



St. James Visitor

Easter 2014



GREETINGS FROM REV. TERRIE BURRY

My grandfather was a unique man, to say the least. Perfection was not his claim to fame--at times, he could be as crooked and contrary as the best of them. It seemed he had a certain skill for discerning when a household repair was just fixed enough to get by before saying, "Bah, dat's good enough," and carrying on about his day, much to my grandmother's chagrin. However, he was quite the entertainer when given the opportunity to be the center of attention and was well known in the family as well as the community and any place that his feet landed in his travels to be a magnificent storyteller.

He did not always remember the details, and often stories retold became longer and more exciting on a third or fourth telling; but quick witted and often overcome with laughter by the hilarity of his own words, he kept anyone in his company enthralled, hanging on to every word to hear what he would say next. Often stories of his life and childhood were unbelievable at their best, not fit to be repeated (or heard the first time) at their worst, but somewhere in the middle lay, underneath layers of impossibilities, profanity and disbelief, who he really was for those with eyes to see.

So it was much to my surprise when I walked to his house one day and found a slightly subdued and contemplative Pop standing in his garden. He greeted me with his usual "How are ya, me duckie babes?" and a kiss on the cheek, but he didn't seem his usual boisterous self. I asked him what was on his mind. He said, "Sis, I'm a bit shook up today." Then, he told me a story.

"Sis, I went fishin' this morning. I was supposed to go with Bob Thorne, but when we got up he said it looked like there was a storm coming and wanted no part of it. But I wanted to go try for a trout, so I went on myself anyway. Seemed like the best kinda

mornin' to me--but oh, Sis. I got to the pond and all of a sudden it got right grey, right black, eh? And it clouded right over and started to rain. And before I could even get me stuff together, get it all back to the car, I kid you not, the rain went torrential and there was thunder and lightning. I just had to go and run for cover. Couldn't even get back to the car. Honest to my God, Sis, I thought that was it. I thought I was a goner, I thought for sure, would have bet my life, that the Good Lord was coming to get me. I was never so frightened in all me life. But then, after a spell, the rain stopped and the sun shone through the clouds so bright it was like the storm never even happened. But I was thinking, Sis. I always thought when the Lord was gonna come, it would be in a storm with thunder and lightning and we'd all be terrified." He stopped and looked around his garden and said, "But you know, now I think when it's time for livin' to be done, the Good Lord will just come quiet and walk around the garden with me before he takes me home."

Sometimes our expectations are not, in fact, reality. Sometimes what we believe with absolute certainty turns out to be false hope or fear. When we expect the end, it is simply a new beginning.

We await judgment and receive mercy.
We fear running out and find abundance.
We seek justice and discover God has a very different opinion about what fairness is.
We look for Jesus and...well, what do we find?

We find others on this same mission.
--to seek out this Jesus to see if what has been told and foretold is actually true.
--to touch the man whose touch has healed
--to hear the man whose voice calms storms, allowing ourselves the hope that the deepest yearning of our hearts is found in the emptiness of a tomb.

Friends, have a blessed Easter season.

—Rev. Terrie

Did you know?

Project Grace offers free weekly afterschool music lessons to children from all walks of life, regardless of race, age, gender, or circumstance. They use virtually every room in the church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.
www.projectgrace.ca



FROM REV. PAMELA JONES-FITZGERALD

"The Psalms have become the words I needed when I found it impossible to express my situation. They echo back to me the strength and muscle to continue on the pilgrim path."

— David Haas

I have always loved reading and praying the Psalms. No matter where I am on my journey through life, I find they bring me much inspiration and peace. When I am struggling with a decision or bathed in pain and sorrow, I can always turn to the Psalms.

Here is one of my favorites from a book Psalm Prayers. I have had this book for years and I never tire of it.

Your Salvation Is My Song

Your salvation is my song,
and I will sing forever!

God, I crawl to you again,
keep me from disgrace,
come quickly to save me
and listen to my prayer.

Be strong for me when I cannot,
for without you I am powerless.
Shelter me from evil.

You are hope when all seems hopeless,
you are trustworthy when I feel suspicious.
I can depend on you as I always have,
since I came forth from the womb.

You are my strength!

I will shout loudly your justice,
and of your salvation which never ends!
You have led me since my youth,
and I will always acclaim you!

Your salvation is my song,
and I will sing forever!

