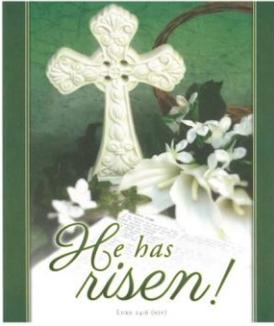


# St. John's Tribune, Easter 2018



Easter was always something I experienced, rather than believed. Yet, time has a way of bearing down on you, and we are deepened by our experiences. There is a young woman who comes to our church. She is a widow with three young children. She was feeling emotional so she decided to go out for breakfast after she dropped them off at school. She said, "When I finished, the server came over to tell me an older gentleman paid for my meal because he thought I could use it. She said he's a widower and sometimes when he comes in he offers to pay for someone. I told her I too am a widow and my husband died 2 years ago this weekend and I brought myself out to cheer myself up and he made my day. Then I started crying and had to leave so the whole place wouldn't see me... so thank you whoever you are."

I often look for small acts of kindness as they reflect the greater reality of resurrection in our lives, which sometimes come moment by moment as we come back to life. I wonder, as you look around you when you walk in the valley of the shadow, where do you see signs of the resurrection? Of coming back to life? They are there, and God nudges us from time to time to say that we aren't alone there, walking beside us in those dark places.

My friend Michael, a United Church minister, often says that he wasn't saved by a metaphor. That the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead has given us life too and a promise that where Jesus goes, we go with him. Whether that is across the world with our Mission and Service dollars to aid in the reconstruction after a natural disaster, or even in our own death. We go where he is. That's not just comfort, that's a liberation to go and do likewise in our world for people who need to experience a bit of the kingdom of heaven while still here on earth.

This church, and all of the people here, are signs to one another and this world of the Good News of Jesus Christ that in life, in death, in life beyond death we are not alone. That means different things for different people, but the reality is that we are God-haunted people who are walking each other home. That doesn't diminish the pain of our reality, though. In fact, following Jesus is hard work. And we will experience heartbreak, suffering, and death in this life. Yet, God will have the last word.

Carlos Rodriguez wrote, "Jesus knew Lazarus would rise again. Still, he wept. Because embracing pain is not negating faith. It's actually part of being in the likeness of God. So have hope, but don't deny your emotions. Pay attention to them. Feel what you feel. And enjoy the coming resurrection."

In Christ,  
*Rev. Aaron Billard*



## Recent Events & Activities



**Christmas Eve, 11:00 a.m. Worship**



**Baptism of Ainsley, Jan. 7, 2018**

## Upcoming Lent & Easter Worship

March 11 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 18 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 25 – Palm Sunday  
March 30, 11:00 am – Good Friday Worship  
April 1 – Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11:00 a.m.

## St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

Join us on **March 17** from 8:30-10:30 a.m. for a congregational breakfast in the SJUC social hall. Irish entertainment. Free-will offering. Childcare available. Let us know you will be attending; sign-up sheets are located at the two main Church entrances.



## Easter Flowers

Easter Hydrangeas will be purchased and placed in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 1. Price is \$15.00 each (tax receiptable). If you wish to have one placed in memory of a loved one, please put your request with payment in the offering plate, or contact the Church Office (858-8289 or [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com)). Payment must be received by March 26 in order for your memorial to be included in the bulletin. All memorials placed will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. After the Easter service, plants will be taken to those on our shut-in list. **Deadline to order & pay is Mon., March 26.**



## Observer Magazine

Now is the time to **ORDER OR RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.** The Observer is a publication of The United Church of Canada and is published 11 times a year. For only \$25.00/year you can learn what's happening within the United Churches across the country. If you're not familiar with the Observer, check out the copies on the table outside the Church Office or visit: [www.ucobserver.org](http://www.ucobserver.org)



**To order or renew your subscription** place \$25.00 payment in an envelope (Observer envelopes located at two main entrances and outside Church Office) with your name, in the offering plate, or contact the Church Office. **Deadline is March 18.**

## Christian Development (CD) Committee

Do you have a great idea for an event here at our church? Or perhaps looking to form a group of like-minded souls to knit, discuss a book or a movie, etc.? The CD Committee would love to hear from you. Feel free to speak to one of the members of the Committee

- Kimberley Buck de Jesus, Pat Hayes, Nancy Black, Trina Vautour or Lea Smith. If you feel more comfortable, leave us a note in our mail slot on the wall just outside the Church Office.

