

# St. Paul's United Church

September 29nd, 2019 - Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.  
At the points marked \* - those who are able are invited to stand.

*Mission Statement: To glorify God through Worship, proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and serving others in Christ's name.*

*And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob"? He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong.'*  
-Mark 12:26-27a

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

### Prelude:

#### \* Greeting (Responsive):

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

**And also with you.**

#### \* Lighting of the Christ Candle

\* **Introit:** Come All You People (X2) MV 2  
**Come all you people, Come and praise your maker**  
**Come all you people, Come and praise your maker**  
**Come all you people, Come and praise your maker**  
**Come now and worship the Lord.**

### Welcome & Announcements

\* **Gathering Hymn:** Spirit God, be our Breath MV 150

#### \* Call to Worship (Responsive):

We gather on Holy Ground.

**God's light burns within us, Christ's light burns before us.**

We gather to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**God's light burns within us, Christ's light burns before us.**

Together we greet the great I AM. Together we listen for Holy whispers.

**God's light burns within us, Christ's light burns before us.**

Let us humble ourselves before this most Holy Presence.

**Let us worship God together!**

## St. Paul's Contact Information

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Tel. 458-1183 Fax: 458-1944

http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsunitedfredericton

**Ministers:** Rev. Michelle Armstrong michellenarmstrong@hotmail.com  
Rev. Richard Bowley rev.bowley@outlook.com  
**Church Manager** Eric Hotte stpaulsoffice224@gmail.com  
**Music Director:** Dr. Sharon Pond spond@bellaliant.net  
**Choir Director:** Alexis Ervin aervin17@gmail.com

### Office Hours

	<b>Rev. Richard</b>	<b>Rev. Michelle</b>	<b>Responsive office Hours</b>
<b>Cell:</b>	(506)262-2150	(306)858-7602	Eric Hotte
<b>Sun.:</b>	By Appointment	By Appointment	11:30-1:30
<b>Mon.:</b>	9-11 am 1:30-3:30 pm	10-12 pm	10-1
<b>Tues.:</b>	By Appointment	By Appointment	10-1
<b>Wed.:</b>	1-3 pm	10:30-12:30 pm	10-1
<b>Thurs.:</b>	1-3 pm	12-2 pm	10-1
<b>Friday:</b>	Day off	Day off	Day off

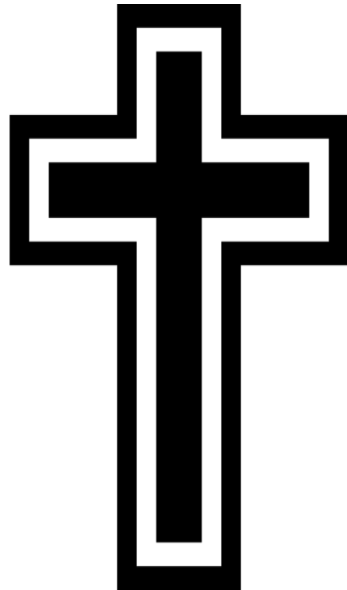
*The Reverends hours are subject to change due to Emergency Pastoral Care, meetings and other church business elsewhere.*

### Upcoming Weekly Activities

<b>Monday-Friday</b>	8:30 am-4 pm	Adult Learning Association
	8-5:30 p.m.	English Second Language
	11:30-1 pm	AA -Downstairs Lounge
<b>Tuesday</b>	7-9:30	Choral Society
	7-9:30	River Valley Choir
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	12-1 pm	Exercise Group - Gym
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	1-4 pm	Quilting - Quilter's Parlour
<b>Mon., Tues. &amp; Sat.</b>	7-9 pm	AA - Downstairs Lounge
<b>Mon-Thurs</b>	6:30-8 pm	Tae kwon do
<b>Wednesday</b>	9-11am	Pantry
<b>Thursday</b>	7-8:30	Choir Practice
<b>Friday</b>	7:30-9:30 pm	Youth Group (Contact Rev Michelle)
<b>Saturday</b>	10 am-noon	Tae kwon do
<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am	Bible Study - Conference Room

**THANK YOU**  
*for worshiping  
with us*

When the world comes crashing in  
And chaos rules my mind,  
I turn my heart to you, Lord,  
And pure, sweet peace I find.  
You lift me out of trouble  
You comfort me in pain;  
You nourish, heal and cleanse me,  
Like cool, refreshing rain.  
In times of joy and bliss,  
When things are going right,  
You lift me even higher,  
And fill me with delight.  
You listen to my prayers;  
You hear my every plea;  
I'm safe because I know  
You're always there for me.  
Joanna Fuchs



