

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH

75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3

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FB: St. John's United Church, United Church of Canada

Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**WELCOME!** A warm welcome is extended to all.

**Your presence enriches both us and this time of celebration together.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them...

*Mark 9:2*

I can't gaze straight at God.  
Just as you have to look slightly to the side  
of a distant twinkling star to see it, so I have to  
let my sight glance off God in order to see God.  
The concept of a God who can create all the planets,  
galaxies, quasars, trees, and flowers suggests  
a glory that is too bright for direct viewing,  
a song of exultation too loud for unplugged ears.

Kristen Johnson Ingram

"Stand Still," *Weavings*, January/February 2007

Great and good God,  
give us pure hearts that we may see you,  
humble hearts that we may hear you,  
hearts of love that we may serve you,  
hearts of faith that we may live in you,  
reverent hearts that we may worship you,  
here and in the world out there,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dag Hammarskjöld, 1905–1961



The bulletin is dedicated in Loving Memory of  
**Bob Logan**  
 by Dianne Logan and Family

## NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Feb. 11	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	<b>WORSHIP</b> and <b>Sunday School</b> - Transfiguration Sunday	
Feb. 12	Mon.	7:15 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)	
Feb. 13	Tues.		Shrove Tuesday 	
Feb. 13	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	<b>Worship &amp; Music Comm.</b> (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)	
Feb. 14	Wed.		Ash Wednesday 	
Feb. 14	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Tidewater Area Council, GGofC (Owen Fraser Hall)	
Feb. 15	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	<b>Choir</b> (weekly-Sanctuary/Fellowship Room)	
Feb. 16	Fri.	12:30 p.m.	<b>Finance Committee</b> (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)	
Feb. 18	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	<b>WORSHIP</b> and <b>Sunday School</b> - 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent - Annual Report distributed	
Feb. 19	Mon.		<b>Family Day</b> – Church Office closed	
Feb. 20	Tues.		<b>Deadline for submissions to the Easter Newsletter</b> – email items to the Church Office at <a href="mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com">sjuc@nb.aibn.com</a>	
Feb. 20	Tues.	2:00 pm.	<b>Fellowship Group</b> (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)	
Feb. 21	Wed.	2:00 p.m.	UdeM Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)	
Feb. 23	Fri.	10:30 a.m.	<b>Worship at Royal Court</b> , 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Riverview, with the Rev. Aaron Billard	
Feb. 24	Sat.	9:00 a.m.	<b>Men's Club</b> (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)	
Feb. 24	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	UdeM Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)	
Feb. 25	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	<b>WORSHIP</b> and <b>Sunday School</b> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent - Grocery Sunday	
Feb. 25	Sun.	12:30 p.m.	<b>SJUC Annual Meeting</b> (see note) (Fellowship Room)	

## OFFERING FROM February 4, 2018

Plate Loose	\$ 20.00	Karing Kitchen	\$ 15.00 (2)
Local	\$1567.00 (45)	Bulletin Dedications	\$150.00
Initial Offering	\$ 15.00	Sunday School	\$ 14.40
Mission & Service	\$ 211.00 (15)	Grocery Cards	\$575.00

**Thank you for your generous and continued support!**

**SOBEYS & SUPERSTORE GIFT CARDS** are sold each Sunday at the sales table in the Owen Fraser Hall after Worship during fellowship and coffee time or at the Church Office on weekdays during office hours. Purchase cards for yourself and use them to purchase your groceries or give as a gift.

*We make 4% on every card sold. ~ Your support is needed & appreciated.*



**Year-to-date sales: \$2,700.00**

**Profit: \$108.00**

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**M&S UPDATE:** Goal: not set yet

**Givings to date:** \$1,866.96

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**ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL MEETING** will be held **Sun., Feb. 25** at **12:30 pm** in the Fellowship Room. **This is open to all who attend here.** Come and be involved in your Church community. Please bring a bag lunch, and we will meet in the Owen Fraser Hall after Worship to eat. Coffee, tea & water will be provided.

To facilitate discussion we are asking that **items you would like discussed be added to the Agenda prior to the meeting.** Please contact the Church Office by e-mail: [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com) or phone 858-8289 with your request. Thanking you in advance for your attendance and co-operation. *Valerie Roy, Chair of Church Council*

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**INCOME TAX RECEIPTS** are ready for pick up on the stage at the front of the Sanctuary. Thank you to all who supported the work of St. John's United Church.

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**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES OR PAR** - If you did not pick up your box of envelopes yet, please check the table outside the Church Office or ask Pat Arsenault.

If you would like offering envelopes, you may take a box from those set out on the table outside the Church Office by recording your name and email/phone on the corresponding chart. PAR pamphlets are also located on the table.



**Lenten Bible Study**

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**ENGAGING THE PARABLES** --- Through a study of some of the Parables from the Gospels, the Christian Development Committee of St. John's United Church, corner of Alma & Victoria Streets, invite you to attend this year's **Lenten Bible study**, led by Minister Emeritus, Rev. Dr. Doug MacEachern. Through the study you will be invited to a different way of seeing God, yourself, others and life itself. Dates and time for the four week study: **February 28, March 7, 14, 21** – noon, 12:00-1:00 p.m. You are asked to bring a Bible and bag lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Everyone is invited! To register and to receive a parking permit, please contact Karen in the Church Office 858-8289 or e-mail the Church at [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com) or Doug at [dougjune@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:dougjune@nb.sympatico.ca)

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**A NOTE FROM THE PASTORAL CARE & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

Presently we are **updating the Church Family Roll**, which consists of names of members and adherents. We request that you inform the Church Office of any changes in your telephone/cell number or postal and email addresses. We want to ensure that you receive information about the life and work of our church community. We would appreciate if you would **notify the Minister or Church Office** of people recently admitted to hospitals or nursing homes, or those persons who require **pastoral care**. Thank you.

