Life and Work – February 27, 2022

We gratefully accept the following donations to Bethany Pike Memorial Camp Fund:

*In loving memory of Joanne Hapgood, BN, RN. Remembering Joanne's birthday on March 3rd. Love Stephen, Susan, Rebecca & Kyle.

*Sorensen School of Dance. Proceeds from their Annual Christmas Show held in Bethany's honour.

We gratefully accept the following donation to Bridges to Hope:

*In loving memory of Don Marshall from his wife Vera Marshall, daughters Janet, Joanne and families.

We gratefully accept the following donation to the Memorial Fund:

*In loving memory of Margaret Babstock (1919-1999) from Linda & Edward Murphy and family.

St. James United Church invites you to celebrate with us on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 3:00 pm as we mark our new status as an Affirming Ministry, a faith community that welcomes all people in a safe and inclusive environment, especially people who identify as part of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. We are located at 330 Elizabeth Ave. in St. John's (that's near MUN).

Pre-Registration is required for this service. You can call 700-6064 from 11am-4pm Monday – Friday to register for this celebration. Leave a message with your full name, number of people attending, contact number, and that you wish to register for the Affirming Celebration Service. The celebration will also be livestreamed. You can join in via our website, www.stjamesuc.org or YouTube Chanel.

We look forward to celebrating with you !!!

Minister News

Save the date for a presentation on Sunday, February 27

Dr. Paul Banahene Adjei, Interim Dean of the School of Social Work at MUN will be presenting a talk entitled "Unpacking Unconscious Racial Biases and Other Forms of Oppression" after worship service on Sunday, February 27. This presentation on Unconscious Bias is the last in our series of learning sessions in preparation for our Affirming Ministry celebration on Sunday, March 13, 2022.

Ash Wednesday Services:

This coming Wednesday, March 2 is Ash Wednesday.

You can mark the beginning of Lent in a couple of ways this year.

- 1. If you would like to participate in-person, at 7:30pm Cowan Heights United (141 Frecker Dr.) is hosting a city-wide service co-led by United Church ministers from across the NE Avalon. This service will also be livestreamed via their website.
- 2. We will be posting a pre-recorded Ash Wednesday service that can be accessed at any time that day.

Ways to Mark Lent at St. James:

This year we are framing Lent as "40 Days of Contemplation and Action" as we offer ways for all of us to both take time for reflection and prayer, as well as respond actively in service of others.

For the first part, **contemplation**, we will:

- 1. Include a short "spiritual practice" as part of the 11am worship services.
- 2. Each Wednesday at noon we will explore the same spiritual practice in a longer format after which we will share communion. Bring a brown bag lunch if you'd like.

For the second part, **action**, you can:

1. Use the "Social and Environmental Awareness Calendar" as a way to assess how our lives impact

others and then donate the proceeds to the Mission and Service fund in support of the charitable work of the United Church of Canada.

2. Use traditional "Lenten Self-denial cards" as a way to give additional funds to your regular offering. These funds support the life and work of our community of faith.

World Day of Prayer 2022

The annual service this year is being held virtually because of Covid limitations. It was written by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This 55 minute video can be viewed at any time on the website https://wicc.org or search online for "World Day of Prayer Service 2022". The video will also be shown on the Rogers network on Friday, March 4th, at a time to be announced.

We Value Your Membership at St. James!!!

If you would like to become a full member of St. James Congregation, we would be honoured to welcome you!!

Have Questions? Unsure of your current status with the church?

As Clerk of Session, Susan Pike can help you and would love to chat with you to help you determine your status and become a Full Member of our Congregation. Please contact: Susan Pike 576-0703 or by email susanpike@warp.nfld.net

Administration and Communications Committee

We are now accepting submissions for the Easter Visitor. If you would like to make a submission, please email it to info@stjamesuc.org with the subject line "Easter Visitor Submission." The deadline for submissions is March 4, 2021, at 11:59 pm.

Bakers needed for our Affirm Celebration:

On Sunday, March 13 at 3pm, we are celebrating our new status as an Affirming Ministry. What is a celebration without food, so after the service we plan to have refreshments (following all public-health protocols). We are requesting bakers who will make 3 dozen mini-pies (use the 3" tart shells you get at the store). We are looking for 6 people (or pairs) who will each choose one of the pride flag colours (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple) for the pie filling. You choose the flavour. Just make sure it matches the colour you choose. Please contact Glen at gpwarren98@yahoo.com with your colour choice.

St. James Diversity Committee is looking for new members!

If you are interested in promoting diversity and inclusion within the church then this is the committee for you. The diversity committee is the organizing body behind such events as the diversity fair and the affirming process. If you would like to join or would just like some more info email Hannah at hdcsheppard@mun.ca

CPR Training for AED Machine

We will be holding a training/retraining session for our current registered users for CPR/AED here at St. James on Saturday, March 5th @ 9:30 am – 12:30 noon. If you are interested in participating in a NEW Training session and becoming an attendant for St. James can you please contact Susan Pike by email susanpike@warp.nfld.net or 576-0703 by March 2nd to ensure we have space for all participants. Training is certified by The Heart and Stroke Foundation.

The Stewardship Committee would like to hear from you!

We are tentatively planning community events and fundraisers. What kinds of events interest you? Please contact Robin Bartlett, Chairperson, at 754-5409 or robinbartlett1224@gmail.com. Some ideas: a silent auction; a hot dinner in late April; a spring litter clean-up day; Memorial Hymn Sing in May; a barbeque or picnic in the summer; a Thanksgiving potluck; a concert, and a fall craft fair. (All events will depend on the Covid-19 pandemic status and people's receptiveness to gathering in-person at those times.)

Community News

Fundraising for Women Newfoundland: Purse Project for Blue Door Program

We are hosting a purse project for the local Blue Door Program, which helps women and girls who have been sexually exploited. A purse project is a type of donation drive in which all items are packed into purses/bookbags before being donated.

If you would like to make a donation, please e-mail us at munifundraisingforwomen@gmail.com or call Rachel at (709) 640-8834. All donations must be made by Friday, March 18. Thank you!