

Saint James United Church

July 30th, 2017 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister's Office 328-3191 Minister's Cell Phone No: 323-1304

Minister: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

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

Ushers: Mary Dimock, Andrea Dimock

DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 30 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room
- Sept. 10th Sunday School Opening for Fall



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 Rev. Debra,, sign our guest book at the back of the sanctuary and join us for Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in the Board Room.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's 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.

Welcome

Question to Ponder: Have you ever felt that you are truly alone, that no one stands with you? When?

DONATIONS

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Shirley MacDonald by Phyllis Robinson.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Ruth Gartley by Alma Gartley.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Pam Black by Alma Gartley.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Eldora Atkinson by Phyllis Robinson.

LOVE CHILDREN? LOVE GOD?

WANTED: *Men or Women interested in being Sunday School Teachers*

Nursery Workers

*Classes Ages 5 - 7 yrs.
8 - 12 yrs.*

At the most you need to prepare for 11 Sundays in 2017 – Whole People of God Curriculum is being used. Lessons, crafts etc. suggested and explained for you.

Call to Worship

Let us gather our hearts and minds from busy-ness and bothering, from worry and weariness, from distraction and despair. Let us gather our hearts and minds for prayer and praising, for singing and swaying, for wonderment and joy. Let us worship God in the beauty of holiness.

Amen.

(Written by Kate Crawford. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2017, page 28. Used by permission.)

Prayer of Opening

Enduring One who offers grace to all who come to you, we come this day, glad of this sacred time to be “especially” with you; glad of this sacred time when we can set aside, for a while, that which would distract us or drag us down, or keep us from hearing you; and glad to draw near to your high place of the heart, where you help us to see more clearly. In this place of rest and reflection, of nurture and quenching, and of peace and healing, may we see your kingdom so clearly that we are filled with your overflowing joy. Amen.

(Written by Sheryl McLeod. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2017, page 31. Used by permission.)

Hymn

VU#415 – God We Praise You for the Morning

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Eternal God, waiting is hard – waiting for justice, waiting for peace, waiting for love, waiting for your presence to heal us. Give us the patience and passion of Jacob, to work for the deepest desire of our hearts. Give us the perseverance of Abraham, to keep going when all hope seems lost. Transform our hope into action, that we may help build your kingdom here on earth.

(time for silent confession)

Nothing can separate us from the love of God:

Not death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come.

No power on heaven or under the earth can separate us from the love of Christ:

Not height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation. Thanks be to God! Amen

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WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem

Scripture Genesis 29:15-28
 Psalm 105, VU p.828, Part One
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Message

Music for reflection

Hymn MV#79 – Spirit, Open My Heart

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation of the Offering

Offertory *What can I do? What can I bring?
 What can I say? What can I sing?
 I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
 I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

Offertory prayer

Loving God, accept these gifts as thanksgiving for your many blessings. Accept these gifts as our commitment to your kingdom. Accept these gifts and accept our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Written by Frances Flook. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2017, page 39. Used by permission.)

Minute for Mission

Announcements

Hymn VU#948 – O God, Hear My Prayer (3x)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

The Lord's Prayer VU#960

Closing Hymn VU#658 – O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Blessing and Sending Forth

Go into the world loved, healed, and forgiven.

Go into the world to love, to heal, and to forgive.

Go in the Spirit, go with God, go for Christ.

(Written by Robin Wardlaw. **Gathering**, Pentecost 1 2017, page 40. Used by permission.)

Choral Postlude VU#963 – May the Grace of Christ

Postlude

UPPER ROOMS FOR JULY AND AUGUST *have arrived and are located at the back of the church. (Cost 3.00.)*

SUMMER CONCERTS to Celebrate the 175th Anniversary of St. Gertrude's Parish, Woodstock, NB

You are invited to attend the noon hour concerts to be held at St. Gertrude's Church, 111 Union Street, Woodstock, NB in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the parish. The concerts feature local and parish musicians and singers.