Adapted from Psalm 71: 1-6, 15-17

In the psalms we find ourselves in the presence of a loving, challenging, and awesome God. The psalms enable us to stop and reflect on the depth of God's love for humankind.

As you sing hallelujah, why not make the psalms part of your prayer life?

Happy Easter everyone and God's richest blessing.

—Rev. Pamela

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

UCW meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. New members are always warmly welcomed.

Our executive:

- Past Co-presidents: Vera Marshall and Jean White
- Co-presidents: Barbara Adams and Betty Pilgrim
- Recording Secretary: Glenda Butt
- Treasurer: Sylvia Cole
- Assistant Treasurer: Sheilah Beckett
- Corresponding secretary: Ruth Baker

Committees:

- Flowers: Betty Winsor
- Friendship Group: Winona Kelsey
- Membership: Shirley Bursey
- Social: Edna Bemister and Betty Winsor
- Visitation: Barbara Butt
- Church Council Representative: Menetha Dyke
- Finance Committee Representative:
Rosemary White
- Honorary Member: Shirley Bursey

ST. JAMES AOTS MEN'S CLUB

Our executive:

- President: Leslie Dean
- Vice-President: Eric King
- Past-President: Carlson Emberley
- Treasurer: Aubrey Hill
- Visitation: Rev. Bill Coish
- Project/Kitchen Co-Ordinators:
David Hapgood/Albert Styles
- Outreach Co-Ordinator: Ron Robbins
- Men's Choir Co-Ordinator: Bruce Hunt
- Secretary (Acting): Leslie Dean



LENTEN AND EASTER SERVICES

Holy Week Services begin at 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday's Service is from noon to 3 p.m.

- Monday, April 14**Pouch Cove UC
- Tuesday, April 15**St. James UC
- Wednesday, April 16**Cowan Heights UC
- Maundy Thursday, April 17**George Street UC
- Good Friday, April 18**Cochrane Street UC

Offerings for these services will go to East District Chaplaincy Fund

Our Good Friday Neighbourhood Prayer Walk will start at 10 a.m. from St. James.

Homemade hot cross buns and refreshments will follow!

Good Friday Service at St. James will begin at 7:30 p.m.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The annual meeting to review the activities of 2013 was held on Sunday, March 9, 2014. The congregation enjoyed fellowship together during a soup and sandwich lunch provided by many kind folks. Following lunch, the meeting convened in the church sanctuary and included reports from our various committees and groups, as well as the financial statement for 2013. The reports outlined the many good works taking place at St. James, thanks to the efforts of our volunteer members and our staff. They are available on our website at www.stjamesuc.org and paper copies are at the office.

The finance committee presented the budget for 2014. The figures included a financial commitment to Project Grace and to making an effort to try again to organize a band for those interested. The budget does not include an assessment for Bridges to Hope, but members of the congregation are encouraged to continue their support in the form of financial contributions, and donations to the food bank. After much discussion, the budget was approved.

I am happy to report that all committee chair positions have been filled for this year. There is always room for others to serve on these committees, and I encourage you to consider ways you may offer your services and come forward to help.

On behalf of your Church Council, I extend the wish that your Easter season be rich with love and friendship and filled with the promise of a wonderful year ahead as we work together in the life of St. James United Church.

Please do not hesitate to contact any member of Council if you have concerns.

Clyde Flight, Chair

PAR AUTHORIZATION CARD

I hereby request and authorize The United Church of Canada:

_____ Name and Address of Local Church

To issue a cheque each month on my account in the amount of \$ _____ as a contribution by me to the above local church.

Contributor's Name _____

Bank A/C # _____ Type of Account _____

Distribution: Local _____ M&S _____ Other _____

Name and Address of Bank or Trust Co. _____



TO ENSURE ACCURACY, A SAMPLE CHEQUE MARKED "VOID" MUST ACCOMPANY THIS CARD

_____ Date

_____ Signature of Contributor

OUR 2014 CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair of Council: Clyde Flight

Vice Chair: Trevor Bartlett

Secretary: Gloria Le Feuvre

Christian Education: Douglas Matthews

Ministry and Personnel: Jim von Riesen

Stewardship: Trevor Bartlett

Admin and Communications: Janice Winsor

Finance Committee: Brian Ramjattan

Worship and Sacraments: Michelle Skinner

Building Maintenance: Bill Legge

Youth Representative: Miranda Ramjattan

AOTS:

UCW:

East District Reps:

Full-time Minister:

