

St. Paul's United Church

December 9, 2012

2nd Sunday of Advent - Peace

*The people of St. Paul's United Church welcome you.
May there be a blessing for you in this house today.*



Prelude Of The Father's Love Begotten arr. Thygerson

Greeting May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,
and also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Candle (please see back of bulletin)
Derrick, Lori, Isaac & Samuel Grant

Introit God's Gift of Light Catherine Stuart 2010
*Peace is a light which burns in our presence,
spark of forgiveness, candle we tend.
Rooted in Jesus, sent by the Spirit,
God's peace enfolds us,
Peace never ends.*

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn There is a Voice in the Wilderness VU 18

St. Paul's Contact Information:

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Telephone: 458-1183, Fax: 458-1944

*Keep up to date on upcoming activities
and stay in touch in between Sundays!*

<http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsUnitedFredericton>



Minister: Rev. Lori Beth Sheffield-Bowles
Organist & Director of Music: Alexis Ervin
Children & Family Ministry: Julie Heslop
Office Administrator: Cathy Simpson
Sexton: Joe Robicheau

Weekly Activities

Mon., Wed., & Fri. 12–1 p.m. Exercise Group - Gym/Hall
Monday-Friday 11:30–1:00 p.m. AA - Youth Lounge
Tuesday & Saturday 8–9 p.m. AA - Youth Lounge

Tuesday, December 11

10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study—Christmas Break
10:00 a.m. Play Group - Gym
1:00 p.m. Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
6:30-8:00 p.m. Cubs - Gym
7:00 p.m. Operating Board—Ladies Parlour
7:00-8:30 p.m. Ladies Evening Book Study—
Christmas Break
7:30-9:30 p.m. Fredericton Choral Society - Hall

Wednesday, December 12

9:00-11:00 The Pantry
10:00 a.m. Wed. Discussion Group - Quilter's
6:00 p.m. UCW Potluck—11 Veteran's Drive

Thursday, December 13

1:00 p.m. Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
7:15 p.m. Sr. Choir Practice - Hall

Monday, December 24th

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion Service

Sunday, December 30th

11:00 a.m. Joint Service with Wilmot at Wilmot

Calendars for Inmates at Springhill Institution: A box will be available in the Hall for your gift of a calendar.

Christmas Hope: Christmas Cards for Inmates There is prison and then there is the hole – segregation: 23 hours a day in a 6'X9' cell. Isolated, bombarded by the noise of an institutional machine, alone with your thoughts and feelings at Christmas time. It is into this place that the Divine longs to be born. If you would like to share the message of hope with an individual in prison, write a Christmas message on a Christmas Card – offer a word of hope and encouragement and sign it with your first name only, place the card in an unsealed envelope and place the cards in the box with the calendars.

On Wednesday, December 12 at 11:45 AM all pastors and church congregations are invited to meet in front of City Hall to join together for a "**Caroling Prayer Walk**" to proceed down Queen St to the Legislature. Led by Gideon Peter Giebels, the group will sing carols as they walk along, and stop to pray in front of all municipal and government buildings for our local, provincial and federal leaders and workers. The Prayer Walk will end with Carol Singing in front of the Legislature.

Christmas with The LaPointes on Friday, December 14, at 7:30 p.m. at The Playhouse. Tickets available at The Playhouse, Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by calling The Playhouse at 506 458-8344 or by ordering online: www.theplayhouse.ca

The **Fredericton Choral Society** will perform in Grace Memorial Baptist Church on Saturday, December 15th at 7.30 pm. David Steeves will accompany the choir on organ. The second half of the concert celebrates Christmas with a selection of carols. Tickets are available at Westminster Books, from choir members, at Grace Memorial Church and at the door the night of the concert. Adults \$20, seniors \$15, Students \$10, children \$5.

Prayer of the Day (unison)

God,

we can feel the transforming fire burning:

we can hear pops and crackles as it transforms hard to soft;

we can smell it cooking our bread for the journey;

we can see it brighten our path;

we can feel it warm and strengthen our hearts and bodies.

The refiner's fire calls us to prepare ourselves:

to clean our hearts,

to remove the harmful and toxic things we've gathered on the road,

so that we can better ready ourselves for your advent.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

VU 959

Time For All Ages

Cleaning House

Prayers of the People

Hymn

I Have Called You By Your Name

MV 161

The Presentation of Gifts

Offertory Offertory in G

Anderson

Dedication Verse

VU 55 (vs 4)

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Scriptures

Philippians 1: 3-11
Luke 3: 1-6

Donna McNamara

Anthem

Will We Know Him?

Besig

Sermon	The Advent Journey	
Hymn	Go Tell it On the Mountain	VU 43
Commissioning and Benediction		
Postlude	Praise	S. Otis

St. Paul's UCW have made a donation of \$10,000 to the Operating Fund. We want to thank the UCW for all of their hours of hard work in earning this money and for their continued yearly support of the church.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lauren Ryan who was the first prize winner in the Branch #4, Royal Canadian Legion essay writing contest with her essay, "Why I Wear A Poppy", which remembers Rev. Reg Miller.

Great Job choir members— a total of \$5432. was raised on Wednesday night at the 23rd Annual Advent Carol Festival. These funds are forwarded to the two local Fredericton Food Banks.

Subscriptions for the **United Church Observer** are up for renewal. Please let Cathy Simpson (458-1183) know before Dec. 15th should you wish to renew or request a new subscription. The yearly cost is \$20. (please make cheques payable to St. Paul's United Church)

Your **2013 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Hall this morning, if you are new to the congregation and would like to have your donations recorded for tax purposes please call Cathy in the office at 458-1183 to set this up. The office is now equipped to receive your donations by Visa and MasterCard, and we still offer Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR).

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women: A very special service to commemorate this day will be presented by the Fredericton Women's Inter-Church Council at St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Church TODAY at 3 pm. Special music by Angel Tang and Vangie Inman. Speakers include Rev. Olive Raymond, Eve Mills Allen, Brian Duplessis, Dianne Powers, Pam Lynch, and Dr. Carmen Gill. Rev. Lori Beth Sheffield –Bowles and Re. Rose-Hannah Gaskin will be assisting in the service. All are welcome! Please come!!

Restoration Fund: St. Paul's is pleased to invite you to lunch on **Dec. 11th at 12 pm**, at the Fredericton Inn. Mary Dingee Jacobs, Committee Chair, will present strategies for tax-effect donations. The lunch is complimentary, but advance booking is required in order to advise the hotel of the number attending. To reserve, please call Mary at 450-1131. There is considerable structural work to be done and we are in need of the funds ! Please check your calendar and plan to attend!



Many thanks to our **Christmas decorators**—the Sanctuary looks amazing. During the week of December 10th new carpeting will be going down in the Sanctuary—all in time for our Christmas services!

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion Service

UCW NEWS

The **morning and evening units** of UCW will meet on December 12th at 6 pm at the home of Doug Warman, 11 Veterans Drive. This will be a pot luck supper. We will be meeting in the Charlotte Street parking lot at 5;30 pm to car pool. Should you have any questions please call Lynne Naugler at 459-5142. We hope to see you there.