



# FIRST UNITED CHURCH

## Fall Newsletter 2025



### *From the Desk of Reverend Ian*



It is with thanksgiving that I write this note. Thanks for the many prayers, cards and kind words that have been shared with me and my family concerning my health. Also, thank you for your prayers concerning the recent tragic passing of my brother-in-law Matthew Patey. Matthew grew up here at First United, and I know your prayers for his family will continue in the days and weeks ahead.

Fall is all around us, with the days getting shorter and the temperature slowly dropping, leaves are starting to fall, all signs that the autumn season is here to stay. Here at First United things are starting to pick up again. The UCW and Men's Club have started their gatherings again. The choir is starting to rehearse, and, when things get going, it's important to celebrate! On Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, we held our welcome-back BBQ after worship. Thank you to all who brought along salads. It was good to see so many faces back for the year.

In other good news, our loan for the building extension is only \$122,000. We have come a long way since first completing the extension. There has been nothing but positive comments surrounding this project. Please remember that Building Fund Sunday is the last Sunday of each month.

Our streaming of Sunday morning worship has made a significant impact for those who are unable to join us in person. For those who use this service please remember that you can donate through our website [www.firstunitedchurchmp.ca](http://www.firstunitedchurchmp.ca). in the top right hand corner of the home page. You will see a button marked "online giving". You will be redirected to another page that outlines the steps to donate. This way of donating allows you to use a credit card or paypal or googlepay.

The theme for this year's Season of Creation is "peace with creation." Our Biblical text for this year is Isaiah 32:14-18. The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. This description of devastated cities and wastelands eloquently stresses the fact that human destructive behaviours have a negative impact on the Earth. Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and stay quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, and solidarity.



The Board would like to extend sincere thanks to Rev. Karen Bursey for stepping in to lead our worship services here at First United during the period while Rev. Ian was on leave. Thank you for all your spiritual guidance, visits to the sick and shut-ins, attending to funeral services, leading a Bible Study group, and just for being here for whatever the needs of our church family were. Your enthusiastic and intriguing stories and demeanour were very much enjoyed and appreciated by all. We look forward to a friendly chat when you attend church service on Sundays or participate in our UCW group and many other events!! Hugs! You are a true gem and an angel sent from above!!

## *First United Church—Upcoming Services*



◆ October 12th	11 am	Thanksgiving Service
◆ October 19th	11 am	72nd Anniversary Sunday
◆ October 26th	11 am	Worship Service
◆ November 2nd	11 am	Communion Service
◆ November 9th	11 am	Remembrance Day Service
◆ November 16th	11 am	Worship Service
◆ November 23rd	11 am	Worship Service
◆ November 30th	11 am	1st Sunday of Advent
◆ December 7th	11 am	2nd Sunday of Advent/Communion
◆ December 7th	7 pm	UCW Christmas Lights Service
◆ December 14th	11 am	3rd Sunday of Advent/Senior Choir Cantata
◆ December 14th	7 pm	Vesper Service
◆ December 21st	11 am	4th Sunday of Advent/White Gift Service
◆ December 24th	4 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service
◆ December 24th	7 pm	Christmas Eve Evening Service
◆ December 28th	11 am	Worship Service



## UNITED CHURCH WOMEN NEWS

First United UCW meets one Monday per month in Trinity Hall. The ladies each bring a bagged lunch. Tea and coffee is provided. The meetings begin at 12:30 with lunch and a social time. After lunch, the meetings consist of a brief worship and business. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. Our next two meetings will take place on October 20th and November 10th.



### **'UCW FALL AFTERNOON TEA 'WITH ENTERTAINMENT'**

**Saturday, November 1st, 2 to 4 pm**

**Tickets are \$15 per person**

(Available beginning October 5th after Worship Service on Sunday, from UCW members and during regular church office hours)



We will have lots of entertainment with ladies from Memory Lane Choir including our own Gloria Gosse, as well as soloists Allison Randell and Patricia Warford. There will be a door prize, as well as a 50/50 draw. The Quilting Group will have chances available on a quilt. Gather your family and friends, fill a table and come out for an enjoyable afternoon.

### **'UCW ANNUAL SHOWER OF PERSONAL ITEMS'**



At the November 10th meeting, the UCW will be having their Annual Shower of personal care items for Carew Lodge and Emmanuel House. If members of the congregation would like to support the UCW in this endeavour, items can be dropped off during the November 10th meeting between 1:30 and 3 pm at the Churchill Avenue entrance or during regular church office hours before November 23rd.