Minister of Visitation and UC Chaplain, MUN

Minister of Youth and Christian Education:

Treasurer:

Les Dean

Menetha Dyke

Ruth Baker

Barbara Butt

Rosemary White (Alternate)

Rev. Terrie Burry

Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Susan Sheppard

Jean Thompson



EASTER GREETINGS FROM AOTS

EASTER MORN

*Easter morn with lilies fair
Fills the church with perfumes rare
As their clouds of incense rise
Sweetest offerings to the skies.
Stately lilies pure and white
Flooding darkness with their light
Bloom and sorrows drift away
On this holy hallowed day.
Easter lilies bending low
In the golden afterglow
Bear a message from the sod
To the heavenly towers of God.*

Author: Louise L. Matthews

AOTS FISH DINNER

The AOTS semi-annual fish dinner will be held on Friday, April 25th, at 6 p.m. Tickets (\$20) can be purchased in advance from David Hapgood at 576-4075 or Albert Styles at 754-6628.

ST. JAMES UCW FRIENDSHIP GROUP

HAPPY EASTER, HAPPY SPRING to all from a very, very happy group of senior ladies in the UCW Friendship Group who meet every second and fourth Wednesday, from 2-4, for an afternoon of fellowship and fun.

New members are always welcome.

May all your skies be free of clouds and your lawns free of snow, until winter comes again.

UCW SPRING SALE AND AFTERNOON TEA

Saturday, April 12, 2-4 p.m.

Tickets are \$6 from any UCW member or at the door. Baked goods, surprise bags and craft items – any and all donations are gratefully appreciated.

Contact Barbara Butt (576-1344) or Sheilah Beckett (726-7421)

A Thank you Message from our Office Administrator

Back in early January, I was out practicing for the Olympics on our wonderful and new ice-skating Loop in Bannerman Park. I had skated there several times already, and although my prowess does not extend much beyond skating forwards, backwards and turning, I am at home on the ice. This one day, however, the track was covered with small children learning to skate, so I was being very careful not to slice a limb as they constantly fell around me. There was one moment when my friend advised me not to take off my gloves; the thought came, "Of course, I should be wearing proper hand protection." The next moment found me trapped in a gaggle of newbie skaters, followed by one false move and there I was, down on the ice with the rest of them.

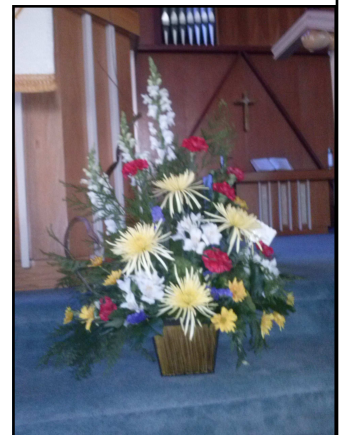
Two months in a cast for a broken scaphoid bone followed--my right hand of course, and while the whole time gave me a great opportunity to take left-handed writing beyond the Grade One level, I was severely hampered in action at home and in the office.

All this to say a big thank you and appreciation to everyone who has had reason to come by the church office during the last three months and shown me great acceptance, patience and understanding, along with the recounting of some wonderful stories of body bone breaks they have known.

St. James United Church – a caring community of the best kind.

SuAn Randall

*"Sitting quietly, doing nothing, spring comes,
and the grass grows by itself" (Matsuo Bashō)*





SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH - Rebecca Pike

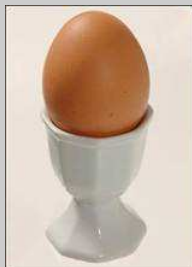
While numbers have been down the past few years in Sunday school, they are slowly starting to rise again. This makes me, as Co-ordinator, very happy, but I give credit to my wonderful teaching staff. So far, the children are greatly enjoying the Godly Play stories followed by creative and meaningful crafts. I would like to thank the teachers of Sunday school who truly bring it all the amazing life it has. Heather, Jillian, Denise, Mary, and Susan have been dedicated to our Sunday school for years and have developed such great relationships with the children. Brenda deserves a special thank you all her own because she has breathed new life into the 9-11 year old class. This is the class which brought us a wonderful Christmas play and is currently working on an Easter play to share with you on Palm Sunday. Finally, the children in Sunday school are truly some of the best kids I have ever met; they fill my life with joy every Sunday. It is wonderful to see their smiles and watch them learn and grow in faith.