Climate, weather, jobs, health, our right to buy things... Is it possible to live out our spiritual beliefs at the crossroads of science, social needs, economics and nature? An **ECObook Club** is organizing this fall at Wilmot United. On the international bestseller list for 3 years, *The Hidden Life of Trees* is a fascinating, easy to read, but not uncontroversial book from professional forester Peter Wohlleben, who has come to understand trees not as products to be 'harvested' but as complex living social beings, not so unlike ourselves deserving of respect and dignity. Proposed times are mid-week, after lunch or after work, depending on interest. All are welcome. For further info, please contact Kathryn Downton at 506-455-2444, or at treesmatterfredericton@gmail.com. Let's discuss!

The Women's Inter-Church Council of Fredericton is having their Annual General Meeting on Friday, Oct 18 at 1:30 PM here at St. Paul's, Please remember Least Coin collection at the meeting. Those who are on the Executive Committee are responsible for providing the Refreshments at the Meeting. Everyone is welcome it is Non Denominational.

Roast Pork Dinner, Saturday, October 5, 5:30 pm, Nashwaaksis United Church, 46 Main Street. Enjoy roast pork with homemade apple sauce, potatoes, carrots, turnips, rolls and assorted pies. Pre-ordered take-outs to be picked up at 5:00pm. Cost is \$14. Call Rindy or Tom Austin at 450-7151 for reservations.

A treasure of wonder and delight  
The Lord is more than pleasure  
To the Lord I hold on tight.

The Lord is the meaning of goodness  
The essence of goodness itself  
A fountain of power and glory  
The Lord is priceless wealth.

The Lord is majesty and splendour  
My heart extols His Name  
The Lord is kindness and love  
There is no one at all the same.

The Lord is Altogether Beauty  
By Fay Hill



**Opening Prayer**

**Story Time Verse:** Teach Me God (vs 1) VU 299  
**Teach me God to wonder, teach me God to see  
Let your world of beauty capture me.  
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,  
Life be celebrated, joy you give.**

**Story Time for the Young and Young at Heart**

**Story Time Verse:** Teach Me God (vs 4) VU 299  
**Teach me God to know you, hear you when you speak,  
See you in my neighbour when we meet.  
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,  
Life be celebrated, joy you give.**

**Prayer of Confession (Unison):**

**Speak to us, O God, as you spoke to Moses so long ago. You came to him in the midst of an ordinary day and called him to be a part of your extraordinary work. You needed his hands, his feet, and his voice. We don't like to admit it, but we know you want the same from us: for us to walk among the broken, reach out to the lost and the lonely, speak up for the oppressed. Forgive us when we turn from your Holy Presence or ignore your sacred invitation. Forgive us when we say, "we aren't enough," when it is you who sees our true potential. Speak to us, O God, we pray in the name of Christ the Way. AMEN  
Assurance of God's Love**

**Today's Scripture:** Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15 Ann Raper  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** Sing a New Song to the Lord Sleeth  
**Message:** On Holy Ground

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn:** My Soul Cries Out MV 120  
\* **Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**

\* **Dedication Verse:** What Can I Do MV 191  
**What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

**Commissioning Liturgy for Sabbatical** (*see insert*)

**SENDING FORTH**

**\* Closing Hymn:** Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU 651

**\* Commissioning (Responsive):**

We have been engulfed by the passion of God's deep love.

**We are not burned away, but we are changed.**

We are called to go and share God's grace and love with all.

**We are not worthy on our own, but God calls us anyway.**

Because with God before us, behind us, and by our side,  
**our fears and doubts have no hold.**

**\* Benediction**

**\* Choral Closing:** Wherever You May Go MV 216

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
And your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow:  
For I will be faithful, loyal and true.**

**Postlude**

**Announcements**

- Greeters:** Brenda & Alan Rayner
- Collectors** **Upstairs:** Susan & Graham Spencer
- Downstairs:** **Left Side:** Gail & Ralph Stephenson
- Middle:** Isabel Green
- Right Side:** Tammy Coughlan and Dean Jones
- Coffee Hour** (October 6th): UCW

**SERVICES & ACTIVITIES**

**Reflective Bible Study and Prayer Group** Sundays at 9:15 am in the office. Tammy Landry is hosting. Come enjoy the scripture and watch the sermon come to life! Stick around afterwards for prayer. Everyone is welcome!