All concerts with one exception, will begin at 12:05 pm and conclude at 12:45 pm.

The scheduled performers are:

Saturday, July 29—*Cameron and Sarah Slipp* (instrumental, vocal)
****7 pm start**

Friday, August 11—*Kathy Cox, Mary Hanson, Candido DaCunha* (organ, piano)

Wednesday, August 16—*Alie Ross* (vocal)

TBA---The Goodine Family (vocal, instrumental)

The Bahar Children (instrumental)

Come and enjoy these concerts during your noon hour this summer.

St Gertrude's 2017 Photo Directory –If you want to purchase

A Directory, you will need to order the Directory now by calling the Parish Office at 328-3306 by Tuesday, August 1 and the cost for the Directory is \$25. The Directory will be a nice souvenir of St Gertrude's 175th Anniversary.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 29:15-28

¹⁵Then Laban [Jacob's uncle] said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." ¹⁹Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love that he had for her.

²¹The Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." ²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.

²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)

²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶Laban said, "This is not done in our country – giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." ²⁸Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Romans 8:26-29

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹When then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ [Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches. ³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Scriptures for August 6th, 2017

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN CHALLENGE

WE HAVE ARRIVED!

***Not only that, we have toured the city
for 199.5 km. Congratulations!!***

An Awesome Job well done!

***Keep on Walking! Participation is where it's at.
Healthy people equals a Healthy Church.***

Congratulations to

***Marion MacFarlane who walked the farthest - 1152 km.
and Wanda Phillips right behind with 1147 km.***

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY SUPPORT GROUP

***This support group meets at Saint James the 3rd Monday of
each month. The next meeting will be from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on
August 21st. 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.***

COFFEE HOUR ***We serve coffee and tea after church and if you
wish to bring a snack to share, please feel free to do so. We still need
volunteers for setup and cleanup. Thank you.***

HYMNS

Dentist`s Hymn	Crown Him with Many Crowns
Weatherman`s Hymn	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
Contractor`s Hymn	The Church`s One Foundation
The Tailor`s Hymn	Holy, Holy, Holy
The Golfer`s Hymn	There`s a Green Hill Far Away
The Politician`s Hymn	Standing On The Promises
Optometrist`s Hymn	Open My Eyes That I Might See
The IRS Agent`s Hymn	I Surrender All
The Gossip`s Hymn	Pass It On
The Electrician`s Hymn	Send The Light
The Shopper`s Hymn	Sweet Bye and Bye
The Realtor`s Hymn	I`ve got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop
The Massage Therapists Hymn	He Touched Me
The Doctor`s Hymn	The Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway,
here are a few more hymns

-45	God Will Take Care of You
-65	Nearer My God To Thee
-85	The World Is Not My Home
-95	Lord, I`m Coming Home
-100	Precious Memories

Lord, give me a sense of humour,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life,
And pass it on to other folk.

**You are invited to join us for a dedication
ceremony of the Woodstock Peace Pole and
Labyrinth erected in partnership between
the Town of Woodstock
Saint James United Church
and
The Multicultural Association of Carleton County
(MACC)**



Peace Poles are recognized as the most prominent symbol of peace. It is estimated that there are more than 200,000 Peace Poles throughout almost every country on earth. This 4 sided pole bares the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in 8 different languages; Maliseet, English, French, German, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Hebrew. This monument symbolizes a united community with acceptance of all cultures and faiths.

The Labyrinth is an ancient symbol that acts as a metaphor for life's journey. All are encouraged to actively walk the labyrinth and enjoy. This symbol is meant to take us on a journey within ourselves so that we can become centered & take that back out into the world with a greater awareness that we are all humans walking together on this journey through life.

On behalf of the Town of Woodstock, Saint James United Church and the Multicultural Association of Carleton County, Welcome!!

Dedication ceremony Date: Thursday, August 10th

Time: 6pm

**Location: Saint James United Church Green Space
120 Chapel Street, Woodstock, NB. E7M 1H1**

