



A MESSAGE FROM REV. TERRIE

It's that time again!!

After the calmness of the summer season, the day after Labour Day we hit the ground running at St. James to get ready for fall! Here at the church it's been busy and also wonderful to have the hustle and bustle of people coming and going after, for many of you, some time away. As all of our regularly scheduled activities begin again, I'm pleased to tell you about a new program we will be starting on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 11, and concluding on Anniversary Sunday, November 15.

This program was developed by the United Church of Canada, and it's called "Called to Be the Church" (sound familiar? It's from *A New Creed*). The Stewardship Committee is leading this program, and we are really excited about it! What I think is really great about this congregational-giving program is that it's not just about encouraging members and adherents to contribute financially to the life and work of the church. Rather, it's a program that focuses on helping us to

St. James Visitor

Thanksgiving 2015

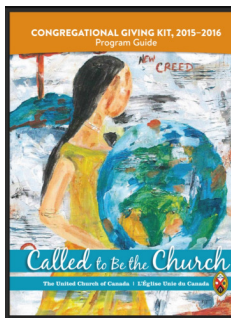
reflect deeply and with intentionality on the *reasons why we give* to our local church and to the Mission and Service Fund. This giving is not just about our financial resources. It's also about considering why it's important for us to continue to give our time and talents to this church community of ours.

This program is not just about Sunday Worship. You will all receive personalized letters and other communications telling you all about the program throughout October and November. While our worship will reflect a particular theme set out in "Called to Be the Church" each week, there is so much more! We will have special programming and educational opportunities for adults, as well as youth and Sunday school. Please keep an eye out for all the goings-on at St. James, including guest speaker Rev. Roger Janes, as well as a Gratitude Luncheon at the close of the program as a way to thank you for your continuing support and involvement in our church community.

As the sweater-weather approaches, allow me to wish you and your families autumn blessings and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Terrie Jackson



What's Happening

Monthly

- UCW 2nd Mon 7:30 pm
- Drop In Coffee Hour 1st Tues 11 am
- Spiritual Journey 1st Wed 11 am
- UCW Friendship 2nd and 4th Wed
- AOTS Men's 3rd Wed 5:30 pm

Weekly

- Senior Choir Tues 7:30-9 pm
- Youth Choir Wed 7 pm
- Men's Choir Wed 7:45 pm
- Children's Choir Saturday 2 pm
- Guitar Group Thurs 10:30 am
- Liturgical Dance Weekends
- Junior and Senior Youth Weekends
- Young Adult Programs Weekends

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THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS FROM REV. PAMELA

You may recognize this article from a few years back. I was inspired to use it again after reading a beautiful email I received from Jan Winsor as she was preparing this month's *Visitor*. Whether you are reading it for the first time or re-reading, I pray it feeds your soul.

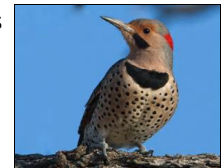
On my way home each day I pass the Anglican Church on Logy Bay Road. The church often has intriguing quotes on their outside sign. Most days I just drive by and chuckle but the quote placed on their sign on a mid-August afternoon stopped me in my tracks.

Do you have life? OR Does life have you?

I love summer ... gardening, swimming, boating at the cabin, ice cream with Scott and the kids, movies outside, unexpected road trips. In mid-August my mood and patterns shift with the onslaught of "back to school" and everything. With three children (and Max, our dog) my life is hectic. As well, I am now juggling two very different ministry positions, and usually each day I just fall into bed at 9 pm. Don't get me wrong, it's all good! But could it be better? Could I be missing the life-giving part amongst all that "busyness"? Does life have me, or do I have life?

The sign that day forced me to stop and really think about my busy life. Yes, there is a lot happening, no matter who we are, WE ARE BUSY!! And Saturday I read Jan's email:

Hi Pam, I love this article. It made me think about the Northern Flicker I heard in my backyard earlier this morning. I got up from the computer and the *Visitor* and looked out, trying to find it. When I did, I saw several robins and starlings all working together harvesting this morning's pickin's. Then along came Mr. Flicker in all his glory--a big red blotch on the back of his head, his brown body with black speckles, and when he lifted his wings to jump on one of the lawn chairs, he was all white underneath. We're so lucky to have such beautiful creatures visiting us!



