



"THE BEACON"

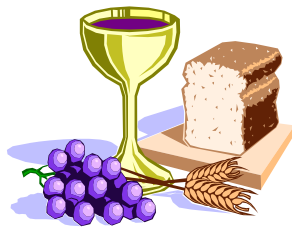
April, 2014

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

No. 24

FROM REV. KELLY'S DESK

Communion



Have you ever considered helping to serve communion? Have you worried about how to do it - and how to do it well? Then you are just the person we are looking for! Please contact Rev Kelly, and we will arrange together for a group run through of the sacrament: how to prepare it, and how to serve it.

Calling All Scripture Readers!



The reading of our sacred stories lies at the very heart of our worship service. And a different voice brings a fresh approach to the Word that is both ancient and ever new. If you would be willing to read scripture from time to time, I would love to add your name to a 'Scripture Readers' list! You would be given the scripture passage (as well as the specific version) in advance, so you will have time to prepare. As well, we will from time to time have multi voiced readings. I hope you will consider sharing your voice!

Summary of the Woolastook Presbytery meeting held on February 27th, 2014:



Presbytery met at St. Paul's United Church, Fredericton. Committees met for their work at 9:30, and the Court commenced at 11:00am, constituted by the Chair, Rev. Kelly Burke. After opening motions we gathered in worship.

Several new members were introduced: Rev. Patti Armstrong, Boiestown and Doaktown Pastoral Charges; Yvette Swan, student intern at the Nashwaak Pastoral Charge; Rev. Amanda Longmoore Plaster Rock, Grand Falls, Riley Brook Pastoral Charge, Alice Finnamore, student; and new delegates Shirley Jewett, Dawn Wilson and Martin McAuley.

Rev Jane Johnson gave an overview of the Comprehensive Review which will be discussed at the April meeting.

Pastoral Care & Support - Graham Powell announced upcoming visits for Nashwaaksis, LakeView, Centreville, Kingsley Birdton, Stanley and Woodstock Pastoral Charges.

Pastoral Relations - Rev. Steve Longmoore announced that Keswick Ridge Pastoral Charge has called Rev. David Luker, effective March 1st, 2014.

Heritage and Resources - David Thorne asked the Court to give the Doaktown Pastoral Charge permission to look into selling the manse.

Christian Life and Growth - Elaine White reminded the Court of the April 24th deadline for applications for Youth Forum. She also announced that the UCW Rally would be held on April 26th at Forest Hill United Church. A covenanting service had been held for Rev. Susan Estabrooks at Faith Memorial United Church.

Education and Students -, Wally Ellis asked the Court to approve Greg Williams as a continuing Candidate. Greg is to be ordained at the Annual Meeting of Maritime Conference in Sackville this May.

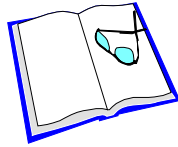
Stewardship - Betty Jean Friedman, mentioned a Stewardship Workshop at Tatamagouche and reminded people that covenanting forms for M and S for 2014 were available.

The secretary announced that registration forms for Conference are available online. All Lay Delegates to Presbytery are eligible to attend Conference.

The April 24th meeting of Presbytery will be held at Oromocto United Church with a special speaker, Dennis Sisco, speaking on Restorative Justice.

Rev. Kelly

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD



The Official Board which meets quarterly met on March 18th, my first meeting as chair. In preparation for this meeting, I felt that it was important for me to know what exactly is expected of the chairperson of an Official Board in the United Church. Our manual (2013) states that “the chair is responsible for presiding and keeping order at meetings, taking votes and announcing the results and voting only if there is a tie”. In addition to these roles, I have asked all the committees to keep me informed of any issues that arise between board meetings to ensure that committees fulfill their responsibilities.

One of my goals as Chair is to improve communication between committees and to the congregation. In an attempt to achieve this goal, during our morning announcements, a brief report will be given to the congregation the first Sunday after each board meeting. In addition, minutes of Official Board meetings will soon be posted on our website. This will give everyone the opportunity to be aware of the ongoing work of the various committees, dates of upcoming services and events, and any issues the board has addressed.

Our Accessibility/Building Committee has also committed to keep the congregation informed regarding any progress that is made in obtaining approval from the various church courts, financial issues, and plans to begin our expansion project.

These are very exciting times for our church. I look forward to working together for the life and mission of NMUC.

Watching God work.....

Sue Morrison

YOU CAN HELP!



