

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1

Phone:506-459-3313

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div, D.Min

Office Administrator: Lorna Ball

Choir Director: Rev. Jane Johnson, B.Sc, B.Th., M.Div

Supply Musician:Veronica Kallos

February 25th, 2024 11 am

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Stories We Carry: Lent II: “A Water Story”

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi’kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Dr. Burke. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

To find ourselves adrift,

safe in our unknowing, our very own,

our great tide, our great receiving, our

wordless, fiery, unspoken,

hardly remembered, gift of true longing. David Whyte, “The Sea”

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

***INTROIT: Come Touch Our Hearts, #12 MV, v.3**

Come touch our souls

that we may know and love you,

your quiet presence all our fears dispel;

create a space for spirit to grow in us,

let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

***HYMN # 222 VU Come, Let Us Sing**

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Our Lenten journey continues, O God. Our Forty Days - days of dimming light, and deeper attention;

People: Days of stories that lead us to Jerusalem.

Leader: Stories of funerals and miracles, water and storms, fear and wonder.

People: With characters that are battered and glorious; Ordinary and brave; Frightened and fascinating.

Leader: *Simul Justus et Peccator*: at the same time: Saint and sinner...like us all.

People: And so we gather together:

Leader: For this is the House for us ALL. And now as Jesus taught his companions, we say:

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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 88 MV Over My Head, Refrain

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: The Lenten Story Boxes

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 88 MV Over My Head, Refrain

THE WORD OF GOD

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 107, p.832 VU

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 14:22-34

ANTHEM: *Down To The River To Pray.* Trad.

SERMON: *On Whole-Hearted Water Walking*

***HYMN # 163 MV River Running In You And Me, verses 1-5**

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#581VU When We Are Living, v.2)

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

we belong to God, we belong to God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN #710 VU Shall We Gather At The River

***THE LITANY OF THE DIMINISHING LIGHT**

Leader: Our Lenten journey has begun, and the light begins to fade....

[*The second purple candle is snuffed*]

Yet even in this dimming light, we know there are many crossroads.

People: Which is the better path? Who can tell?

Leader: But *not* to choose is to quit the journey.

People: May we trust that the light we have today, is enough for today's decisions.

Leader: May it be so. Amen, and amen.

ALL SING (VU. 144, adapted):

Were you there, when he told them not to fear? (Were you there?)

Were you there, when he told them not to fear?

Oh-oh-oh-oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble

Were you there, when he told them not to fear? (Were you there?)

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. Dr. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.

Greeter This Week: Myrna Belyea-Tracy

Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Merlin Tracy

Trustee on Duty (Feb): Ann Urquhart

The bulletin today is dedicated in loving memory of Amy Gottlieb – friend, artist, educator. Amy was a proud Jew, lesbian, mother, wife, grandmother and long time activist for social justice. Most notably she was a member of the Jewish women’s committee to end the occupation of the West Bank & Gaza. May her memory be a blessing. Dedicated by Moon Joyce.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mon., Feb. 26th - 1 pm-2:30 pm - Lenten Conversations (see below)

Wed., Mar. 6th - 1:00 pm - U.C.W. Meeting at the church

1:30 pm - Men’s Club meeting at the church

Sun., Mar. 17th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent III

Annual Congregational Meeting

(following the service)

Wed., Mar. 20th - 6:00 pm - “Chili Night” plus presentation (see over)

Join us downstairs following the service today for coffeetime.

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS: Join in as you can for 5 weeks of conversation. On Being Human: Life, Sacred Stories, & Rituals beginning Monday, February 26 from 1 pm to 2:30 pm here at church.

EASTER FLOWERS – The **Worship Committee** is taking orders for Easter tulips, daffodils and hydrangea. The purpose of this project is threefold: to beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday; can be placed as memorials; or to take home or give to a friend / shut-in after the service. Cost is as follows: tulips & daffodils are \$15 each and hydrangea (8 in. pot) is \$30. To order your Easter flowers, contact Loraine Ward at 455-8208. Orders must be received by **March 10th**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The **Men’s Club** will be holding their annual **Chili Dinner on Wednesday, March 20th starting at 6 pm** (freewill offering). Following the meal, guest speaker – Mac MacFarlane of the **York Sunbury Search & Rescue** will be speaking about “**Project Lifesaver**” – a project which uses technology and searching skills to protect those at risk of wandering and providing peace of mind to families. More details will be provided in the upcoming weeks.

GREETER SIGN UP SHEET – Just a reminder that there is a “Greeter Schedule” posted at the back door. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter some Sunday morning, kindly fill in your name by any Sunday that would be convenient for you. Thanks!

NMUC LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have plenty of interesting books in our church library for anyone to borrow. There have been a couple of requests for “large print” novels for our library. If you have any at home or know someone who would like to donate some, we’d love to have them.

JIGSAW PUZZLE LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have a lovely selection of jigsaw puzzles in the mini kitchen (off the sanctuary). They are available to anyone who would like to borrow them. A great way to pass the time. Donations of puzzles are greatly appreciated.

New copies of “Our Daily Bread” (Mar/Apr/May) are now available in the foyer. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container is available for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Bible Class.

The latest edition of **Broadview (March)** has arrived and is available to borrow from the library area.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE: For the **month of February**, we will focus on **canned pasta sauce**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

STORM NOTICE

In the event that Church service is cancelled due to inclement weather, you will be informed in the various manners, but not before 8:30 am.

- 1. E-mail notification: If you have e-mail, this is the most direct method.**
- 2. Radio Stations: CBC, JOY-FM, CAPITAL**
- 3. Website: <http://www.newmarylandunited.ca/> It will be on the Home Page.**
- 4. The answering machine on the church telephone (459-3313).**