We are reminded of God's gifts and that one of God's calls to us in this life is to S-L-O-W D-O-W-N and notice the simple things. This fall I am committed to REALLY living the essence of life, even in the midst of its busyness. In my Sabbath breaths this week, I saw God in the colour of the autumn trees, the smile on my children's faces, the thank you twinkle in my neighbour's eye, the succulent taste of homegrown tomatoes and rhubarb, the delicious smell of a fall charcoal barbecue on a crisp cold day.

Do you have life? OR Does life have you?

Blessings to you this Thanksgiving season. –Rev. Pamela

WORSHIP SERVICE FOR SENIORS

Monday, November 9 at 11 a.m.

St. James will be hosting a service **TO CELEBRATE OUR SENIORS**, especially for those who are unable to come to worship on a regular basis.

Rev. Pamela will conduct the service with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary during a seated service. A light lunch will follow downstairs provided by our AOTS. St. James Guitar Group will provide special music and a sing along during and after lunch.

ALL SENIORS ARE WELCOME. Please RSVP SuAn, 722-1881 or info@stjamesuc.org, by Wednesday, November 4, so we can know our lunch numbers. Remember to tell us of any dietary restrictions AND if you need transportation to and from the church on that day.

Volunteers will meet you in the parking lot if you have mobility issues and need some assistance.



AOTS THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

St. James AOTS (Men’s Service Club) takes this opportunity to wish our congregation blessings on the upcoming Thanksgiving celebration. As a club and a congregation, we have much to be thankful for in meeting the challenges of our faith journey. The Thanksgiving period is a time to reflect on the bounties of nature and to give thanks to God for the many gifts which he bestows in the cycle of our daily lives.

Our Men’s Club looks forward to our fall and winter program of activities, and we warmly welcome any men in our congregation who are considering joining us for fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

We have several projects planned. On October 23 we will hold our annual fall dinner. Tickets for this event may be obtained from David Hapgood at 576-4075 or Aubrey Hill at 726-8306. On November 9 we will assist Rev. Pamela with a special service for our seniors to be held at St. James. Further information will be provided as the event approaches.

AOTS Men’s Service Club

Fish Dinner

Friday, October 23

Time: 6 pm Cost: \$20.00



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

ST. JAMES UCW

Greetings from the United Church Women. Fall is the start of our regular meetings and activities, and it is good to meet again after the summer. Our group provides Christian fellowship, friendship and mutual support for women in the United Church. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month from September through May.

Our **Morning Coffee and Fall Sale** is scheduled for Saturday, November 7. Conveners Jean White and Marilyn Dunford have already started to organize this event. We would like to thank the members of St. James for generously supporting our fundraising endeavours, and we look forward to your ongoing participation. The proceeds from our **Morning Coffee and Fall Sale** allow us to contribute financially to the Church, the Mission and Service Fund and other United Church-sponsored projects.

New members of all ages are welcome. We were pleased to have Lorraine Boland and Helen Taylor join at our September meeting. The UCW organization is a wonderful way for women of our congregation to become better acquainted. Involvement need not take too much of your time. Members are encouraged to participate as much as they are able. Please give it some thought, and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us.

Enjoy the beauty of the Autumn season, and thank you again for your support.

Betty Pilgrim, Co-President (726-6923) and
Glenda Butt, Recording Secretary (895-8415)

Fall Sale & Morning Coffee



Sponsored by the UCW
St. James Auditorium

Saturday, November 7

Time: 9:45 – 12 Noon
Cost: \$6.00



St. James Financial Update To August 31, 2015

	2015	2014	Budget
Revenue:			
Collections	131,462.60	141,468.32	164,488.89
Rentals	29,302.35	26,219.90	26,666.67
Go Project	9,106.75	6,748.99	5,000.00
Fund Raising	6,106.25	1,195.55	9,000.00
Roof Donations	6,590.00	3,385.00	10,000.00
Other	7,470.23	9,078.51	9,566.66
Total Revenue	<u>190,038.18</u>	<u>188,096.27</u>	<u>224,722.22</u>
Expense:			
Repairs/Maintenance	9,690.82	3,274.72	3,333.33
Heat	15,850.33	19,187.90	13,333.33
Hillcrest Repairs	14,180.67	421.74	600.00
Lights	5,220.62	5,595.26	6,000.00
Bank Loan Repayment	21,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Main/Cleaning Supplies	3,609.32	5,402.15	3,666.67
Other	21,814.72	18,730.99	20,166.67
Assessments/Donations	5,184.00	3,984.55	10,367.50
Committees	16,103.69	22,283.66	11,120.44
Salaries/Allowances	140,516.82	140,295.84	145,893.34
Total Expenses	<u>253,170.99</u>	<u>229,176.81</u>	<u>224,481.28</u>
Deficit	-63,132.81	-41,080.54	240.94

Revenue:

- Collections are down \$10,000 from 2014 and down \$33,000 from budget.
- Total revenue is up over 2014 by \$2,000 and under budget by \$34,680.