Have you thought of offering someone else a ride to church on Sunday morning? Besides doing something good for God’s green earth, you would have the fun of having good company on the drive, and a chance to get to better know one another!



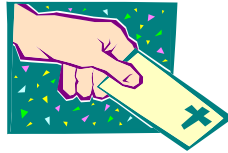
Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things.

But just look at what they can do when they stick together!



-- Author Unknown --

PAR



The Committee of Stewards would like to remind the congregation that the church needs continued support in order to meet its financial commitments. By using PAR (pre-authorized remittance), you can be assured that your weekly offering will be received by the church even when you are absent from a service. If interested, please contact Lloyd Penney, our church Treasurer.

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



As we journey the Lenten Season, a holy time, the choir is working on special music for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and both Easter Sunday services. We hope you will join us as we journey through the darkness into the light.

MY HAITI TRIP WAS A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

By Sue Morrison



As many of you are aware, I spent 7 days on La Gonave Island, Haiti as part of a mission trip in association with the West Indies Self Help (WISH) Association. The WISH mission on La Gonave Island focuses on community development/capacity building and provides drinking water to the residents of the island, in addition to power, dental care, a nutrition program to the children of La Saline, operates an ice plant (yes ice...the Haitians love ice!), an organic gardening program that includes growing maringa trees, and a machine shop.

During my stay, our team of four provided marriage counseling to the congregation of La Saline church. Approximately 60-80 participants attended the three- day sessions where we focused on Love and Respect using Ephesians 5, vs 21-33. Our goal was to improve two things in each relationship of those who attended. Many participants told us that no one had ever explained to them how the scriptures can guide their marriage relationships. (Haitians tend to be very abusive to their wives). The living conditions of the people on La Gonave are very poor; their homes are one room buildings with no power or running water. And although they are very poor in material things, they are very rich spiritually. These people struggle to survive/eat on a daily basis and yet they have such great faith. Rev. Kelly during a recent sermon commented how hard it is to have faith in our most difficult times and yet the Haitians do this on a daily basis.

La Gonave Island has some of the highest infant mortality rates in the western hemisphere. We focused the supplies we took with us on infants, and packed supplies to make up 80 layettes in addition to infant formula and

school supplies. We visited the local hospital where we spent time with patients and their families, read scripture and prayed with them. We always reminded them that God was watching over them. The health care system is very different from NB, where families are expected to feed their family members while in hospital, bathe them, do their laundry, and empty their human waste buckets in nearby latrines.

We also visited an orphanage where nine children between the ages of 2-14 live. They attend local schools which include English language classes. These children have families in Haiti who are unable to provide for them and are sponsored by families in the USA.

Our team also had the opportunity to visit the church school and help feed the children lunch one day. During our stay we met missionary families who commit from 1-5 years to work with the Haitians. These people are required to raise their own money to support their stay, give up their jobs and leave their family and friends. We developed a great respect for these people who have chosen to share their lives/gifts with those less fortunate.

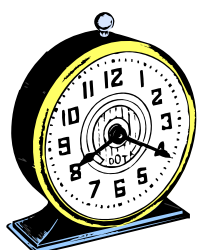
My New Maryland United Church family was very supportive of my trip...I collected a total of 99 pairs of sleepers (the lions share of these from my church family) in addition to \$850 (again from committees/members of NMUC, family and friends) which was given to the emergency fund of the mission to help those in desperate need of food, clothing, and school supplies. Thank you all for your support through donations and prayers for this trip of a lifetime!

FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the church. All men of the congregation are welcome to attend. Our latest project was the donation of money to the Fredericton Community Kitchen for the purchase of new knives for use at the kitchen. It greatly appreciated. A Chili Night was held on April 9th at the church, admission being a good will offering. Following the meal, Sue Morrison gave a most interesting presentation of her recent trip to Haiti.

Future projects include assisting with the continental breakfast following the 8:30 Easter morning service, and weather allowing, the spring yard clean-up.

There will be no monthly meeting in April but we will resume meeting in May.



THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop
At a late or early hour.
' Now ' is the only time we own
So live, love, work with a will;
Leave not too much to do tomorrow;
The clock may then be still.

--Author unknown--

CONGRATULATIONS!



