

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

Celebration of Worship for September 24, 2023



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, city and all of society. We affirm each person's uniqueness and believe that all persons deserve to be valued, treated with equity, and respected. We are all children of God, walking many paths of spirituality.

Further, we proudly and publicly declare our commitment to practice radical hospitality and strive in every way to provide a safe and supportive place for all persons to participate in the worship and work of our church.

Guided by the teachings of Jesus, we embrace all persons, regardless of creed, race, age, ability, economic status, cultural and ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other difference that has led to marginalization or oppression.

In memory of beloved Husband,
Jonathan Richards
Who passed away on September 26, 2018.
From his loving wife, Olga Broomfield-Richards

**September 24, 2023, Orange Shirt Sunday and
the Third Sunday in the Season of Creation**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Glenda Winsor
Ushering: Marilyn Adams, Susan Pike
and Jean Thompson

*Please rise in body or in spirit where there is an *.*

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We share greetings in Inuktitut, Japanese and Greek as we gather with thanks for the land and commit to be a fully inclusive community.

SHARING OF PEACE

RESPONSIVE PRAYER *(inspired by a prayer by Rev. Richard Bott)*

One: O God, in the beginning, when it was very dark, you said,

All: "Let there be light!" *(the Christ candle is lit)*

One: And there was light. From there you spoke the dry land into being, creating a home for all manner of life!

All: The land became lush with ferns and wildflowers; great forests formed, and grasses spread across vast plains.

One: The wilderness became known as your sacred dwelling, a place to meet you, a place to grow in your wisdom and love.

All: Let us draw near to you, God, and worship in joy. Amen.

* **HYMN:** "Many and Great, O God Are Your Works" (VU 308)

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Statement of Purpose and Presentation of the Family

We welcome Amanda and Scott Boyd as they present Arabella Nancy Laura to be baptized and so welcomed into the Body of Christ.

Profession of Faith and Congregational Commitment

One: Do you, promise to love and support this child and her family in their journey of faith, together serving God's world and extending Christ's love?

All: We do with God's help.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Act of Baptism followed by the Blessing, Laying on of Hands, Lighting of Baptismal Candle

Welcome by Congregation (*congregation responds to **bold***):

Sharing the joy of her family, we welcome Arabella into the Body of Christ, each of us children of God, Mother and Father of us all.

As your siblings in Christ, we welcome you Arabella Nancy Laura into this congregation and into the universal church.

(The congregation may applaud as a sign of welcome.)

* **HYMN:** "If I Were a Butterfly" (*see overhead projection*)

We Share

OUR LIFE AND WORK

OFFERING: *There are many ways to share your financial gifts with St. James United Church. There are plates as you enter the church in which to place your offering, you may contribute by pre-authorized remittance (PAR), via e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org), sent through the website (www.stjamesuc.org), mailed to the church office or dropped into our secure mailbox. In whatever way you give, the community is grateful.*

* **PRESENTATION HYMN:** "For the Gift of Creation" (*VU 538*)

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts which we give.**

We Listen

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS

READINGS: Exodus 16:2-15; Philippians 1:21-31; excerpt from

SOLO: "The Reconciliation Song"

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

We Respond

* **HYMN:** "God Who Spread the Boundless Prairie"
(MV 53, sung to tune for "God Who Gives to Life It's Goodness" Abbot's Leigh)

PRAYER FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

We honour those who attended Indian Residential Schools and pray a renewed relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "O for a World" (*Voices United 697*)

BENEDICTION (*Adapted from "Gaelic Blessing" by John Rutter*)

The blessing of the running wave to you.

The blessing of the flowing air to you.

The blessing of the quiet earth to you.

The blessing of the shining stars to you.

The blessing of God: Abba, Christ and Spirit to you,

and to all of creation, this day and evermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE

St. James United Church

Council Chair:	Michelle Skinner
Lead Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Associate Music Director	Bob Rose
Office Administrator	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;

Emergency Cellphone: 351-0983; Website: www.stjamesuc.org



@StJamesUCNL



@StJamesUnited



@stjamesuc

We accept the following donation to the Choir Fund:

* In memory of a beloved Husband, Jonathan Richards, who passed away on September 26, 2018. From his loving wife, Olga Broomfield-Richards.

