Forest Hill United Church

An Affirming Congregation

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'

www.foresthillunited.com

Summer Worship
July 2, 2017 at 10 am

Welcome to worship! It is good that you are here. We are very pleased to welcome **Bob Jones** as our worship leader today. May you find the time spent here challenging for your mind, quieting for your body, and refreshing for your spirit. After our service, we invite you to join us for cold refreshments and a time of fellowship.

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 **Graham Powell** and **Patricia Powell**, 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!

If you call Bob Jones on his cell phone 506-476-8020 and don't get an answer, please try to call his house line 506-451-8165 right away.

Gathering

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

Prelude

Lighting the Candle

****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*:* ***(Leader)***

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

God, mysterious and encouraging, you always accept us, in our messy chaotic lives. Your acceptance of us leads to peace, and from that peace comes a willingness to reconcile. Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary…and I will give you rest." He brought peace that broke down dividing walls so that reconciliation with God can happen
We are grateful for what Jesus has done; God is our strength as we come together to build a loving community of faith. Amen
Sheryl McLeod, Admaston P.C., Renfrew, Ont

****Opening Hymn:** Come, Let us Sing #222 VU

Listening

Readings from Our Bible: **Jennifer Abbott**

Psalm 33 P 760 VU

John 8 : 31 - 38

2 Corinthians 5 : 17 - 21

Luke 15 : 11 – 24

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

****Song of Praise:** What Does the Lord Require of You #701 VU

Message: "Home" Part 2

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

Timeless God, you have revealed yourself through ancestors of faith and continue to speak to us through modern-day sojourners. We gather as people of faith have gathered over the eons, in humility and commitment. May the gifts offered continue to tell the story of faithfulness, gifts that we offer in the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn of reflection: *O Canada* *#524 VU*

Prayers of the People ***(Spoken Together)***

Gracious and loving God, in whom all creation and all peoples live and move and have our being, we celebrate our nation, Canada today. We gather in gratitude for the richness of the land. We are thankful today for those who teach us that we are all one with creation and with each other. We offer our gratitude to you, creator of life for a country in which all are free and safe to cast our vote, where our vote and our voices count and where we can profess what we believe. So we pray in awe and wonder, seeking to live in such a way that reflects our gratitude. (Leader recites cares and concerns) Gathering all our prayers together we pray the words of Jesus:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen

Lord's Prayer from #914 VU

****Closing Hymn:** Three Things I Promise #176 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:

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

Minister - **Rev. Bob Jones, C.D., B.TH.**
Office hours Monday morning, and can be reached at
(506) 451-8165 [home] (506) 476-8020 [cell]

If you call Bob Jones on his cell phone and don't get an answer, please try to call his house line right away, as he has a new phone.

Church News

Soccer Assistance. The teenager from the Syrian family we are sponsoring is interested in playing soccer this summer. He has been registered already, but we are looking for assistance with both the financial costs (aprox. $300 for registration fees and equipment). He has practices/games from 7:30 to 9:00 every Monday and Wednesday until the middle of August at the Scotiabank North field (next to Willie O'Ree Place). We now have drivers to cover most of the transportation. However, we are looking for people to drive Aug 2, 9 and 16 (Wed 7:30 - 9 pm) and for relief drivers for Monday evenings if the regular driver cannot make it. Please contact Margie Roxborough (455-0576) for August and Annemarie Manson if you can help with relief driving. Thank you so much for your support.

First United Church, Truro, NS, has been selected to compete for prize money in the National Trust for Canada's "This Place Matters" competition. Please go to www.thisplacematters.ca and then go to Windows into the Future and click to help them win $40,000 to $60,000 towards replacing their church windows. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the bathrooms.

Vacation Bible School 2017 "MAKER FUN FACTORY – created by God, built for a purpose" St. Paul's, Forest Hill and Wilmot United Churches will once again be joining together for our VBS program. WHEN: August 21-25 from 9:00 – 11:30 WHERE: Wilmot United Church AGES: age 4 and up. **** We will discover a world where curious children and youth become hands-on inventors and discover they're lovingly created by God. Great music, great stories, great crafts – great fun! We will use our hearts, minds and imagination to participate in the creative life of God remembering that God is with us wherever we go… so… mark your calendars. If you could help one morning and enjoy the fun, or help prepare snacks or activity projects, please contact Annemarie (472-5270 or pmanson@nbnet.nb.ca)

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.

Community Events

St. Paul's Organ Academy If you are a piano student . . . young or old . . . and would like to try your skills on a three-manual pipe organ, come along to St. Paul's United Church, 224 York Street on Saturday, July 8. Dr. Sharon Pond, organist at St. Paul's and Dr. Willis Noble, formerly at Christ Church Cathedral, are offering a day-long workshop where you will get a turn at the organ and learn the basics of performing Baroque music. The session starts at 9 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The fee for the day, including lunch, is $25. You can register in advance with either instructor at spond@bellaliant.net or willis.noble@gmail.com .

Enjoy Strawberry Shortcake and BBQ at Nashwaaksis United Church, 46 Main Street, on Wednesday, July 12, from 4:00-6:30 pm One hamburger or two hotdogs, beverage, fresh strawberry shortcake and whipped cream for only $10. Tell your friends and neighbours! All are welcome!

Minute for Missions
Qu(e)erying Religion

Our gifts for Mission & Service support university students on campus. Let us hear a story of one space for University of Toronto students.

"Faith and queerness have not always been natural friends," says the Rev. Ralph Wushke, chaplain at the Ecumenical Chaplaincy at the University of Toronto.

In 2005 the chaplaincy created Qu(e)erying Religion. The program creates a safe space for students of all faiths to explore gender identity, sexual orientation, and religious belief. It has grown to become a meaningful and life-giving program for students.

When students arrive at university it is often the first time they are able to explore who they are. Many come from tight-knit communities and find that at university they are free to explore their identity as well as their faith.

Qu(e)erying Religion holds pub night discussions on such topics as online dating, gender identity, and coming out to friends and family, and it hosts seminars and workshops on queerness and faith.

We sing thanksgiving for the support of safe spaces for university students on campus.

If Mission & Service is already a regular part of your giving, thank you so much! If you have not given for Mission & Service, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. In all our Mission & Service giving, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!