

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
FREDERICTON, N.B.

2

March 10, 2019      Lent 1      Baptism Sunday

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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE      WELCOME      ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

“Always smile back at little children. To ignore them is to destroy their belief that the world is good.” Pam Brown 1948

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: It is love itself that brings us all together.

All: Life calls us to learn its primary teaching—that love is the energy of Creation, that it takes love to create love.

Together: AMEN!

\* HYMN: “Make a Joyful Noise”      820

PRAYER: (inspired by R. Wagamese)

(Silence) Creator God, from our very first breath we are in a relationship. We become joined to everything that ever was, is and ever will be. As we celebrate the gift of children in our congregation, let us always be mindful to carry compassion, empathy, love, kindness and respect into all of our relationships. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

\*BAPTISMAL HYMN: “Jesus Loves Me”      365 vs.1 &2

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Taylor Michelle, Thomas Dexter and Abigail (Abby) Lynn Banks will be initiated into the body of Christ through Baptism. Proud parents of these beautiful children are Joe and Melissa.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Because of God’s love shown to us in Jesus Christ we want to share with you the love and faith that has been given to us. As a Community of Faith, we promise to care for you and to learn from you. We look forward to you sharing your gifts and faith with us. We promise to be there for you and to love you as you are. Amen.

\*HYMN: “Jesus Loves Me”      365 vs.3

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

PSALM: Psalm 46      *Kelsey Ridler*      770

The Story of the Prodigal Son      Luke 15: 11-32

SERMON: “I Can Go Home”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC      Heather Fyffe

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF AND FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung)      959

OFFERTORY and PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

\*THE DOXOLOGY:      541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER: Gracious God, the one who knows us completely and loves us with an everlasting love, thank you for the many blessings in our lives. Inspire us to help those who are in difficulty. May those who receive a gift of kindness, a warm meal or an encouraging word, have their faith restored that their

community cares. We pray in the name of the itinerant Jewish Rabbi, who spoke of welcoming strangers and loving enemies. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN: "I Am the Light of the World" 87

\*COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION

\*SUNG BLESSING:

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
 God will go with you each hour of everyday.  
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
 Know He will guide you in all you do.  
 Go now in love, and show you believe.  
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
 God will be there watching from above.  
 Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
 Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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MINISTER	REV. KELLY HIGGINS
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR	HEATHER FYFFE
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	MARSHA DALEY
CUSTODIAN	BRIAN BUBAR

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 – 12 noon and 1 – 3 p.m.

Rev. Kelly's office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9 – 12 noon.

183 Gibson St., Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4E4; Tel: 457-1951. Web-site:

[www.gibsonmemorial.ca](http://www.gibsonmemorial.ca); email: [gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com](mailto:gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com)

### CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

Good morning and welcome to EVERYONE. Special welcome to the godparents of the Banks children: Dexter and Jesse Lyons, Maggie Pearce and Trianda Fox, Kelsey Ridler and Denielle Fox. Also welcome to their families who join them today in celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism. May this worship service be a blessing in your day. Everyone is invited to share in **coffee/tea/juice** and **conversation** in the hall immediately following the service.

**Greeters** today are Jessica Clement & Family and next week will be **Soup Day**, hosted by the Mission & Outreach Committee. **Tellers** today are Mike & Gail Oliver and next week will be Dale Horncastle & Wayne Alexander. **Taping** the service today is Brian Cail and next week will be Lindon Miller. In the **Nursery** today is Erin Price and next week will be Marchell Coulombe.

### Services & Meetings this week: Mar. 11 - 16, 2019

Monday	9:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	1:30	Women Together
	7:00	Worship

### Upcoming Services & Meetings:

<b>Mar. 17</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Lent 2</b>
	<b>12:00</b>	<b>Soup Day hosted by Mission &amp; Outreach</b>
Mar. 19	7:00	Council
Mar. 24	11:00	<b>Lent 3</b>
<b>Mar. 27</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>Turkey Dinner</b>
Mar. 31	11:00	<b>Lent 4: Memorial Candle Lighting Service</b>
Apr. 8	11:00	<b>Lent 5: Baptism Sunday</b>
Apr. 14	11:00	<b>Palm Sunday: Holy Communion</b>
Apr. 21	11:00	<b>Easter Sunday</b>

**Flowers** have been placed in the sanctuary in memory of *Darren O'Donnell* by the O'Donnell Family.

Donations have been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Darren O'Donnell* by David & Barbara Morrison, Bill & Margaret Field, Rod & Hazel Stairs, Fred & Thelma Titus, Judy Jewett, Glenn & Audrey Kitchen and Nancy Worthen & Ron O'Neill.

