



# St. James Visitor



## Easter 2017

### AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM REVEREND PAM

“One of the greatest gifts made real to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is LOVE.

Our journey through Lent, Holy Week and Good Friday is perhaps the greatest example of unconditional love ever given and received. Through Jesus’ grace and love for us, we are taught to love one another. Before His departure, Jesus commands us to “love one another.”

There is something about our love for one another that is iconic, revelatory, and makes Christ present in whatever circumstances we might find ourselves. Jesus’ command to love one another is both our preparation for, and our participation in, His resurrected life here and now.

Love reveals the new heaven and new earth. Love is the gateway, the entry, into the new Kingdom. Love makes all things new. Love is both the means and the goal, a journey that has no ending, and a destination that has no fixed point.

The love Jesus commands and shows by example of His ministry, and then death on the cross, is independent of who the other is, or our feelings about him or her. It is not determined by our assessment of his or her qualities or lovability. It takes us beyond sentimentality, emotions, and familial kinship. It is less about a feeling and more about a choice. If we are Jesus’s disciples, we show it by choosing to love one another. The mark of Christ’s disciples is not what they believe, but how they love. Love is the commitment, attachment, and loyalty to another that is embodied and enacted in concrete ways. We do not believe or reason our way into loving one another. We act our way into loving another. That’s what Jesus did. His life, death, and resurrection are nothing less than the embodiment and enactment of love. You and I, His disciples, continue that through our love for one another.

It’s all pretty simple when you get right down to it. It’s about people, life, and circumstances. It’s a bedside vigil when all you can do is hold a hand. It’s standing next to another and listening to his or her diagnosis. It’s cooking and delivering a meal to one

whose appetite has been stolen by sorrow. It’s the courage to sit with the pain and loss of another, knowing you have no idea of what to say or do. It’s about providing space to children who have a desire to learn to play a musical instrument, but may not have the monetary means. It’s the giving of one’s money to care for another whom we have never, and will never, meet. It’s a silent night of tears and prayer. It’s about giving to buy meals for Stella’s Circle Inclusion Choir; it’s about sitting with a resident in Long Term Care and helping them stay on task during the singing of hymns; it’s about sitting next to that person in church who seems hurt and lonely; it’s about a faith community providing food for body and soul.... it’s about the gospel in action.....it’s about making worship and work one.

These, and a thousand other acts like them, are the acts of love that have been done for us and, by God’s grace, we do for another. When I see these things happening, I see a new heaven and a new earth, and I know myself to be living in the new Kingdom. When I hear stories about these acts of love,

I experience all things being made new. This Easter as we shout “*Alleluia! Christ is Risen Indeed!*” let us focus our very lives on the one who continues to love us the most, even beyond all understanding.

May you experience the love of Christ in a new way this Easter Season. May the love of Christ find you when and where you need it most. And may you give the love of the Risen Christ this Easter Season to others who may need you most.

Many Blessings,  
Rev. Pamela



## Project Grace Report – Easter Visitor

Project Grace is welcoming spring with a busy and exciting schedule! We were thrilled to wrap up the winter term with a concert featuring our Project Grace Youth Orchestra and Choir on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and are looking forward to having the children back in the church after Easter Holidays.

Our Spring 2017 term will consist of after school lessons and orchestra, plus the return of our exciting Friday afternoon chamber music program! We are very much looking forward to an exciting partnership with the National Arts Center Orchestra (NACO), who have chosen Project Grace as their community outreach partner during the Canada 150 tour of the Atlantic provinces. NACO will be sending some of their musicians to work with our students and many of our teachers will be participating in workshops with the orchestra and its world renowned music director, Alexander Shelley. For many of our students, this will be their first opportunity to interact with professional musicians of this calibre!

The spring term will take place from April 24<sup>th</sup> through June 9<sup>th</sup> with the Season Finale Concert taking place in the Sanctuary at St. James on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. On this day, we will also be drawing the winner of our beautiful Painted Violin: a hand painted ½ size Yamaha violin which was painted for us by Cara Kansala of the Grumpy Goat Gallery. Tickets are on sale right up until the draw on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> and we are hoping to sell all 1500! You can purchase your very own ticket for \$5 – please visit our Facebook page ([/ProjectGraceNL](#)) for more information.

Plans are being made for our seventh year of summer music camps, with the goal of welcoming more children than ever before to the Project Grace family! We are hoping to offer multiple weeks of camp with several different themes, all suited to the wide range of age groups and interests amongst our students! The 2017-18 season is also shaping up to be a great one, with plans in place for our second annual faculty recital and exciting performance opportunities for our Youth Orchestra. We are aiming to recruit a large class of new students to Project Grace in the fall and are looking forward to having lots of enthusiastic new faces in our ensemble.