- to **David and Loraine Ward** a granddaughter, Hunter Gray Ward, a baby girl born Feb 22, 2014 to Wes and Ashley Ward.
- to **Bev and Eldon Eveleigh** a first grandchild, Ruby Eveleigh, a baby girl born March, 2014.
- to **Dorothy Webster** a great niece Cassidy Anna Shutovich, born March 21, 2014 to Nic and Krista.
- to **Frank Glendenning** a great-grandchild, Joel Ethan Bennett.
- to **Adam Tracy** and his curling team for their big win in Miramichi, giving them an opportunity to go to the Winter Games in BC in 2015!

FROM THE GREEN COMMITTEE



Canada Phasing Out Incandescent Light Bulbs

We have used the incandescent light bulb for 130 years. The bulb has become a regular in our homes giving us light and warmth and is relatively inexpensive. However, starting January 1, this year, Canada has phased out the 75 and 100-watt incandescent bulbs. By December 31, 2014, the 40 and 60-watt will no longer be produced. Some may be available on store shelves if they were produced before the ban came in.

The incandescent bulb is very inefficient, giving 10% light and 90% heat. This past winter, maybe we have benefitted somewhat from the heat produced by the incandescent bulb. But it is an expensive way to heat the home!

Still available on the market is the Halogen Light Bulb which is the incandescent light bulb filled with halogen gas. They are somewhat more efficient, using 28% less energy, producing the same amount of light and lasting about three times longer. They contain no mercury.

There are alternatives to the incandescent and halogen bulbs.

Compact Fluorescent Lamp or CFL.

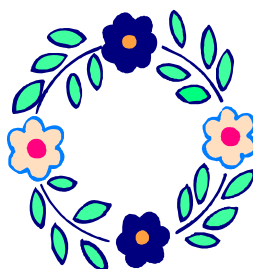
We have been using the CFLs for a while, now. They are the “curly” ones. We knew them first in our school rooms and larger buildings. The tubes have been made smaller and twisted to fit in a standard light socket. They are very efficient. A 13-watt CFL produces as much light as a 60-watt incandescent, a saving of 78%. Earlier complaints of CFLs flickering, poor quality light and slow to reach full light have been rectified. Always look for the ENERGY STAR logo. The concern now with CFLs is they contain a minute amount (no more than what would fit on the point of a pen) of mercury, a substance that is dangerous to human health and the environment. Disposal of these bulbs is still a problem, Canada, unfortunately, has not resolved this issue but we’re told the government is working on it.

Light Emitting Diodes or LED

The Holiday Season, the last few years has seen the use of LEDs. They have been well accepted and are now available for regular household lighting. They are more efficient than CFLs, a 10-watt LED is as bright as a 60-watt incandescent. They contain no mercury, work well in cold temperatures and have a long life, 25,000 hours compared with 1,095 hours for the incandescent. They are considerably more expensive, well over \$10.00 per bulb. .

Both CFLs and LEDs come in a range of light qualities, indicated by the Kelvin number. If you like a softer light, look for #2700 to 3500. A whiter light has the number 5000. Consider this before purchasing CFLs and LEDs as they last so much longer. For example, a LED lasts about 25,000 hours; considering the length of time a bulb would be turned on in the run of a year, you would have that light bulb for over 11 years, so be aware of the shade of light you are comfortable with.

FROM THE UCW



UCW will be meeting on May 14th and then ending for the summer with a social outing in June. We will once again be joining with the Men’s Club to provide a lovely continental breakfast following the early service on Easter Sunday. All women of the church would be very welcome to join us for any or all of our meetings and social times. For more info, contact Dorothy Webster at 457-9795.



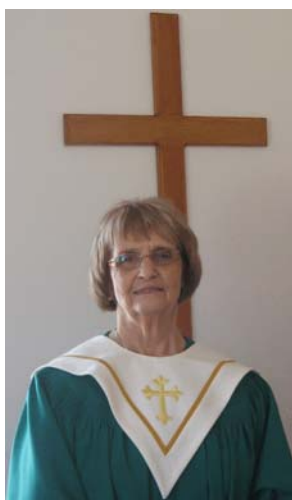
Little by little the days go by
Short if we sing them ... long if we sigh.

AN ARCHIVAL MOMENT

July, 1891: A fence was built around the church lot. Purchase of cedar posts: \$11.00.

Paid for fence construction: \$20.00.

INTRODUCING SHEILA PENNEY



Sheila Mary Smith Penney, the daughter of Ronald Thomas Smith and Lillith Leah Pinsent Smith, was born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland before the province was part of Canada. Sheila is the second oldest of 13 children in the family. Three other children died at a young age. Living in a large family made for a very interesting household as there was always something going on. Sheila considers herself very fortunate in that she and her siblings were always the best of friends ... and they still are!

