



St. James Visitor

Easter 2018



St. James United Church
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An Easter Message from Reverend Brian Colbourne

“He has risen, just as He said”.
(Matthew 28:6)

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What a happy and joyful experience it must have been for the women who went to the tomb that morning long ago, only to find it empty. And then to hear an angel tell them “He is risen, just as He said”. What a boost that must have given to their faith!

Sometimes we too seek for a boost in our faith. When times get difficult and things do not go as we had planned, we may get discouraged and lose heart. At Easter time in our Church, we focus not only on the crucifixion, but also the empty tomb and the Risen Christ. As Christians, this is where we find new hope. This is the Good News. We are not to be caught up with the sadness of the cross, but to move forward to the empty tomb and the resurrection.

Jesus Christ died so that we may live, but He overcame death and lives again. His life and teachings give us the guidance and truth of how we too can deal with and overcome the difficulties we may face.

As a Congregation we have a responsibility before us. Part of that responsibility is to ensure that as a church and as individuals, we reflect the teachings of Christ. It will also move us to become more involved in living our faith and celebrating that faith with joy and thanksgiving.

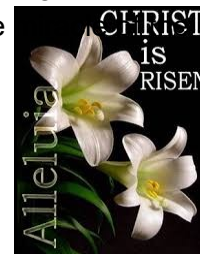
Throughout the days of celebration and the days of uncertainty, we are called to be a people of faith. And as a people of faith, we are able to find hope in the promises of God.

Easter is a season of hope. The empty tomb is God's way of telling us that the night may seem dark, but the new day brings with it new life and new blessings. The darkness of uncertainty may make us unable to fully understand God's message in the empty tomb, because our human knowledge is limited. However, one of the messages which we receive from the Easter story is this: *“Through the darkness of uncertainty, a light of Hope still shines.”*

During Holy Week and Easter Sunday, we will be offering special services. Please plan to share in those times of worship. A schedule of those services is listed in this newsletter.

As we work and pray together for the future of our church and community, let us put our trust in God. Only with God's assistance and leading are we able to discover and experience the Easter Story.

Blessings to you all!





Message from Reverend Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald



Traditionally Lent is a time of repentance, renewal and restoration in our busy and hectic lives. It starts on Ash Wednesday and runs through Palm Sunday. During the six weeks of Lent many people take time for self-reflection and self-care in light of the timeless truths of the Bible. Throughout his life, the founder of Methodism, John Wesley, emphasized the practice of spiritual practices as a way to grow in Christian perfection — the love of God and neighbour.

I always strive to take on a new practice during Lent. This year I have been practicing being fully present to those in my life. I also enjoy re-visiting the stories we hear in the gospels as we journey with Jesus to the Cross. My absolute favourite of these is the story of the Woman at the Well. Each year I read this story in a new way depending on my life’s circumstance; both personal and professional. The Woman at the Well’s story is profound. It is one which clearly depicts the transformative power of Christ’s acceptance and unconditional love. This message I endeavor to echo in my own life as well as those in ministry. The story is especially powerful in my work at Stella’s Circle!

There are many opportunities to take on a new spiritual practice both in our church and community. Lent is the perfect time for such a task. If you missed out this year then why not make it part of your Lenten Journey next year, or take it up now as part of your Easter Journey?

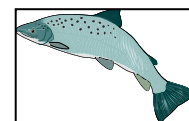
In these economically and politically challenging times, many people in and outside the church are struggling and looking for authentic community—a place to connect with the Holy and with each other. May we as a church community be that place for those who are searching. May our doors be open wide enough to let those who are lost and struggling in!

And may our Gracious One encourage and give you strength and hope for the pilgrimage ahead. I pray your heart and home be filled with as many joyful hallelujahs as you can proclaim!!



The Stella’s Circle Inclusion Choir joined our choir and Sight Restored at the February 25th service, blessing the congregation with their thought-provoking, and inspirational music. Everyone enjoyed listening to them; some songs were deeply moving. Afterwards, the choir members joined the congregation for lunch. The Congregation also donated money for meals for Stella Burry’s members.

