

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

-Isaiah 9:1

Greetings Kindred in Christ,

This Sunday is a big day! Along with it being our Summer Kick-off Sunday at the Hammond River Angling Association, we will be celebrating our Sunday school students and facilitators, PLUS we will be marking our 1st anniversary as an Affirming community of faith! You might think that is enough to celebrate - but wait, there's more!

Saturday, June 10th also marks the **98th anniversary of the forming of The United Church of Canada!** Happy birthday to us! While 98 years sounds like a long time (and it is) it is also important for us to celebrate this in the context of the wider faith. We are still kids when compared to venerable faiths like Judaism, or the middle-aged Christian faith, or relatively still young adult of Islam. That doesn't make our celebration unworthy of rejoicing, but it should remind us that we have so much opportunity before us!

The reading for this week from the book of the prophet Isaiah speaks of a people in celebration and so it is appropriate for us to be reading and hearing it together when we have so much to celebrate and look forward to.

As we make our way through this big weekend, let us do so with prayer in our heart and on our lips:

*We praise you O God! We praise you and give thanks:
for every year,
for every month,
for every day,
for every moment,
For every breath.*

Enliven within us a yearning to make the most of every second and every blessing that this life affords us. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ our very present brother and guide. AMEN

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Richard Bowley

Keep reading for more information on what is happening at Quispamsis United Church

Weekly Announcements for Quispamsis United Church June 8th, 2023

1. Summer Kick-Off June 11th (**REMINDER**) *****PLEASE READ*****
2. Universal Pictures have arrived! (**NEW**) *****PLEASE READ*****
3. Write YOUR Letter to Support and Protect Policy 713 *****PLEASE READ*****
4. Faith Profile Committee *****PLEASE READ*****
5. Worshipping In-Person
6. Worshipping Online (**UPDATED**)
7. Singing Together Concert
8. Breast Cancer Research
9. QUC Office Hours
10. QUC Knitters
11. Special Services in July (**NEW**) *****PLEASE READ*****
12. QUC Calendar
13. Sunday Readers for the Next 4 Services (**UPDATED**)
14. Dedicate a Service
15. Looking for Tech Volunteers
16. Financial Report
17. How You Can Direct Your Givings *****PLEASE READ*****
18. Submitting Announcements

1. **Summer Kick Off:** The Affirming Anniversary, Graduation, and Sunday School Closing Celebrations will be held on June 11 at the Hammond River Angling Association. There will be a special service that will begin at 10 a.m. that includes a craft for the youth followed by a lunch, special music, and games for all ages. Kids, put on your chef hat and bake some rainbow cupcakes, rainbow crispies, or rainbow fudge for this exciting event. **Please send an email to Leslie (office@quc.ca) if you are going to attend the special celebration service and luncheon and the number of people in your party. Also indicate how many children; grandchildren are welcomed. You may also sign up on the poster on the bulletin board near the sanctuary. Based on numbers, a list of items that you can contribute will be posted.**

2. **Universal Pictures have arrived:** The pictures are in the office. You can pick them up on Tuesday or Thursday a.m. If this is not convenient for you, give Leslie a call at 506-847-4503 or email at office@quc.ca and something can be arranged.

3. **Write YOUR Letter to Support and Protect Policy 713:** You have probably heard by now that Policy 713, a policy that protects all but especially 2SLGBTQIA+ members in our schools to self-identify and express themselves without fear of consequence, is coming under review by the government of New Brunswick. As an Affirming Community of Faith, we strive to build and support the wider community in embracing and affirming people of all walks of life. A letter has been sent from QUC and can be found [here](#), but **you can add your voice!** We invite you to use this letter as a template to draft a letter of your own. If you want to participate, you can send your letter to [Premier Blaine Higgs](#) and [Minister Bill Hogan](#) so that support for Policy 713 will be heard by the people of this community of faith and this province.

4. **Faith Profile Committee:** The Faith Profile Committee, established at the last congregation meeting, will be having an initial meeting soon to start the process, appoint a chair etc. There are currently 6 of us and we would like a few more to help in completing a Faith Profile for QUC. This will be our current story/future story and used when we go to the search committee phase. We will have a liaison from Pastoral Relations from Region to help guide us (or at least keep us close to the path!). Apart from reviewing what we have we will also be looking for feedback from the congregation.

If interested please contact Bob Crowley at robertgcrowley@gmail.com or call 849-0627.

5. **Worshipping In-Person:** If you plan on attending in-person, please review these guidelines as there may have been changes since you were last with us!
- a. **Masks Encouraged but not Required:** Masks have been a great way to ease the spread of not just COVID but other common illnesses. Because of their effectiveness we are still encouraging attendees to wear them. However, they are no longer a requirement to participate in worship with us.
 - b. **Entry & Exit:** There are two main entrances/exits to the building: the sanctuary door, and the side door. Feel free to come and go through either of these doors.
 - c. **Physical Distancing:** As with masks, you are not required to physically distance, but if you prefer to maintain that spacing for yourself and others, you may do so, space-permitting.

If you have concerns regarding these changes, please share them with you Safe Church Committee through our chair Bill Whittaker, whittakerw3@gmail.com. Know that any concerns and comments will be reviewed and given attention.