Expense:

- Repairs/Maintenance are up \$6,400 over 2014 due to ongoing repairs.
- Heat is down \$3,300 from 2014, due to the cost of oil.
- Hillcrest Repairs are up \$13,760 from 2014. This is due to a major mold issue. The Dept. of Health closed the Daycare until this issue was fixed.
- Bank Loan repayment of \$21,000.
- Assessments/Donations are up \$1,200 over 2014; this is due to the new assessment process that NL Conference has put in place. We are down from budget because we have not submitted our assessments for the second quarter.



Overall we currently have a deficit of \$63,000. This is considerably higher than we have had in the past several years. What is more alarming is that regular collections (envelopes) are the lowest they have been for the past five years. Increases in expenses are primarily related to repayment on the bank loan and required repairs to the Hillcrest Daycare building and to the furnace in the Church.

Respectively submitted,

Gerry Mayo, Chair of Finance, and Jean Thompson, Treasurer



THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

Trevor Bartlett, Chair, Church Council

As I reflect on this *Visitor*, I feel it is a time to give thanks for the abundance that has been bestowed upon us at St. James. We are truly blessed to have so many positive elements in our midst - our longstanding members of the congregation, our dedicated staff, our energetic youth, our faithful young adults, and, of course, our many volunteers who support so many activities. The mere fact that you are able to read this publication is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers!

The summer went by in a blur (July's poor weather didn't help!), but St. James was busy. We were blessed to have two incredibly gifted summer students, Annie Brown and Chelsea Skanes, who accomplished so many things during their time with us. The GO project was again in full swing as we hosted two separate groups in St. John's, while members of our youth group travelled to many parts of Canada. In fact, Katie Vardy travelled right across Canada as part of the General Council Pilgrimage.

The fall is somewhat of a contradiction. While our gardens conclude for the year and the days grow noticeably shorter, it is the start of much activity at school, work, and our church. This fall "rebirth" at St. James can be witnessed in the regrouping of the AOTS and UCW, the choirs, the youth groups, and Sunday school. As heard for the past few Sundays with the Senior Choir, sometimes a new beginning can be awesome. Programs such as the Friendship Group and Project Grace have started again, and some new outreach programs for the local community are being planned.

Another program, "Called to be the Church," will provide more opportunity for us to become involved in short but valuable projects within the church. Don't be shy! Please join in to offer your time and resources. Given the financial demands from the Hillcrest daycare repairs, this year will be a challenge financially. While the operating expenses for St. James have remained equal to or lower than previous years, the weekly givings have been down. Indeed, a significant reason for the lower givings to date was the low attendance at the early morning services this past summer. I am confident we can rebound as a group this fall to meet our budget predictions with some anticipated activities and fundraising efforts.

As the new chair of the Church Council, I wish to extend personal thanks to the congregation, staff, and volunteers who have offered continual support. I hope I can offer similar support to all of St. James when needed. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your comments or concerns. Let's pull together to have a fulfilling fall season; we have so much for which to be thankful.

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


St. James United Church
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

*Thanksgiving
Offering*

NAME _____

AMOUNT _____

ENV. # _____





THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH AT ST. JAMES

Rebecca Pike

Sunday school started on September 13, and we are excited for a new year. It is great to say that we have new teachers and new families, but we are always welcoming more. To find out about the excitement that is the Sunday School, please contact me or Susan. We have a wonderful environment for anyone from newborns to adults downstairs, so if you have children or are a child at heart, please come check out what we have to offer.

The youth are back from their summer adventures; some went to *GO* in Halifax or Toronto and some stayed here. We look forward to sharing these adventure stories with you throughout the fall. Our plan this year is to offer something for youth every month. Starting in October we will have Junior Youth group, Senior Youth Group, and family movie nights. If you want more information, please contact me. Also keep an eye on the bulletin for a meeting about *GO* Project 2016!

We are also excited to have THREE dance groups this year: beginner, junior and senior. Practices for beginner and junior started on Saturday, September 19, but we will also welcome more! Also, we are starting the Children's Choir again. If you have a child or youth who would like to be part of these groups, please speak to me, Susan or Katelyn Mayo.