*Personal care items include some of the following:*

*Towel and facecloth  
Toothpaste and toothbrush  
Deodorant, razors, shaving cream  
Shampoo, conditioner, soap*

*Body wash, body sponge  
Hand cream  
Socks, slippers  
Dish clothes and dish towels*

*Brush and comb  
Hats, gloves, scarves  
Tissues  
Treats like candy/chocolate*

**UPCOMING FUNDRAISING CONCERT  
HERE AT FIRST UNITED:**



**“THE MASTERLESS MEN”** will be performing a hand-clapping, toe-tapping concert here at First United Church on **Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**. Come join us for a night of traditional Newfoundland and Irish favourites, heart-warming ballads and mesmerizing instrumentals. Tickets are just \$30 and are available at the church office Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 10 am and 2 pm. For more information, please call the church office at 709-368-2194.



**GARDEN CAFÉ/PEACE GARDEN!**

Don't forget to join us in the Garden Café for tea/coffee before church service from 10 -10:45 am. It is so nice to get together before our 11 am service for camaraderie while enjoying a hot brew. Our Peace Garden has done wonderfully during the summer months. Thank you to Carolyn Rice and those who help each Sunday at the cafe!!! We will miss the beautiful summer colors but can still have a brew and a chat in our cherry café.



Men's Fellowship

**MEN'S CLUB:** Our First United Men's Club usually meet the first Monday of the month. Our meetings are held at 5:30 pm in Trinity Hall. All men of our congregation are welcome to attend for fellowship, topics of interest and a home-cooked meal! Notices for meetings are posted in our weekly bulletin and/or included in Sunday announcements. For more information, please contact Kevin Martin at 709-727-2709 or Mark Rice at 709-682-7544.



**72<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY** is on October 19<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome for a soup lunch in Trinity Hall right after the 11 am Worship Service. Cost is \$5 per person.



**PURDY'S CHOCOLATES FUNDRAISER:** We will be selling Purdy's chocolates again this year. The deadline to order is November 20<sup>th</sup> and orders should be available for pick up around December 10<sup>th</sup>. Orders can be placed online. To order please go to the following website:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1819890-129201> and follow the instructions to sign in or to register. If you already have an account just **sign in** and you will be in our Campaign and select **shop online from top line**. If you are a new shopper, you will select **register as new supporter** and fill in information to set up your account before you can shop. Catalogues will be arriving soon. Any questions, please call Joan Winsor at 709-687-2147.



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10 am to 2 pm**



## Christian Development Committee Fall 2025

Welcome back First United friends, we hope everyone enjoyed our welcome back BBQ! Thank you to all our volunteers who helped prepare food for us!

This Fall is going to be an exciting, busy time of reunions! The start-up of our Youth Group will be on October 19th at 6:30 pm with a BBQ. We have lowered the age requirement to join youth group. All youth in Grades 5 to 12 are welcome to participate!! Our Sunday School program has resumed. Our TRUNK OR TREAT and Pumpkin Carving Night will take place on Sunday, October 26th. Get your spooky decorations and costumes out and join the fun! We can't wait to see you all there!

The Quilting Group meet every second Monday in the multipurpose room, and the Book Club meet once a month.

For more information about joining these activities or programs, please reach out to Allison Randell at 709-765-3050.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" *Matthew 18:20*

**From Allison Randell**  
**Chair, Christian Development Committee**

### **'DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS'**

**Saturday, November 29th, 6 pm**

Come out on Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and help us decorate the church for the Christmas Season. Many hands make light work. A chance to get yourselves into the Christmas spirit!!

### **'BREAKFAST WITH SANTA'**

**Saturday, December 13th, 8 to 10 am**

Breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausages, boiled eggs, toast, juice, tea and coffee. Just \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. No presale tickets, just pay at the door! **Bring the kids and grandkids to Trinity Hall for a delicious breakfast and surprises with the jolly old soul!!**



### **Donating to First United**



The different ways you can contribute are: Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR), post-dated cheques, church envelopes, church drop-box and E-transfer. If making a donation through e-transfer, please indicate your Envelope # (if you have one) and how you wish the funds to be used, i.e., Local Expenses, Building Fund, Mission & Service, Food Bank or Other. If you need to provide more detailed information, please send us an email.

### **How to Contact/Connect with First United:**

- Drop by the church office during regular office hours or call the church office at **709-368-2194**
- Email us at: **firstunited@nf.aibn.com**
- Visit our website: **www.firstunitedchurchmp.ca**
- Sign up for **Constant Contact** so we can email information directly to your inbox
- Mail us at: **221 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 921, Mount Pearl, NL A1N 3C8**

