

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

191 Years of Glorifying God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ, and serving others in Christ's name

September 8th, 2024

16th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.

~ Luke 11:4

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: Canon in D ~ Pachelbel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

VU 400

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Responsive)*

We come to the beginning again,

Yet this time it seems different.

We feel the crisp air speaking September

And hold anxiety about what the fall brings.

We come together in this sacred space,

To worship the One who has made us and will sustain us.

Let us life our song of praise.

HYMN: *Morning Has Broken*

VU 409

*Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*

*Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!*

OPENING PRAYER

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

SEEKING GOD'S WORD

THE STORY BEFORE THE STORY

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-18, 3:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: My Song Doth Bless the Lord ~ Martin

MESSAGE

RESPONDING WITH PRAISE

HYMN: *Abide with Me*

VU 436

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O Christ, who changes not, abide with me.*

*I need your presence every passing hour;
what but your grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like yourself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.*

*I have no fear with you at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
where is death's sting? Where, grave, your victory?
I triumph still, if you abide with me.*

*Hold now your cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

*As those of old their first-fruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield;
so we today our first-fruits bring:
the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(In Unison)*

Creating God, from just your imagination, the world was formed. From your desire for relationship, humanity was created. We bring our offerings this day, as a symbol of our desire to claim you as the one who is our sustainer, redeemer, and strength. Help us to trust that we are in your hands, and thus let us boldly and bravely go out into the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

WALKING TOGETHER IN THE WAY

HYMN: *This Is God's Wondrous World*

VU 296

*This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.*

*This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!*

*A world in need now summons us
to labour, love, and give,
to make our life an offering
to God, that all may live.
The church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,
all life in Christ made new.*

POSTLUDE: Dance of the Trumpets ~ Bish

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO EVERYONE! May this worship service be a blessing in your day as we continue to worship together each week in person and by Zoom.

OFFICE HOURS

St. Paul's office has returned to the regular hours of Monday-Thursday from 8am-3pm, and Friday from 8am-1pm.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations from the congregation are extended to Hannah Simpson and Kirsten Simpson who have just received St. Paul's Scholarships to support their university studies. Hannah is entering her third year at the University of Waterloo while Kirsten is studying at the University of Ottawa.

Scholarships are available for members or adherents of St. Paul's who are pursuing post-secondary studies. Information and application details can be found on the church website under "Resources".

FUNDSCRIP ORDERS DUE SUNDAY!



Are you ready for the approaching change of season? FundScrip gift cards can help you with all your shopping... school supplies, additions to your fall wardrobe, rakes and leaf bags to tidy up your lawn. We'll have two orders before our move to St. Andrew's. Deadlines are Sunday, **September 8th** and Sunday, October 6th. As usual, order forms are available in the office and the Narthex or print your own by clicking [here](#). Cards will be available on the Sunday after the deadline dates. We'll figure out more dates once we settle in at St. Andrew's. It's not too early to start your Christmas gift card list! Thank you for your continued support!

BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

This week, the program needs **proteins with flip top lids, and pudding cups**. Thank you for your continued support and generosity of this program.

PANTRY PROGRAM

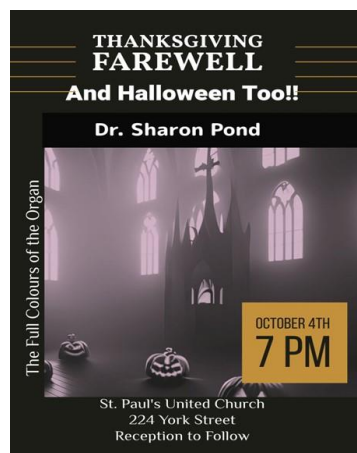
The Pantry program needs the following items this week: rice, milk, flour, white & brown sugar, apple & orange juice, jam, mayo, ketchup, granola bars, cookies, pancake mix & syrup, soda crackers, baking soda, salt, coffee, Shake'n'Bake, cereal, chocolate pudding cups, Comet, Mr. Clean, laundry & dish soap, and hand soap. Thank you for your continued support of this increasingly busy outreach program!



IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 15TH

There is an important congregational meeting on September 15th to vote on the adoption of the Ecumenical Shared Ministry Agreement draft. This Agreement lays out the basic structure for how the shared ministry will be lived out. It has been reviewed by St. Paul's Council and St. Andrew's Session. If you have not received your letter with a copy of this agreement in your mailbox by Wednesday, please contact Meghan in the office. Please read the information in the mailout and be prepared with your questions and to vote on the adoption of the agreement at the Congregational Meeting on **September 15th** after worship. To join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89887629528> Passcode: 110516



FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

Interested in hosting Fellowship Hour for the congregation? Get a few friends or committee members together to volunteer. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board outside of the Brown Bag room. Thank you in advance!

