

St. Paul's United Church

10:30 a.m. March 6th, 2016

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

Prelude *My Story, My Song* arr. Mansfield

Introit *Listen, God is Calling (X2)* MV 97
*Listen, God is calling, through the word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

Greeting (Sung Responsively): Words by Colleen Kristula

When we are farthest from our God,
lost in a strange and foreign world,
hungry and empty, homeless and poor,
weary of wandering, weak and worn,
God runs the pathway to our hearts,
opening arms that bring new starts.

“Celebrate now, my child is found!” God cries with joy.

When we are tempted to deny
God's grace to others we despise;
when we cry out: “Unworthy! Unfair!
That such a sinner has a share!”
God seeks us in our righteous pride,
pleading with us to come inside:

“Celebrate now, my child is found!” God cries with joy.

Hope is our God who welcome brings
music, new sandals, robes and rings.
Grace is the table set for the feast,
offered to all, from great to least.
Love is forgiving when we stray,
love is affirming when we stay.

“Celebrate now, my child is found!” God cries with joy.

Welcoming the Light and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive):

Let this be the welcoming place, the place of return

**And let it be built by a love that bends towards those who
return here**

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: By appointment

Thursday: 8:00—Noon

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

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

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 & Tween's Choir
	2 pm	Bible Study

Financial Contributions for February 28, 2016

2016 Weekly Budget for February		\$ 3,500.00
Envelopes	3,227.50	
Loose	52.40	
PAR	<u>1989.78</u>	
	\$ 5,115.68	+\$ 1,615.68

Thank you and may God truly bless and multiply your gifts

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 on the envelope 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 lead by example. If you wish a tax receipt please ensure that either your name or envelope number is on the outside of the envelope.

The work of visioning for the church takes many hands and people working together to be creative about our future. If you have an interest in being a part of the **Visioning Team** contact Pastor Sarah by phone, email, or in person.



World Day of Prayer - This afternoon at 2 p.m., there will be an ecumenical gathering at **St. Andrew's Presbyterian** in recognition of this World Day of Prayer.

Downtown United Through Lent

Through Holy Week (March 20-27) there will be opportunities to come together in prayer and praise with our sisters and brother at Wilmot. On **Thursday, March 24th @ 6 p.m.** there will be a potluck supper and service at **St. Paul's United** to mark the occasion of the Last Supper. On **Friday, March 25th @ 11 a.m.** we gather at the feet of the cross at **Wilmot United**. Finally, **at sunrise on Easter Morning**, we gather at the pedway at the bottom of Carlton Street to greet the Risen Son.



Gibson Memorial United Church, 183 Gibson St., will be hosting a **"Jig's Dinner"** on Wednesday, March 16th, 4 – 6 p.m. Tickets: \$15/ adult and \$3/child. Please call 457-1951 to reserve your tickets.

The Bibles for Missions Thrift Store will hold its annual meeting on March 16th at 7:00 pm at the Christian Reformed Church, 121 McAdam Ave. Joyce Riewald from the Bible League Canada and Kees Hamming from B.F.M. National Board will be speaking. Everyone is welcomed.



Proclamation: The Word of the Lord is an event to encourage the reading of the Scriptures so people become aware of the values and principles proclaimed in God's Word. It is the reading aloud of the entire Bible over 10 days, 14 hours/day. The goal is to proclaim God's message in as many communities as possible

across Canada. Proclamation will be held from May 4 - May 13 at Christ Church Parish Church on Westmorland St. All neighbouring Christian churches are invited to participate. Rev. Priscilla Geisterfer will be co-ordinating the Readings and can be reached at 458-9452.

For it is a love that has been waiting, like a candle in the window, ever lighting the way back and never willing to let go of the hope that each child will return home.

Let this be the place where the only appropriate response to love that has come to the end of its longing is to kill the fatted calf, feast, and celebrate.

Send up balloons and prepare the party for that which has been lost has returned to be among us once more!

Let us worship God!

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Sadie Miller

Opening Prayer

***Hymn:**

Who Is My Mother?

MV 178

Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):

Loving God, you have reconciled us in Christ Jesus and have given us the ministry of reconciliation. We pray for all those from whom we are estranged. Bring healing to strained or broken relationships. Forgive us for the times we have wronged others, whether by ignorance, neglect, or intention. Grant us the courage and the grace to seek their forgiveness and opportunity to make amends. Where others have wronged us, grant us a gracious spirit, that we might forgive even as we have been forgiven in Jesus Christ. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

Lord's Prayer

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:**

The Church's One Foundation

VU 331

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Aria

Scarlatti

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):

Bless these gifts, Generous God, that they may be used to find your children—children who wander in hunger, children who long to come home. Through our gifts, may all who wander set off for home, and may we celebrate and rejoice in their homecoming. AMEN

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Anthem *Nothing Left to Say* Angerman & Martin

Message *This Son of Yours*

*Hymn: *O God, How We Have Wandered* VU 112

*Commissioning (Responsive):

Forgiven and Beloved Ones of God, go now in peace, sharing with others the Good News of God's love.

We seek to help those in need. May we give and receive from each other the joy of peace. 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 *Postlude on Hiding Place* arr. Barchwood

We invite you to stay and enjoy the postlude

Greeters: March 6: Chris & Eve Walker
Coffee Hour: March 13: Ministry & Personnel
Ushers: Left Side Roger Miller & Allison Gorrill
Right Side Betty Fitzpatrick & Shirley MacLeod
Upstairs Hope Brewer & Darrell Bruce

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.
Tween Singers will not meet on the 6th or 13th, back on the 20th.

Bible Study is cancelled for this afternoon in light of the **World Day of Prayer Service** at St. Andrew's Presbyterian @ 2 p.m.

Stewardship Committee will meet in the Ladies' Parlour on Monday, March 7th at noon.

Men's Conversation Group continues together on Monday February 29. At **6:45 p.m.** the group will gather in the Ladies Parlour to look at the book: *I Am A Church Member*.

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 (maybe even find a partner!), and be a part of building the future of St. Paul's United.

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.
	<i>followed by Breakfast at St. Paul's</i>	
March 27th	<i>Easter Service</i>	10:30 a.m.

Afternoon Movie—Son of God

On Saturday March 19th, there will be a showing of **Son of God** at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary with some conversation to follow. The life story of Jesus is told from his humble birth through his teachings, crucifixion and ultimate resurrection. Come and experience the story of Christ as we continue to journey through Lent together.