

St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. February 21st, 2016

Second Sunday in Lent

* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer *

Prelude *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Englert

Introit *Listen, God is Calling (X2)* MV 97

Listen, God is calling, through the word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.

*Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,
and also with you.

Welcoming the Light and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

Open your hearts to God's love today.

In the midst of winter darkness, we seek the brightness of God's love.

Don't be afraid. God is with you.

With God's help, we can overcome the darkness.

The Lord is your light and your salvation.

Even though everything around us is disturbing, yet God's love is constant. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading: *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18* Jane Crozier

Opening Prayer

***Hymn:** *To Abraham and Sarah* VU 635

Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):

Eternal God, we are quick to join Abram's doubt and impatience, but we find it difficult to copy Abraham's faith and trust. We want to believe your promises, but the here-and-now problems of daily life consume our focus and erode our faith. Open our eyes to your light. Open our hearts to your love. Open our minds to your possibilities. Speak to us today, O God, and strengthen our faith, that we, too, may know the everlasting power of your love. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love & Lord's Prayer

St. Paul's Contact Information

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

Tel. 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. Richard Bowley rev.bowley@outlook.com

Pastor: Sarah Magie sarah.magie@gmail.com

Music Director/Organist: Alexis Ervin aervin17@gmail.com

Choir Accompanist: Vivian Ni

Sexton: Joe Robicheau robicheaujoseph@rogers.com

Office Administrator: Cathy Simpson cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

Office Hours

Rev. Richard

Sunday: By appointment

Monday: 8:00—Noon, 1-4 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00—Noon

Wednesday: 1:00—4:00

Thursday: By appointment

These hours are subject to change due to Emergency Pastoral Care, meetings and other church business elsewhere.

Pastor Sarah

By appointment

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

a.m. by appointment,
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

By appointment

Regular Weekly Activities

Monday-Friday	8:30 am-4 pm	Adult Learning Association
	11:30-1 pm	AA - Youth Lounge
Mon., Wed., Friday	12-1 pm	Exercise Group - Gym
Monday	6:45 pm	Men's Book Study - Ladies Parlour
Tuesday & Thursday	1-4 pm	Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
Tuesday & Saturday	7-9 pm	AA - Youth Lounge
Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Beavers & Cubs - Gym
	7 pm	Fredericton Choral Society-Hall
	7 pm	River Valley Chorus-Sanctuary
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Joint Search Committee—L Parlour
Thursday	7 pm	Senior Choir - Hall
Sunday	11:45am-12:15pm	Children's Choir & Teen's Choir
	2 pm	Bible Study

Lenten Calendar

March 19th	<i>Afternoon Movie—Son of God</i>	2 p.m.
March 20th	<i>Palm Sunday Worship</i>	10:30 a.m.
March 24th	<i>Maundy Thursday Potluck (St. Paul's)</i>	6 p.m.
March 25th	<i>Good Friday Service (Wilmot)</i>	11 a.m.
March 27th	<i>Sunrise Service (Pedway)</i>	7 a.m.
March 27th	<i>Easter Service</i>	10:30 a.m.

Financial Contributions for February 14, 2016

2016 Weekly Budget for January	\$3,500.00	
Envelopes	1,350.25	
Loose	34.00	
PAR	<u>1982.86</u>	
	\$ 3,367.11	-\$ 132.89

Thank you and may God truly bless and multiply your gifts

Join ECMA-winner, **Becka DeHaan** (Rebekah Thiessen) for a concert on Sunday, February 28, 7 pm at Brunswick Street Baptist Church offered in support of her third full-length studio album, "Calming Trust and Coming King," slated for release in late May. A freewill offering will be received toward production costs. For more about Becka visit her website (www.beckadehaan.com).

***Loving God,
Sometimes my heart
turns in every direction
except towards you.
Please help me
to turn my heart toward you,
to gaze upon you in trust
and to seek your kingdom with all of my heart.
Soften my hardened heart
so that I might love others
as a way to glorify and worship you.
Grant me this
with the ever-present guidance of your spirit.***

Story Time

Story Time Verse: *One More Step* VU 639
***One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me traveling along with you.
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you***

Prayers of the People

***Hymn:** *Are You a Shepherd* MV 126

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *With Thankful Hearts* Paxton
Offering Verse: VU 542

***We give you but your own.
What e'er the gift may be.
All that we have is yours alone.
We give it gratefully.***

***Dedication Prayer (Unison):**

Not by magic, but through the generosity of your people are we able to do your will, O God. Not by gathering power to ourselves, but through serving others do we find the purpose of our lives. Not by upfront guarantees, but through trusting and risking do we live faithfully. Thank you, God, for these wilderness lessons, and bless now these humble gifts we offer back to you, in Jesus' name. AMEN

Scripture Reading: *Luke 13:31-35*

Anthem *Lord, Lead Us Now* Williams/Martin

Message *Promises, Promises*

***Hymn:** *We are Pilgrims* VU 595

***Commissioning (Responsive):**

Worship has marked us this morning.