THE FULL COLOURS OF THE ORGAN

Thanksgiving, Farewell, And Halloween Too! October 4th at 7pm. A farewell organ recital by Dr. Sharon Pond celebrating St. Paul's United Church and their wonderful Casavant organ, featuring my favourite crowd-pleasing music and special surprises. Everyone Welcome! Reception to follow. Freewill offering for the Food Bank.

Facebook Event Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/thanksgiving-farewell-and-halloween>

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

September 8th ~ Fall Kick-Off ~ Service at 10:30am ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Chris Grant & Mary Stickles

September 15th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour hosted by Beth & Shawn Meister & Kim Keetch

September 15th ~ *Important Congregational Meeting following service*

September 22nd ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour hosts needed!

September 29th ~ Service at 10:30 ~ Fellowship Hour hosts needed!

October 4th ~ Dr. Sharon Pond's Organ Recital ~ 7pm

MODERATOR'S BOOK CLUB RETURNS

Over the last year our moderator has hosted a virtual book study exploring a wide range of books and topics. September the book club will be gathering again to explore and discuss the book Maximus Canada by Doug Saunders on September 26th. For more information and to sign up check out

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/organization-and-governance/moderator/right-rev-dr-carmen-lansdowne-44th-moderator/flourishing-project/mods-book-squad>



ST. THERESA'S TWILIGHT RETREAT

St. Theresa's Catholic Women's League, Fredericton, is hosting a Twilight Retreat on **September 9th** from 4:30-8:00 PM. Register by 4:15PM. It will be in the Church Hall at St. Theresa's Church, 1 William Street. It will involve a Potluck supper. We start the retreat at 4:30 PM for 45 minutes then break for supper then another 45 minutes after supper. We will be finished by 8:00 PM. Our Facilitator will be Jim Anderson, Director of Missionary Discipleship Formation for the Diocese of Saint John. All are welcome, Men and Women as it is opened to everyone. Thank you. Deborah Heustis / Odette Craine, St. Theresa's CWL

FLOOR CURLING
All Abilities Welcome!



Fee
\$10 registration fee plus
\$2 each time you attend

Location
Forest Hill United Church
45 Kimble Ct, Fredericton

Time
Wednesday, 10 a.m. - noon
Starting Sept. 13th
Contact Mary Grant at 506-459-8525 for information



FLOOR CURLING AT FOREST HILL

Forest Hill United Church is hosting Floor Curling on Wednesdays from 10am to noon starting **Sept 13th**. All abilities welcome. Fees: Registration \$10 and \$2 each time you attend. Contact Mary Grant at 506-459-8525 for more information.

SIMPLY COUNTRY PRESENTS

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 22nd, 2-4pm**, as we welcome back Simply Country – “The Women of Country”, singing country gospel and old-time hymns. This event will be held in the sanctuary of Nashwaaksis United Church, 46 Main Street and the cost is \$15.00 at the door. Hope you can join us!

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT SERIES AT ST. PAUL’S

Fever is presenting a Candlelight Concert Series in the sanctuary at St. Paul’s. Two Concerts on **September 27th** feature 1) Vivaldi’s Four Seasons (**SOLD OUT**), 2) A Tribute to Taylor Swift, and two on **November 9th** featuring 1) A Tribute to Coldplay, and 2) A Tribute to Abba. Tickets are ONLY available online. For more information and to purchase tickets [CLICK HERE](#).

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN’S INTER-CHURCH OF FREDERICTON

The Women’s Inter-Church of Fredericton will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary on **September 28th** at Wilmot United Church, 473 King Street, Fredericton at 2:00 PM. The Theme is “Shining the Light”. The entrance off Carlton Street has a lift device and fewer stairs and easier to get into the sanctuary. We will have the honour of Catherine MacKeil, Executive Director of the Women’s Inter-Church of Canada and Shirley DeMerchant, Past President of the Women’s Inter-Church of Canada present at our celebration. Following the Service there is a reception downstairs. All are welcome. Deborah Heustis, Publicity for the Women’s Inter-Church of Fredericton.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Minister: Rev. Michelle Armstrong | **Organists:** Dr. Sharon Pond & Alexis Ervin

Church Administrator: Meghan Roebuck