



St. James Visitor

Thanksgiving 2021

A MESSAGE FROM REV. JAMES

As I put pen to paper, or should I say put fingers to keyboard, it has been a little over two months since Glen and I, and our pup Finley, arrived in St. John's and moved into our new house (a big thanks to George and Susan Sheppard for giving it the once over before purchase). Since then we have painted several rooms in our house (we are ever so grateful for Tom Brown's help), moved in the furniture (including a lovely blue sofa thanks to a going away present from Richmond Hill United) and have generally settled in to the neighbourhood, including visits to the market (thanks to my in-laws for this recommendation). And, I have settled into the routine of St. James (thanks to Susan x 2, Tracy, Bruce, Amy, Bob, Marilyn, Jean, Clyde, Trevor, Bill, Les, Paul, Robin, Pam, Janet, Michelle, Hannah, Sarah, Ruth and Jake) and of United Church life in St. John's (with the grateful help of church colleagues, including Rev. Brian and Rev. Guy).

A lot has happened in just two months, including several memorial services (gratitude to our local funeral homes for bringing me up to speed), visits to area hospitals (thanks to chaplains), one in the leading hours before Hurricane Larry and, of course, leading eight worship services so far (thank you so much to all of you for making me and Glen feel incredibly welcomed to St. James, to St. John's, to Newfoundland).

With all of the words of thanks in the brackets above, you might guess that my main theme for the Thanksgiving "Visitor" is gratitude. That would make sense given the time of year. And I admit, I am feeling incredibly grateful for all of the people that have made these first few weeks feel like a homecoming. But more to the point, my main theme is the importance of the many people in our lives, all who make our community

just that, a community of loving and caring relationships, a network of support in times of distress, of joy in times of celebration. A good exercise is to go back through a day in your mind and remember all of the people you met, from the usual suspects – family and friends, fellow students and co-workers – to brief exchanges with the mail carrier, someone at the bus stop, the barista in your local coffee shop. And then consider all of the people you didn't meet that are behind the scenes but equally part of your day. And then still more people who are connected to them in one way or another. It is a really fruitful practice and a reminder of all of the relationships that we are each a part, of the many people to be thankful for, known and unknown, all warranting love, kindness and care.

As I get ready for my first Thanksgiving in my new home province, I know there are many people I want to thank, most of whom I will never meet but are responsible for helping us to feel so settled so quickly as the people we know by name. I trust that you also have many people you want to thank. May we take the time to acknowledge all of the people who turn our communities into families. And may we take time to say thank you, not just to the ones we know, but pause with a prayer for those we will never meet.

L
A
B
E
L





MEET OUR CLERGY

Rev. James Ravenscroft, B.A., M.Div., M.A (he/him)

Born in the UK and raised in Ontario, Rev. James Ravenscroft has served in congregational ministry in many parts of Canada, including in Indigenous and rural communities in Northern Manitoba as well as in urban and suburban communities in both Alberta and Ontario, before relocating to St. John's with his husband Glen. With nearly thirty years of ministry experience, James has been active in worship leadership, including developing "fresh expressions" of worship, in social and ecological justice work, as well as in youth, family and seniors ministries. He is interested in nurturing inclusive communities for all, especially facilitating safe spaces for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. In addition to a Masters of Divinity degree, James holds a Masters' Degree in Liturgical Studies and has taken courses in Faith Formation and Pastoral Care with Youth and Young Adults, a course in the Cree language, and is an accredited ministry education supervisor. In his spare time, James loves to garden and go hiking.



Susan Sheppard, DLM, B.Sc., Certificate of Youth Ministry, MTS (she/her)

Susan was born and raised in St. John's. She completed an undergraduate degree in Biology at MUN and worked in scientific research for many years before changing course to complete a Masters of Theological Studies and Diploma of Youth Ministry from Queen's College.

She is an accredited Godly Play Storyteller and Community Drum Circle Facilitator, embroiderer and seamstress. Susan leads the Contemporary Worship at St. James as well as the Sewing Studio and numerous Bible Study and book groups. With her two children, Noah and Hannah, they are a part of St. James' worship band, Sight Restored.



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: StJamesUCNL

Twitter: StJamesUnited

Instagram: stjamesuc

OUR MINISTERIAL STAFF:

Full-time: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Youth Ministry: Susan Sheppard, DLM



UCW Fall Bakeless Bake Sale

Many is the time we've heard you say
I would rather give a "Dollar" than bake today
And so, we are asking you to help more or less
To make our Bakeless Bake Sale a big success.

Just send us the money that it would take
To bake a loaf of bread or a beautiful cake
Or send in the amount of money it takes to buy
A dozen rolls or maybe a pie.

Without fuss or bother, you can do your part.
We're sure you will give with a willing heart.
This is the end of our little tale;
Here's to the success of our Bakeless Bake Sale!



Under normal circumstances the UCW would be busy preparing for our Annual Fall Sale and Morning Coffee on Saturday, November 6th. However, since the pandemic we have not been able to gather socially. Your donations of items for the bake and craft tables and your attendance have always helped make our Spring and Fall Sales tremendous successes. We have missed three sales which would have enabled us to contribute approximately \$15,000 to aid the church financially.