**St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue**



**AOTS Men’s Service Club
Fish Dinner**

Friday, April 27, 2018

Time: 6 pm Cost: \$20.00



On-going and Up-coming Events, Susan Sheppard, DLM, Youth Ministry

I want to thank everyone who came out to enjoy the food and fellowship of the Youth Ministries' lunches this winter in support of St. James' youth. Thank you also to those who have been able to join me for the *Not a Bible Study* group on most Thursday evenings. It's really like an informal book club with a fun (and funny) group of people who come together every Thursday evening to listen to the stories, to learn and to laugh in the warmth of friendship! This winter's theme is "Uppity Women of the Bible" and we are in the process of looking at interesting stories from the Book of Ruth. I will offer a study on the Song of Solomon in April to May, before we break for the summer months. Please feel free to join our small group any Thursday. Contact me for details at 722-1881 or via e-mail to susan@stjamesuc.org.

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

- Thursday March 29 at 7 pm **Jesus Christ Superstar and Communion** (Maundy Thursday)
- March 30 at 10 am **Good Friday Neighbourhood walk and readings**
- April 1 at 9:45 am approx. **Youth Ministries' Easter Egg Breakfast** (between services)
- Thursdays, April 5 - May 10, 7 pm **Uppity Woman on Song of Songs (Solomon)**
- Mondays, April 16 - May 7, 4:30 pm **Quilting with Susan** (Beginner level)
*You will need a basic sewing machine with a 1/4" piecing foot attachment.
 Please contact me for a list of fabrics and notions required:
susan@stjamesuc.org.*
- June 21 **Celebrate the Summer Solstice and National Aboriginal Day**

**The Go-Project:
 Laura Mayo's Experience**

Last summer I participated in the Go Project in Halifax, and it was such an amazing experience. Throughout 11 days, I learned so much, made some incredible new friends, and had the chance to volunteer at fun mission sites like L'Arche and St. Paul's Community Garden. Everything that I experienced was so incredible that I can barely come up with the words to describe it. This was the second time I've participated in the Go Project, and I can safely say that that program has changed my life!



Katelyn Mayo's

This past summer I attended Rendez-Vous in Montreal. Rendez-Vous is an experience that I was so lucky to be a part of, and it was truly one of the most incredible experiences of my life. During my three days at this conference I experienced uplifting worships led by an amazing band that provides amazing music, inspiring speakers and presentations, and eye-opening workshops. I learned so much about myself and experienced more than I ever thought I could in only three days.

One of the many highlights of this conference was the amazing community at Rendez-Vous. I re-united with old friends, created new friendships, and was constantly greeted with love and acceptance by everyone I met. Rendez-Vous was such a special, meaningful, and important experience for me and will be forever grateful I had the chance to be a part of this amazing experience.



UNITED COMMUNITY OF FAITH

The St. John's Downtown United Churches Committee has been meeting over the past decade and has recently expanded to welcome all of the United Church Pastoral Charges on the North-east Avalon under the new name of The United Community of Faith. The principal focus of the Committee is to interact on matters of common interest and its initial meeting was held at Cowan Heights on October 7, 2017. Several meetings have been held since then and churches participating to date include Cochrane Street, Gower, George Street, Cowan Heights and St. James. First United of Mount Pearl has recently expressed its interest in joining and the Committee is hopeful that other sister pastoral charges will participate.

The expanded Committee recently held an Asset Mapping Workshop at St. James with 52 individuals attending from various congregations, including Pouch Cove/Bauline. Initiatives being pursued include a joint evening service in late spring (May) at Gower and early fall (October) at Cowan Heights. A recommendation was also made recently on a common minimum fee for weddings held at participating Committee churches. It is hoped that the United Faith Community will foster collaborative initiatives in other areas such as community outreach and youth programs. Heritage related issues have also been discussed with the NL Heritage Foundation.