St Paul's has very exciting news, we now have power push button doors, at the Charlotte street entrance and middle outside door at the front of the church. Great news for everyone especially those with accessibility issues.

**Lunch Bags** our bag lunch program is in dire need of proteins like tuna/ham/turkey with pull tab lids. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful program reaching out to so many that need some nourishment.

These are the Pantry's most needed items: soups (no tomato), canned meat for sandwiches, granola bars, juice boxes, fruit and pudding cups, large juice, canned fruit, cheez whiz, cereals, household cleaners, laundry detergent, paper towels, soda crackers, cookies, ketchup, peanut butter.

*Today in Sunday School:* Loving God, Loving Neighbour. Verse of the Month: "The Community of believers was one in heart and mind." (Acts 4:32) **Bible Story:** Children Contribute. John 6: 1-15. A crowd had been following Jesus and they were hungry. Andrew brought a boy who had a small lunch to Jesus. Jesus accepted the boy's lunch, blessed it, and shared it with the crowd. Even a child can do great things with God's help.

We are doing a new **Photo Directory with Universal Portraits**, they are coming **September 27th and 28th also October 1st - 5th**. We look forward to having **YOU** included in the new photo directory. This is a great way to be part of the church family. They started calling this week, book your photo session today by calling Universal portrait studios at 1-888-769-7339 ext 2 or online at [www.universalportraits.com](http://www.universalportraits.com). Those that participate will receive a free Photo directory!

**Other News**

The **Multicultural Association** hosts a sewing program for newcomers each Saturday from 1:00 ~ [5:00](#) at their location [28 Saunders St](#). It would be lovely to have volunteers lend a hand with sewing tips & sewing machine maintenance to support the growing interest. While giving the gift of time, you receive an enriching cultural experience when joining ladies from around the world. Any number of volunteer hours will be helpful. Marisa, will be happy to receive your calls. Cell [506 447-2618](tel:5064472618) Office [506 452-0660](tel:5064520660)

**Spiritual Plaza**, Hosted by Forest Hill United Church 180 Smythe St, Fredericton. Oct 21 8pm Nov 18 8pm. We meet once a month to discuss spirituality and theology in a non-denominational setting. Many faiths are represented.

## Commissioning Liturgy for Sabbatical 1/2

Rev. M: On the seventh day .... said, "It is good

**Rev. Richard we have worked together in ministry here at St Paul's for 5 years and we have much to celebrate. We celebrate your encouragement, direction, and leadership in our work together as God's people in this place. Of this ministry together we say with confidence, "It is good."**

M&P: Ministry is hard work.....

Rev. Richard will be on sabbatical from October 1st to February 1st.

**Over the next 4 months we release Rev. Richard from his pastoral responsibilities - freeing him from pastoral visits, worship leadership, phone calls when emergencies strike. We will create space for God to speak to him and refresh his soul.**

**Laying on of hands for Rev. Richard:**

Rev. M: Gracious God.... This blessing we ask in the strong and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

Rev. M: We send you now.....and in the world.

**We will miss you, even as we faithfully carry out with joy and hope the ministry to which we are called. As you attend to your Sabbatical, please know that our thoughts and prayers will be with you, that we support you in every way, and that we look forward with joy to your return.**

Rev. R: Five years is a long time.....Thank you for creating this opportunity for a time of Sabbath rest in my ministry.

## Commissioning Liturgy for Sabbatical 2/2

M&P: The time when Rev. Richard is on sabbatical is not a time of rest for us.....worship the Lord with praise and joy.

**Blessing of the Congregation and Rev. Michelle**

Rev. R to the Congregation: Covenant God.....who is our light and our way. AMEN

Rev. R to Rev. M: You have been my sister and my friend for years....our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

**Prayer Candles**

Rev. M: Now we light two candles, light drawn from Christ's own light.

**We light this candle and ask that you take it with you. This light will shine in your home as a reminder of your continued connectedness to this place and to each of us. Pray that we move from strength to strength in the work that God has called us to. Pray that each day we live fully the Gospel of the Risen and Rising Christ. Pray for us by the light of this candle.**

Rev. R: I light this candle and leave it behind.....Pray for me by the light of this candle.

**Blessing and blessed we enter into this time apart knowing that we are never alone. The love of God surrounds us and holds us and the Holy Spirit will guide us until our paths cross again. Go with God, Go with God. Amen.**

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