

St. Andrew's United Church
188 Wellington Street
Miramichi, N.B. E1N 1M4
773-9932

<http://www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org>

Minister: Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight
Organist & Choir Director: Joanne Wiseman
Greeters: Debbie Stymiest & Cynthia Duplessie

February 11, 2018
Sunday of the Transfiguration

We Gather To Worship

Musical Prelude: *Rev. Ross & Joanne Wiseman*

*Greeting:

L: In the Spirit of Jesus Christ, who calls us to be the church and to celebrate God's presence, let us worship.

*Introit:

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle: *Anthony McLean*

One: The Christ Candle reminds us that Jesus is God's gift of love to us.

All: And that in Him, the light of love triumphs over any darkness in our lives.

One: We light the Christ candle in witness to the fact that Christ, who is our light, is here among us.

All: We light the Christ candle because we also know that the light of God's Spirit dwells within us.

One: May the light of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Christ candle is lit)

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*Sing #585, vs.1:

**Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
like a little candle burning in the night.
In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: *(seated)*

L: Through Epiphany, we have been walking in the light of Christ.

All: We are children of God and followers of Jesus, the Light of the World.

L: Next week, the light of our faith will guide us into the gathering shadows of Lent.

All: In thankfulness for the light and love of God, let us worship.

L: Let us pray together:

All: Wonderful God, your brilliance is not only seen on mountaintops in Bible stories. Your brilliance shines wherever your people show love and compassion in your name. May our worship together inspire us to go out from here overflowing with your grace, ready to shine your love and peace everywhere, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #232, Joyful, Joyful We Adore You *(vs. 1,2,3)*

Conversation with the Children

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination: *Anna MacDonald*

God, you are the source of light in the world. Open our ears to hear your message for us in the scriptures this day. Shine in our hearts that the world may see your glory through our witness and ministry. Amen.

Readings: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

Reflection on the Word

We Respond to God's Word

Ministry of Music: *Rev. Ross & Joanne Wiseman*
Installation of UCW Officers for 2018

Offering

*Choral Response: #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

*Offertory Prayer:

**Gather these gifts and offerings as you gather our hearts to
yourself and each other that we may be a source of love and light
in the world. Amen.**

Prayers of the People:

One: O great and loving gatherer and connector of all living things,
we come to you to be brought together and bonded to one another in
love.

All: Gather to you, your faithful ones.

One: Gather to you, O God, all in need of hope in the midst of
despair.

**All: Gather to you, O God, all in need of healing when they feel
sick or broken.**

One: Gather to you, O God, all in need of meaning when they feel
numb; all in need of justice when they feel persecuted.

**All: Gather to you O God, all in need of humility when they must
lead; all in need of discernment when they are confused.**

One: Gather to you, O God, all those named in our hearts and written
prayer requests, as we lift them before you:

(names from prayer book are read)

One: Gather to you, O God, all of us,

All: for we are in need of your love in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Hymn: #472, O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts – *congregation seated*)

Communion Prayer:

L: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

L: We thank you, O God, for your gift of light in creation – for the
spectacular sunsets which hint at your glory and the gentle rays of
dawn which chase away the darkness. We thank you for the
mysterious moonlight and the soft light of the stars above us.

**All: We thank you, O God, for your gift of light within us – for
the light of human life, and for the illumination of hearts and
lives through your Spirit. We thank you for the witness of
people across the ages, who have brightened our world through
their faith.**

L: Above all, we thank and praise you for the light of Jesus. For
through him you have shown us your glory and love; through him
we have a luminous example and a shining way to follow.

**All: We come before you this morning in praise and
thanksgiving. We have seen the wonders of your light with our
own eyes. We have experienced your light reaching out to cut
through the darkness. We have felt the warmth of your light
touching our souls.**

L: In the brightness of your love, we come to this table. We take the
bread and cup as signs of your light and life.

**All: We remember how Jesus, at meal with his disciples, took
bread, broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is given for
you. Each time you do this, remember me.'**

L: He also took the cup saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant God has made with you in my blood. Each time you do this and drink from this cup, remember me.’

All: We pray, O God, that your Holy Spirit might shine forth on us this day. Through this table, let us know the truth of your glory, let us see the wonders of your love, and let us be strengthened to serve as your people.

L: For we ask it in the name of Jesus, the One who revealed your glory on the mountain and followed your will in his life and ministry, even to the cross;

All: the One whose death and resurrection have brought life and light eternal to the world.

L: And as he taught, we continue to pray:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Breaking of the Bread and Blessing of the Cup
Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table. Send us forth from this place, filled with the light of your love, speaking your good news, and serving in Christ’s name. Amen.