At our September meeting, we decided to have a "**Bakeless Bake Sale.**" As the poem says, we hope you will contribute to this sale, making a monetary donation in lieu of items. Hopefully, in the spring we will be in the position to have our annual Spring Tea and Morning Coffee. We miss these gatherings very much. They were well attended and provided enjoyable, friendly fellowship over tea and coffee.

How to Donate - There are several ways.

1. Use cheque or cash. Make your cheque payable to "**St. James UCW Sale**" and place it in an envelope clearly marked "**UCW Sale**" on the envelope.
 - a) pass it in the collection plate
 - b) place it in the outside mail slot by side door of church
 - c) drop it in to the church office when it is open
 - d) mail cheque to St. James United Church, 330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B1T9
2. Use the "Donate" button on church website - Include Special Instruction "**For UCW Sale**"
3. Use e-transfer to treasurer@stjamesuc.org. In Messages state "**For UCW Sale**"

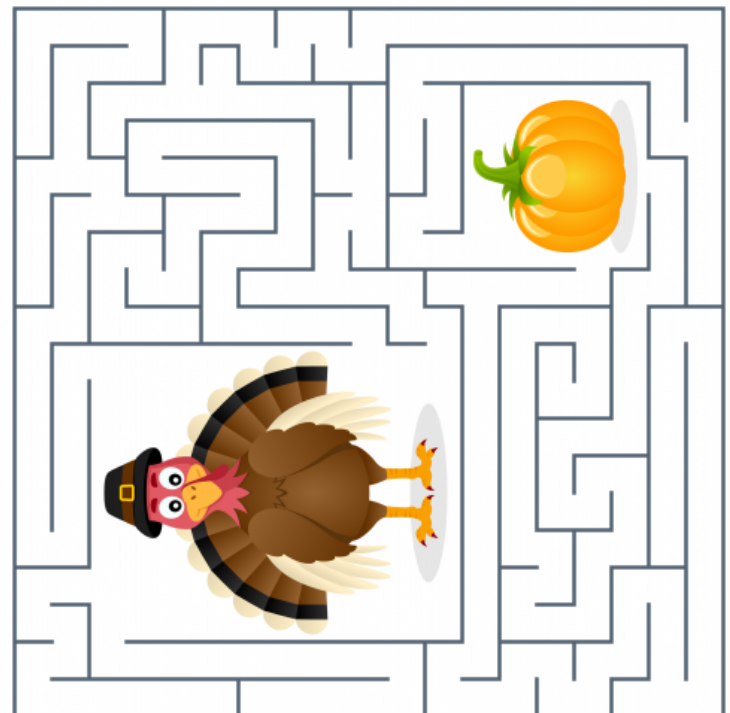
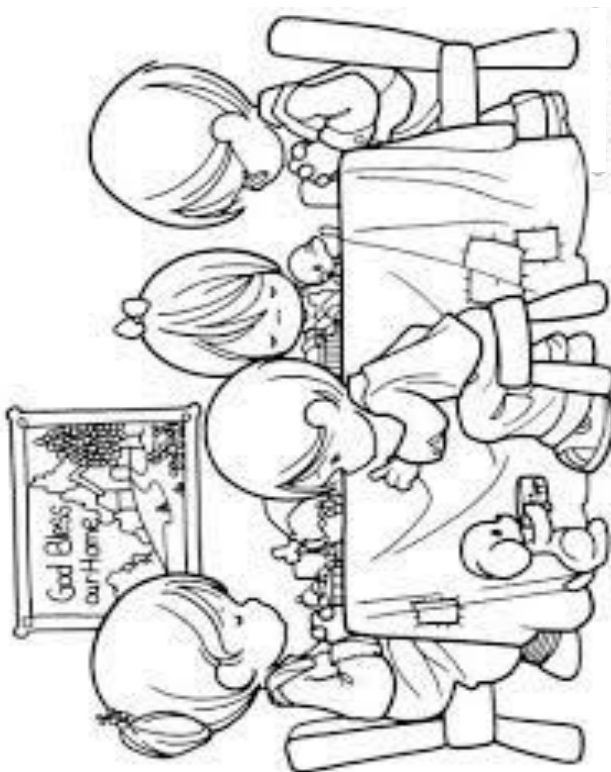
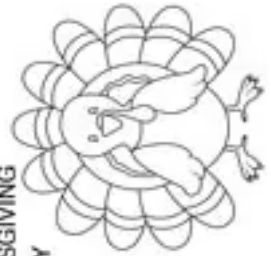
We thank you all for your support and wish you blessings at Thanksgiving.



