Forest Hill United Church

An Affirming Congregation

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'

www.foresthillunited.com

Summer Worship
September 3, 2017 at 10 am
13th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship**! Libby Cassidy**, Chair of the Spiritual Guidance Committee, is leading us in worship today. May you feel God's presence here and be enlivened by God's Spirit. After worship, please join us for refreshment and conversation.

While there is no Sunday School for the summer months, children are most welcome to join us for the service. Quiet activities are available for busy hands.

Our greeters this morning are **Lorna McKnight** and **Joe Rideout**, our teller is **William Hughes,** and our music is led by **Alex Good** and the **FHUC Choir**.

Forest Hill United Church is a safe place for all people to gather regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, family status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. All are welcome here!

Gathering

At the **, you are asked to rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Welcoming the Light

****Introit:** ***(Sung Together)*** #156 MV

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

Welcome & Church News

Call to Worship*:* ***(Spoken together)***

One: On a hot summer day in the dust of a city street,
All: **God is there.**
One: In a warm summer rain while running for shelter,
All: **God is there.**
One: On a beach by the shore, where the water sparkles or the waves roar,
All: **God is there.**
One: In a wide-open sky filled with stars past counting, or an awe-some eclipse,
All: **God is there**
One: In the safety and welcome of this space,
All: **God is here.**

Gathering Prayer: ***(Spoken Together)***

Let us gather our hearts and minds
from busy-ness and bothering,
from worry and weariness,
from distraction and despair.

 Continued ----------→

Let us gather our hearts and minds
for prayer and praising,
for singing and clapping.
for wonderment and joy.
Let us worship God in the beauty of holiness. Amen

****Opening Hymn:** I the Lord of Sea and Sky VU #509

Exploring

Words from Our Bible: **Jennifer Abbott**

Exodus 3: 1-15

Responsive reading: Psalm 105
Parts One and Three VU pp828-829

Romans 12: 9 -21

Matthew 16: 11-25

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Words and Images from Our World

****Song of Praise:** Draw the Circle Wide #145 MV

Message: Meeting God

****Hymn of Reflection** Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness #375 MV

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

****Offering Verse:** ***(Sung Together)*** #33 MV

Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
hallelujah forever more!

****Prayer over the Gifts**

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Jesus: **(**Spoken together)

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.
From a New Zealand Prayer Book

****Closing Hymn:** When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides #169 MV

****Sharing the Light**

****Blessing**

****Choral Response:** ***(Sung Together 2 Times)*** #958 VU

Halle, halle, halle-lu-u-jah! Halle, halle, halle-lu-u-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-u-jah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Postlude:

Some material selected from issues of "Gathering"

Please submit your **announcements** to Kris for the Sunday bulletin by Noon on Thursday of each week to ensure that they are printed.

OFFICE INFORMATION
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:45 - 3:45 pm
foresth.office@bellaliant.com

In the event of a pastoral care emergency
Please call Diane Robinson
(506) 459-8779 [home]

Church News

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 17 at 12:30 pm to receive the report of the Joint Search committee to approve a call for a prospective minister. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting.

Scripture Readers – are needed each week to assist during Worship Services. Please help Patricia Powell (455-8602), who coordinates readers, by indicating on the Reader Chart, which Sundays you would be available to read (√), if needed, and also when you would not be available (x). New readers are most welcome, and names could be added to the Chart.

The FHUBC will meet on Tuesday September 5th in the parlour at 12 noon. Septembers book is *The Lonely Hearts Hotel* by Heather O'Neill

The Forest Hill United Choir will resume rehearsals at 11:30am Sunday September 10. We are always welcoming new members. Experience is not necessary. We are a very fun and jubilant choir. We could love to sing with you! We practice Sundays at 9:30am and then 11:30-12:30. All are welcome!

Ushers/Greeters needed: Please check your schedule to see if you are available for one or more Sundays to help out with set up and greeting our congregation on Sunday mornings. Signup sheet is on the back table. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me. Many thanks. Lorna McKnight

There will be a bible study at 7 pm on Monday, 11 Sept in the library. The topic will be Adam and Eve (Genesis 2 and 3), which is the story the Sunday school students will be following for the next several weeks. Everyone is welcome to attend. If a different time for our bible studies would suit you better, please contact Margie Roxborough at 455-0576.

FHUC Quilting: Starting on September 11, the Quilt Group will meet on Mondays from 10 to noon. We invite anyone to join us. Bring along any type of needlework and join in the conversation and camaraderie. For more information, please contact Mary Grant, May Houston or Margie Roxborough.