With each year, our little music program grows and has a profound impact on the families in our community. As always, we are grateful for the support of St. James United Church and its commitment to empowering children through the love and joy of music!

Gillian Sheppard





**Message from our UCW, Easter 2017**

March 20: The first day of spring and we are having a snowstorm. What joy is in the March snowmelt, when the morning sun starts spreading its warming rays over a land under snow, penetrating the crusted banks along the south side of stone walls and hedges. What joy to watch the water drip from the weathered eaves of roofs of houses and stores facing south. We may think of those spring days of splitting firewood by the woodhouse not far from our home. We know the brook will open from the thaw. We will see and hear the rushing, thumping masses of ice sweeping downstream with the current. During this month, the hours of sunlight will equal those of darkness, and the days will grow longer until the summer solstice in June.

March is a month of hope, of looking ahead, of closing the doors to winter and opening them to bright days of spring. Snow may yet sweep down over the land, but each day of longer sun brightens our pathway. It lifts our spirits and makes it easy to get around, which is very important for our older folks.

The UCW is looking forward to our usual Spring Tea and Sale which will be held on Saturday, April 8 from 2-4pm.

We just had a *New To You* sale, and St. James will be hosting a UCW rally on Saturday, April 22, from 11:30am to 4pm. We will then be winding down for another year with our closing dinner in May.

We extend a warm welcome to all women who would like to become a member of our UCW. You will find great friends.

As we enter into the Holy Season of Easter, we are invited to enter into the Passion of God's Messiah. It is a time to explore the reality and the deep meaning of the Suffering Christ. It is a time to remember and reflect upon what was done for you and for me. It is a time to ask ourselves: *"What meaning do we find in the death and resurrection of Jesus for ourselves and for our world?"*

Happy Easter to all, and hope the Easter Bunny brings lots of treats.

Betty Pilgrim  
Co-President, UCW



**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**



## EASTER GREETINGS FROM AOTS

The Men's Service Club extends Easter greetings to members of St. James United Church. Our fellowship group is open to all men of our congregation. We often have guest speakers for our meetings which are held on the third Wednesday of the month. At the March 15 gathering Rev. Roger Janes, Stewardship and Gifts Officer for the Maritime and NL Conferences, was our special speaker. Rev. Roger's thought-provoking presentation on the topic of Mission and Stewardship captivated his audience. Present for the occasion, as invited dinner guests, were members of our Clergy, Church Council and its Committees, as well as representatives of the St. James UCW. The subject of our guest presenter for the April 19 meeting will be Martin Luther & Protestantism - 500 years. The talk, scheduled for 6:30 pm, is open to anyone interested. The next AOTS Fish Dinner will be held on Friday, April 28, 2017. Tickets are available from Aubrey Hill and David Hapgood. We thank you for your continuing support of our



## A MESSAGE FROM REVEREND ETTIE

Greetings as we draw near the Season of Easter.

Each year as we take part in the Lenten pilgrimage to Jerusalem – pausing for reflection here and there – often discovering new nuances in familiar passages of scripture – hearing and seeing with more mature ears and eyes the stories of Jesus' journey – finding renewed meaning in His actions, I believe, offers the opportunity to know closer communion with God through Jesus.

I am learning, through the ministry of pastoral visitation that to know intimacy with God is to know intimacy with God's people in the struggles and joys of the journey.

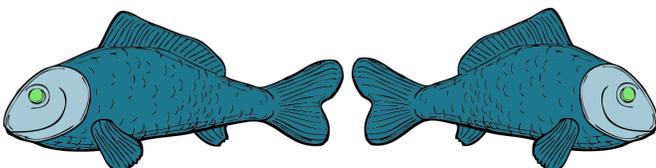
Serving as your Acting Minister of Visitation is my privilege. Sharing in the changeable happenings that meet us as we journey together is rich and fulfilling. Thank you for letting me be part of your journey. I look forward to continuing as Acting Minister of Visitation for the next little while, and I look forward to welcoming you at our next Seniors Communion Service Tuesday, May 16 at 2:00 pm.