*Hymn: #336, Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

*Commissioning & Benediction:

L: We have been guests of God and life is new. Go, therefore, to bear witness to all that has been said and done here.

All: We go to share the light of Christ and to take the message of God’s love to a world that is waiting.

L: Go now with the transforming love of God in your heart, the example of Jesus in your life, and the nudge of the Spirit infusing your whole being. Go in peace!

*Choral Response: #585, vs.2

**Jesus bids us shine first of all for him;
well he sees and knows it if our light grows dim:
Jesus walks beside us to help us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

Musical Postlude

Memorials

In loving memory of **Velna Dickson**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Jacky LeBreton & Ken Steen.

In loving memory of **John Lockerbie**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from Pauline & Ed Skidd.

In loving memory of **John Lockerbie**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Henry & Karen Wilson.

In loving memory of **Elmer Jenkins**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Helen, Ed, Alison, Oliver, Elliot and Everly.

Tape Distribution: Feb. 11 – Karen Rose/Feb. 18 – Marjorie Cassidy/Feb. 25 – Joyce Forbes

Duty Unit: Feb. Princess Street Unit/March – Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit

Greeters: Feb. 18 – Colleen Dickson & Judy Sipes/Feb. 25 – Helen Jones & Marjorie MacPhee

Sound System: Feb. 11 – John MacKnight/Feb. 18 – Brian Savoy/Feb. 25 – Ernie MacLean

Power Point: Feb. 11 – Mary Reynolds/Feb. 18 – Karen Rose/Feb. 25 – Juanita Hamilton

Offering Collections: Feb. 11 – Ernie MacLean, Brenda & David Hicks, Barb Doucet/Feb. 18 – Ferne & Ernie MacLean, Helen Jones, Carol Johnston/Feb. 25 – Shirley MacDonald, Frances Blakely, Clarke Fraser, Cynthia Duplessie

Offering Counters:

Feb. 11 – Betty MacDiarmid, Marjorie Cassidy, Helen Jones/**Feb. 18** – Judy & Dennis Morrison, Clarke Fraser/**Feb. 25** – Margaret & John Glidden, Carol Johnston

Announcements:**This Week:**

Sunday, Feb. 11th – *Installation of UCW Officers; Communion*

Monday, Feb. 12th – 11:30 a.m. – *Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit meeting with a brown bag lunch*

-12:00 noon – *Princess Street Unit meeting with a brown bag lunch*

Tuesday, February 13th – 2:45 p.m. *Choir Practice*

- 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. - *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Free will offering*

Tuesday, Feb. 13th – 10:00 a.m. – *Lenten Study: “Sharing Our Song of Faith”, theme: Brokenness, Grace and Healing*

Wednesday, Feb. 14th – 12:15 p.m. – *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service. “Building a Life that Really Matters: An Invitation”*

Presider: Rev. Charlene, Preacher: Rev. Perry Cooper

- 7:00 p.m. – *Ash Wednesday Service here at St. Andrew’s jointly with Loggieville, Black River Pastoral Charge*

Upcoming:

Monday, Feb. 19th – Office Closed

Tuesday, Feb. 20th – 10:00 a.m. – *Lenten Study: Theme; Jesus, God’s Love Incarnate*

Wednesday, 21st - 12:15 p.m. – *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service. “Convening A Construction Crew: Nobody Builds Alone” Presider: Eddie Quann, Preacher: Ray Arsenault*

Organist for Church Funerals – The Church Council has set an honorarium of \$60.00 for the organist at church funerals, to be paid by the family.

2017 Tax Receipts are on the table at back near Karen’s office

Confirmation preparation will begin soon for youth (13 yrs & up) or adults wishing to become full members of the church.

Please notify Rev. Charlene if interested. Adults wishing to transfer their church membership are asked to notify Karen at the office.

The Miramichi Literacy Council is holding a Spaghetti & Gingerbread Dinner at St. Mary’s Anglican Church, 207

Wellington Street on Friday, Feb. 23rd from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 each and \$11.00 for take-outs.

2018 Leadership Prayer Breakfast will be held on Friday, May 11th from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at the Rodd Miramichi. Special music will be by Dave & Claire Young and guest speaker will be Andrew Vahi, Co-Founder of the Village of Hope. Tickets are \$15.00 a person and can be purchased from City Hall Reception Desk or Black Eagle Construction. Ticket deadline is April 21st. For more information please call 622-7740. *St. Andrew’s has a table booked; anyone wanting a ticket contact Karen at the office (8 left).*

A Suggestion Box has been placed on the table at back of sanctuary near Rev. Charlene’s office. Thanks to Ken Weatherby for crafting it. This box is for suggestions around worship (service ideas, special music, hymns you would like to sing); special events or fundraising activities; other ideas/ suggestions to enhance the life and work of our congregation. It is not for complaints. Complaints should be written & directed to the appropriate Church Council Team.