## **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.

## **Lenten Bible Study - 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 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)

## **Sunday School Bowling**

All children from St. John's Sunday School are invited to join us for an afternoon of **bowling** on **Sunday, March 18 at 2:30 p.m.** at the Fairlane's Bowling Centre on Mountain Road. The bowling will take place from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. and then we will walk over to McDonald's for an ice-cream. **Pick-up time will be 4:00 p.m.** at McDonald's. There is no cost associated with this event as it is being sponsored by the Christian Development Committee.

Please RSVP before **March 15** to confirm your child's participation. We are also looking for 4 or 5 adult volunteers to help with the supervision etc., so please let us know if you can stay for the event.

## **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

This year VBS will run full days **August 13-17.** Similar to last year, we will have daily excursions throughout the city. Registration forms are available on the table outside the Church Office or email Kim at [kabdj\\_nb@icloud.com](mailto:kabdj_nb@icloud.com)



## Church Council

The 2017 Annual Meeting of St. John's UC was held February 25, 2018. Thank you to all who participated. We have a few 2017 Annual Reports left and are available at the Church Office.

## Finance Committee

The 2018 Budget was approved at our Annual meeting held on Sunday, February 25.

The Finance Committee would once again like to thank each and every one of you for your kind and generous financial support over the past year. You have helped maintain our financial well-being here at our St. John's Church family.

**Easter special offering envelopes** are located at each of the Church main entrances. If you use SJUC box offering envelopes, an Easter envelope is in your box. The church thanks you for your support.

## Outreach Committee

The Mission and Service goal for 2017 has been set as \$23,500.

## Pastoral Care & Membership Committee

A church service with Communion was conducted by Rev. Aaron Billard at Royal Court on Dec. 28, 2017. Alvin Edgett provided Christmas music on the keyboard. Christmas cards made by Marlene Godfrey, along with a candy cane were given to the residents. Our next services will be conducted on Apr. 27, June 22 and Aug. 24, 2018.

Phyllis Perry, Susan Leighton, and Pat Arsenault will be preparing plants at Easter for 38 shut-ins; these will be delivered by congregation members.

Bulletins and sermons (24) are delivered weekly to our shut-ins by Pat Arsenault, Shirley Brown, Kim Buck de Jesus, Sandra Dooe, Carol & Allie Holdsworth, Lois & Ralph Mac Donald, Phyllis Perry, Gail Nickerson, Valerie Roy, Elsa Sage, Janice Smith, Lois Weatherby and Roberta Bunker. One shut-in receives a CD. Church services are available online at [www.StJohnsMoncton.ca](http://www.StJohnsMoncton.ca)

All-occasion, special birthday and anniversary cards continue to be sent by Phyllis Perry and Marlene Godfrey. Our mandate is to send birthday greetings to those within our congregation who are 85 and 90 years old, then annually. Wedding anniversary cards are sent to those celebrating 50, 60 years and every year thereafter.

You are invited to share memorabilia/pictures for "News from the Pews" bulletin board.

Since our last report, we were saddened by the deaths of Mabel Goguen, Stanley Mayes, Walter Ladd, Robert Ferguson, John Wadman, Douglas Letterick,

Leola Holman, Jean Fox, Doreen Fraser, Blanche Graham and Lewis Ward. The electronic Roll is currently being updated to concur with the Historic Roll.

Peggy Fraser has been replaced on the Committee by Barbara Tait.

If you are aware of any pastoral concerns, Transfer of Membership or Confirmation requests, or if you would like to receive the bulletin or sermon, please contact the Church Office. Communion for homebound congregants can be arranged by contacting Rev. Aaron Billard at 858-8289 or [sjucrev@gmail.com](mailto:sjucrev@gmail.com)

PLEASE advise the church office if you are aware of any **2018 graduates** from universities, colleges and local high schools.

## UCW

### **SILENT AUCTION & DESSERT EXTRAVAGANZA**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Come,<br/>and bring<br/>a friend!</b> | <b>Silent Auction</b><br> Choose from hundreds of items to bid on. Bids opened Friday evening and winners notified. | <b>Dessert Extravaganza</b><br>Eat-in or Take-Out <br>\$5.00/serving (Includes tea/coffee.) |
|  | Thursday, <b>March 22</b><br>9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.   | 2:00 - 4:00 & 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.   |
| Friday, <b>March 23</b><br>4:00 p.m.     | 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.   |  |

### **How can you help with this fundraiser?**

We appreciate your donation of any items - in good condition - that will attract bidders - i.e. hand-crafted items, needlework, paintings, china, furniture, household items, antiques, silver, brass, copper, paintings, pictures, puzzles, collectibles, etc., etc. .

