

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

875 Route 101 Hwy. Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1 Phone:506-459-3313
Minister: Rev. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Allan Morgan, B.Mus, J.D.
Choir Director: Carolyn Hatt, B.Mus, B.Mus Ed

December 6th, 2015 11 am
ADVENT II ~ WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

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. Advent grace and peace to you all!

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

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

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY:

Reader 1: Last Sunday we lit the first of our Story Candles of Advent—the The Candle of Hope.

Reader 2: Today we light the second candle, the Candle of Peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent.

Reader 1: Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new.

Reader 2: And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, always leading us to new possibilities.

[2nd blue candle is lit]

All sing: (from: Gather # 328)

**Come, light of the world, light up our lives, Lord.
Come, light of the world, light up our hearts.
Dispel all our darkness, remove all our blindness,
Come, light of the world, be light for our eyes.**

OPENING PRAYER (unison:)

**Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you
for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.**

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

**Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

**This we ask in the spirit of Emmanuel, who taught his friends 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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN# 9 VU People Look East v.

**Presentation of White Gifts And The Mitten Tree
[Children go down to Sunday School]**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1-3

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 3:1-6

ANTHEM: *In the Bleak Mid Winter*

SERMON: *Jeepers, Could you Lighten up Malachi? And John?*

***HYMN # 18 VU There's A Voice in the Wilderness**

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY: All That We Have (From *Gather*)

All that we have and all that we offer,
Comes from a heart both frightened and free.
Take what we bring now and give what we need.
All done in his name.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN# 158 MV Dream A Dream

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING: (#75 VU v.6)

All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will 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. Burke at 470-9634.

Greeters This Week: Kaye Lister and Margot Arnold

Tellers This Week: Lloyd Penney and Jim Merrill

Trustees On Duty (Dec): Lloyd Penney and Doug Price

Sunday School: Sheila Power **Nursery:** Lorna Ball

LOOKING AHEAD:

Wed., Dec. 9th - 6:30 pm - U.C.W. Christmas Get Together (see below)

6:00 pm - Men's Club Christmas Supper (see below)

Sun., Dec. 13th - 11:00 am - Advent III – Worship/Sacrament of Baptism

Mon., Dec. 14th - 8:00 am - Outreach goes to Christ Church Cathedral

Sun., Dec. 20th - 11:00 am - Advent IV – Worship - Holy Communion

Tue., Dec. 22nd - 6:30 pm - Carolling – Meet at NMUC, then carpool

Thur., Dec. 24th – 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Family Service

10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Holy Communion

Copies of “**The Beacon**” are available for pick up today at the back door.

The **MEN'S CLUB Christmas Dinner** will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 9th** at **6:00 pm** at **Wetmore's**. All men of the congregation are welcome.

Contact David Ward at 455-8208 so as reservations can be made.

The Christmas party meeting of **U.C.W.** will take place on **Wed., Dec. 9th** at the earlier time of **6:30 pm** in the home of Sue Harris (268 Woodlawn Lane. All members will bring a finger food and a wrapped gift for the Yankee Swap. New members always very welcome! Contact Dorothy at 457-9795.

U.C.W. - Church calendars are now available for purchase for \$6. See Anne Johnson following the service.

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

Advent II – Dec. 6th today is White Gift Sunday. Items will be picked up from you by the Sunday School children during the service.

The **Outreach Committee** will be making up the Community Kitchen roster for 2016. If you would like to be removed from the existing list or added to it please let Nancy Ostaff know by **Dec. 12th** 457-2377 or ostaffdn@rogers.com

The new New Maryland United Church website is now in place.

Please have a look by googling New Maryland United Church in your browser or using the web address of <http://www.newmarylandunited.ca>. Many thanks to Pam Gonnason for her lovely new painting of our church displayed on our web site and to Kaye Lister for providing the many pictures for the web site; without her it would not have come together so quickly. The site is easily edited so please email or phone me with any concerns you have. This is your web site; I am only the administrator. Hopefully, with your input, we can keep the site current. Thanks for your help. Sue Harris

M&S Fund: Just a reminder of the Sunday School sponsored fundraiser for the Mission and Service Fund, our "Spare Change Jars". As you get home from your busy day, with all that change loading down your pockets and purses, please feel free to use the spare change jar to lighten your load! We would like to have all Jars returned to the church by the beginning of January. Please feel free to continue until this time. However, if your jar is filled before that, we will certainly accept it whenever you would like to bring it in. Each year, the New Maryland United Church pledges to donate a certain amount to the Mission and Service Fund. Estimating what the "Spare Change Jars" will bring in, the M&S collection for our church is still about \$1000 short of where it usually is by this time in the year. The M.&S. committee would ask you to keep this in mind over the next couple of months. Every little bit helps us in reaching our goal for 2015!

GREEN TIP: When buying gifts, avoid the Mall and support your local community by shopping at local arts and crafts bazaars and locally owned “Mom & Pop” stores.

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 scrolling feeder on the Home Page.
4. The answering machine on the church telephone (459-3313).

New copies of “Our Daily Bread” (Dec/Jan/Feb) are now available at the front entrance 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.

FOOD BANK - For the month of **December**, we will focus on **canned tuna/salmon/ham**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

The NEW MARYLAND LIONS CLUB canvasses the village in early December with a “Food & Toy Drive”. The Christmas hampers help families in need in the New Maryland and surrounding areas. In the past, our Church has collected **canned peas** to contribute to this project. The peas would need to be in by **Sunday, December 6th**.