Thanksgiving

F	E	G	U	P	E	Q	D	D	E	I	D	Q	T	S
U	Z	N	R	M	D	R	W	T	J	Q	K	O	O	
F	N	D	E	I	E	V	H	A	B	D	U	P	U	
X	S	N	T	H	V	A	R	V	E	S	T	O	X	
S	N	Q	Z	U	F	I	T	D	A	H	I	R	K	G
T	N	N	F	I	R	E	G	A	N	P	M	P	S	G
Y	I	A	C	I	D	K	D	S	G	O	D	A	D	X
O	P	C	E	K	Y	R	E	U	K	F	M	S	H	Z
U	C	U	R	B	W	T	E	Y	T	N	N	U	O	F
B	H	T	M	Y	N	U	N	S	L	I	A	M	N	F
B	C	T	O	P	V	E	K	U	S	I	T	H	O	P
B	P	K	F	B	K	A	E	H	O	I	M	A	T	V
Z	G	A	I	S	E	I	R	R	E	B	N	A	R	C
W	P	E	R	U	L	R	N	G	G	N	Y	G	F	G
G	N	I	R	A	H	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	I

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| BOUNTY | GREEN BEANS | PUMPKIN |
| CRANBERRIES | HAM | SHARING |
| DRESSING | HARVEST | STUFFING |
| FAMILY | MONDAY | THANKSGIVING |
| GATHER | OCTOBER | TURKEY |
| GRATITUDE | PARADE | |
| GRAVY | PIE | |





FINANCIAL UPDATE

2021 has seen its ups and downs during the first eight months with a COVID-19 lockdown for a short time in the spring. In August we welcomed our new minister, Rev. James Ravenscroft.

The following is a financial update from **January 1 to August 31, 2021**, compared to the same time for 2020.

Revenue:	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Envelopes	\$100,843	\$115,999
Rentals	7,196	7,007
CEBA Funding	10,000	--
CEWS Funding	31,516	--
Innovation Funding	10,000	--
Other	<u>12,964</u>	<u>28,476</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$172,519</u>	\$151,482
Expenses:		
Heat & Light	\$ 18,330	\$15,132
Church	40,713	28,697
Assessments	12,068	12,068
Committees	847	747
Pastoral Relations	12,007	---
Salaries	<u>72,026</u>	<u>106,249</u>
Total Expenses	\$155,991	\$162,893
Net Income	<u>\$ 16,528</u>	<u>(\$11,411)</u>



Explanation:

CEBA Funding – This is a \$20,000 loan, interest free, that we received from the Federal Government. We will have to pay back \$10,000 by December 2022 and we keep \$10,000.

CEWS Funding – This is the wage subsidy that the Federal Government has put in place for employers to help with their employees' wages. We have prevailed of this program from June 2020 to May 2021 and we will apply for June to August 2021 within the next couple of weeks. This program is scheduled to end on October 31, 2021.

Innovation Funding – This is a grant from the Provincial Government to help non-for-profit organizations. We applied in March and we were granted \$10,000. This was used to cover the moving expenses of \$12,007 for Rev. James.

We are showing a Net Income of \$16,528 for the first 8 months as opposed to a loss of \$11,411 for the same time last year.

The Finance Committee is very thankful for all of your donations so far this year.

Please note: If we had not received the Federal and Provincial Government Funding, we would be carrying a \$34,988 deficit.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2021 – December 2021

Saturday - Contemporary Service **Sunday** - Traditional Service

Date		Time	Details	Clergy
October 2	Saturday	4:30 pm	World Communion	Susan Sheppard, DLM
October 3	Sunday	11:00 am	Sunday (Communion)	Rev. James Ravenscroft
October 9	Saturday	4:30 pm	Thanksgiving	Susan Sheppard, DLM
October 10	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
October 16	Saturday	4:30 pm	World Food Sunday	Susan Sheppard, DLM
October 17	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
October 23	Saturday	4:30 pm	22 nd after Pentecost	Susan Sheppard, DLM
October 24	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
October 30	Saturday	4:30 pm	23 rd after Pentecost	Susan Sheppard, DLM
October 31	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
November 6	Saturday	4:30 pm	Remembrance Sunday	Susan Sheppard, DLM
November 7	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
November 13	Saturday	4:30 pm	Anniversary Sunday Children's Sunday Communion	Susan Sheppard, DLM
November 14	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
November 20	Saturday	4:30 pm	Reign of Christ Sunday	Susan Sheppard, DLM
November 21	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
November 27	Saturday	4:30 pm	ADVENT 1 HOPE	Susan Sheppard, DLM
November 28	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
December 4	Saturday	4:30 pm	ADVENT 2 PEACE Human Rights Sunday	Susan Sheppard, DLM
December 5	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
December 11	Saturday	4:30 pm	ADVENT 3 JOY	Susan Sheppard, DLM
December 12	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
December 18	Saturday	4:30 pm	ADVENT 4 LOVE	Susan Sheppard, DLM
December 19	Sunday	11:00 am		Rev. James Ravenscroft
December 24	Friday	4:30 pm	Family Service Christmas Eve Communion	Rev. James Ravenscroft
December 24	Friday	7:30 pm		
December 25	Saturday	4:30 pm	Christmas Day	Susan Sheppard, DLM
December 26	Sunday	11:00 am	1 st Sunday after Christmas	Traditionally a carol service with the Guitar Group TBD