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**YOUTH GROUP SURVEY** - As our young people begin to start asking deeper questions about faith, I'd like to offer a time in which we can all gather and talk. Given the hectic schedules of families, we would have to negotiate a time that worked best for everyone. If this would interest your family (ages 13 and up), I would suggest that we meet on a week-day evening for an hour, perhaps with pizza, and share in a discussion. If this proves to be a gathering that is meaningful for those involved, we can negotiate a schedule we could commit to, and therefore make sure that such a space is available for our teens to gather and have a chance to express themselves, their beliefs, doubts, and questions not just about church but the world as well. If you, a teen, or a parent of a teen, would find this of benefit to your family, please contact me at [sjucrev@gmail.com](mailto:sjucrev@gmail.com) and we can begin planning. Thank you.

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**HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE** - Please take note of the following: We now 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 recently installed an **AED** - automated external defibrillator. It has been wall mounted and is located right outside the Church Office

# WORSHIP

*(The congregation is invited to join in responses printed in **bold**)*

## PRELUDE

### WE GATHER IN THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathering in this sacred place we anticipate new wonders each week.

**Wherever two or three are gathered to worship,  
a holy spirit is present.**

Open our eyes to witness  
the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed,  
even this day, even in this place.

**We will want to linger and camp in this sanctuary  
but when we leave today may our hearts be open  
to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

## GATHERING PRAYER

**O Holy One, on mountaintops and valley floors  
you reveal to us the light of your love.**

**Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing glory  
of the divine presence.**

**With each encounter we are changed and transformed.**

**Draw us nearer**

**that we might receive a double portion of your Holy Spirit.**

**Help us, O Holy One, to live our lives as a reflection of divine glory.**

**May we walk among our brothers and sister as a blessing,  
bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair,  
and love that casts out hate.**

**Our world is hurting**

**and we need the followers of Jesus to follow more closely.**

**Maybe then we will hear your voice speaking to us and saying,  
... "listen to my Child, the Beloved!" Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us, God, when we linger too long by the waters,  
and on the mountain tops,  
enthralled with the glory that flows from you.  
When we fail to listen to your voice, leading and guiding us,  
shake us from our contentment  
and send us forward endowed with your power.  
Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

The God of Elijah, the God of Moses and the God of Jesus  
desires mercy more than sacrifice  
and a contrite heart rather than burnt offerings.  
Love God and do the right thing  
and forgiveness shall be your friend  
and mercy your true companion. **Amen.**

## HYMN # 232

## *JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE YOU*

(HYMN TO JOY)

## 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. If you are a parent or caregiver, there are 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.

## *WE REFLECT UPON OUR COMMON STORY*

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

### **2 Kings 2:1–12**

Elijah is taken up into heaven.

### **Psalm 50** (VU p. 775)

God summons the earth.

### **Mark 9:2–9**

The Transfiguration of Jesus.

God's story is for all people.

**It is ours to receive and share.**

## HYMN # 336

## *CHRIST WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES*

(RATISBON)

## SERMON

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

### OFFERING INVITATION

Peter offered to build a tabernacle on the mountain with Jesus.  
But God does not dwell in houses made with human hands.  
Let us offer ourselves in service to those God loves.  
Let us offer our sacrifices to build community,  
bring peace, and be a double blessing  
to those in need throughout the world. Amen

### OFFERING / ANTHEM

*SPIRIT GOD, BE OUR BREATH*

Bruce Harding

### OFFERTORY # 664, V3

***WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS***

(FRIENDSHIP)

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?  
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new courage there.*

### DEDICATION

**With these gifts we proclaim not ourselves but Jesus  
and commit ourselves to follow a way that leads to love and life.  
May our sacrifice be witness to our love for each other  
and the God who loves us all. Amen**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

### HYMN # 642

***BE THOU MY VISION***

(SLANE)

### BENEDICTION

Now may the God who said,  
"Let light shine out of darkness"  
and has shone in our hearts,  
give us light to bear to the world  
that all may see and know that God is love.

**Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

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

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This week, as part of our ecumenical prayers, **WE PRAY for the congregation** of the **First Moncton United Baptist Church**, their pastors, and their ministry.

**STEWARDSHIP MINUTE** – Stewards of the gospel are transfigured through Christ’s light shining out of the darkness.

Today’s Team

Greeters & Ushers:

*South Door – Alma St.*

Greet: Carla Goodyear Bellefleur, Luc Bellefleur  
Nicholas Bellefleur, Chloe Bellefleur

Offering: Carla Goodyear Bellefleur, Luc Bellefleur  
David & Peggy Fraser

Scripture Reader: Brenda McFarlane

Elevator: Art Buck

Grocery Card Sales: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

*North Door – Victoria St.*

Greet: Dwayne Manaigre

Offering: Dwayne Manaigre, Trina Vautour  
Lucille McCurdy, Linda Gutteridge

Tellers: Lucille McCurdy, Joan LeBlanc

Sound Board: Luiz de Jesus

**CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF**



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



Karen Geldart, *Office Administrator*  
email: sjuc@nb.aibn.com



Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern  
*Minister Emeritus*  
email: dougjune@nb.sympatico.ca



Branden Olsen, *Music Director*



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*

