

St. Paul's United Church

November 25, 2012

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

Prelude I Heard the Voice of Jesus arr. Englert

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

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit Dance with the Spirit MV 156

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn Seek Ye First the Kingdom VU 356

Prayer of the Day (Unison)

Lord God, you who are Creator of the Universe and the Power Behind all powers, we gather today as your people to praise you and to hear word and to pray that your truth might guide us in our every action and thought. Help us come from our scattered lives to focus on your eternal reality. Assure us once more of your divine control over all things and help us to surrender ourselves completely into your loving care and to follow your path in holy obedience and joy. Be present with us and bless us - we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

The Lord's Prayer VU 959

Baptism and Transfer of Membership (Please see insert)

St. Paul's Contact Information:

stpaulsunitedchurch@nb.aibn.com www.stpaulsunited.ca

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

Monday, November 26

Tuesday, November 27

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

Wednesday, November 28

9:00-11:00 The Pantry
10:00 a.m. Wed. Discussion Group - Quilter's
6:30-7:30 p.m. Beavers - Gym
7:00 p.m. Triennial Visit

Thursday, November 29

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

Saturday, November 30

Supporting Children and Families



The United Church supports the rights of children around the world through Mission and Service. Here's a story of Mission and Service work for children in Canada.

They say that it takes a village to raise a child. That village becomes especially vital if you are a single parent, living in poverty, with no family support, no access to child care, and suffering from your own health or emotional problems.

Mission and Service allows us to be part of the village. Centenary-Queen Square Care Centres in Greater Saint John, New Brunswick, use Mission and Service funds to operate a child development centre for socially and economically disadvantaged children.

Families living in poverty cannot always provide proper nutrition so that their children develop physically, emotionally, and cognitively. Centenary-Queen Square provides a well-balanced breakfast, hot lunch, and afternoon snacks, and its child development program has a positive and lasting effect on these young lives.

How important are your Mission and Service gifts for this work? The need is great: statistics say that despite great improvements one in eight children in New Brunswick still live in poverty. Children make up more than a third of those served by food banks.* Mission and Service helps cover the difference between the fees for a child development program and the provincial daycare subsidy. Your gifts to Mission and Service make sure that kids in Saint John have a chance at a better life.

*Human Development Council and Campaign 2000, "Child Poverty Report Card: New Brunswick, November 2010," www.campaign2000.ca

- 2 -

Prayers of the People

Hymn Crown Him With Many Crowns VU 211

The Presentation of Gifts

Offertory Morning Meditation arr. Logan

Dedication Verse VU 218

*We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.*

Offertory Prayer

Scriptures Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

Anthem O Praise the Lord with Heart and Voice Haydn
Arr. Hopson

Sermon The Alpha and the Omega

Hymn God of Grace and God of Glory VU 686

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude The Festive Trumpet Glyncannon

Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers Christmas Wreath Sale - FINAL DAY TO ORDER

Double-sided, 12" balsam fir wreaths -- Undecorated \$12. --Decorated \$14. (pine cones, white cedar branches, red velvet bow) Contact Anna Goddard at 459-8771; or Nancy MacGarvie at 455-3026 OR see Sue Short during coffee hour after today's service. Wreaths will be available Dec. 2 at 83 Grey St. Funds raised will be donated to the *Stephen Lewis Foundation* and the *Help Lesotho* campaign.



The Pantry is currently seeking donations of the following items: toilet tissue, sugar, tea, coffee, dish detergent, Polident, toothpaste.

The **Annual Advent Carol Festival**, organized by our Music Director Alexis Ervin and members St. Paul's choir, will take place here on Wednesday, December 5 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Twelve local church and community choirs with 300 singers will present a program of new, as well as familiar, Christmas music. This is a fundraiser for the Fredericton Community Food Bank; a freewill offering will be received. The event has raised \$100,000 for area food banks over the past 22 years. We look forward to your continued support.

Share the joy of Christmas with a child

Please check out the Children's Wish Tree at the back of the sanctuary this morning. You will find gift tags bearing Santa wishes from 40 children whose families are being looked after by the Fredericton Food Bank this Christmas. Select a tag for a boy or a girl, a tot or a teen, buy the gift the child would like and please return it to the Church by December 2, White Gift Sunday.

If you prefer, you can help by making a monetary gift in the White Gift envelope (in today's bulletin). Please make cheques payable to St. Paul's United. This money will be used to brighten the Christmas season for families being helped by the Salvation Army and the Food Bank. If you would like more information on these projects, please call Judy Thorne at 459-8521.

St. Paul's has always been generous in helping those who have little. Let us continue this tradition as we celebrate this wonderful time of year.

Restoration Fund: St. Paul's is pleased to invite you to lunch on Dec. 11th at 12pm, 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 – hopefully this fall – and we are in need of the funds! Please check your calendar and plan to attend!

Triennial Visit

On behalf of the Pastoral Care and Support Committee of Woolastook Presbytery, Dorothy Webster and Rev. Kelly Burke will be coming to St Paul's for a triennial visit on Nov. 28th starting at 7pm with the congregation (any and all are welcome to attend), the presbytery reps will then meet with M&P at 8 pm.

Directed by Helen Morag McKinnon-Bagnell and accompanied by Lynn Mills, Lintuhtine Music Academy of Oromocto's Choirs present their popular annual "The Christmas Story" in narration and music. Special guests who are a part of this beautiful production are J. David Berry - pipe organ, Harry Forestell - Narrator (Sunday evening), Catherine Harrop - Narrator (both evenings), Derrick Paul Miller - Tenor, Katherine Moller - Violin, and Benedict Newling - Clarinet. One of the musical numbers is a very wonderful selection called "Come, Rejoice and Sing". Composed by local musician and composer, Carolyn Holyoke, Youth and Teen choirs together will premiere this song both evenings. This incredible presentation is held for two nights as a fund raiser for the local Food Banks: Saturday, December 1st at Oromocto United Church, Oromocto - 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 2nd at Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Fredericton - 7:00 pm. In lieu of tickets, a monetary donation at the door will be collected with all proceeds going to the respective Food Banks of Oromocto and Fredericton.

Grace Memorial Baptist Church will host **Christmas at Grace - A Community Open House** on Saturday and Sunday, December 1 & 2 from 4:00-8:00 PM. Families will be free to browse through the Festival of Trees, the Nativity with live animals, a children's craft activity, enjoy refreshments in the Bethlehem Inn, and attend concerts by our church choirs, the Celebration Orchestra and other instrumentalists. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Gibson Memorial United Church, 183 Gibson St., will be hosting a **"Christmas Bazaar & Turkey Pie Luncheon"** on Saturday, Dec. 1st, 2012, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Tickets: \$8 per person.