Rev. James' Office Hours: If you would like to see Rev. James, he is in the church office on Tuesdays between 1:00 pm and 3:30 pm and on Thursdays between 10:00 am and 12:30 pm. If he is not in during those times, he has been called out on an emergency. Should that happen Stephanie can arrange an alternate time.

Open for a Visit: Rev. James loves coming to people's homes for a visit. If you would like him to come by, feel free to call him at 709-351-0983 to arrange a visit or you can email him at james@stjamesuc.org.

Wild Light Gathering for September: Mark your calendars for the evening of September 30 when we will have our Wild Light Spiritual Oasis gathering for September. We will meet in Rev. James' backyard for a time of prayer around the fire followed by a planning session for the coming year.

St. James Ladies Bowling League: The St. James Ladies Bowling has been in existence for over 40 years. Ladies from this church along with other bowlers have been enjoying fun, laughter, friendship and, of course, a little exercise at Holiday Lanes, 27 Elizabeth Avenue. St. James Ladies is a fun league, with all levels of bowlers, from beginner to experienced. Bowling is at 10 A.M Tuesday mornings at Holiday Lanes. Why don't you drop by and see what we are all about; you may even see a few familiar faces there! New members and spares are welcome! Contact Coleen Stirling at 709-739-0022 or email: coleen.stirling@gmail.com, or call Holiday Lanes at 709-754-0260 for more information.

Sharing in the Celebration Church: Each Sunday morning during worship at St. James we take time for people to share something that they are celebrating, like a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, or anything at all! If you are joining worship from home, we would love to include you in this time. So email us at info@stjamesuc.org with information on what you would like to celebrate, and we will include it as part of our "Celebration Church" time during the Sunday Service! Let's all celebrate together!

UCW Morning Coffee and Bake Stall:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

Morning Coffee & Bake Stall

Sponsored by the UCW
St. James Auditorium



Saturday, November 4, 2023

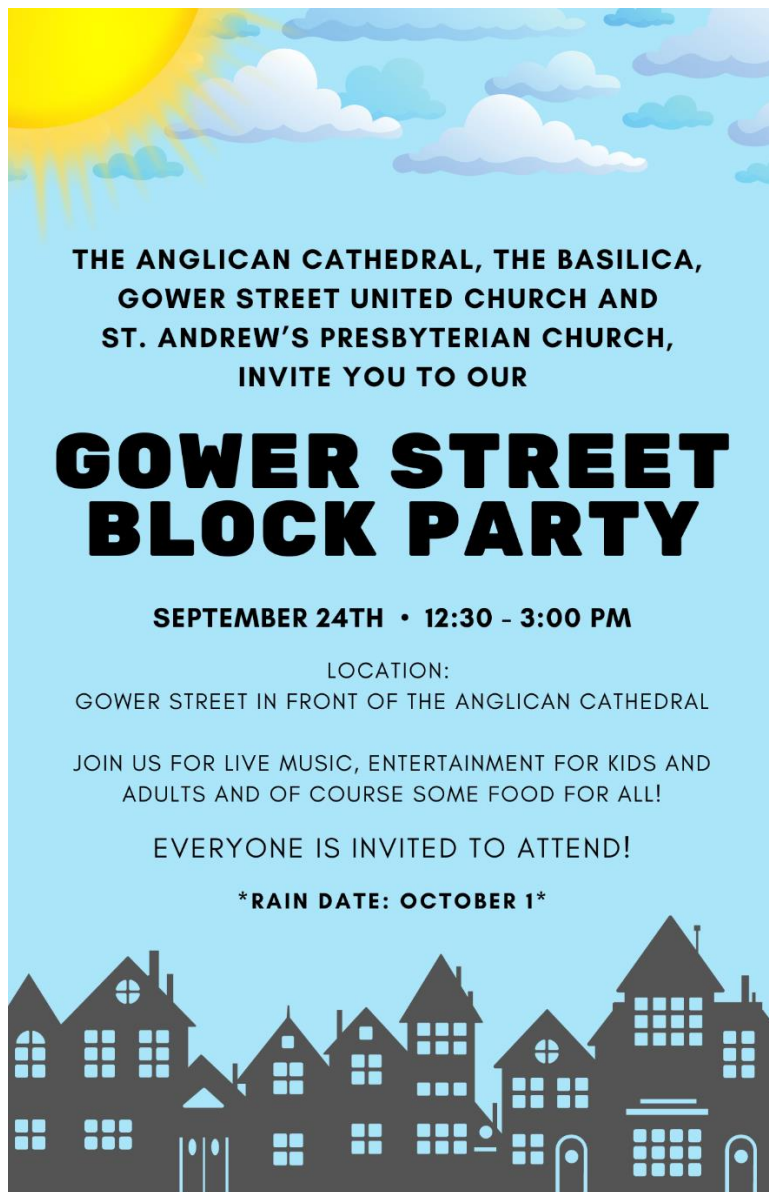
Co-Conveners: Daphne Coish: (709) 722 - 3196
Betty Pilgrim: (709) 726-6923