All the serious housework was done on Saturday so Sheila and her sister Judy always had chores to do. One week it was Sheila's turn to tidy and wash all the upstairs floors and the next week it would be her turn to do the downstairs. They also had the fun of bringing in the washing from the clothesline. In the wintertime when the clothes would be frozen stiff, they would put their arms around the laundry and walk it to the house. It seemed the sheets were so much taller than they were and it must have been a funny sight to see the sheets bouncing across the yard. Their Mom would meet them in the house to take the frozen laundry from them and hang it in the kitchen to dry.

Sheila was baptized, raised and married in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The family attended church every Sunday and also every evening in May for the Rosary and evenings in June for Sacred Heart month. Since all of Sheila's friends were there too, it was usually something she enjoyed doing.

The church and school were next door to each other. Sheila attended the Notre Dame Academy up to grade eight and then Saint Michael's High School to grade eleven. In those days grade twelve was not included in the school system. Their high school was actually a boy's school. The school for the girls had not been built when it was time for her class to move into grade nine so they ended up in one wing of the boy's school. In between the two wings were the gym and library. The Presentation Sisters taught the girls while the boys' teachers were of the order of Christian Brothers. Their main job was to keep the two groups separate. To this end when it was gym time, the teachers would cover the windows with brown paper so that the girls couldn't see the boys and the boys couldn't see the girls!

The gym was also used once a year for a retreat. Guest priests would visit the school and the students could go to the chapel in the gym to hear them speak and to pray. The Brothers and Sisters never seemed to figure out that all that good time spent in the chapel was really a spying mission! Sheila and her friends would take turns going down to find out who was there and then report back to the other girls. Sheila considered her years at Saint Michael's School to be a great experience. Her class was the last one to be schooled there. She doubts that the new girls' school was as much fun.

Sheila's favourite sport was swimming. The town swimming pool was supplied by the Paper Mill in Grand Falls and everything was free. For years she would take her little siblings to the pool where they would spend most of the day. When she was 15, she was given the opportunity to earn her bronze medallion and she was certified for both life saving and instructions. She loved spending her summers at the pool and to this day she still loves to swim.

Sheila met Lloyd when a mutual friend gave him her name and phone number when he needed a date for a broomball dance. He phoned and she accepted. That was 49 years ago! Sheila left Grand Falls after she and Lloyd were married. Lloyd's work took them to Fredericton where they have lived for about 43 years. They have four children, Rob, Jill, Jennifer and Jodi, and eight grandchildren between the ages of 3 and 22.

Sheila was employed with the Bank of Montreal for over 30 years, having begun that path in Grand Falls. However, her career was put on hold when their children came along but she returned to work when they were all in school. She was fortunate to be able to work in many positions and upon retirement had been a trainer for all the Atlantic branches. She feels very fortunate to be able to say that she loved her work right up to the day she retired.

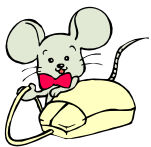
The year after retirement she and Lloyd travelled to Ireland, a trip she will never forget. Her great grandmother came from Dublin and it was so exciting to walk the streets she would have walked.

Sheila enjoys just about any kind of music and it has always been a big part of her life. When she was in grade school, one of her sisters took piano lessons. The music teacher allowed Sheila to sit through the theory class while waiting for her sister and she loved it and learned a lot. She has been part of a choir in some form ever since.

She loves to sew and to do "projects". Discovering how to do new things is one of her fun times. She even learned to tile the backsplash last year! Her favourite TV pastimes are curling games and home improvement shows ... and she can get rather testy if someone interrupts her when 'Greys Anatomy' is on!

Her friends in the NMUC congregation, the choir and UCW wish Sheila many more years of happiness with her husband and family.

NMUC WEBSITE



Have you checked our website lately at <www.newmarylandunited.ca>?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor:

Another interesting and successful Beacon. It was wonderful and jam packed with news, always interesting and informative. It is always good to learn more about our church friends in each Profile. Loved the graphics too! For those of us who receive The Beacon online, the colour makes it look very professional. A great read indeed!

A Dedicated Reader

WHAT THE ROBIN TOLD

The wind told the grasses,
And the grasses told the trees.
The trees told the bushes,
And the bushes told the bees.
The bees told the robin,
And the robin sang out clear:

Wake up!

Wake up!

Spring is here!

