St. James United Church Life and Works, October 4, 2015 We thank our Communion Servers this week:

Karen Brown, Coordinator, David Hapgood, Donna Downey, Gordon Adams, Marilyn Adams, Michael Ralph, Sophia Solomon, Venessa Nichols.

We offer our congratulations to Karen Barrett & Jason March who were married at St. James yesterday.

We offer our condolences to Andrew Smith and family on the passing away of Andrew's dad, Bill Smith, whose funeral took place last Thursday from Barrett's Funeral Home.

Update on the Syrian Refugee Crisis: *"We are called at this particular time to witness in a concrete way to our Christian faith in response to the needs of millions of desperate people seeking refuge and compassion."* (The Right Rev. Jordan Cantwell) The United Church is suggesting 3 ways we can help Syrian Refugees:

 Pray for the displaced peoples, for the host communities, for the relief agencies and for the governments, that the conflict may end and peace prevail.
Donate to *The United Church of Canada, Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response*, online, by phone or by civic mail. The Canadian government will match, dollar for dollar, all donations made up until December 31.

3. Sponsor a refugee. To that end, Gower Street United Church will be hosting an information session on the sponsorship of refugees this afternoon after church, around 12:15pm. Ken Walsh of the Association for New Canadians will be there. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the process is most welcome; please consider carpooling.

The Blessing of the Animals Service will take place this afternoon at 2pm. All are welcome – bring along your furry and feathered friends!

Coffee Hour is back! Please join us for a coffee and chat on Tuesday, October 6 at 11am in the Fellowship Room.

Our Spiritual Journey this month will present *Meditation for Seniors*. All are welcome to join in the Fellowship Room on Wednesday, October 7 at 11am.

Our Guitar Group will be playing at Meadow Creek on Topsail Road on Thursday, October 8 at 2pm.

The AOTS Fall Fish Dinner will be on Friday, October 23 at 6pm. Tickets (\$20) are available from David Hapgood, 576-4075 and Aubrey Hill, 726-8306

Fall Family Outdoor Adventures: Kick off National Family Week this afternoon with an event for families of all ages and abilities! Hike the trails; try archery, hut construction, orienteering, games, sand play and s'mores - all for free! This event is weather dependent. (*Alternate date is October 18*). Time: 2-4pm @ Rotary Sunshine Park, Thorburn Road.

Family Musical Tarzan: Peter MacDonald Productions opens its 19th season with The Broadway Musical, Disney's *Tarzan*, Oct 7 to 10 at the Arts and Culture Centre. It is a lovely show with fabulous original music by Phil Collins. This family musical has a cast of 50 local performers, with our Katelyn Mayo, a member of St. James, being part of the production. It is a beautiful story line of who and what makes a family as Tarzan's loyalties between his jungle family and new found love, Jane, are tested. Tickets are on sale now!

VOWR Fundraising Dance at the Knights of Columbus Building on St Clare Ave. on Friday, October 9. Doors open at 8:30 pm and the ticket cost is \$15. Get your tickets early, so as not to be disappointed, by calling 746-9311 or 744-2255 or pick them up at Ropar Footwear, in the Bowring Bldg. at 277 Water St. Your support for VOWR would be greatly appreciated.

Alzheimer Society Learning Series for the Fall begins at 1pm on Wednesday, October 14. This program is available to caregivers, families, friends and individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer disease or a related dementia. It is divided into four separate sections and discusses important information on all stages of the disease. This program is available province-wide by conference call or Skype for those who cannot attend in person. Registration is required ay 576-0608 or email firstlink@alzheimernl.ca

Wesley Church Fall Fair week kicks off on Saturday, October 17 with a Brunch (10:30 am – 1pm) and usual sale tables (11-2pm), all at a cost of \$12. On Thursday, October 22 at 12:30 pm there will be a soup luncheon and entertainment (Auction and Bridge) at a cost of \$12. On Saturday, October 24th, there will be a cold plate dinner (6:00 pm), cake draw table, spins of the wheel, candy draw and auction, all at a cost of \$20. For tickets contact Pheobe at 726-1689, Marvin at 579-7900 or the Church Office at 579-3682.

The Agnes Pratt Home Foundation's annual fundraiser – Dinner Theatre (Musical Comedy Skeets Snobs and Peppermint Nobs), silent auction, bake sale, draws and many door prizes on October 22, doors open at 6:30 pm at \$75 per person, with a \$30 charitable receipt provided. Reservations can be made by calling Paula Roberts at 752-8957 or by emailpaula.roberts@easternhealth.ca.