

## **Saint James United Church**

**December 16, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent**

**120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1**

**Phone: 328-6114 Fax: 324-9349 Evenings: 328-3198**

**Email: stjames@nb.aibn.com Website: saintjamesunited.ca**

**Presider: Bev Sharpe**

**Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson**

**Admin. Assistant: Mary Wheelan C.D. Coordinator: Joan Hall**

**Ushers: John McLellan, Jolene Caverhill, Conrad Anderson**



*Welcome all visitors and their families who may be worshipping with us this morning. We pray that you will feel at home here at Saint James and that you will feel the presence of God's Holy Spirit, as we worship. After the service please introduce yourself*

*to Bev Sharpe, sign our guest book at the back of the sanctuary and join us for coffee, tea and fellowship in the Board Room.*

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCERT**

**Prelude**

**Introit**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

**Christ is at home in your heart...**

**Place your hand over your heart...**

**Rest in the Christ light of love\* beckoning  
and breathe...breathe...breathe**

**(a time of quiet)**

**Let us now worship God.**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Dec. 16  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m.  
Presider: Bev Sharpe  
Sunday School Concert  
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship  
Sunshine Singers and Handbells  
Family Christmas Potluck  
Kirk Family Christmas 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Games Christmas Party 12:00 p.m.
- Dec. 23 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m.  
Presider: Heather Donnelly  
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship

## ***Lectionary Scripture Readings for December 23, 2018***

***Micah. 5: 2 – 5a***

***Luke 1: 46b - 55***

***Hebrews 10: 5 – 10***

***Luke 1: 39 - 45***

**SCENT FREE ENVIRONMENT: A few of our congregation members have been experiencing problems due to perfumes in the church. We have tried to maintain a Scent Free Environment within Saint James United Church. We would like to remind everyone to please consider this request and refrain from wearing perfumes.**

*Minute for Mission*

## **Spiritual Healing**

Our gifts for Mission & Service support the work of community ministries like Our Place Society in Victoria, British Columbia.

In a nurturing atmosphere of home and family, Our Place serves Victoria's most vulnerable: people who are addicted and homeless, the working poor, those who are mentally and physically challenged, and impoverished elderly people. This remarkable inner-city centre relates to the people who use it as family members, not clients, with an emphasis on creating a compassionate, caring community.

Our Place tends to its family members' physical needs, serving over 1,600 meals a day and providing hot showers, clothing, health care, and an overdose prevention site. It also cares for people's spiritual needs. "For people who live on the streets, there is a lot of grief and death," says Grant McKenzie, a staff member. "We need to be able to connect with people on a spiritual level."

In 2017, Our Place hired a First Nations spiritual leader who can better connect the centre to the 30 percent of its members who identify as Indigenous. Don Beacham is a Cree man from Norway House reserve in Manitoba who is steeped in Indigenous spiritual teachings and traditions. He connects with the Indigenous population through hosting healing circles and smudges, through drumming and song, and through his warm, caring presence. With the smudges, he says, "people feel lighter" because "they know they are cherished, cared for, and prayed for in that moment."

With your support, Our Place Society is able to focus on creating sacred and healing community.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

**Advent Candlelighting.**

*Candle Lighters Anne Marie Voutour and Jorja Voutour*

**JOY**

*(The first two candles are lit.)*

***We welcome the spark that dances with the Holy Spirit, the spark that fires and inspires our souls, the spark of creativity and wonder.***

*We receive the light of joy.*

*(The third candle is lit.)*

**Sing:** VU#6 – A Candle is Burning, vs.3

***A candle is burning, a candle of joy,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy,  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.***

**Opening Prayer**

**Holly Jolly Christmas---Ken Nichols and Molly**

### **CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE CENTURIES**

**Narrator- Ann Marie Voutour**

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16**

**Luke 2: 1 – 7**

**Away in a Manger Hand bells**

**Luke 2: 8 - 20**

**Hymn: # 38 VU "Angels We Have Heard on High"**

**The Story of St. Nicholas Evelyn Clark**

**Hymn: #1 VU "O Come O Come Immanuel" (Vs 1)**

*The Window of Charvel*    *Kelly Daye*

*The Huron Carol*            *Carrie Richard*

*White Gift Story*            *Shelley Wheelan*

**Hymn: “O Christmas Tree”**

O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
How steadfast are  
Your branches!  
Your boughs are green  
In summer's clime  
And through the snows  
Of wintertime.  
O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
How steadfast are  
Your branches!