## AOTS Fish Dinner

**Friday, April 28, 2017**

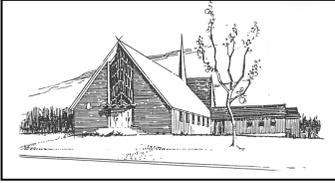
**Time: 6 pm Cost: \$20.00**

**Contact** David Hapgood or Aubrey Hill



## Maundy Thursday, April 13th

Join us for our annual showing of *Jesus Christ Superstar* followed by communion. Movie starts at 7 p.m. All welcome!



MEMORIAL HYMN SING: SUNDAY APRIL 30th, 2017  
**“Celebrating Life’s Journey in Song”**

A congregational worship service to celebrate and sing songs of our faith will

The congregation is invited to join the church choirs as we reflect on our life journey and offer songs of praise, celebration, and thanksgiving for those who have played an important part in, or had a significant impact on, our lives. We affirm our own faith and trust in God and in God’s infinite love which surrounds us all. In this service, you are invited to celebrate the life, actions, and events of a family member, a relative, a friend, or anyone who has touched your life in a special way, by sponsoring a hymn to be dedicated to them. You may do so by simply indicating the individual’s name, your hymn choice, and the amount which you wish to contribute on the request form below.

You and your family are invited to be a part of this special service and to share in a church family social hour held in the auditorium afterwards. Please feel free to invite others to participate - particularly former members of the St. James congregation who will not have received this announcement. Their names may be added to your request form, or additional forms may be acquired from the church office.

Do understand that the amount to be given is strictly personal and discretionary. All dedication requests will be acknowledged publicly. Please note that the amount of individual contributions **will not** be publicized, but receipts **will be** issued for income tax purposes. Your financial gifts will be used to support ongoing programs of St. James United Church.

To ensure your request is included in the special bulletin, please return your request form to the church office or place it on the collection plate no later than **Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**. All cheques should be made payable to St. James United Church.

**HYMN SELECTIONS**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. What a Friend We Have in Jesus                 | 6. Come, O Fount of Every Blessing      |
| 2. I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry             | 7. Morning has Broken                   |
| 3. He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands          | 8. Come Let us Sing of a Wonderful Love |
| 4. My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep From Singing) | 9. Just a Closer Walk With Thee         |
| 5. Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore          | 10. How Great Thou Art                  |

Name of Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Contributions	Dedicated to/ In Recognition of	Hymn No.	Amount
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



**Easter Greetings From Susan**

While it may not look much like spring (-14 with wind chill of -26, and a potential snow storm on the way), the season of rebirth is creeping upon us with the increasing minutes of daylight each day.

Thank you to everyone who has been coming out to enjoy the food and fellowship at the Go Project/Rendez-vous lunches. Also thank you to those who have been able to join me for the *Not a Bible Study* groups. So far we have worked through a program entitled *Following Jesus* and will soon finish *The 5 Marks of Love*. I hope to offer one more short study before we break for the summer months. Stay tuned for more information.

Between Easter and Thanksgiving we have many activities you may wish to take part in. Keep watching the bulletin and the weekly congregational email for more information and other events.

- April 13, 7pm: Jesus Christ Superstar and Communion (Maundy Thursday)
- April 14, 10am: Good Friday Neighbourhood walk and readings
- April 15, 10-noon: Spring Clean the church
- April 16: Go Project Easter Egg Breakfast (between services)
- April 26, noon: Volunteer Week Lunch



- June 21, National Aboriginal Day/Summer Solstice
- Noon: Drumming Circle
- 8pm: Solstice Celebration (Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice, Mt Scio Road)

July 9-20, GO Project



- August 16-19, Rendez-vous (Montreal)
- August 30, End of Summer Bonfire on Middle Cove Beach

**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.

**Food Drive**



**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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## OUR 2017 CHURCH COUNCIL

Trevor Bartlett, Chair, is pleased to introduce our Church Council.

**Chair of Council:** Trevor Bartlett

**Vice Chair:** Bill Legge

**Secretary:** Vacant

**Christian Education:** Gloria Le Feuvre

**Ministry and Personnel:** Clyde Flight

**Stewardship:** Vacant

**Admin and Communications:** Janice Winsor

**Finance Committee:** Gerry Mayo

**Worship and Sacraments:** Vacant

**Building Maintenance:** Anthony Paul

**Youth Representative:** Vacant

**AOTS:** Les Dean

**UCW:** Rosemary White

**East District Reps:** Ruth Baker & Rosemary White

**Ministry Team:** Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

**Ministry Team:** Susan Sheppard, DLM.

**Acting Minister of Visitation:** Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray

**Treasurer:** Jean Thompson

### Message from SuAn in the office:

As we herald the remembrance of the possibility of awakening our human consciousness into great love and light, I reflect on my work in the office of St. James. More important than the organizing and paperwork are the folks who breathe life into the Life&Work. These are our volunteers. It is their devotion to the spirit of care and community that brings them here; in that way, each person is a living testament to their faith in a higher power that wakes us into life each day. Individual names are too many to list, so we have Volunteer Week, April 23-29, to highlight the importance of each and every one who gives their time and energy to creating a safe and happy environment for the flourishing of joy and peace, cornerstones of any spiritual practice. Please let me know by Tuesday, April 18 if you are able to attend our luncheon.

