free to speak to Kimberley Buck de Jesus on the sound board on Sunday morning

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE – A copy of the most recent issue can be found on a table in the Owen Fraser Hall just outside the church office. This is there for your enjoyment, but please don't remove it from the premises so that others can enjoy it as well.

ILLNESS SELF-ASSESSMENT

To ensure the continued safety of our families and communities, any person attending an in-person Church activity should complete an Illness Self-Assessment. This list has been aligned with current public health recommendations. People who feel unwell, or answer 'Yes' to any of the below symptoms, should stay home.

- Fever/Chills
- Cough (unrelated to seasonal allergies)
- Difficulty breathing/Shortness of breath
- Runny nose (unrelated to seasonal allergies)
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat/Difficulty swallowing
- Not feeling well, headache, muscle aches, or unexplained rashes
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain



If you answered YES to any of the above symptoms:
Please self-isolate and DO NOT come to the Church until:
1) the symptoms are resolved, and
2) you are feeling well.

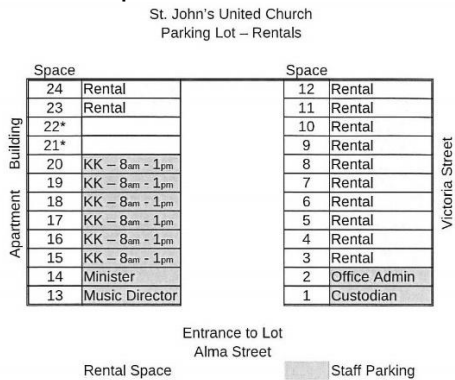
FRAGRANCE FREE AND TREE NUT / PEANUT FREE ENVIRONMENT -St. John's United Church realizes an increasing number of people have developed sensitivities and allergies to certain chemicals and foods. It is our mission to limit the exposure of staff, volunteers and visitors to chemical substances and tree nut/peanut products. Our church supports the creation of a fragrance and tree nut/peanut free environment. We would ask that you **please refrain from using, wearing, bringing scented products (for example, perfume) and tree nut/peanut products** into St. John's United Church. Only our 100% cooperation will give those with sensitivities and allergies a healthier place to work, volunteer and worship. Thank you.

HEALTH & SAFETY - We have a wheelchair here at St. John's and it is located on a permanent basis in the unused entrance way at the back of the Sanctuary (corner of Alma and Victoria Streets). We also have an AED - automated external defibrillator. It is wall mounted and located right outside the Church Office.

LIBRARY – Did you know that we have a library of books for you to enjoy? They are located in the hutch cabinet in the Fellowship Room. There is no sign-out for these; they are loaned to you on the honour system that you will return the books when you’ve finished reading them.

CHURCH PARKING LOT

As a reminder, the church rents out 12 parking spots in the parking lot, Monday-Friday, 7:00am-6:00pm. These spots are not available for church use during this period. Other spots are designated for staff as shown in the chart below. Should you need a parking spot while visiting the church, there are two spaces available for church use - spaces 21 & 22, as per the chart below:



* During the winter these spots may be occupied by renters #12 & #24

If you are a church member and wish to take advantage of evening parking in the church parking lot, please let the office know in advance, by providing the make, model and license number of your vehicle. You are more than welcome to use the lot. However, due to issues with illegal parking, unknown vehicles may be at risk of being towed and we would not want it to be your vehicle.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES - The Pastoral Care & Membership Committee sends **birthday** greetings to all those within our congregation who are 85 and 90 years old, then annually. **Wedding anniversary** cards are sent out to those celebrating 50, 60, and every year thereafter. If you have not received a card, please advise the church office so we can update our records.

PASTORAL LETTER AND BULLETIN – Stay up-to-date on all the happenings at SJUC with Rev. Billard’s weekly pastoral letter and online bulletin. They are posted on Facebook, the church website and emailed to those who have signed up to receive by email. If you wish to receive the pastoral letter and bulletin by email, contact the church office to be added to our email list. Printed copies of recent Worship bulletins and pastoral letters are located at our main entrances.

SERMON - Printed copies of Rev. Billard’s recent sermons are located at our main entrances. Sermons are also emailed to those who have signed up to receive by email. If you wish to receive sermons by email, contact the church office to be added to the sermon email list.

ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE at stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com or 506-858-8289, if your email, mailing address, residence or telephone number changes. Also, advise us of your birthday and anniversary dates.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY:

Moncton City & George Dumont Hospitals

Please note: privacy legislation does not permit the Chaplain (or other Ministry Personnel) to randomly visit with persons who are in hospital. Ministry Personnel need your invitation/permission, or the permission/request of a family member. Request at time of hospital admittance or contact the hospital admitting office.

Recently (Aug. 30/26) Horizon Health Network has launched a new system to make it easier for patients at its five regional hospitals to receive faith, spiritual, Indigenous or cultural care.

Using a QR code and an electronic device, hospitalized patients or their families can now request care visits from representatives of their religious or cultural communities.

The new system allows authorized representatives of these communities to see these requests and visit members of their faith or culture in hospital.

STEWARDSHIP SECOND – When you listen to God with your heart—prayerfully considering the abundance in your life—what are you called to give?

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
Lynda Leclerc

North Door – Victoria St.
Terri Lovegrove

CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



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



Karen Geldart
Office Administrator
stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com



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



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*