Finally, we will again be offering monthly calendars with church events by email to anyone who is interested. If you would like to receive one, please contact me by email rebeccapike@warp.nfld.net.

MY SUMMER WITH THE GO PROJECT

Rebecca Pike

Many of you already know that I disappeared this summer. I took an adventure with the Go Project on my own. While to say I missed home, my family, friends, boyfriend and everyone at St. James would be an understatement, it was an amazing adventure. I just want to share with you in case you were wondering.

I was hired by the Go Project to work at the Go Project sites in Stratford and Toronto. I started in Stratford where I met my coworkers, Melissa McCoo (she was in St. John's last year), Kathryn Sarauer and Sanya Beharry, Global Mission Partner from Trinidad and Tobago (see picture). These ladies filled my summer with love, support and laughter. I could not have asked for a better team to work with.

In Stratford we ran a Go Project for five girls, some from St. James. The program is run out of St. John's United Church, which is full of life, love and support for everyone who comes to worship. If you are ever in Stratford, be sure to visit!! Next we moved to Toronto where I worked at the birth place of Go, Islington United. We ran a program here for ten youth along with one home group leader. After this I headed to Winnipeg for Rendezvous, which was a weekend filled with laughter and education.

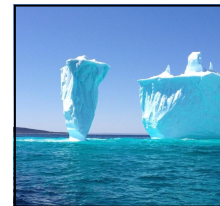


My summer was busy, and let me say it wasn't perfect. I had struggles and hard times. However, as I sit here and look back on my time away, it was amazing. I learned and grew in faith more than I ever thought I would. I made new friendships and met amazing youth who inspired me with their faith and determination! So, really, what I want to say "thank you to you all!" Thank you for being a constant support to me and to being open to supporting the Go Project. If this church had not had such a love for Go Project and me, I never would have had this opportunity!! I am glad to be home and ready to settle back into life at St. James with you all!

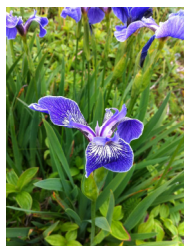


FINDING GOD

SuAn Randall, Office Administrator



I love a challenge, so when Susan proclaimed a photo challenge for the summer back in June, I put on my thinking hat to consider the best place to capture God over the summer. As often the case, my thoughts led to my teacher and the wisdom he has imparted over the years. One image that is often presented in ancient scriptures to convey the Oneness of Life is that of the iceberg. It may appear strong and solid, but the fact of the matter is that an iceberg is just water. In the same way, our individual selves, whilst appearing to be separate from other forms, are actually of the same essence as all life. We are one, we have always been one, we will remain forever One.



Then I went in search around the town for the quintessential iceberg to have the perfect photo of God. I failed miserably, until it hit me. It wasn't a case of only the iceberg being water – ice from my freezer, an ocean wave – all water. In the same way, every form I see contains the breath of life from God that is in me. In other words, God is everywhere! That made my mission much simpler, so I captured a favourite view from my kitchen window, where I daily choose to stand, doing the dishes and feeling the Oneness of life all around.

My thanks at this time of appreciation and gratitude go to all who know where God can be found.

A MESSAGE FROM SUSAN SHEPPARD



Fall is here and we have been gathering ideas and programs over the summer months like berries to make into jam for the fall and winter to come.

First, a reminder to submit your photographs and brief description for "Where I saw God this Summer." I will need all your pics by October 7, so I can mount them for presentation on Thanksgiving Sunday.

Next, our monthly Coffee Breaks will begin again on Tuesday, October 6, at 11 a.m., and continue on the first Tuesday of each month. This is an opportunity to come and chat with the staff and get to know us better, learn what is new in our congregation and in the wider church, or just enjoy a cup of coffee or tea.

Something new to us will be *Spiritual Journey*. The first one in the series will be held on Wednesday, October 7, at 11 a.m. and will be led by our own SuAn Randall. She will be leading an hour of *Meditation for Seniors*, all are welcome. November 4 will be *Colouring as Spiritual Practice* with Rev Terrie. Thursday, 3, will be an advent themed practice with Susan.

As you will have heard in other reports, we are taking part in the *Called to be Church* Stewardship program starting Thanksgiving Sunday and running through to Anniversary Sunday. As part of this program Rev. Terrie and I will be leading the accompanying Adult Learning program which will run for five weeks on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Please come and join us in the time slot that suits you best.

