

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Celebrating 130 years of Worship!

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Minister: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div, D.Min Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Allan Morgan, B.Mus, J.D.
Choir Director: Carolyn Hatt, B.Mus, B.Mus Ed., M.Ed

December 3rd, 2017 11 am
ADVENT I

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Burke. Grace and peace to you all in this Holy Season of Advent!

Thought for Meditation:

The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to be sharpened.
W. B. Yeats

T H E G A T H E R I N G

*Please rise in body or in spirit for sections marked with an asterisk.

***WELCOME**

***Introit: O Come All Ye Faithful, #60 VU, v.1**

**O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come, ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The joy of Advent be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

***HYMN #8 VU Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Leader: Advent God, we journey together towards Bethlehem's stable and our newborn King.

People: Attune our ears to the songs of the angels.

Leader: Focus our eyes on the light of the star.

People: Fill us with amazement at your coming.

Leader: Emmanuel: God in human likeness. Born among us.

People: Again.

Leader: Still. Even here, and now, and so we dare to pray together, saying:

Our Father who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:

Reader 1: In the middle of one ordinary, dark night,

Reader 2: Burst a holy commotion, of brilliance, noise, and light.

Reader 1: The shepherds had no idea what was happening.

Reader 2: But they rose to the occasion.

Reader 1: They got themselves up, and went.

Reader 2: And they were never the same again!

[The first Candle of Advent, The Candle of Amazement, is lit.]

Sing: (#36 VU Angels, From the Realms of Glory, v. 2)

**Shepherds from the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,**

**God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

T H E W O R D O F G O D

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2: 8-18

ANTHEM *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. E. Lund

SERMON *On Being Amazed*

***HYMN# 58 VU** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#81 VU As With Gladness Men of Old, v.3)

**As they offered gifts most rare, at the manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ to you our heavenly King!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN # 76 VU** See Amid The Winter's Snow

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: While Shepherds Watched #75, v.6 VU**

**All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace.
Goodwill to all from highest heaven
Begin and never cease!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

E-Mail: nmuc@nb.aibn.com

Website: www.newmarylandunited.ca

If you know of someone in hospital please notify the Church. Please forward items of prayer and celebration to the Minister. For emergencies, you may call Rev. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.

Greeters This Week: Tina Glenn

Trustees On Duty (Dec): Jim Merrill and Ann Urquhart

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sun., Dec. 3rd - 11:00 am - Advent I – Sunday Worship

12:00 noon - Official Board Meeting following service

Mon., Dec. 4th – 6:00 pm - Men’s Club Christmas Dinner (see below)

Wed., Dec. 6th - 1:00 pm - Quilters

**Sun., Dec. 10th - 11:00 am - Advent II - White Gift Service &
Sunday School Pageant**

Wed., Dec. 13th - 6:30 pm - UCW Christmas Get Together

Sun., Dec. 17th - 11:00 am - Advent III – Sunday Worship

Sun., Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve - No morning service

7:00 pm - Family Service

10:00 pm - Candlelight & Communion Service

To Official Board Members – There will be a short Official Board Meeting after the Church service today to discuss one agenda item. Please try to attend.

MEN’S CLUB - On Monday, December 4th at 6pm, the Men’s Club will be holding their annual Christmas dinner. This year it will be held at Wetmore’s Pub. This outing is open to all men of the congregation. Please confirm you attendance with either Keith or Dave.

U.C.W. – 2018 United Church calendars are now available for purchase for \$6.00. Sue Morrison is the contact person.

The **U.C.W.** will hold their Christmas meeting/party on **Wed. Dec. 13th** in the home of Janet Merrill (63 Daniel Drive) at the earlier time of **6:30 pm**. Everyone will bring a wrapped gift for our Yankee Swap and a finger food to share. This yearly event is a guaranteed fun-filled evening and all women of the congregation would be very welcome to join us. For more info, call Dorothy at 457-9795.

It's that time of year Our MITTEN TREE is now in place and ready to receive any knitted items you would like to contribute. By Christmas, these items will be distributed wherever the need exists.

NOTECARDS designed by Pam Gonnason and featuring the artwork of the church are now available to purchase. Each package has 4 cards / envelopes and sell for \$10. All profits will go to NMUC.

There are limited quantities in the church office but they can be ordered at any time through Pam or Trevor (tpgonnason@gmail.com)

GREEN TIP: Christmas Lights - When decorating with lights, try switching to the LED variety, which can use up to 90 percent less energy than regular holiday lights.

FIRE DRILL INFORMATION ("IN CASE OF FIRE") has been posted 3 PLACES. PLEASE take the time to read this IMPORTANT notice !!! LOCATIONS are:

Bulletin board in the vestibule at ROAD ENTRANCE; bulletin board next to LORNA'S OFFICE; left hand wall under the FIRE PULL in front of NEW MAIN ENTRANCE.

New copies of “**Our Daily Breads**” (Dec/Jan/Feb) are now available at both doors of the Church. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Price Class is available.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE - For the month of **December**, we will focus on **school snacks: puddings, fruit cups, granola bars, and juice boxes**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY - The 2017 Christmas ornament is available for \$15 each. Contact Allen Parlee at 459-8007.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

CAROL SING - The **Stepping Stone Singers** will be leading the singing of favourite Christmas carols at St. Margaret's Anglican Church on Forest Hill Rd. on **Sunday, December 3 at 2pm**. All are invited to join in the Christmas spirit! A free will offering will be taken.

The **ANNUAL ADVENT CAROL FESTIVAL** held each year at St. Paul's United Church (corner George and York) will take place on **Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m.** Local church and community choirs will present a program of new, as well as familiar, Christmas music. There will also be an opportunity for the audience to join in the festive singing. A freewill offering will be received with proceeds going to the CBC's Feed a Family Campaign.

MEMORIAL TREE LIGHTING will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 5th at 7:00 pm** at the **Oromocto Funeral Home** (108 Winnebago St.) and at **McAdam's Funeral Home** (160 York St. Fredericton) on **Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7:00 pm**. See bulletin board for more details.