

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH

75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3

T: 858-8289 E: sjuc@nb.aibn.com W: www.StJohnsMoncton.ca

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.**

He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up.
Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

Mark 1: 31

The different story is difficult to see because too many cannot believe that a straight-forward healing story could actually be a call story, a discipleship story and the story of Simon's mother-in-law is her call to discipleship story. Too often Jesus' restoration of those he meets, those he seeks to heal and to save, is reduced to a one-sided narration of justification for Jesus' divinity or an equally one-sided account of our anticipated response. Yet, Jesus doesn't heal just to heal, just to prove himself, or just to confirm God's activity in the world. Jesus heals for the sake of, because of, and assuming that the Kingdom of God is here -- and that we are a part of it, that we have a role in it, and Jesus needs us.

Karoline Lewis, Associate Professor of Preaching
Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota



The bulletin is dedicated in Loving Memory of

Glen MacNairn

by Stuart, Sylvia, Scott and Jacob

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Feb. 4	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School
Feb. 5	Mon.	7:15 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Feb. 6	Tues.	6:00 p.m.	CD Committee (Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 6	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Church Council (storm date Feb. 7) (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 7	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Tidewater Area Council, Girl Guides (Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 8	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Sanctuary/Fellowship Room)
Feb. 9	Fri.	1:30 p.m.	Karing Kitchen Board (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 11	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Transfiguration Sunday
Feb. 13	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Worship & Music Comm. (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 18	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - 1 st Sunday in Lent - Annual Report distributed
Feb. 19	Mon.		Family Day – Church Office closed
Feb. 20	Tues.		Deadline for submissions to the Easter Newsletter – email items to the Church Office at sjuc@nb.aibn.com
Feb. 23	Fri.	10:30 a.m.	Worship at Royal Court , 6 th Floor, Riverview, with the Rev. Aaron Billard
Feb. 24	Sat.	9:00 a.m.	Men's Club (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Feb. 25	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - 2 nd Sunday in Lent - Grocery Sunday
Feb. 25	Sun.	12:30 p.m.	SJUC Annual Meeting (see note) (Fellowship Room)

OFFERING FROM JANUARY 28, 2018

Plate Loose	\$ 73.15	Karing Kitchen	\$ 10.00 (1)
Local	\$1,477.20 (46)	Memorials	\$ 20.00 (1)
Initial Offering	\$ 25.00	Sunday School	\$ 7.55
Mission & Service	\$ 317.00 (19)	Grocery Cards	\$ 75.00

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: \$2,125.00

Profit: \$85.00

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M&S UPDATE: Goal: not set yet

Givings to date: \$1,655.96

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The **Christian Development Committee** would like to send along a special "**THANK YOU**" to all of the volunteers who lent a hand in the nursery, Sunday school during the month of January, especially: Joanie Lockhart, Chris McQueen, Stacey McQueen, Laura Petersen, John Patterson and William Patterson.

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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: siuc@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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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.

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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

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SUNDAY SCHOOL ENVELOPES - Did you know that your child can use offering envelopes for their weekly Sunday School offering? It's very easy... Drop by the Church Office and ask for a few blank offering envelopes, record your family envelope number on the envelope and make note that the offering is for "Sunday School" in the "Other" section. Then, have your child give their offering in the usual manner during Sunday School.

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DID YOU KNOW? 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 one of the volunteers on the sound board on Sunday morning

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We offer "**HANDICAP PARKING**" areas alongside the Alma and Victoria Street doors. Special parking cones will be placed accordingly each Sunday before the service. Please take note of the cones indicating the designated areas.

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AUDIO RECORDING OF SUNDAY WORSHIP - We offer audio recording of our Sunday Church Service on-line. If you find yourself missing our Sunday Worship, just check it out on our Church website - www.stjohnsmoncton.ca. Recordings will be posted each week after the morning service. If those of you without a computer, a CD copy of the service can be obtained from the Church Office.