*Articles can be dropped off at the Church by **March 22** during office hours.*



### **CHICKEN SALAD TAKE-OUT SUPPER**

**Saturday, April 28**

Chicken & Potato Salads, Coleslaw, Roll, & Dessert

**PRICE: \$10.00 each** - COD orders accepted

Delivery in Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe areas from 2:00-5:00 pm

### **Order your supper before April 26 from:**

Any UCW member

Brenda McFarlane: 852-3550

Church Office: 858-8289 or email: [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com)

Phyllis Perry: 852-4761



## BAKELESS BAKE SALE

The "Bakeless Bake Sale" has become an annual event of the St. John's UCW. This is a very popular and highly successful project. Again this year, we enclose our little rhyme to explain how it works, and we hope you will give it your support.

*A lot of news we have to-day  
A Bakeless Bake Sale is on the way.  
In these busy days, who wants to bake  
Pies and cookies - or even a cake?  
You'd be surprised if you counted the cost  
Of materials, heat and time you have lost.  
Cooking for a sale is extra work  
Yet nobody really wishes to shirk.  
So we've thought of a plan that's really grand  
And feel quite sure you will understand.  
In this little envelope - just for our sake -  
Please place the donation that you wish to make  
Without fuss or bother, you've done your part  
We're sure you'll give with a willing heart.  
This is the end of our little tale -  
Please wish us success with our Bakeless Bake Sale.*

We appreciate any amount you may wish to donate. Please have all donations in by the **end of June**. Envelopes are located at the main entrances and may be placed in the offering plate a Sunday morning.

### Other Upcoming UCW Fundraiser Events:



May 25 – Rummage Sale  
June 3 – Cookie Sale  
Summer – Dime Blitz  
Oct. 20 – Rummage Sale  
Nov. 3 – Bazaar & Luncheon

*Thank you for your support,  
St. John's United Church Women*

## Worship & Music Committee

### Health & Safety

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 St.). We also have recently installed an **AED** - automated external defibrillator. It has been wall mounted and is located right outside the Church Office

### Summer Worship

The Church will be closed during the month of **July**. For pastoral emergency, please listen to the message on the Church telephone. Worship during the month of **August & September 2, 2018** will be at 10:00 a.m. Services resume at 11:00 a.m. on **September 9, 2018**



## Scholarships

The following scholarships are available to students who have been active, and are currently participating, within the congregational life of St. John's UC. Watch for application details.

Henrietta Potter Scholarship is available to students currently in high school and pursuing first-year studies at a post-secondary educational institution in the upcoming year.

Robb Scholarship is awarded to students (children included) to further his/her studies in music. He/she is to be actively participating in music programs or music performances (i.e. choirs) at St. John's UC.

Charles E. Woodrow Memorial Music Scholarship is available to students currently in high school and pursuing first-year music studies at a post-secondary educational institution in the upcoming year.

## Camp Ta-Wa-Si

Camp Ta-Wa-Si runs summer programs through July and August for kids ages 5 and up. Let your kids unplug for a week of fun and exciting activities including swimming at the beach, playing woods games, singing around a classic campfire, sleeping in your cabin and SO MUCH MORE!



**Join us for our 78<sup>th</sup> camping season  
just 50 minutes from Moncton!**

|             |           |               |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| Family Camp | All ages! | July 6-8      |
| Junior Kids | 5-8       | July 10-13    |
| Senior Kids | 8-12      | July 15-20    |
| Senior Kids | 8-12      | July 22-27    |
| Junior Kids | 5-8       | July 31-Aug 3 |
| Senior Kids | 8-12      | Aug 5-10      |
| Teen+       | 13 and up | Aug 12-17     |

\*\*Mini camps and Day Camps also available!  
Check our website or facebook for more info!!

[www.campawasi.ca](http://www.campawasi.ca) -or-  
[facebook.com/campTaWaSi1940](https://www.facebook.com/campTaWaSi1940)

*Faster Greetings  
to you and your family!*

### ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH

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T: 858-8289

E: [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com)

W: [www.StJohnsMoncton.ca](http://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.