The New Moderator of the United Church is the Rev. Jordan Cantwell

The United Church of Canada selected a Saskatchewan minister with a passion for social justice as its Moderator as the 42nd sitting of General Council wound down in Corner Brook, NL this past August. Rev. Jordan Cantwell was ordained in 2010 after studying for her Master of Divinity at St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon. In her speech to commissioners immediately after her election was announced, she stressed discipleship and hope. "We know that the life of the church is measured not by budgets, figures, and statistics, but by its faithfulness to the gospel," she said. "The reports and proposals coming before this court reveal a passionate commitment to the gospel values of justice, compassion and reconciliation."

Rev. Cantwell was installed as Moderator at a service on Aug. 14.



OUR 2015 GO! PEEPS





CGIT/NGIT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS



Calling all former leaders and anyone who has been associated with CGIT or NGIT to come and celebrate these amazing 100 years with us. Get re-acquainted with old friends and make some new ones. Relive some wonderful memories! Mark the dates on your calendar and send in your registration form as soon as you receive it and join us to **Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God & Serve Others!**

The celebration will begin on **Saturday afternoon, October 17, at 2 p.m. at Fraser Road United Church**, 1 Brochen Street, Gander, with banquet and guest speaker at 6 p.m. We are pleased to announce **Louise Bradley** as our banquet speaker. Louise is President and CEO of the Mental Health Commission of Canada and has spoken in our Province and throughout Canada. **Sunday morning worship** will be held on Sunday, October 18, at 11 a.m. at Fraser Road U.C. concluding with "Hold High the Torch," followed by lunch.

For those requiring overnight accommodations, a block of rooms has been reserved at Sinbad's Hotel, 133 Bennett Drive, Gander. (1-800-563-8330) When you call, please mention that you are attending the 100th Anniversary CGIT Celebrations.

Registration Form

Deadline: Monday, October 5, 2015

Name of person attending: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Mail registration form with cheque for \$40.00 payable to Fraser Road United Church to:

Clarice Goodyear

136 Memorial Drive

Gander, NL A1V 1A8 (email: goodyearc@nf.sympatico.ca/tel: 709-256-8192)

Restrictions (i.e., medical dietary, allergies or assistance needed re mobility, hearing, etc.) Please be specific.

Please bring anything you have that shows the story of these amazing 100 years! (Photos, magazines, books, articles, etc.)

DON'T FORGET YOUR MIDDY – IF YOU HAVE ONE!

(persons without a Middy can wear a white blouse with a blue ribbon to tie in the friendship knot)

Coordinator and contact person Marguerite Mehaney: mmehaney@nf.sympatico.ca or 709-674-5020.

St. John's/Mount Pearl Area people may also contact Marion Pardy: m-pardy@nf.sympatico.ca

WE NEED YOUR RECYCLABLES

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 St. James '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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TO CONTACT US:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
709-722-1881

info@stjamesuc.org
www.stjamesuc.org
Facebook: St. James United Church
Twitter: StJamesUnited

OUR MINISTERIAL STAFF:

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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE October - December 2015

October 4	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m. 2 p.m.	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 4 Worldwide Communion Communion Blessing of the Animals	AOTS/UCW/Youth
11	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Living Thankfully Day by Day Creation Time 5/Thanksgiving Baptism	Sight Restored Senior Choir
18	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Living Our Mission Locally World Food Sunday	COFFEE HOUR --AOTS AOTS/UCW/Youth
25	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Our Creed is Our Church's Mission Peace Sunday	Sight Restored Senior Choir
November 1	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Sunday Our Personal Response All Saints Day Baptism	AOTS/UCW/Youth
8	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Remembrance Day Communion	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
15	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Expressing our Gratitude—Living Generously Anniversary Sunday/Restorative Justice Week	COFFEE HOUR --Church Council Senior Choir
22	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Children's Sunday/Reign of Christ Sunday	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
29	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship First Sunday of Advent--HOPE	Senior Choir
December 6	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Second Sunday of Advent--PEACE Baptism	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
13	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Third Sunday of Advent—JOY Human Rights Sunday Sunday School White Gift	Senior Choir
20	9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Contemporary Worship Fourth Sunday of Advent--LOVE Christmas with the Youth Choir	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth COFFEE HOUR --CD/Sunday School
22	7 p.m.	Winter Solstice	
24	7 to 8:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Family Worship and Communion Communion	Youth/ Senior Choir
27	11 a.m.	First Sunday after Christmas	Senior Choir