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6. **Worshipping Online:** Follow the instructions below for logging on to zoom, getting your copy of the bulletin, and catching up on services you may have missed.
- a. **Zoom Information:** The information to join our Zoom worship is below:
 - i. The Zoom link for smartphones, tablets, or computers is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/233787625?pwd=V2gxY05oYU5NMm1YMFZKTElnM2NtZz09>
 - ii. The password for this meeting room is: **400688**
 - iii. For those who would prefer to call in the number is: **1 647 558 0588** then use the Meeting ID: **233 787 625**, and then enter the passcode **400688** when prompted (long distance charges may apply if you do not have a plan)
 - b. **Bulletins for Sunday:** The bulletin is available for viewing on our website, and can found at the following link:
 - i. Sunday's Bulletin: <https://www.quc.ca/s/June-11-Web-Bulletin.pdf>
 - c. Council Minutes: <https://www.quc.ca/congregational-minutes>
 - d. **Last Sunday's Worship:** In case you missed it, the worship service (video) and message (audio) are on the website. Just follow the links below, scroll to the date, and watch or listen.
 - i. Videos of Previous Worship Services: <https://www.quc.ca/worship/videos>
 - ii. Audio of Message: <https://www.quc.ca/worship/messages>
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7. **Singing Together!** Treble Clef Singers. Special Guests: Introducing in their first performance VALLEY GIRLS CHORUS. Sunday, June 11 at 2:30 p.m. at Harmony United Church, 8 Upland Road, Saint John. Freewill donation at the door.
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8. **Breast Cancer Research:** A study is currently being conducted at the Saint John Regional Hospital to determine if Breast Cancer can be detected through Breath Analysis. Healthy female participants are needed. Participants must be between 30 and 89 years of age, with a negative mammogram within the last two years. If you, or someone you know are interested in taking part, please contact: Donna Fairweather or Hannah Lanigan at (506) 648-7852 or email: donna.fairweather@horizonnb.ca
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9. **QUC Office Hours:** Barring inclement weather or emergencies, the church will be accessible and Leslie will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-12:30. Should you need access to the building outside these times, please contact Leslie at office@quc.ca to make arrangements.

10. **QUC Knitters:** The last meeting of the QUC Knitters for the season was on May 31st, with plans to reconvene in the Fall.

11. **Special Services in July:** Mark your calendars! With Rev. Richard's time at QUC coming to a close at the end of July, there will be some special services to mark our time together.

- a. **Sunday, July 16th:** This will be the last **in-person** service until returning on August 20th. At this service, along with communion, there will be a special *end of covenant* piece included to mark the end of the relationship between QUC and Rev. Richard.
- b. **Sunday, July 23rd:** This is Rev. Richard's last Sunday. Appropriately, because so much time was spent early in the pastoral relationship on Zoom, this last service will be on Zoom as well. Come in your favourite PJ's with a coffee to end as we began.

12. **QUC Calendar:** Any events you would like to see posted, contact Leslie. You can find the calendar by using the following link: <https://www.quc.ca/quc-calendar>

13. **Sunday Readers for the Next 4 Services:** One of the great gifts that we have each week is your participation in Sunday Worship in the welcoming, Acknowledgement of Land, the responsive pieces (Call to Worship, Commissioning, etc.), and of course the scripture reading. You add so much to the experience of worship every Sunday! Below are the readers for the next 4 Services. If you see your name here and are unable to be available for your Sunday, please **check the reader list and arrange a replacement and let Leslie know.**

- a. **June 11th:** Karen Young
 - b. **June 18th:** Bob Crowley
 - c. **June 25th:** Stephen Alexander
 - d. **July 2nd:** Chris Young
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14. **Dedicate a Service:** CELEBRATE a member of your family or place a MEMORIAL in our weekly bulletin by making a donation. Just send your donation, details of announcement

“Dedicated by (donator) in loving memory/celebration of people/situation” and your chosen date to Leslie. She will include your message in the powerpoint.

15. Looking for Tech Volunteers – We have regularly been updating our technical abilities at the church with new laptops, microphones, screen, cameras and are still planning future updates. We have a very small crew and we are looking for some help. If you enjoy learning and/or are a bit tech savvy, we would love for you to join us. If you are interested, please reach out to us through Leslie at office@quc.ca.

16. Financial Report: For the Period of April

	Current Month	Year To-date
Total Receipts	\$ \$16,286.70	\$60,041.82
Total Expenses	\$15,460.04	\$64,094.18
Surplus/(Deficit)	826.66	-\$4,052.36
M&S	\$854.66	\$3,776.00

Finally, back to a surplus for the month, let's keep it going!!!

17. How You Can Direct Your Givings: Did you know that when you give financially, you can direct where that money goes and how it supports the work of our church and mission? Here are some of the categories for directing your offerings: **Local, M&S, Memorial, Building, Outreach, Special (Advent, Lent, etc)**

If you want to make any changes to where your gifts go to support the work of this community of faith, just follow the directions below:

- a. *Envelope givers* – Already divided between Local and M & S. If you want it to go to another category just write on the envelope
- b. *E-Transfer givers* – Write in the message section where you would like it recorded. If no comment is made it will be recorded as Local
- c. *PAR givers* – Send Brion a message stating how much in each category. If no comment is made it will be recorded as Local
- d. *Mail givers* – Write on cheque which category and how much in each. If no comment is made it will be recorded as Local

For any queries or concerns please give Brion Crossman a call at 849-6003 or Hally Kimball at 849-9618.

18. Submitting Announcements: To get your announcement in this weekly notice, we ask that you submit them to Leslie with a **small paragraph** of detail by Wednesday of the week you want your announcement to run. Also include the number of weeks that you want this announcement in the weekly notice (if no number is given we will run it for 4 weeks or until the event has taken place). Send all announcements to Leslie at office@quc.ca