### Wednesday April 26 at noon

Do you volunteer your time and energy at St. James?

If so, you are cordially invited to a luncheon on Wednesday, April 26 at noon, hosted by our Ministers and staff.

We do need an idea of numbers, so please R.S.V.P. your attendance to SuAn by Tuesday, April 18:



#### TO CONTACT US:

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St. John's, NL A1B 1T9  
709-722-1881

[info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org)

[www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)

Facebook: St. James United Church

Twitter: @StJamesUnited

#### OUR MINISTERIAL STAFF:

Ministry Team: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Ministry Team: Susan Sheppard, DLM

Acting Minister of Visitation: Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray



*The Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir blessed the congregation with their beautiful music on February 19th. A lovely time was had by all.*



***Go Project Easter Egg Breakfast***

Easter Sunday, April 16th  
following the 9:00 am service  
Cost: a donation to the Go Project.

**Everyone welcome!**

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. # \_\_\_\_\_



## Lenten and Easter Services

Holy Week Services (Monday – Thursday) begin at 7:30pm. Good Friday's Service is from noon to 3pm.

Monday, April 10.....Wesley United  
 Tuesday, April 11..... Topsail United  
 Wednesday, April 12.....Cowan Heights United  
 Maundy Thursday, April 13.....George Street United  
 Good Friday, April 14.....Gower Street United  
 Offerings for these Services will go to Mission and Service

### At St. James United

Wednesday, April 12: 12:15: Communion followed by brown bag lunch  
 Maundy Thursday, April 13: 7pm: Jesus Christ Superstar and Communion  
 Good Friday, April 14: 10am: Good Friday Neighbourhood walk and readings  
 Good Friday, April 14th, 7pm: Evening Service  
 Easter Sunday, April 16: 9:00am, traditional Easter Communion Service  
 11:00 am, Easter Celebration Service with Communion

Communion will be held at both services on Easter Sunday. This change is made to reflect the theological response to the Resurrection - new life through Jesus Christ. As a secondary note, we acknowledge the changing needs of our congregation and hopefully enable more members to participate in this Sacrament. We remind also, that the GO project breakfast will be held as usual between these services, and encourage all who may be interested in this fellowship to remain after the first service or come early to the second service.





### Worship Schedule April to October

Date	Time	Details	Music
April 14	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service	Senior Choir
April 16	9:00 am 11:00 am	Easter Communion Easter Celebration	Senior Choir Senior Choir
April 23	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter Camping/ Earth Sunday	Sight Restored Sight Restored
April 30	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Memorial Hymn Sing Coffee Hour: UCW	All choirs
May 7	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Baptism	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
May 14	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/Christian Family Sunday Communion	Senior Choir
May 21	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Coffee Hour: Worship & Sacraments	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
May 28	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Senior Choir
June 4	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Day of Pentecost/ Environment Sunday (Baptism)	<b>Summer music schedule begins</b>
June 11	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Trinity Sunday Communion	
June 18	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Father's Day Coffee Hour: Congregation	
June 25	11:00 am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Canadian Multiculturalism Day	
July 2	11:00 am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Memorial/Canada Day Baptism	
July 9	11:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Communion	
July 16	11 :00 am	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost GO Project	
July 23	11:00 am	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	
July 30	11 :00 am	8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	
August 6	11 :00 am	9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Baptism	
August 13	11:00 am	10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Communion	
August 27	11:00 am	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	
September 3	11:00 am	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Baptism	Summer music schedule ends
September 10	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 1 Communion	Sight Restored Senior Choir
September 17	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 2/International Day of Peace Coffee Hour: Admin; Stewardship	AOTS/UCW/ Youth
September 24	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 3	Sight Restored Senior Choir
October 1	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship World Wide Communion Sunday Communion	AOTS/UCW/ Youth
October 8	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Thanksgiving Sunday Baptism Coffee Hour: AOTS	Sight Restored Senior Choir