Forest Hill United Church

An Affirming Congregation

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'

www.foresthillunited.com

Summer Worship
September 10, 2017 at 10 am
First Sunday in the Season of Creation

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. Worship next Sunday, September 17, will be led by Mary Grant.

Today marks the beginning of a new year for our Sunday School. Please talk to Karen Flinn or Margie Roxborough if you have any questions about registration, or would like to help in any way. There is a Nursery for infants and toddlers if requested.

Our greeters this morning are **John Neville**,
our tellers are **Diane Robinson** and **Jean Fisher,**
our hospitality host is **Marilyn Lohnes,**
our Sunday School Teachers are **Margie Roxborough**,
Jula Hughes and **Brenda Cassidy,**
and our music is led by **Alex Good** and the **FHUC Choir**.

At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolostoqey land. Forest Hill is a safe place for people to gather, regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, family status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Our mission is to live by the teaching and example of Jesus Christ in a visible and vital community in Christian worship, fellowship and service. 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: God is creative and self-giving,
generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe.
All: **Nothing exists that does not find its source in God.**
Our first response to God's providence is gratitude.
We sing thanksgiving.

One: Finding ourselves in a world of beauty and mystery,
of living things, diverse and interdependent,
of complex patterns of growth and evolution,
of subatomic particles and cosmic swirls,
All: we sing of God the Creator,
the Maker and Source of all that is.

One: Each part of creation reveals unique aspects of God the Creator, who is both in creation and beyond it.
All: All parts of creation, animate and inanimate, are related.
All creation is good.
We sing of the Creator,
who made humans to live and move
and have their being in God.

from the Song of Faith 2006

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

Knit us together with all of your creation, O God,
Joining us as one body in Christ's name.
Breathe into us your inspiration for justice.
Light our lives with grace-filled self-giving.
Fire our hearts with the Good News.
Unlock our minds with your revelation.
Gift us with your presence, we pray. Amen.
from Gathering magazine, 2013

****Opening Hymn:** Mother Earth MV #39
(Sung to tune of #240 VU)

Exploring

Words from Our Bible: **Sandy MacMillan**

Genesis 1: 1-25

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33 p 760 VU

John 1: 1-14

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

Story Time:

****Song of Praise:** God of the Sparrow #229 VU

Message: "Turtles all the way down"

****Hymn of Reflection** Called by Earth and Sky #135 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)

Dear One,
closer to us than our own hearts, farther from us than the most distant star, you are beyond naming.

May your powerful presence become obvious not only in the undeniable glory of the sky,
but also in the seemingly base and common processes of the earth. Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul together, because clever as you have made us, we still owe our existence to you.

We recognize that to be reconciled with you,
we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings,
putting hate and bitterness behind us.

We are torn between our faith in your goodness and our awareness of the evil in the world,
so deliver us from the temptation to despair.

Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty.
So it is.
Amen.

an interpretation by James Burklo 2013 on ProgressiveChristianity.org

****Closing Hymn:** For the Healing of the Nations #678 VU

****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 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.

COMING UP @ FHUC

Quilt Group	Mondays 10:00 am -12:00 pm Upper Room
Bible Study	September 11 at 7pm in the library
Welcome back Corn Boil immediately after service Sept 17 **Congregational meeting** at 12:30, after the welcome back corn boil	
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

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.

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.

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

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.

Community Events

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.

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

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.

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

Minute for Mission: A Vibrant Youth Program

Our gifts for Mission & Service support programs for children and youth. Let us hear a story of The GO Project.

"The GO Project has taught me so much about faith and social justice, but I didn't even notice I was learning because I never thought you could have that much fun while learning!"

Those are the words of a youth who took part in The GO Project youth mission program. For nine years, The GO Project has been offering a vibrant experience of church to youth and children.

The first program happened at Islington United Church in Toronto, and it's been an adventure ever since. First offered for youth, GO now also offers summer camp programs for children as well as a young adult intentional community.

The GO Project has youth programs in Halifax, Vancouver, Saskatoon, and St. John's, in addition to the Toronto site. The youth live in community and work alongside volunteers at community ministries in the host city. Youth who have participated in The GO Project leave with a strong sense of community and a passion for leadership.

We sing thanksgiving that, through our gifts for Mission & Service, children and youth continue to grow in faith and community, able to offer leadership that can mend the world!