

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

February 28th, 2016 11 am
LENT III

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this 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. Lenten grace and peace to you!

Thought for Meditation:

An ounce of patience is worth a pound of brains.

~Dutch Proverb

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

*INTROIT: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (#121 VU v.1)

Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are re-born,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

*HYMN#652 VU Be Still My Soul

OPENING PRAYER (Unison):

**O Gardener of Life, your patience is steadfast and sure.
With care you plant us.
You turn the earth around us and water our roots with love.
Even when we bear no fruit, you are infinitely patient.
Your hope for us leafs out and flowers.
From the sweet fruits of your labour, you make us anew!
Praise be to you, made known in Jesus, who taught us to pray,
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: I've Got Patience Like A Grandma (tune #577)

**I've got patience like a Grandma,
I've got patience like a Grandma,
I've got patience like a Grandma, in my soul.
I've got patience like a Grandma,
I've got patience like a Grandma,
I've got patience like a Grandma, in my soul.**

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT TREE: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **PATIENCE**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.* Galatians 5:22-23

CHILDREN'S HYMN: I've Got Patience Like A Grandma

THE WORD OF GOD

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 13:1-9

ANTHEM: *Be With Me Lord*

SERMON: *On Clint Eastwood, Gardening Tips and Holy Judgement*

***HYMN#227 VU For The Fruit of All Creation**

THE RESPONSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

PRAYERS: HOLDING IN THE LIGHT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sung Response: O God We Call (411 VU)
O God we call, O God we call,
From deep inside we yearn,
From deep inside we yearn,
From deep inside we yearn, for you.

Leader: Love is patient and kind.

People: Lord, it is hard to be patient when there is so much we need and want to do. When other people slow us down, it is easy to forget to be kind.

Leader: Love is not jealous or conceited or proud.

People: But we can be, God. We look at people with judgement, seeing others' faults so easily.

Leader: Love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable.

People: But we know that we are quite capable of hurtful words. Help us to think before we speak.

Leader: Love does not keep a record of wrongs.

People: But we remember O God. Even those wrongs we have tried to forgive. We bring them up when we are angry or when we want our own way. We use them to hurt even the people we love.

Leader: Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

People: But we give up easily. We give up on other people. We give up on ourselves. We give up on making a difference. Forgive us, O God.

Leader: Forgive us, and show us your mercy.

Sung Response: O God We Call (411 VU)

**O God we call, O God we call,
From deep inside we yearn,
From deep inside we yearn,
From deep inside we yearn, for you.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Hear this about God's great love for us. God is patient and kind. God keeps no record of our wrongs. God does not remember our failings at loving, but rejoices over each kindness we show. God never gives up on us because God's love is forever.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Amen!

***HYMN#657 VU He Leadeth Me**

THE LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

Leader: Even as the days grow longer,

People: Jesus' time grows short.

[the third purple candle is extinguished]

Leader: Even as the Christ-light shines, the world tries to hide the light of Patience.

People: But we will not let our Patience be hidden.

Leader: Amen and amen.

***CHORAL BLESSING: Take, O Take Me As I Am (#85 MV)**

**Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

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: Helen Marr and Sandra Cook

Tellers This Week: Lloyd Penney and Merlin Tracy

Trustees On Duty (Mar): Doug Price and Dave Ward

Sunday School: Sheila & Brooke-Lyn Power **Nursery:** Ben Minor

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sun., Feb. 28th - 11:00 am – Worship Service – Lent III

12:00 noon - ‘After Church Chili Luncheon’

Mon., Feb. 29th - 1:00 pm - Lenten Bible Study (see over)

Sun., Mar. 6th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent IV

Mon., Mar. 7th - 7:00 pm - Men’s Club

Sun., Mar.13th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent V

Today, the Sunday School will be hosting their first “**After-Church-Chili-Luncheon**” as a fundraiser for the **Mission and Service Fund**. Join us immediately following church for a delicious lunch of chili, rolls and mouthwatering dessert! Coffee, tea and juice will also be provided.

The cost is only a smile and donation of your choosing. Why not stop down

after church for this time of fellowship? It is also a time-saver as you won't have to go home and cook lunch! Hope to see you all there.

Our Lenten Study this year is entitled "**Gather, Talk, Eat: The Sacred Act of Sharing Meals**"

What would you choose to be your last meal? Where would you eat it? With whom would you like to share your table?

Lent, with its ancient emphasis on fasting and silence, may seem like an odd time to pursue such a focus as gathering together around food and conversation. But that is exactly what I am proposing. We will reflect on holy stories- scriptural and otherwise - that centre around a meal, a recipe, and life together as God's people. Please join us as you are able,

Mondays at 1 pm (100 Berkley Dr, New Maryland, Forbes subdivision, off Crown) 470-9634

THE BEACON: Please forward any items for the church newsletter to klist1938@gmail.com or leave them at the church office on or before **Tuesday, March 8th**.

EASTER PLANTS – The **Worship Committee** is taking orders for Easter lilies, 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 or shut-in after the service. Cost is as follows: lilies, tulips, and daffodils are \$10 each and hydrangea is \$20. Orders need to be in by **Sunday, March 6th**. To order your Easter flowers, contact Loraine Ward (455-8208) or the Church office (459-3313). Any profit from this project goes to our Sunday School.

Envelopes, Building Funds and the Accessibility Project

The Stewards have noticed that there may be some confusion in marking church envelopes when making a contribution to the accessibility project. Those using church envelopes to fulfill their pledges or make special contributions to the project should clearly indicate under "Special Projects" the amount, marked with an "AF" (indicating the

Accessibility Fund). Since there other “Special Projects” such as Sunday School, Memorials, Outreach, Spring Fundraiser, it is important to mark the amount with an “AF”. Some people may be placing their contributions under “Building Fund and Improvements”. If this happens, the money goes to maintaining and repairing our church building and property not the Accessibility project. Until we have fully paid for the project, the Accessibility Fund will have to be maintained under Special Projects. If you have any questions please talk to any of the Stewards or our Treasurer, Lloyd Penney.

GREEN TIP: Many gardeners use medicated baby powder to dust flower bulbs before planting. Place a bit of the powder in a bag along with 5 or 6 bulbs, give it a few gentle shakes. The medicated powder coating helps to prevent rot and keeps garden pests, such as moles, grubs and voles at bay.

FOOD BANK - For the month of **February**, we will focus on **canned soups (all types)**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

New copies of “Our Daily Breads” (Mar/Apr/May) are now available at both entrances 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.

At our last Official Board meeting, it was decided that NMUC would establish a **Syrian Refugee fund**. The decision was made in response to a request by the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, the Right Reverend Jordan Cantwell, "urging everyone to participate in a church-wide appeal for Syrian Refugees who are seeking relief from civil war in their country". Until the **end of February 2016**, the Canadian Government will match donations dollar for dollar. If you are interested in donating to this fund, you can use your church envelope and indicate under special funds "Syrian Refugee Fund". Please consider donating. No amount is too small. Remember until Feb 29th your donation will be matched by the Government of Canada.