The Youth of St. James are going as strong as ever and are determined to be involved, to make a difference and to be present. They are currently in the process of fundraising for Go Project and Rendez-vous this summer. Thank you to the entire church on behalf of the Youth for the constant support for our trips. These events truly make our youth group what it is. I am excited for when the younger youth can attend these trips.

Susan and I hosted a Winter Retreat in January. It was wonderful to spend time away with our youth and learn more about creation and Genesis with them. It was an incredibly successful weekend. Thank you to all the youth for joining us that weekend and being so open and so much fun. Our next fundraiser will be our Annual Easter Egg Breakfast. If you can attend, we would love your company between the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone at St. James for your constant support and encouragement. St. James is a place of home for me; the congregation is truly amazing. You support any and every idea presented to us with deep faith. It is always amazing the power and strength that can be seen in our community.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter.



Please join us Easter Sunday for our Annual Easter Boiled Egg Breakfast between the 8:30 a.m. and the 11 a.m. services.

Prepared by the Youth

Proceeds (donations only) to go to the GO Project

THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

The *Journal of Psychology and Aging* published results from a study of over 1100 people older than 50 who were followed for 4 years. While everyone had normal blood pressure at the beginning of the trial, those who volunteered for 200 hours or more during the preceding 12 months were 40 percent less likely to develop high blood pressure.

Another study of roughly 100 Canadian teenagers, published in *JAMA Pediatrics* online in February and then in print in April, showed that only 10 weeks of volunteering improved the cholesterol levels, body mass indexes (BMI), and markers of inflammation for the altruistic high school students compared with their peers who did not get the opportunity to perform acts of community service. (Taken from the *Wellness Guide 2014*)

Read of the two studies at www.the-wellness-guide.com/support-files/2014wellnessguide.pdf and consider volunteering as a part of your life!

An account has been set up at the Recycling Depot on O'Leary Avenue for the 'GO Project.'

If you have any refundable cans or bottles for recycling that you wish to donate, please bring them along to the O'Leary Avenue location and let them know they are for the 'GO Project.'

ST. JOHN'S	O'LEARY AVENUE GREEN DEPOT 30 O'Leary Avenue Back of Car Quest Auto Supplies building	726-3515	Mon - Fri: 9:00 A.M. - 4:45 P.M. Sat: 8:45 A.M. - 4:45 P.M.
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FINANCIAL REPORT

Your Church Council thought you might find the following information concerning 2013 contributions interesting. Please consider where you fall in the table and consider increasing your givings for 2014.

<u>Contribution Range</u>	<u>Number of Contributors</u>
0 – 0	176
1 – 100	77
101 – 200	42
201 – 300	53
301 – 400	37
401 – 500	42
501 – 750	73
751 – 1,000	42
1,001 – 1,500	39
1,501 – 2,500	22
2,501 – 5,000	12
5,001 – over	10



We would especially like to see the 176 contributors who did not give in 2013 consider if it is possible for them to make a donation in 2014. A donation of \$50 per month from 10 new givers would add \$6000 to our yearly income. PAR is a very convenient way to make your contribution on a monthly basis. We presently have 70 families on PAR, and it is very easy to sign up. All you need do is fill out a form (see sample on page 3) and attach a void cheque, or you can use your credit card. Please contact SuAn at the office (722-1881), and she will be glad to help you. There is also another way to make a special one-time gift and that is through PayPal. The PayPal button is very conveniently located on our church website www.stjamesuc.org.

The Sunday weather has been terrible during the first three months of 2014. The number of people in church each Sunday has been below normal, and this has affected our financial position. Hopefully, our people will start to get back to church as Spring weather improves.

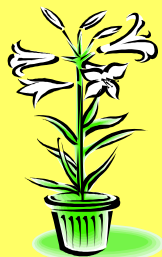
Brian Ramjattan, Chair

If you have not received your special givings envelope this year, please use a blank envelope and include the information outlined below or ask your usher at church for this one.