Community Events

The Sheffield Pastoral Charge, which includes the Sheffield United Church, Lakeville Corner United Church, and Scotchtown United Church are hosting a Quilting Display on Saturday, Sept 9 from 10:00 until 6:00. It will include antique and modern quilting samples for viewing at the Sheffield United Church, 2169 Route 105, Sheffield, New Brunswick, approximately 20 km east of Fredericton. We would be pleased if you could share this information with your congregations. This historic church is located on the Saint John River and we are in hopes of receiving your support by donation at the door. Please take this opportunity to travel down our beautiful river, visit our beautiful old church and meet our members. Light refreshments provided. Thankful in prayer. Jo-Ann Bridges Committee member. For further information please feel free to contact me at 385-2504

DivorceCare will be held in the church parlour at Grace Memorial Baptist Church on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM beginning Sept 12 and running for 13 weeks. Cost is $25 and scholarships are available upon request. GriefShare will be held in the church parlour on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 PM beginning Sept 18 and running for 13 weeks. Cost is $25 and scholarships are available upon request.

GRIEF SHARE Support Group Begins Thursday, September 7, 2017
Have you experienced the recent death of a loved one? You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Brunswick Street Baptist Church is pleased to offer a 13-week ***Grief Share*** grief recovery seminar and support group, starting on Thursday, September 7, 2017 in the Family Room. ***Grief Share*** is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. ***Grief Share*** features a video series that features Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective combined with support group discussion. Please feel free to call **458-8348** if you would like more information.

DivorceCare: Are there those you know who are feeling the pain caused by marital estrangement, separation or divorce? They can find hope at ***DivorceCare***. This 13 week program which features expert video segments and small group discussion provides practical suggestions for getting through and overcoming the results of marital breakup. A new session is beginning on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm in the Family Room at Brunswick Street Baptist Church. For more information contact the church office at 458-8348. There is no cost for this program.

1st St. Margaret's Scouting Group is looking for Adult Volunteers
Looking for a great organization to become involved in? Go on interesting adventures? Learn new skills? Make a difference in kids lives? 1st St. Margaret's Scouting Group is looking for adult volunteers for 2017-18. We are especially looking for volunteers to work with our Beaver Colony (Ages 5 – 7) and our Scout Troop (Ages 11 – 14). We are also looking for volunteers to serve on our Group Committee which supports our program sections at monthly meetings. There are a variety of opportunities available: Regular full-time volunteers, part time or occasional volunteers, Group Committee Members. We have a spot for you, regardless of the amount of time you have to give. No prior experience required and training is provided. For more information, please contact Peter Kent, Group Commissioner, at (506) 453-0919 or kent@unb.ca

St. Theresa's Catholic Women's League 16 Annual *Twilight Retreat* will be held at St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, 1 William Street, Fredericton, on Monday, September 11, 2017 in the Anne Wrynn Hall. Registration is at 4:15 pm with the first session beginning at 4:30 pm and a potluck at 5:30 pm. This year's facilitator is Fr. Martin Arputham. The theme is "Inspired by the Spirit-Women Respond to God's Call". Men, women and teens are welcome. Contact Debbie 472-2916 or Trish 238-7121.

Minute for Mission: Educating Girls in China

Our gifts for Mission & Service have supported many overseas personnel. Let us hear the story of Laura H. Hambley, born in Port Perry, Ontario, in 1877. Laura was a member of the Woman's Missionary Society appointed as a teacher to West China in 1904.

By all accounts a strong woman, Laura's major contribution was in girls' education. She overcame widespread resistance in a city in China to build a four-storey girls' school. She gathered architectural plans from across Canada, then created the plan for her school. Starting with a handful of students, enrollment grew as more and more parents saw value in their daughters receiving an education.

During World War 2, when the school housed 200 girls, Laura and the staff were faced with the threat of being bombed by Japan. To keep them safe, Laura took her girls from the city up into the mountains to an old monastery.

Laura spent 40 years educating the girls in the city. She was also a successful advocate for ending the practice of binding girls' feet. When she left in 1943 for the long journey home, the entire city came out to wish her well. They had high esteem for their beloved "Han Jaousa," her Chinese name, which in English means "Hambley Teacher."

We sing thanksgiving for missionaries who offered their life in service with global partner churches. Mission & Service is built on the foundation of their vision and witness!