Congregation Annual Meeting will be February 25th following worship. Lunch to follow the meeting is pot luck – please bring sandwiches or sweets (no hot dishes).

Church Council NEWS January 31, 2018

Trustees

Investments due on January 29, 2018 reinvested.

Property Management

- Stephen Matchett has been hired to clear the steps, snow blow and salt the walkways, which would include the ramp.
- Mini splits – a presentation (including quotes) for discussion will take place at the annual meeting.

Faith Development & Youth

- During Lent, a coin jar will be placed at back of the church in support of Sunday School's sponsored child Gabriella.

Miramichi Presbytery

- Meeting held January 17, 2018 in Bathurst
- Were in agreement with the proposed Regional Council Boundaries – proposing 17 regions across Canada and 2 in Atlantic region - NS/Bermuda & NB (Gaspé)/PEI
- Our 2018 allocation to be \$5122, down from \$6190 due to subsidy from the Presbytery
- Presbytery voted 'No' on the question to Remit #6 "One Order of Ministry"
- Church in Action – Syrian Refugee initiative up-date on Alboud family will appear in Feb 11th bulletin

Worship & Music Team

- Rev Charlene served 19 Christmas home communions.
- Average congregational attendance taken during Oct. and Nov. was 123 people.
- Morris family Memorial donation purchased a Yamaha keyboard
- Shrove Tuesday pancake supper (Feb 13) proceeds to the church
- We are hosting the Ecumenical Noon Lenten Services, beginning Feb 14/2018
- Joint services with Loggieville-Black River Pastoral Charge – Ash Wednesday in our church; Maundy Thursday in a church from LBR Charge

- June 3, 2018, Susan Butler will be hosting a concert with proceeds to support the Summer Community Kitchen
- One membership transfer approved

M&S 2018 Covenant to National:

- Unofficial 2017 year total is \$19,017.75.
- Recommending a 2018 covenant of \$18,000.00 to the annual meeting.

UCW

- General UCW meet - 1:00 pm, 4th Wednesday of month
- Delivered Christmas Treats to 24 shut-ins
- Will help with the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper
- Hosting the noon Lenten Services beginning February 14th
- Hosting luncheon following Annual meeting on Feb.25th

Proposed changes to the Church Council model:

- Council's recommendations for combining some Teams will be voted on at the annual meeting.

Annual reports:

- Decision to send a copy of the annual report out via e-mail, 70 paper copies will be made for those who would like one (it is suggested that only one paper copy per family)

Remit #6 – 'One Order of Ministry'

- Council voted "Yes" to the question on Remit # 6 "One Order of Ministry".
"agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized designated lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and ordained ministers, with ordination to the ministry of word, sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry."

Miramichi Presbytery 'Church in Action' Report: 2nd Anniversary Up-date

On Feb 11th 2016 the Albboud family (Marwan, Wafaa, Murad & Hamoudi) arrive in Canada. One day later they arrived in Moncton. By that evening they were settled into their new home. The ladies still talk of the tears in Wafaa's eyes upon seeing the decorated and well-stocked apartment, dining room and all.

Since that time we have welcomed their daughter Alisar (Oct. 19 '16). Though it's a different era, their transition has given us a glimpse into what it must have been like for our ancestors. Like them, they miss family but know Canada is where they will find a better life.

The kids are smart and loveable. Murad recently completed some speech therapy. He begins kindergarten in September. Three-year-old Hamoudi, like his brother, understands Arabic but answers in English. Alisar is walking and babbling, full of energy and spunk.

Dad continues to take language classes in conjunction with a construction skills program. Once mom's reading and writing skills improve, she will enter the two-year Human Services course at NBCC. Wafaa is also working on a Driver's Ed course in advance of the on-road training.

The second phase of the Presbytery's initiative is ongoing. We had to follow the private sponsorship model. Now with an immigration number, our second family joins thousands of others awaiting a call. ETA is sometime later this year.

Our committee has established a target budget of \$45,000 (min). Thanks to fellow presbytery member Irvin Carmichael and Presbytery we now have \$40,000. We discussed this at Presbytery and have agreed **not** to solicit funds from our members and churches. Your support of two years ago was remarkable. Thanks again!

We have left the door open to individuals, businesses or specific groups in congregations, **of their own volition**, to donate to the initiative. Speak to your presbytery rep or clergy for further information.