The committee meeting Chair will be rotated and St. James has agreed to chair the meetings over the April to June period. Both lay and ministerial personnel attend committee meetings and input from individuals within our congregation is welcome. For further information or to convey your views on how The United Community of Faith can cooperate on specific issues, please contact Marilyn Adams,



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





**Message from our
United Church Women**

Submitted by Barbara Adams

Spring is the perfect time to start anew, tossing away old things that are no longer serving us, clearing our homes and our minds. We were encouraged to think about this when April came in March. Sounds like an oxymoron? April Miller is a professional organizer who shared her tips on making a more serene, stress free environment. UCW members were encouraged to bring along a friend. However, **you don't need a special event or invitation to come to UCW, anyone can come at any time. We welcome new members.**

Spring is also a time for the **Annual Spring Tea and Sale**. The sale is scheduled for **March 24, 2-4 pm**. By the time you read this, it may be over and, hopefully, we will report that it was as successful as in previous years. We extend thanks to all those who contributed to the Sale and to those who supported it.



On April 21, the UCWs of the St. John's Area are holding their annual Rally. This year the theme is, **Spring Cleaning for our Heart and Soul**. The Rally is being hosted by Cochrane

Street United Church Women, with **registration at 11:15 a.m.**

Bread Not Stones is a program of the United Church of Canada. In 2012, a national advocacy initiative was established to raise awareness and advocate with all levels of government to eradicate child poverty. Our UCW is participating, along with the other UCWs in the St. John's area. "Dolls of Hope", the symbols of child poverty (see photo), have been made by UCW members and will be given to the MHAs in the provincial government, when the presentation is made later in the spring.

We look ahead to the annual UCW closing dinner held in May. The year always seems to pass by very quickly but we can look back and feel good about our UCW activities. It has been a rewarding and productive year. Each of our annual sales yielded enough money for us to give a generous donation to the church.



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



St. James' First "Valentine's Day Friendship and Fun Fundraiser" a Huge Success!

On the cold, windy evening of Friday, February 9th our community came together for a delightful evening of music, food and fun to celebrate friendship and fellowship for our first Valentine's Day fundraiser. A combination of beautiful decorations, delightful music, and decadent, home-made desserts made for a warm, welcoming environment!

A delightful concert in the sanctuary featured four terrific groups: **MUN School of Music's Saxophone Ensemble; St. John's Gay Men's Choir; Roger Maunder & friends;** and our own **Sight Restored**. Afterwards, everyone came downstairs to sample the marvelous array of delicious desserts, most of which were prepared and donated by skilled members of our congregation. The concert put everyone in a terrific mood of friendship and fellowship which grew as the night went on. There was a lot of chatter and laughter throughout the evening.

People even had an opportunity to purchase a mystery bottle of wine from our first Wine Table and to bid on over 50 silent auction items. By the time it was over, we'd collectively raised almost \$5,000 to go towards the operations and the many worthwhile activities that happen at St. James!

Thanks to everyone who came, donated much time and goods, performed, ate, bid on and bought items, laughed and had a good time. The evening was so much fun, we'll do it again next year!

In fact, we are so enthused by all of the positive responses we received, that **we'd like to organize some new events for late spring/early summer and for around Thanksgiving**. And we'd like to get more people involved! *Got an idea? We'd love to hear it! Please contact Robin Bartlett at 682-3927 or robinbartlett1224@gmail.com, or Jan Winsor at janwinsor@yahoo.ca.*

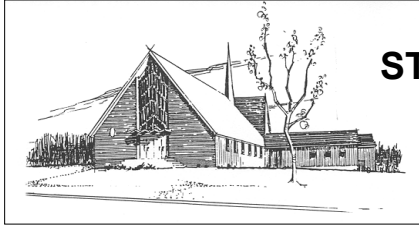


The Church Council would like to thank all organizing committee volunteers for their time and hard work, and all donors and performers for their contributions. Special thanks to:

Jan Winsor and Robin Bartlett for their leadership; Hannah Sheppard for organizing the concert; the dessert party set-up committee for organizing the dessert party and decorating so beautifully (including Karen Brown, Heather Hickman, Karen Giannou, Janet Bartlett, Marilyn Adams, Gloria Le Feuvre and many more); Paul Walsh for organizing wine donations for the wine table; Clyde Flight, Bill Legge, Robin Bartlett and Paul Walsh for gathering and organizing the donations for the silent auction; SuAn Randell, Linda Babstock, Paul Walsh and Aubrey Hill for keeping track of the money; and Scott Hewlett and Siobhan Browning for their guitar music creating a wonderful atmosphere during the dessert party.

