St. James United Church Life and Work, February 17, 2019

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:

to the General Fund in loving memory of Muriel Baker from:

- Phil Saunders
- Maxine Ivory
- Tom & Maxine Rose
- Jack & Florence Head
- Annie Parsons
- -Vera Marshall
- -Denise Rees
- -Marion Davis

to the Memorial Fund in loving memory of Muriel Baker from:

- Herman & Mary Avery
- Beverly Taylor
- Dave & Brenda Pike
- Jack & Barb Taylor
- Ralph & Ethel Hiscock

to the UCW in loving memory of Muriel Baker from Doug & Joan Bursey.

Financial Update: To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$3,961. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.)

Givings for: January 20: \$2,977
February 3: \$2,878
February 10: \$3,704

Today: *Please join us for Coffee Hour, hosted by the Senior Choir, today after the 11am Worship Service.

*Last call for Confirmation, 2019: Calling all interested youth, grade 7 and up, as well as interested adults, for the 2019 confirmation program, please contact Susan at 722-1881 ext 204, or susan@stjamesuc.org

*Youth Group, 7-9pm, this week in the Auditorium.

We Value Your Membership at St. James! "If you would like to become a full member of St. James Congregation, we would be honoured to welcome you! Are you unsure of your current status with the church? I can help you, and would love to chat with you to help you determine your status and become a Full Member of our Congregation. Please contact me: Susan Pike 576-0703 or by email susanpike@warp.nfld.net"

Tomorrow, Monday, February 18:

- *Sewing Studio, 3-6pm in the Fellowship Room. New people welcome.
- *The St. James Guitar Group play at Karwood Retirement Retreat at 2pm.
- *Women's Yarn Gatherers at 7:30pm. Come for a yarn and/or bring your yarn and needles. Non-denominational women's meeting on the third Monday of the month. All are welcome to come and share an evening of fellowship and fun. Bring a friend!

Tuesday, February 19: Book Group (every 2 weeks) cafe style discussion of *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian McLaren in the Youth Room at 7pm-9.

Thursday, January 31: Not a Bible Study, 'Painting the Stars,' at 7:30pm.

Saturday, February 23: Time change for Ukelele in the Youth Room at 12:30pm.

World day of Prayer: This annual ecumenical service will be held on Friday, March 1st at 7pm in St. Mary's Church on Craigmiller Avenue. The program for 2019 was developed by the women of Slovenia. Two representatives from St. James are participating in the service. Everyone is welcome!

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for Mission & Service support the work of Iridesce: The Living Apology Project. This project was created to encourage storytelling around the 1988 decisions to welcome gay, lesbian and bisexual people into full membership and ministry in the United Church - a welcome that was expanded to include people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in 2009. Iridesce has brought stories of challenge, conflict and lament to light. For many, the decision was a celebration, and continues to empower communities to draw the circle wide and wider still. Dani shared, "I am a trans non-binary person... I wasn't expecting to be so openly accepted, and it fills my heart to know that I can love God and be proud of my gender identity." Morgan, who grew up in the post 1988 church, wrote, "It is my hope that the church will not simply take for granted its policy... that we will recognize how far we are from embodying that policy and how much farther we are from assimilating it into the earth-shattering welcome of the people of God." We give thanks for the gifts of Iridesce: The Living Apology Project.

This afternoon, 3-4pm: *Growing the Voices – Festival 500: Hymns For All Hands* at Gower Street United Church. They will be singing a dozen or more popular hymns together, led by Dr. Doug Dunsmore. The event is free to everyone, all ages are welcome and no singing experience is required.

Cowan Heights United Church is hosting a Moose/Beef Stew on Saturday, February 23 at 6pm. Tickets are \$15/person from Cindy at 745-2871.