**Universal Portrait Studios Ltd**, will be at Gibson Memorial United Church, **March 20 – 23!** They will be creating Gibson's 2019 Church Directory. **They will be calling you, starting March 4<sup>th</sup>** to book your appointment. It would be great if everyone could participate in this 2019 Photo Directory and if you participate you receive a free Photo Directory.

**Offerings & Attendance Update: 2019**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Offerings</u></b>	<b><u>+/- to date</u></b>
Jan.	72	2,178	- 1,685
Feb. 3	97	2,552	- 1,733
Feb. 10	91	2,036	- 2,297
Feb. 17	85	2,022	- 2,875
Feb. 24	98	2,433	- 3,042
Mar. 3	76	2,683	- 2,959

**Finance Notes:**

-We need approx. \$2,600\* each Sunday to meet the Budget. PAR (\$947 per week) is included in the amount each week.

-Bulletins can be donated in memory of loved ones. The cost of bulletin covers is approx. \$20. Bulletins can also be donated for Anniversary, Birthday and for other Celebrations.

-**PAR**, Pre-Authorized remittance is available. Please contact the office for more information.

-\$2,600 is comprised of Local, Special Projects & Offerings.

**Upcoming Community Events:** (please see bulletin board for more info.)

- Mar. 11 2019 Lent Talks by Bishop Bill Hockin with Rev. Albert Snelgrove hosted at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Monday's Mar, 11, 18 and 25 at 12:15 p.m.  
All Welcome!
- Mar. 16 Bridge Luncheon, hosted by the UCW of St. Paul's United Church, 12 noon. Call 459-7116 for info and to register.
- Mar. 16 Jiggs Dinner hosted by Nashwaaksis United Church 5:30 p.m. \$14/ticket, please call 457-1338 to reserve your tickets
- Mar. 16 Climate Change Learning event at Wilmot Church, 2 – 4 p.m. Presentation & Facilitated Discussion
- Mar. 28- "The Universal Christ: another name for everything"
- Mar. 31 features keynote speakers Richard Rohr, John Dominic Crossan and Jacqui Lewis. Hosted at Marysville United Church. (times are posted on the bulletin board)

**Upcoming Fund Raising Events:**

- Mar. 5** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
Profit: \$1,361
- Mar. 26** Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- Mar. 27** Turkey Dinner - 4 – 6 p.m. **\$15/adult**  
**(Tickets will be on sale Mar. 17 & 24)**
- Apr. 23** Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- Apr. 24** Catering to Retired Nurses Dinner - 12 noon
- May 13** Pie Day – 1:30 p.m.
- May 14** Catering to Fredericton Quilters – 6 p.m.
- May 21** Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- May 22** Church Dinner – 4 – 6 p.m. (Menu pending)
- May 31** Set up for Yard Sale – 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- June 1** Breakfast & Yard Sale – 8 – 12 noon
- June 14** Catering to a Wedding - 7 p.m.
- June 18** Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- June 19** Steak/Chicken BBQ – 4 – 6 p.m.

**Notes:**

- We are gladly accepting your **Yard Sale** donations! Please call the office and let us know you are coming and we will store the items in the church basement.
- **Volunteers** are needed for each event. If you haven't volunteered for an event and would like to, please let me know and we will welcome you! Otherwise volunteers will receive an email before each event.
- And each year we ask families of the congregation to donate **\$20** towards the cost of purchasing supplies!

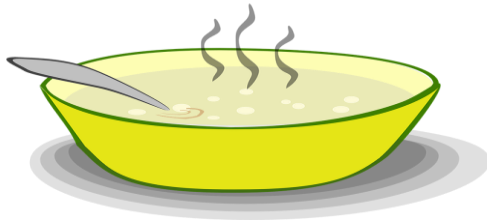
## LENT CHALLENGE 1

# Soup Day

(and Hotdogs for the young at heart!)

March 17, 2019

12 noon \$5/adult \$2/child



Hosted by the Mission & Outreach Committee in support of local outreach programs!

Today is the first Sunday in Lent. Lent is a time when we remember the ministry of Jesus and the days that led up to his arrest and death on the cross. In some churches, people give up things for the season of Lent in order to remember the sacrifices that Jesus made by living his life for God and for others. This Lent, we are going to do something a bit different. Each week, we are going to invite you to a challenge, so that together we remember Jesus' ministry. This week, your challenge is to do an act of generosity. You might drop a five-dollar bill on the street and let someone pick it up, or buy coffee for someone behind you in the lineup of Tim Hortons, or give food to the food bank, or donate to a charity online. Who knows what you will come up with? But this week, find some act of generosity that is outside of what you usually do.

