

St. James United Church Life and Work, April 30, 2017

We acknowledge a donation to GO Project/Rendez-vous in loving memory of Joanne Hapgood, R.N., B.N., from the family.

Today after the 11am Service:

*Coffee Hour hosted by our UCW;

*Also, **important** Congregational Meeting concerning the J.N.A.C. (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) Report. Congregational members are encouraged to attend.

Sunday School/Nursery: Sarah Norman has taken over the leadership duties from Rebecca Pike. Welcome aboard Sarah!

Music for the Soul: A time of prayer and song followed by a brown bag lunch, every Wednesday for 5 weeks beginning next Wednesday, May 3 at 12:15. This time of worship will be approximately 30 minutes in length followed by lunch. All are welcome. Any questions, please contact Rev. Pamela.

Next Sunday, May 7 GO Project and Rendez-vous youth, young adults and their families will be offering a soup lunch after the service. We ask for a donation towards the groups' trips, and welcome you to join us for a time of community and fellowship!

St. James monthly Long Term Care (Pleasant View Towers) Service will be on Tuesday, May 9 at 2pm. All volunteers please meet in the chapel at 1:30.

Seniors are invited to a special Worship Service on Tuesday, May 16 at 2pm. If you wish to participate, please let us know by calling the church office by Thursday, May 11 (722-1881, ext. 200), or email info@stjamesuc.org; transport can be provided.

St. James 'Day Away': All are invited to a congregational inspirational day of fun, learning and fellowship on June 11 beginning at 1:30 pm. This mini retreat will be led by the Rev. Roger Janes, Stewardship and Gifts Ambassador, UCC, Atlantic Canada. We will gather at North Bank Lodge, Pippy Park. Supper will include a barbecue, followed by worship and some fun. There will be time in the afternoon to walk, talk and enjoy the blessings of nature. Please mark this in your calendars. It will be an event not to be missed!! More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Minute for Mission: Our gifts to Mission & Service support safe spaces for children. Such a place is Camp Caterpillar on Candle Lake, Saskatchewan. One parent shared her experience of being a mom with 3 gender-variant children,

afraid to give them the experience of camp for fear they would be singled out as weird, bullied by staff and other children because they do not fit into the gender norm. After much research, she discovered Camp Tapawingo. A member of the board took her request for a camp for children like hers to a board meeting. The request was approved and the director named. The camp would include children aged 7-13 who happened to be transgender, and extended invitations to their siblings as well. 22 children, transgender, two-spirit and cis-gender arrived at Camp Caterpillar. They formed friendships; were safe accepted and valued for their authentic selves. These young humans continue to support each other through emails and texts. We sing thanksgiving for LGBTQ+ camps like Camp Caterpillar.

This evening at Wesley United Church: Male Choir and Rev. Mercer will hold a service, starting with a sing-along at 6:50 pm. The service will feature hymns made famous by Fanny Crosby. All are welcome.

500 Years since Martin Luther: A journey of reformation and transformation tomorrow Monday, May 01 at Queen's College Faculty of Theology from 12:30 to 5:00pm. This event is organized to mark the beginning of the significant historic, theological and cultural changes that started when Martin Luther nailed ninety-five theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. Participants can attend any or all sessions:

12:30: Midday Prayer;

1pm: *Historical Context of the Reformation*, Michelle Rebidoux, PhD

1:45: *Martin Luther: His Essential Theology*, David Bell, DPhil

2:30: Nutrition break

2:45: *Viewing and discussion of Modern Luther Festivals*, Barry Stephenson, PhD

3:15: *Panel on Contemporary Significance of Martin Luther's Reformation*, Sean McGrath, PhD

Kevin Collins will be performing at St. Augustine's on Friday, May 5 at 7pm. \$25 tickets available from Claudette at 753-1931

'reVITALize' - Opportunities Born out of Challenges! We are currently in a time when many of the institutions that we created, developed, paid for, volunteered at, understood - are rapidly changing or closing. With all of these changes there is cost and an opportunity! Rev Dr. Jeff Crittenden, Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Huron University College at Western University and Senior Minister at Metropolitan United Church in London, ON will be visiting St. John's to deliver an inspirational message entitled "*reVITALize' - Opportunities born out of Challenges!*" during a 3 course dinner event on May 27 at 7:30pm at Wesley United Church. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling the Gower Street United Church office at 753-7286 or by email at groberts2528@gmail.com