

Life and Work – October 25, 2020

Eligibility to vote at a congregational meeting

In years past, only full members of the congregation were eligible to vote on matters concerning the congregation. Adherents were permitted to vote on selective topics. Reference: The United Church Manual 2016 Section 3.7 page 56. This has been a matter of discussion many times over the years.

Changes were made at General Council in August, 2019 which came in effect January 1, 2020. In the 2019 Manual, all references to conditions of when an Adherent can vote have been removed. Reference: The United Church Manual 2019 Section B.3.7 page 60.

The Manual reference to adherents: Many people establish long-standing, committed relationships with congregations without formally becoming “full members”. These people are often valued participants in the life of congregations as “adherents.”

St James has a number of long-term Adherents who are very active in the work of the church and contribute regularly. They have chosen St James as their “home” church in St John’s, and have always been welcome to join a meeting as an observer concerned about the activities of our church. They can now be given the opportunity to have input into the matters of our congregation.

Regulations dictate that members must agree adherents may vote at the meeting. Therefore, at the beginning of each Congregational Meeting, the members in attendance will be asked to enable adherents to vote.

Should you have comments or wish to discuss further, please contact me, or any member of your Council.

Marilyn Adams
Chair

Topsail United Church's popular annual online auction is taking place from October 12-28; they encourage bidding and sharing. Please visit topsailunitedchurch.nf.net or [Facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch) to learn more and register to bid.

Church Council News

The St. James Mission Articulation Plan (MAP) has been approved by the Region.

To continue the process of hiring a new full-time minister, a congregational meeting will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 10:30AM. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- obtain formal approval on the MAP document from the congregation,
- provide an overview of "Church Hub"
- form a Search Committee

Registration is required to attend the meeting. Please call 700-6064 by 4:00 PM on Oct. 30th to reserve a seat.

If anyone in the congregation is interested in serving on the Search Committee, please contact Trevor Bartlett at 709-728-5260 or by email trevorbartlett@nf.sympatico.ca

Merry Makers Market: Starting October 24-25, spend your weekends in Quidi Vidi enjoying fine craft. New vendors every weekend until Christmas. Free admission. Supported by Craft Council of Newfoundland & Labrador.

- 10am-4pm Saturdays & Sundays
- 10 Maple View Place
- Quidi Vidi Village Plantation

Book Study: *The Birth of Jesus for Progressive Christians*, beginning the week of November 15 and running through the week of December 13. This 5-week program will use the book *The Birth of Jesus for Progressive Christians* by Donald Schmidt, available from Woodlake Publishing at a cost of \$12 (paperback) and \$7.50 (e-book). Depending on registration there is the possibility of a morning and evening group. If you are interested, but not yet registered, please email Susan Sheppard, susan@stjamesuc.org

Friendly Reminder: The deadline for the Memorial Hymn Sing dedication requests is fast approaching. You can drop them in the mail slot in the church or email your hymn sing selection to info@stjamesuc.org (Subject: Hymn Sing).