St. James United Church
St. John's, Newfoundland

Easter

Offering



NAME _____

AMOUNT _____

ENV. # _____

**ST. JAMES MUSIC**

Youth Choir: Doreen Brown	Wednesday 6:45 p.m. (ages 8—18)
UCW Choir	As needed
AOTS Choir Doreen Brown	Wednesday 8 p.m.
Guitar Group Herb Carruthers	Thursday 11 a.m.
Senior Choir: Christine Tiller	Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Children's Choir: Susan Sheppard	Saturday 10 -10:30 a.m. (ages 3 -7)
Sight Restored: (Praise Band, Contemporary Church Music)	Saturday 10:30 a.m.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH GROUPS

Sunday School and Nursery	11 a.m. Service
Ready, Set, Go!	
- Senior Youth 14+	Two Saturdays each month 7 p.m.
- Junior Youth 11-13	One Saturday each month 6 p.m.
The GO Project (Grades 9 to age 19)	Summer Mission Trip

THEOLOGY & TAP

Coffee House Once a month Thursday Nights
email: youthchurch@stjamesuc.org

ADULT GROUPS

AOTS (Men's Service Club)	3rd Wed each month 5:30 p.m.
UCW (United Church Women)	2nd Mon each month 7:30 p.m.
UCW Friendship Group	2nd and 4th Wed each month 2 p.m.
Bible Study	Monday at 10 a.m. or Tuesday at 7 p.m.

COFFEE HOUR

April to June



April 27	UCW
May 18	Worship & Sacraments

BRIDGES TO HOPE

Please bring along a non-perishable food item for our Food Chest when you come along to service so we can help others in need. Any gift is welcomed and variety is encouraged.

PLANNED GIFTS

Interested in making a planned gift to The United Church? See all the possibilities by following the link below