Time: 9:45 – 12 Noon Cost: \$8.00

Coastal Sounds Choir Association: are delighted to announce that registration for the 10th Anniversary Christmas Cantata is now open! We are looking to have a 100-person choir, we will have school choir guests (who will be writing their own narrations!), and a Celtic Consort! We are going to have a TIME! If you are interested in learning more, check out the link below (which will also allow you to register!), **Link to register:** <https://forms.gle/V4hESArjqE3oyiHv8>

Musical Variety Show and 'Bed' lunch: September 23 at 7pm, Memorial United Church, Portugal Cove. Performers include Mackenzie Critch, Rick Bishop, Wayne Butto, Olivia and Addison King, Nancy Oates, Michael Gardner and friends. Tickets are just \$15.00 and are available by calling the church office 709-895-6525 and leaving a message or Sid Woolfrey at 709 770-1245.

Gower Street Block Party: The Anglican Cathedral, The Basilica, Gower Street United Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church invite everyone to the annual Gower Street Block Party on September 24th from 12:30 - 3:00 pm. Join us on Gower Street, in front of the Anglican Cathedral, for live music, entertainment for kids and adults and of course, some food for all. The Gower Street Block Party will be a free community event.



THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL, THE BASILICA,
GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH AND
ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
INVITE YOU TO OUR

GOWER STREET BLOCK PARTY

SEPTEMBER 24TH • 12:30 - 3:00 PM

LOCATION:
GOWER STREET IN FRONT OF THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL

JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS AND
ADULTS AND OF COURSE SOME FOOD FOR ALL!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND!

RAIN DATE: OCTOBER 1

Cowan Heights United Annual Fall Fair: Cowan Heights UC Annual Fall Fair is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th, from 10am-4pm. Featuring African Cuisine, paintings, artwork, cemetery saddles, freeze-dried candy, jewelry, knitted goods, pillows, quilts and other sewing items, dog/cat bandanas/bowties, soaps, mummers, baked goods, preserves, Scentsy, Mary Kay, children's books, and more. The Men's Club will be selling their homemade soup and roll at 11:30am for \$5.

Cochrane Street United Church FALL PLANT AND HARVEST SALE:

is Saturday, October 7, from 10:30am-1:00pm. Come visit us on the patio at 81 Cochrane Street to see our indoor & outdoor plants, chutneys, relishes, jams and marmalades! If you have any questions, please contact the church office by Tuesday, October 3, at info@cochranestreetuc.com or 722-3023

CNIB Vision Mate Program: Would you be interested in CNIB's Vision Mate program? Please see the attached poster for more information. If you have any further questions, please contact Program Lead, Kelly Picco at (709) 754-1180 ext. 5813 or email kelly.picco@cnib.ca.

CNIB

Do you have what it takes to become a Vision Mate?

Join CNIB and make a difference in the life of someone who is blind or partially sighted by volunteering just a couple of hours a week.



Imagine losing some or all your vision. How would you tackle daily tasks like reading, shopping or taking a stroll down the street? Having someone to provide sighted assistance can make all the difference.

As a Vision Mate, you'll be matched with someone with sight loss in your community to help them with everyday activities such as running errands or going for coffee.

Interested?

Contact: Kelly Picco at 754-1180 (ext 5813) or kelly.picco@cnib.ca