

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: Mrs. Shirley Estey
Greeters: Elaine Dickson & Shirley MacDonald

We Gather To Worship

*indicates to stand as you are able

Musical Prelude

*Call to Worship:

L: Grace to you and peace from God.

All: Love to you and joy in the name of Christ Jesus.

L: Christ is the vine; we are the branches.

All: We will bear fruit when we abide in the vine.

L: Come, let us worship with confidence and hope.

All: We come, in the name of the risen Christ, to worship God.

*Introit: #402, We Are One (vs.1)

Lighting of the Christ Candle: (*seated*) – Lauryn Swaine

One: We gather in the name of Jesus, who calls us to be the church.

All: We gather in the name of Jesus, who calls us to love and serve others.

One: May his light and love shine brightly through us.

(*candle is lit*)

Sing: **Light up the candle every day**

Jesus be with us here as we pray.

Opening Prayer: (*seated*)

Guide us in our worship today, Holy One. As we hear words of love and challenge, move through us calling us to act upon them. As we sing praises, may our hearts be lightened. Inspire us to reconnect with you in ways we never imagined possible; to be changed because we have been here to worship our God.

So may our faith community bear witness to the love and grace which is ours in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #579, The Church is Wherever

Conversation with the Children

Special Music: *Roger Estey*

Birthday Box for WDR

Sing (*seated*):

Happy Birthday to you, to Jesus be true,

May God's richest blessings, now rest upon you.

These gifts we now share, to show that we care

for all of God's children, here and everywhere.

The Word of God Proclaimed

Before the reading of the Scriptures: *Juanita Hamilton*

L: God offers to us, through scripture, words of life which in faith become the Living Word.

All: Let us listen for that Word.

First Lesson: Acts 8:26-38 – *Juanita Hamilton*

Litany: (*based on 1 John 4:7-12*)

L: My dear friends, we must love each other.

All: Love comes from God, and when we love each other, it shows that we have been given new life.

One: We are now God's children, and we know him.

All: God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known him.

One: God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life.

All: Real love isn't our love for God, but his love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven.

One: Dear friends, since God loved us this much, we must love each other.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Ministry of Music: Men's Choir

Reflection on the Word

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn: #574, Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love

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:

We abide in you, God, and offer you our lives. You use even what is pruned for the growing of your reign. We bring the first fruits of our lives, the first fruits of our vines to you today. We offer them with reverence and awe for the good of your reign. May you use them in ways that bear good fruit. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

L: From the moment we woke up this morning, you were with us, gracious God.

All: We prepared and came to worship. We have sung and prayed and listened.

L: And now we name the deepest cares of our hearts before you.

All: Grant our prayers, O God.

L: We pray for your church here and throughout the world.

All: May it be filled with people who seek harmony.

L: May it not be a place of division or strife, but one of your peace and love.

All: Grant our prayers, O God.

L: We pray for all your creatures and your planet Earth.

All: May we find ways to honour all creation; to clean up our messes, or not make so much mess in the first place.

L: May we remember that we are all connected, and that what we do impacts everyone else.

All: Grant our prayers, O God.

L: Hear our prayers for our leaders.

All: World leaders, national leaders, local leaders.

L: From kings and queens and prime ministers and presidents, to chiefs and mayors and school board members.

All: Guide those who lead us. May they be kind, brave, and bold.

L: When you call them to walk in the wilderness like you called Philip, may they follow as quickly to do your will.

All: Grant our prayers, O God.

L: Help us love all of your people.

All: The different ones. The annoying ones.

L: The dirty ones. The ones who hurt us.

All: The scary ones. All the ones.

L: Give us words and actions to show your abundant love.

ALL: Grant our prayers, O God.

L: Grant our prayers, O God. The ones for us, the ones for others. The ones we speak from our prayer book and the ones we hold close in our hearts. *(names from prayer book are read)* Hear and add your blessing to these our prayers, O God, and keep our hearts open to the many needs around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn: #591, Jesus, United by Your Grace

*Benediction:

May we abide in the love that comes from God.

May we live in love that is as expansive as all creation.