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CHURCH SNOW STORM POLICY – In the event of a snow storm on a Sunday morning, the decision to cancel will be made by **9:00 a.m.** by the Minister, the Chair of Worship & Music, and the Council Chair.

Check the following places to see if the church is closed:

1. Church office telephone – listen to the message
2. Church Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>
3. Local radio stations
4. CBC storm centre at <http://www.cbc.ca/stormcentre/nb/cancellations-moncton.html> or search "Moncton Cancellations"



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STEWARDSHIP MINUTE – As stewards of the gospel, our rewards are in receiving its blessings.

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Announcements from other United Churches, Chignecto Presbytery, Maritime Conference and the Community are located on the bulletin boards located at the Alma St. entrance and 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

Good people of the church,
Lift up your eyes and see.

Have you not seen?

Have you not heard?

Our God greets us here.

Good servants of the Most High,
Open your ears to hear.

Have you not seen?

Have you not heard?

Our God meets us here.

Good children of the light
Open your hearts and know what it means to delight in God.

For we have seen, heard and known

From the beginning to the end,

Our God...is.

GATHERING PRAYER

Eternal God, Creator of the universe...and then some.

We call on you, you who greet us here.

**We give you thanks for making it possible to gather,
and to ponder your eternal mysteries.**

**Make us, creatures of this time and space,
ready collaborators with your endless grace. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy and grace:

We are vulnerable people who sometimes ignore the vulnerable.

We are broken people

who don't always pay attention to the world's brokenness.

Heal us, O God, to make us better healers.

Mend our rifts, that we might be better builders.

Cleanse our hearts, so we can clear out the damage of hurt and oppression.

We are yours, loving God. Help us to live and to know this better.

ASSURANCE OF BLESSING

Have you known? Have you heard?

Our God lifts us up on eagle's wings

Strengthening us so that we won't be weary.

The burden of sin is but a far and distant memory

For, through Christ, our sins – all of them – are forgiven.

God is great in strength, mighty in power, and

full of endless love for us all.

HYMN # 391

GOD, REVEAL YOUR PRESENCE

(ARNSBERG)

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

Isaiah 40:21–31

Those who wait upon God shall renew their strength.

Psalms 147:1–11 (VU p. 869 Part One)

God heals the broken-hearted.

Mark 1: 29–39

Simon's mother-in-law and many others healed.

God's story is for all people.

It is ours to receive and share.

HYMN # 589

LORD, SPEAK TO ME

(WINSCOTT)

SERMON

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING / ANTHEM

LORD, LIFT ME UP!

Mary McDonald

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

God of all that is, all we have, all we are – we give.

We give these gifts

as we reach across the thresholds of our concerns.

We give these gifts,

knowing that they will give so much more.

Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN # 670

PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

(PRECIOUS LORD)

BENEDICTION

May God bless and keep you
May God's face shine through yours.
And may the glorious, Triune God
Protect and keep you
All the days long. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

The Delightful Lightness of Being in Light: Service Prayers with Holy Communion for the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany was written by the Rev. Kaji Dousa, a United Church of Christ Pastor who serves as a pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church in New York City.

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

This week, as part of our ecumenical prayers, **WE PRAY for the congregation of the Faith Assembly Church**, their pastors, and their ministry.

Today's Team

Greeters & Ushers:

South Door – Alma St.

Greet: Art Buck, Emily Buck

Offering: Art Buck, Emily Buck,
Ralph MacDonald, Lucille McCurdy

Scripture Reader: Rev. Aaron Billard

Elevator: Gordon Belyea

Grocery Card Sales: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

North Door – Victoria St.

Greet: Dr. Bob Murray & Ginny Murray

Offering: Dr. Bob Murray & Ginny Murray
June MacEachern, Coleen Whitford

Tellers: Lucille McCurdy, Joan Leblanc

Sound Board: Don Sage

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*

HE COUNTS
the Stars ★
AND CALLS
THEM ALL BY
name ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Psalm 147:4