May our prayer life be rich.

May our awareness of God be broad.

***Let all we do and are bring glory to our holy, holy, holy
Lord God almighty! AMEN***

***Benediction**

Choral Closing: *I Am Walking a Path (X2)* MV 221
I am walking a path of grace.
I am walking a path of grace.
I am walking a path of grace.
Lead me home. Lead me home.

***Postlude** *Hornpipe* Hardel arr. Parks
We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Coffee Hour: February 28: Scouts/Guides & UCW
Ushers: Left Side: Derrick Grant & Allison Gorrill
Right Side: Anne & Harold Raper
Middle: Larry Buick
Upstairs: Hope Brewer & Darrell Bruce

Annual Congregational Meeting: Following worship we will gather in **Fraser Memorial Hall** for our annual meeting. Copies of the 2015 Annual Report were given out last week, and extra copies are available in the hall. So come and grab a coffee or tea after worship and join with us as we endeavor to do the work of the church together.

Bible Study will continue today at 2 p.m.. The readings for this afternoon are available below:

Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9

Men's Conversation Group moves to a new venue for Monday February 22. At **6 p.m.** the group will gather at Isaac's Way to break bread and to continue the conversation.



Youth Event: ***Fun With Frosting***

Middle schoolers and high schoolers are invited to come learn basic cake decorating techniques. This event will be held on Friday after dismissal Feb. 26 in Fraser Memorial Hall. We will prep and have a snack, then get to work at 4pm. Sign up or get more info from Kelly Simpson kelmurandco@gmail.com or 455-8365 There is no charge for the event but you will need your own supplies, contact the above for more details. This event is limited to 10 participants.

We still need **Sunday School Teachers!** It can be intimidating, but we have a great curriculum that lays out everything someone would need for a given day. **And you don't have to do it alone!** For the older group, we strive to have a team of two working together. So pick a Sunday, sign up, and be a part of building the future of St. Paul's United.

Lenten Envelope Challenge: Can we meet this challenge? Get your envelope (one or more), numbered 1-150, and through the season of Lent, we'll be **raising money for St. Paul's!** On Easter Morning, bring the envelope back with the number amount in dollars, and together we'll raise over **\$11,000!** The envelopes can be found in the **Narthex prior to worship** and in **Fraser Memorial Hall following worship.** The top two numbers; 149 and 150 have been taken by Rev. Richard and Pastor Sarah to set by example. If you wish a tax receipt please ensure that either your name or envelope number is on the outside of the envelope.

"Thursdays in Lent" from Barbara Cull-Wilby

The 7th year is a Sabbath year, a year of rest and regrowth. For the past 7 years, we as a Church Community have opened our doors and offered an original Lenten series: Thursdays in Lent. It began with Rev. Dr. Peter Short and myself. The leadership that it has experienced has been quite extraordinary: including Heather Clements, Cathy Simpson, Joe Robicheau, The Women of the UCW, Tammy Coughlan, Marguerite MacAlpine, Frank and Lyla Lawrence, each Participant, Rev. Helena Medeiros, Susan Short, Rev. Lori Beth Sheffield-Bowles, Rev. Gil MacKenzie, Rev. Priscilla Geisterfer, Chaplain Kevin Bourque, Barb MacMullin and L.A. Henry! Together we have explored everyday life themes, grounded them in Scripture and shared openly in Circle. Last year under the Leadership of Rev. Richard Bowley, the themes came alive in my life. And so: I offer you this Blessing: May God grant you the Courage to live our Passion, our Faith, in the Mystery of the Covenant of God's Everlasting Love.

St. Paul's Tween Singers

Boys and girls aged 8-13 who like to sing are invited to join a youth choir. Rehearsals will be held on Sunday from 11:45 am -12:15 pm. in the Youth Lounge.