May we blossom with the love that comes to us in Jesus Christ, **and that sends us out to love others.**

Go in peace; and may the blessing of God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be with you all.

Amen.

*Choral Closing: #422, God Be With You (*vs. I*)

Musical Postlude

Memorials

In loving memory of **Fred & Mary Harriman**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Fred & Cathy O'Brien.

Duty Unit: May – Maude Jardine Unit/**June** – Princess Anne Unit

Tape Distribution: April 29 – Lib Hachey/**May 6** – Henry & Karen Wilson/**May 13** – Jim & Faye Wilson

Greeters: May 6 – Betty & Milt MacInnis/**May 13** – Jim & Faye Wilson/**May 20** – Carolyn & Sam Shirley

Sound System: April 29 – John MacKnight/**May 6** – Mary Reynolds/**May 13** – Ernie MacLean

Power Point: April 29 – Debbie Benson/ **May 6** – Margaret Moran Glidden/**May 13** – Mary Reynolds

Offering Collections: April 29 – Debbie Stymiest, Bill & Lib Hachey, Carol Johnston/**May 6** – Don Bowman, Clarke Fraser, Barry & Bev Campbell/**May 13** – Gail Arsenaault, Helen Jones, Holly Daley, Debbie Stymiest

Offering Counters:

April 29 – Juanita Hamilton, John MacKnight, Helen Jones/**May 6** – Brian Savoy, Plen & Carol Dickson/**May 13** – Lib Hachey, Don Benson, Barry Campbell

Honourarium

In honour of **Breana Blakely upon her graduation from the RCMP Academy in Regina, Saskatchewan** a donation to the Food Bank has been received from her proud grandparents, Buddie & Frances Blakely.

Announcements

This Week:

Sunday, April 29th – Men's Choir

Birthday Box for WDR (April Birthdays)

Monday, April 30th – 7:00 p.m. – *Property and Financial Management Team meeting*

Thursday, May 3rd – 11:00 a.m. – *Devotions at the Miramichi Senior Citizens Home. All congregation and choir members are encouraged to attend.*

Thursday, May 3rd – 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. – *Set up tables, put out items for yard sale.*

Friday, May 4th – 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. (*or any part thereof*) – *put out, set up and price items for yard sale. Please bring items for the bake sale.*

Saturday, May 5, 2018 - 8:00am – 12:00noon – **YARD & BAKE SALE** *workers needed throughout the sale and then to pack items and clean up after the sale (12-1pm)*

Upcoming:

Monday, May 7th – 11:30 a.m. – *Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit meeting with a brown bag lunch*

-6:30 p.m. – *Policy and Communication Planning Team meeting*

Tuesday, May 8th – 12 noon – *Worship & Faith Development Team meeting with a brown bag lunch*

Headstones Saddles made by Brenda Hicks or Jacky LeBreton are now on sale at Newcastle Farmers Market or by calling Brenda (773-6787) or Jacky (773-8002).

Knox Memorial Hymn Sing will be held on Sunday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. at Knox United Church. Fellowship and tea to follow in the church hall following the service. Sheets for memorials are at the back of the church.

Special Olympics Spring Tea & Fashion Show will be held on Saturday, May 12th, Beaverbrook Kin Centre, 100 Newcastle Blvd. at 1:00 p.m. Clothes will be modeled by our Special Olympics and escorted by Honorable, Lisa Harris, Mayor & City Council and the Miramichi Police. Fashions presented by Giant Tiger, Eclipse and Sports Check. Tea/coffee and dessert will be served (including desserts for special diets) and there will be door prizes. Tickets are \$15.00 a person and are on sale at Brookdale Flower Shop, Kingston's Car Wash, Country Floral or at the door. For more information please call Beth Murray 773-9981.

A Lobster supper will be held at St. James & St. John United Church Center, 556 King George Hwy. on Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day), from 2-5 PM. Take-out is available and there will be free delivery upon request by phoning the church office at 622-1598. Tickets are \$22.50, will be pre-sold only and may be purchased at the church office, Brookdale Flower Shop and Breatheasy. Tickets will be on sale until Thursday, May 10. The menu consists of lobster, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, strawberry shortcake and tea/coffee. What a great Mother's Day gift!