Forest Hill United Church
An Affirming Congregation
'open doors, open hearts, open minds'

www.foresthillunited.com

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2017 at 10 am

Welcome to Worship! **Mary Grant**, Treasurer of the Church, is leading us in worship today. May you feel God's presence here with us as we worship, as we make decisions regarding our future and as we depart to live our Christian lives throughout the coming week.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new!"

Socrates

WELCOME to worship! It is good that you are here.
Our music director is **Alex Good**,
and the **FHUC Choir**.
Our greeter this morning is **May Houston**,
our Sunday School teachers are **John Neville**
and **Margie Roxborough**,
our hospitality host is **Marilyn Lohnes**,
and our tellers are **Jennifer Abbott** and **William Hughes**.

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

Gathering

At the **, please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Welcoming the Light

****Introit:** ***(Sung Together)***

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:

One: We gather here in our Church home
All: We know we are welcome here.
One: We meet to celebrate our 50 years as a Community of Faith
All: We know we are welcome here.
One: We meet to think about our spirituality.
All: We know we are welcome here.
One: We open our doors, hearts and arms to all who enter here.
All: We will make everyone welcome here.
One: We meet to take a step into our continuing future.
All: We know we will welcome new leadership here.

By M. Grant,*2017*

Gathering Prayer: ***(Spoken by All)***

O God, we gather here to share what we have done over the summer,
To celebrate our 50 years as a church
To join as a community of faith, pondering questions and making decisions which will impact our future.
Be with us and guide our thoughts and voices at this time

and in this place

****Opening Hymn:** River MV #3

Exploring

First Reading: Romans 14: 1-12

Story Time:

****Song of Praise:** One More Step Along the World I Go VU *#639*

After the first verse the children and teachers will leave for Sunday School

Words from Our Bible: **Marilyn Lohnes**

Exodus 14: 19-31
Responsive Reading: Exodus 15: 1b – 11, 20-21,
page 876 VU (with Refrain)
Matthew 18: 21-35

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

Special Music: Creator god you gave us life By Judith Snowdon

Message: "Embracing the Future"

****Hymn of Reflection:** Walls That Divide are Broken Down
VU #691

Responding

Minute for Mission: **Diane Robinson**

Presentation of Our Gifts

****Offering Verse:** ***(Sung Together)*** **VU #300, verse 3**

All our labour, all our watching,
all our calendar of care,
in the crops of your creation,
take, O God, they are our prayer.

****Prayer After Giving:**

Prayers of Our Community:

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

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, and VU pg.916

****Closing Hymn:** Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New
MV #115

****Sharing the Light**

****Blessing:**

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

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

Postlude:

Please join us for our Welcome Back corn boil to be followed by our Congregational Meeting.

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

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**
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]

Printed sermons and large print bulletins are available from our greeters for anyone who might find either useful.

Church News

COMING UP @ FHUC	
Quilt Group	Mondays 10:00 am -12:00 pm Upper Room
Forest Hill UCW	Monday Sept 18, 2pm at Doreen Kissicks' home
Choir Practice	Sunday at 9:30 and 11:30-12:30 in the Choir Room

Message from the Board: Since our last report, your Board has met several times. Here are the important items to report.
-The manse furnace is being replaced and plans are underway to upgrade several appliances. The Board has applied for a Manse Improvement Grant to help offset the cost of this project.
-Your Search Committee, led by Diane Robinson, has been active over the summer and will present a report to the congregation on Sunday, September 17.
-Our Leadership Development Committee needs a new chairperson. The primary areas of responsibility are Christian Development and M&P. There is more information about duties in our new Constitution and By-Laws document on our website. Speak to Jula or any Board member if you are interested.
-FHUC will host a Gretta Vosper Colloquy on Wednesday, September 27. There is more information about this event on our bulletin board.
-The Fredericton Area United Church Visionaries is a group looking for ways to cooperate on future common projects. The next meeting will be a St. Paul's United Church on September 20. See Jean Fisher for more information.
-The Land Use Committee has met over the summer and will submit a formal report to the Board later this Fall. A number of dead trees in our woodlot have been marked for removal.
-On May 18, Mary Grant was formally elected to the position of Treasurer. At the same meeting, your Board voted on several remits as follows: #1 (Three Council Model) Yes; #2 (Elimination of Transfer and Settlement) Yes; #3 (Office of Vocation) Yes; #4 (Funding a New Model) No. For a full explanation of these remits, see https://www.gc42.ca/remits

Forest Hill UCW will meet at the home of Doreen Kissick, 792 Burden St on Monday, Sept 18 at 2pm. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to join us

The Women's Inter-Church Council is having the Executive Meeting on Monday, September 18 at 10:30 am at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Church, Lincoln. Directions: Stay on the Lincoln Road till you see the sign St. Francis of Assisi Church.

FHUC 50th Anniversary Working Group will meet Thursday September 21st in the Parlour.

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The Interchurch Refugee Committee is looking for people who would be willing to drive members of our refugee family to appointments, for groceries, etc. Both adults speak some English and are working hard to improve their English language skills. We want to compile a list from all three churches do distribute the responsibility around. If you are willing, please contact Margie Roxborough at 455-0576.

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.

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

Community Events

HYMN SING - Join the congregation of Brunswick Street Baptist Church for an hour of singing your favourite hymns on Sunday, September 24, 6:30 pm. All welcome.

NASHWAAKSIS UNITED CHURCH *(46 Main St.)* UCW Unit 6 is hosting a bridge luncheon on Thursday, October 19th, at 12 noon here in our auditorium. *To reserve your table for $40, please contact Connie at 472-4744. Call now to reserve your spot!*

GRIEF SHARE Support Group at 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, combined with support group discussion. Please feel free to call **458-8348** if you would like more information.

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DivorceCare: Are there those you know who are feeling the pain caused by marital estrangement, separation or divorce? 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

Fair trade coffee, tea, sugar, and chocolate are available every Sunday here at Forest Hill. Make your selection and support the outreach efforts of our congregation!





Just a friendly reminder that Forest Hill United Church is a **scent-free environment.** Strong scents, aftershave lotions and perfumes have an effect upon others with allergies and asthmatic problems. No scents make good sense.

Minute for Missions
Preparing for Ministry

Our gifts for Mission & Service support theological schools. Let us hear a reflection from Principal Richard Topping, who shared some reflections in the fall newsletter of the Vancouver School of Theology.

"In theological education we are trying to make preparing for ministry in the name of Jesus as difficult as it ought to be. I have thought a great deal about why ministry is so hard—secularity, post-Christendom, multiculturalism, shrinking church, opportunities to golf.

"My friend Will Willimon has persuaded me, however, that it is Jesus' fault. He is really hard to follow—I mean 'pray for your enemies, bless those who curse you.' It is hard to get formed for that for life. But as Tom Hanks, who played a baseball coach in the movie *A League of Their Own*, said, 'If baseball was easy, then everyone would do it.' It's the same with theological education.

"We want our graduates to be engaged people, folks willing to get involved in the world, not just wait for the next…. Our theological ethos is designed to nurture practitioners who are making a difference in the world for God and the gospel. It is the DNA of VST to get involved in the big challenges the world faces."

We sing thanksgiving for the gifts of Mission & Service that support students who are discerning their path to ministry through the inspiring guidance of theological schools such as the Vancouver School of Theology.

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!