Many thanks as well to the following organizations and people for whose generous donations and support, we are deeply grateful!

**Adley's Restaurant, Pearson St. Paul Roebathan
Bellissimo Café, Quidi Vidi Road
Boston Pizza
Brushstrokes with Lesley Janes, artist/ teacher
China House Restaurant, Torbay Road Mall
Coffee Matters, Scott Hillyer
Country Ribbon
Dairy Queen
Dale Kirby, M.H.A.
David Conway – Opimian Society, NL Chapter
Fort Amherst Pub, Churchill Square
Get Air Trampoline Park
Greg Winter – Dialog Wines
Hong Kong Restaurant
Island Gifts and Design
Jim Mason – Frontier Wealth Management
Kenny's Pond Retirement Residence
Labatt
Manna Bakery, Chris Rusted
Newfoundland Canvas
Rumpelstiltskin's Restaurant
Sampson's Hair Salon
Sandy Hickman, Councillor
Sharrington's, Cathy Martin
Signature Salon, Paula Adams
The Bagel Café
The Fish Exchange, Justin Garland
The Goldsmith Jewellers, Churchill Square
The Guv'nor Pub
The Paint Shop**



ST. JAMES MEMORIAL HYMN SING
SUNDAY APRIL 29, 2018
“Sharing Our Faith in Song”

A congregational worship service to celebrate and sing songs of our faith will be held at St. James United Church on **Sunday, April 29 at 11 am.**

A congregational worship service to celebrate and sing songs of our faith will be held at St. James United Church on **April 29, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.** The congregation is invited to join the St. James United Church Guitar Group 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 selection 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 following the service. 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 each individual’s contribution **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 for the Memorial Hymn Sing service, please return your request form to the church office or place it on the collection plate no later than **Monday, April 16th**. All cheques should be made payable to St. James United Church.

HYMN SELECTIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>God of the Mountain</i> | 6. <i>In The Sweet By and By</i> |
| 2. <i>Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore</i> | 7. <i>Will Your Anchor Hold</i> |
| 3. <i>In the Garden</i> | 8. <i>It is No Secret What God Can Do</i> |
| 4. <i>Morning Has Broken</i> | 9. <i>Here I Am Lord</i> |
| 5. <i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i> | 10. <i>Whispering Hope</i> |

Name of Contributor: _____

Address of Contributor: _____

Donation: \$ _____ Envelope Number: _____ Hymn Selection Number: _____

Other Contributors	In Memory of	Hymn No.	Amount



Project Grace – March 2018

I am thrilled to report that 2018 has brought a lot of wonderful and exciting changes to Project Grace, and we are happily looking forward to the future! As the Easter season approaches, we are filled with joy at the new adventure which we have embarked upon.

At the end of February, Project Grace officially moved operations across the property to the Manse. We are grateful to have such a wonderful, dedicated space to run our community outreach program, and look forward to growing the program in the weeks and months ahead. The new facility will enable us to become a completely self-sustaining program through a social enterprise model that engages and inspires the broader community. We are currently working with MUN's Faculty of Business Administration to help develop a business plan that will ensure the success of this new opportunity. Stay tuned for up-dates on this adventure and an invitation to our grand opening.



On February 28th we hosted our second annual "Project Grace @ Chapters" Night! Our students and faculty performed for a total of two hours on the main stage at Chapters, Kenmount Road. This event gives our students the opportunity to practice performing in a low stress environment, and also doubles as a fundraiser for us as 15% of book sales during our event get donated back to Project Grace.

Our Winter Semester Showcase takes place on Sunday, March 25th at 4 pm in the Sanctuary at the church. It will feature performances by our Senior and Junior Orchestras, as well as an array of performances by our classes and individual students.

The spring 2018 term of Project Grace will take place from April 9th through to early June. As always, we will host our Season Finale Showcase in the sanctuary at the Church! All are welcome to attend – admission is by freewill donation to the program. Please follow our social media pages for further details.

