

Life and Work - February 26, 2023

We offer our Condolences to:

Danny Fry on the passing of his father, Calvin Fry on February 12, 2023. Funeral took place on Feb 17th from Holy Redeemer Anglican Church, Spaniard's Bay.

Sheila Wedgewood and family on the passing of her husband, Godfrey on February 17th, 2023. Funeral service took place from Carnell's Chapel on Monday Feb 20th, 2023.

The Visitor: The season of Lent is upon us and there's a new edition of The Visitor available. Get information about upcoming Lent and Easter services, the symbolism of this holy time, upcoming events and more. Pick one up today or read online at <http://www.stjamesuc.org>.

Thank you: Thank you to the members of the AOTS and the CE committee for hosting the Pancake Supper on Tuesday, and of course thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the meal and help clean up.

Pub Theology: It is time for Pub Theology this coming Wednesday (March 1). So come to Guv'nor Pub at 7 pm to share a beverage and have a discussion about faith, spirituality, ethics and life's big questions.

Sewing Studio on Monday in Fellowship Room 7-9 pm. or at Memorial United, Portugal Cove 1-3pm. All sewers, knitters, needleworkers and crafters welcome.

A Penitential Beginning to Lent: A traditional way to begin Lent is to gather for prayer on Ash Wednesday, during which a cross in ash is traced on people's foreheads (or hand). This practice can be traced back to the biblical association between ashes and sorrow for sin. Ashes are also like soil and so invite us to consider how we come from the earth. While we associate this with more liturgical denominations, Ash Wednesday services are increasingly common in the United Church. You will have a chance to receive ashes at the end of the 11 am service on Sunday, February 26.

Reducing Paper Use for Lent: Traditionally during Lent people will give something up. Increasingly, people link this practice reducing their carbon footprint. At St. James, we plan to do the same collectively during Lent by getting back on our paper use, including for worship at 11:00 am on Sunday mornings. To accomplish this, we will be using the overhead slides more thoroughly with all prayers and hymn texts projected, and with better resolution. We won't be going 100% paperless because many people need to use a bulletin, including the choir, but we encourage couples to share. The bulletin is also posted on the website so we invite you to access it through your smartphone.

Reflective Wednesdays at Noon: Beginning on March 1, the Wednesday after the First Sunday in Lent, (Rev.) James will lead an informal communion service followed by a Bible study focused on the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

Men's Club: Many thanks to those who attended and those who helped with preparation and cleanup at the pancake supper on February 22. A special thank you to Clifford Small, owner of Smitty's Restaurants in St John's and Mount Pearl for his generous donation of the pancake mix used to prepare the pancakes again this year. Also, a reminder that the Men's Club will meet on Wednesday March 1 with lunch served at 1:00

pm. There will be a presentation by the Prostate Cancer Support Group. New members are always welcome!

NOTICE: St James United Church Annual Congregation Meeting will be held Sunday March 12 at 12:45 pm in the Sanctuary., following a short lunch. in the auditorium. Annual reports will be sent electronically the week before the meeting. Paper copies will be available for those who require them. on March 5th.

Book Fair: Calling all book lovers! St. James United Church is having a book fair on Sunday, March 19 from 2-6 and Monday, March 20 from 10-5. We will be accepting donations of new and gently used books from now until March 14. They can be dropped off at the church office during business hours. We thank you in advance for your support and hope to see you there!! Admission will be \$2 by cash only.

Bridges to Hope: At this time of year, Bridges to Hope are finding themselves short in certain types of food donations at the food bank. The Board has decided to appeal to participating churches to ask their congregations to provide a specific item - a different item each month. For February, this item is Canned Beans. The hope is that a unified appeal will help supply many hampers with items that are considered "staples". All donations are gratefully accepted and can be brought to the Church or to Bridges to Hope. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Bridges to Hope Benefit Concert: A Songwriters Circle Benefit Show in support of Bridges to Hope will take place on Thursday, March 16th at 7 pm at Gower Street United Church. The show will feature Alan Doyle, Rachel Cousins, Kelly McMichael and Nick Earle. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Bridges to Hope web site at: www.bridgestohope.ca, or by calling 709-722-9225.

Bridges to Hope Hamper Sunday: Sunday, March 19th is Bridges to Hope Hamper Sunday. If you can please bring along non-perishable food items to be collected at our church on March 19th. Cash donations are also welcome. Electronic transfers can be sent to info@bridgestohope.ca

Come sing along with the Newfound Sound! Come sing a river of song about harmony, friendship, hope and love! Newfound Sound Women's Barbershop Chorus, our province's only female barbershop chorus, invite guests who love to sing, to their practices **any Wednesday, 7 to 9 pm at St. James.** It's free to observe and to try singing a cappella (without music) in barbershop harmony! No training or experience needed. For details, visit newfoundsound.org; click on "Contact" and "Visit a Rehearsal". (Please note: Masks are required for singing. St. James is an accessible venue.)

If you intend to come, please contact **Anne Hollett-Maher in advance at 764 6998** or newfoundsound@hotmail.com, so we can tell you what to expect and prepare your sheet music. The chorus looks forward to meeting you!

First United Church - The World Day of Prayer Service 2023: will be held at First United Church, Mount Pearl on Friday, March 3rd at 7 pm. All are welcome!

Teachers on Wheels tutor training workshop, March 11: *Are you interested in helping others to improve their literacy or in helping non-English speaking immigrants to learn English (ESL)?* Then please volunteer for Teachers on Wheels! Due to increasing demand, they need more volunteer tutors! If you can speak, read and write English, you can be a tutor. The next tutor training workshop is Saturday, March 11. For more information and to register, please contact **Tom Dawe at 738-3975.** Also view www.teachersonwheels.ca