<http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/donate/howto/planned>

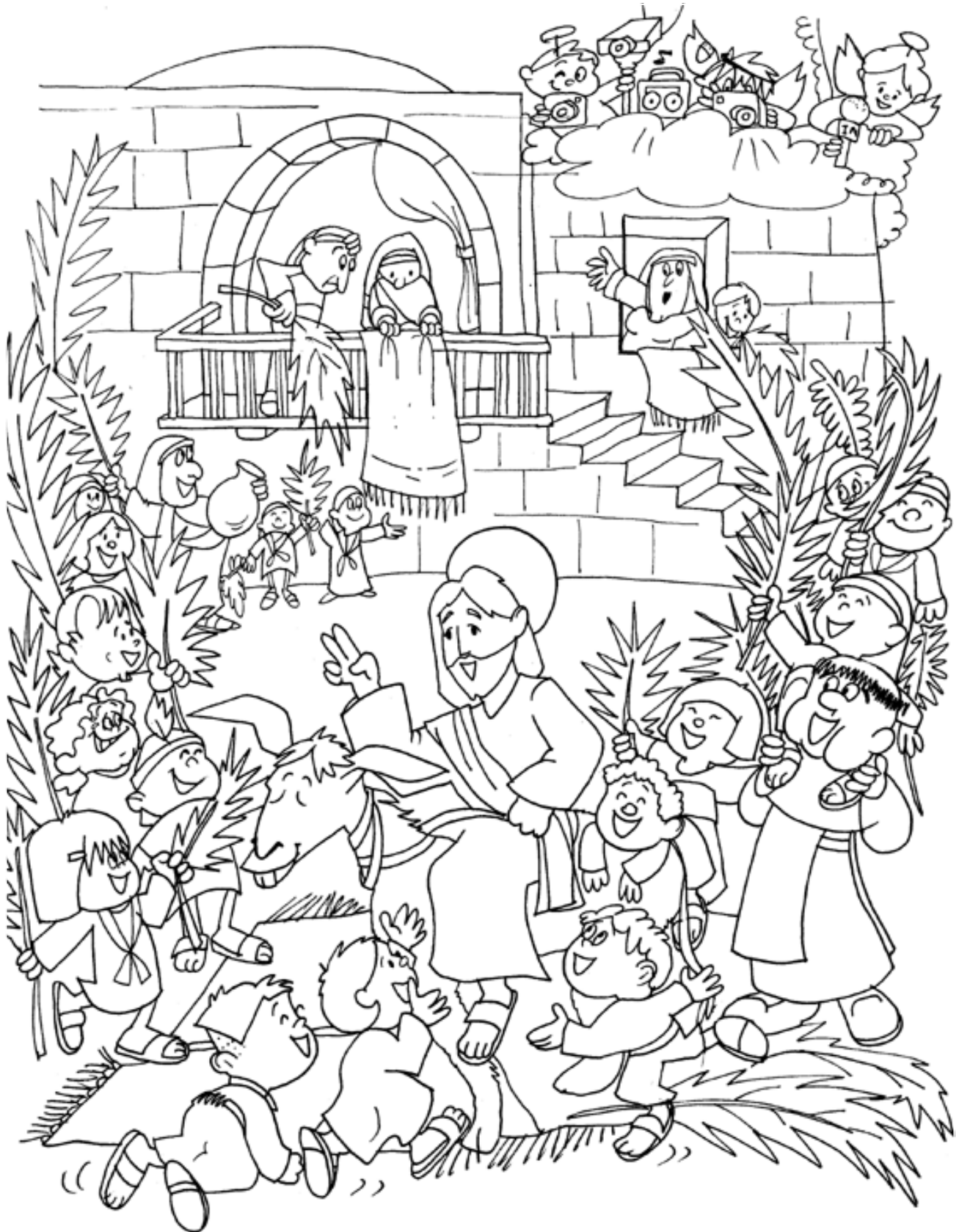


Clyde Flight

Financial Development Officer, Newfoundland and Labrador Conference
The United Church of Canada

Phone: 709-722-9935 Email: cflight@united-church.ca





"El niño y su Biblia" I.M. Venezuela - Texto: P. Celerino Anciano o.p. - Dibujo: Andreína Carradini o.p.



April 2014

Calendar of Activities for St. James Youth Groups

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 PF BS	2 YC	3	4	5 LD
6 9:30 SS (Denise/ Rebecca)	7 BS	8 PF BS	9 YC	10	11	12 LD UCW Tea
13 9:30 SS (Mary/Susan) Palm Sunday	14	15	16 YC	17 Ready/Set	18 Good Friday Walk Good Friday Service	19 LD
20 9:30 SS (Rebecca) Egg Breakfast	21	22	23 YC	24 TT	25	26 LD
27 9:30 SS (Jillian/ Rebecca)	28	29	30 YC			

Senior Youth: SET
9:30 Service: 9:30
Youth Choir: YC

Liturgical Dance: LD
Junior Youth: READY
Bible Study: BS

Theology on Tap: TT
Sunday School: SS
Praise Fit: PF

Trouble Hearing in Church?

St. James has installed a **Hearing Assistant Package** at the Church. Individuals who have difficulty hearing can ask an usher for a small, discreet pocket-sized receiver that has an attached earpiece. The wearer can then control the volume as needed. Individuals who find this service useful can even purchase their own receiver if desired. Please contact the Church Office for details.





WORSHIP SCHEDULE MAY TO OCTOBER 2014

Date	Time	Details	Music
May 4	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship 3 rd Sunday of Easter (Baptism)	Sight Restored Senior
May 11	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Christian Family Sunday (Communion)	Youth
May 18	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship 5 th Sunday of Easter (coffee hour)	Sight Restored Senior
May 25	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship 6 th Sunday of Easter LAITY Sunday	AOTS
June 1	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship 7 th Sunday of Easter /(Baptism) Environ- ment Sunday	Sight Restored Senior
June 8	11 am	Day of Pentecost/ Union Sunday/ Confir- mation (Communion)	Senior
June 15	11 am	Trinity Sunday/Fathers Day Sunday School Closing/lunch	Summer music schedule begins
June 22	11 am	2 nd after Pentecost/Aboriginal Sunday	
June 29	11 am	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	
July 6	11 am	4 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	
July 13	11 am GO PROJECT	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 20	11 am	6 rd Sunday after Pentecost (Communion)	
July 27	11 am	7 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 3	11 am (Tape VOWR)	8 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	
August 10	11 am	9 th Sunday after Pentecost (Communion)	
August 17	11 am	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 24	11 am	11 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 31	11 am	12 th Sunday after Pentecost)	
September 7	11 am	Creation Time 1 (Baptism)	Summer Music Schedule Ends
September 14	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 2 (Communion)	Sight Restored Senior
September 21	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 3/International Day of Peace (coffee hour)	Youth/UCW/AOTS
September 28	9:30 am 11 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 4	Sight Restored Senior
October 5	9:30 am 11 am 2:00 pm	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 5/World Wide Com- munion Sunday (Communion) Blessing of the Animals	UCW/AOTS/Youth
October 12	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 6/Thanksgiving (Baptism)	Sight Restored Senior

TO CONTACT US:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, NL A1B 1T9

709-722-1881 Twitter: StJamesUnited

info@stjamesuc.org

www.stjamesuc.org

Facebook: St. James United Church

OUR MINISTERIAL STAFF:

Full-time: Rev. Terrie Burry
Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Youth Ministry: Susan Sheppard