July 2018 will bring with it our eighth season of Summer Music Camps! Our new home has allowed us to grow our summer programming and we are excited to be offering a variety of camp themes, ranging from traditional music to orchestra to new music and our extremely popular chamber music intensive course. We also intend to offer our Adult Music Lessons program again this summer! If you missed out on this opportunity last year, we hope you'll join us for the 2018 version!

To stay up to date on all the goings on at Project Grace, please follow us on social media. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter and now on our new Instagram account, using the handle @ProjectGraceNL. As always we can be reached at projectgracenl@gmail.com and we welcome anyone who would like to visit and volunteer!

As we approach this Easter season, the staff, faculty and families of Project Grace give thanks for the support of the St. James congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

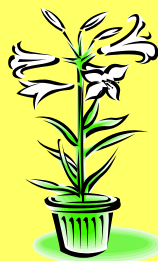
Gillian Sheppard, Executive Director

If you have not received your "Special Giving" 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



Events at St. James United Church

- Wednesday, March 28th at noon: Communion followed by brown bag lunch
- Maundy Thursday, March 29th at 7 pm: *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Communion
- Good Friday, March 30th at 10 am: Good Friday Neighbourhood Walk and Readings
- Good Friday, March 30th, 12 to 3 pm: St. James United Church, **"Seven Words from the Cross"**
- Good Friday, March 30th at 7 pm: Evening Service
- Easter Sunday, April 1 at 9 am: Contemporary Service
- at 9:45 am: Easter Breakfast

Holy Week Services

- Monday, March 26 at 7:30 pm..... Cochrane Street United Church
- Tuesday, March 27th at 7:30 pm..... First United Church, Mount Pearl
- Wednesday, March 28th at 7:30 pm.....Gower Street United Church
- Maundy Thursday, March 29th at 7:30 pm.....George Street United Church
- Good Friday, March 30th, 12 to 3 pm.....St. James United Church, **"Seven Words from the Cross"**

Offering for these services will go to Bridges To Hope.



Join us at St. James for our Easter Egg Breakfast at 9:45 am on Sunday, April 1st and support our church's Youth Ministries with a donation!





Worship Schedule March 30 to October 7



Date	Time	Details	Music
March 30	10:00 am Noon - 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Good Friday Prayer Walk Good Friday Service Good Friday Service	TBD Sight Restored
April 1	9:00 am 9:45 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Easter Breakfast Easter Celebration (Communion)	Senior Choir
April 8	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 nd Sunday of Easter (Baptism)	Senior Choir
April 15	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Youth/ AOTS/ UCW
April 22	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 4 th Sunday of Easter/ Earth Sunday	Senior Choir
April 29	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 5 th Sunday of Easter/ MEMORIAL HYMN SING (Coffee/Tea Hour — UCW)	Guitar Group
May 6	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Confirmation Sunday-Communion	Youth/AOTS/UCW
May 13	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Christian Family/ Mother's Day (Baptism)	Senior Choir
May 20	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Day of Pentecost (Coffee/Tea Hour — W & S)	AOTS/UCW
May 27	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Trinity Sunday	Senior Choir
June 3	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost/ LAITY SUNDAY	AOTS/ UCW/ Youth
June 10	11:00am	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost/ Canadian Multiculturalism Day (Baptism)	Summer Music Begins
June 17	11:00 am	4 th Sunday after Pentecost Aboriginal Sunday/ Father's Day	
June 24	11:00 am	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 1	11:00 am	6 th Sunday after Pentecost Canada/ Memorial Day (Baptism)	
July 8	11:00 am	7 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 15	11:00am	8 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 22	11:00 am	9 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 29	11:00 am	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 5	11:00am	11 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	
August 12	11:00 am	12 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 19	11:00 am	13 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 26	11:00 am	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	
September 2	11:00 am	15 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	Summer Music Ends
September 9	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 1	Senior Choir
September 16	9:30am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 2 (Communion)	AOTS/ UCW/ Youth
September 23	9:30 am 11:00am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 3 (Coffee/Tea Hour — Prop/ M&P/ Finance)	Senior Choir
September 30	9:30am 11:00am	Contemporary Worship Creation Time 4	Guitar Group
October 7	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Thanksgiving Sunday/ World Communion Sunday	Senior Choir