O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
What happiness befalls me  
When oft at  
Joyous Christmas-time  
Your form inspires  
My song and rhyme.  
O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
What happiness befalls me

O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
Your boughs can  
Teach a lesson  
That constant faith  
And hope sublime  
Lend strength and

Comfort through all time.  
O Christmas Tree,  
O Christmas Tree,  
Your boughs can  
Teach a lesson

**Presentation of Offering**

**Sunshine Singers “Go Tell It On the Mountain”**  
**“He Has the Whole World in His Hands”**

**Offertory prayer**

*Sharing our faith, our journeys, and ourselves is  
what Advent (or Christmas) is about. Let us offer up  
our faith, and our hope, and ourselves as we give our offering.*

**Hymn # 73 VU “Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy”**

**Sunday School: Let’s Tell Everyone”**

**Commissioning and Benediction and Grace**

*Let us go forth  
with the song of peace in our mouth.  
Let us go forth with joy in our hearts.  
Let us go forth with love overflowing.  
Let us go, as people of hope,  
into a world that longs for hope to come.*

**Choral Benediction # 7 VU**

Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.  
When God is a child there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.

**Postlude**

## THE SONG: TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Aside from being a cute song, the 12 Days of Christmas can help you forecast the weather for the year ahead, or at least Grandma thought so 😊:-) 😊:-) According to weather lore and Grandma of course, the weather on Christmas Day and the next 11 days determine the weather for each month in the coming year.

Here's how: The weather on December 25th foretells the weather for January; December 26th's weather gives you an idea of what to expect in February, and so on. I've checked the weather – temperature and precipitation - from December 25th to January 5th and, if Grandma is correct, here's what the next 12 months should be like:

January: Mild.

February: Cold.

March: Very mild and wet

April: Mild and dry

May: Normal temps

June: Mild and wet

July: Normal temps

August: Mild and dry

September: Normal

October: Normal

November: Very mild and wet!

December: Mild and dry!

## DONATIONS

*A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Bette Farrell by Neil and Jane Girdwood, John and Mary Wheelan.*

*A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Lona Thomas by John and Mary Wheelan.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ANNUAL REPORTS

*Just one more meeting in December for the Committees then it is annual report time. Reports are due by January 15, 2019. Thank you!*

### COMMITTEES FOR 2019

*It may seem early but we need to think about our committees for the up coming year. If you are not presently on a committee and would like to be, just leave you name at the church office and you will be contacted.*

### ALZHEIMER SOCIETY SUPPORT GROUP

*This support group meets at Saint James the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. The next meeting will be from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on **December 17, 2018**. All those who are care givers may like to mark this on your calendars. Please call the church office to confirm meetings over the summer, as sometimes there are changes.*

**UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER** Time to look at **renewal** of you United Church Observer. If you do not wish to renew, please let Mary know at the church office or if your are a new subscriber, we can add your name for a subscription for the up coming year. **Cost is \$ 25.00.**

**CHURCH CALENDARS 2019** Cost \$ 5.00

**UPPER ROOMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY**

*are at back of church. Cost \$ 3.00*

**GIFTS WITH VISION BOOKS** *have arrived. Located at the aback of the Sanctuary.*

**TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP.**

*Anyone desiring to transfer their membership to St. James United Church from:*

- 1) another United Church congregation needs to acquire a certificate of transfer of membership from their previous United Church*
- 2) another denomination (ie: Roman Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran) needs to clearly assure they have been baptized and confirmed;*
- 3) as in the case of churches like Baptist, or Pentecostal with adult baptism only (based on profession of faith) requires a certificate of baptism.*

***Adherent:*** *a person who contributes regularly to the life and work of a congregation but is not a full member. (Many people establish long-standing, committed relationships with congregations without formally becoming “full members”. These people are often valued participants in the life of congregations as “adherents”).*

*Please contact a member of Session for more information.*

**ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS:** *Please check the bulletin board. There is a brochure and entry forms to submit Cover Photos for the Church Calendar, (Deadline Dec. 30, 2018) Would love to see some of your photos on these church covers and calendar.*

**CANDLE LIGHT PARADE** *Dec. 16th 6:00 -8 :00 p.m.*  
**& KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS** *(See Bulletin Board)*

**COMMUNICATION** *We are working on letting everyone know the up and coming events of the church. I would appreciate having your email address as each week I send out a message called “Keeping In Touch.”*

**SAINT JAMES UNITED CHURCH 2018  
ADVENT SERVICES**

Dec. 16	Third Sunday of Advent Sunday School Concert Family Christmas Pot Luck Christmas Kirk Service	Bev Sharpe 10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 20	Blue Christmas Service	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 23	Fourth Sunday of Advent	10:30 a.m.
Dec. 24	Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 25	No Christmas Morning Service	10:30 a.m.
Dec. 30	Regular Service	10:30 a.m.

**If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation,  
please contact them by phone or visit them in person.**

***You may be their “angel”***