**Be United Communities of Faith**

**Bridgewater United West Side United New West Pine United Caledonia Pastoral Charge St. Andrews-St. Marks United**

**July 2, 2023 5th after Pentecost**

**Minister:** *Reverend Neil McEwen* **Music Ministry Director:** *Barbara Pate*

**Greeter:** *Angela McGinnis* **Greeter:** *Judy Stringer*

**Audio Visual Technician:** *David Walker* **Sound Engineer:** *Liam Wamboldt*

*The asterisk (\*) indicates the congregation may stand, as they are able.*

*The print in* ***BOLD*** *is where the congregation participates.*

Prelude

**\*Hymn:** **# 30 MV – It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker**

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Chorus: B-United**

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Chorus:** **# 21 MV – Open Our Hearts**

**Opening Prayer:** (*unison)*

**Meet us here, Holy One, in this time and space, that we have set apart in our week, as an opening for your Spirit into our hearts and homes. We come seeking encouragement, renewal, growth and inspiration. May you move among and within us in amazing and mysterious ways as we worship. Amen.**

Your Generosity Matters: Sending People to School – Together

Offering our Thanks

**Offertory Response: # 537 VU – Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands**

**Prayer of Dedication:** (*unison)*

**Loving God, with hearts filled with joy, we offer you these gifts of thanks, honour and praise today. We ask that they be sanctified and used according to your purpose through the dedication of our hearts, our hands and our actions. Thank you for this amazing opportunity to give and share. Amen.**

Time with Children

Video: Something to Sing About (This Land of Ours) *written by Oscar Brand*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn: # 523 VU – O God of All the Many Lands**

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Genesis 22:1-14

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

Message: “Listening with an Open Heart”

Reflective Meditation

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn:** **# 288 VU – Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Extinguishing The Candles

Commissioning And Benediction

Postlude



***CCLI No., 11287624, 20371363***

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***The church bulletins are given to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of Ian MacKinnon,***

***Bob and Jean MacKinnon and David and Doris Aitken.***

***The July church website is given to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of parents, Clifford and Lorna Blades,***

***gift of daughter, Diane Patten.***

***The June church radio broadcast is given to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of our parents, Harold and Leona Thompson***

***and Frank and Eva Elsworth, gift of Sam, Dale and family.***

***The June church radio broadcast is given to the glory of God,***

***and to honour the Child Life Workers at the IWK Health Centre,***

***gift of Nathan and Emilee Higgins.***

**Bridgewater United Church**

**Wants To Stay In Touch With You!**

1. Please pass along your email to the Church Office at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca), so that you can be added to congregational emails regarding events, services, and storm closures.

2. Check out our website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca) for information about our Church, event calendar, worship services and so much more.

3. The Church Office wants to remind members of the congregation, if the worship service is cancelled, an announcement will be placed on CKBW (98.1 FM), the church’s website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca), Facebook and the church voicemail stating the cancellation by 9:00am on Sunday morning.

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**Vision Statement**

As followers of Jesus Christ, Bridgewater United Church is a church family that values each person as equal and unique loving expressions of God with gifts and talents to share. People of all ages, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, differing abilities, ethnic background, economic circumstance, and those experiencing other barriers that limit inclusion are welcome to fully participate in all our ministries.

**Mission Statement**

To create a vibrant community of followers of Jesus where everyone deeply knows they belong, are cared for, can grow spiritually and actively demonstrate our love in the world and towards one another.

**Core Values**

We value energetic engagement in our:

Spiritual Health

Generosity

Acceptance of all

Responsiveness to the world

Love for God, creation, self, and others

**#APlaceWhereEveryoneBelongs**

**#ChooseLove**

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87 Hillcrest Street, Bridgewater, NS, B4V 1T2

Church Office Phone: (902) 543-4833

Minister’s and Pastoral Care Private Church Phone: (902) 543-6854

Reverend Neil McEwen[westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com) (902) 523-5687

Barbara Pate [music@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:music@bridgewaterunited.ca) (902) 830-0708

Church Office E-mail:  [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:buc@tallships.ca) Website:  [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca/)

Church Office Hours ~ Tuesday to Friday ~ 10:00am – 12:30pm

Be sure to like and share our Facebook and YouTube page!

Our Church is a **Nut-Free and Scent-Free Church**

**Get To Know B-United – Ways and Means Ministry**

The Ways and Means Ministry require **three members immediately.** This Ministry is responsible for developing and promoting an annual calendar of financial stewardship programs and activities. Please call the Church Office for information.

**Get To Know B-United – Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees require **three members immediately.** The Board is responsible for holding all congregational property for the congregation; this includes land, buildings, funds and investments, and any other property. The Trustees must give the same care and attention to congregational property as a reasonable person would give to their own property. Please call the Church Office for information.

**B-United Supports Our Local Food Bank**

Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated throughout the month. For July, there is a request for Canned Milk, Canned Sandwich Meat such as Tuna, Chicken or Ham, Vegetable Oil, Applesauce, Bits and Bites and Goldfish Crackers. Be mindful of expiration dates. Thank you.

**Church Office Closed**

The Church Office will be closed for Canada Day on July 4th. For Pastoral Care Concerns during this time, you may reach our Pastoral Care Team by phoning (902) 543-4833. Church Office Emails and Voice Messages will be checked on July 5th.

**Summer Fling Indoor Yard Sale**

West Side United; 2702 Highway 331, Pentz are having an Indoor Yard Sale on Saturday, July 8th from 9:00am-1:00pm. Free Admission. Gently Used Treasures, New Inventory, Books, Toys, Household Items, Bake Sale and Silent Auction. Canteen available with Hot Dogs, Sandwiches and Coffee, Tea and Pop. Bring your own reusable bags to help carry home all your treasures. Hope to see you there!

**Be United Communities of Faith Pride Parade Participation**

You are invited to come and join us in the Pride Parade being held in Bridgewater on July 9, 2023. The Parade begins at 2:00pm from NSCC Campus on High Street. Those participating in the parade must be in position between 12:30pm and 1:00pm in the Campus Parking. Those participating in the parade are invited to wear clothing/shirts that correspond with the colours of the Progress Pride flag; create posters that highlight your Church’s name; create posters with a variety of other messages like: Love is Love; A to Z All Are Welcome; bring along anything that is rainbow and suitable footwear, clothing and water for walking. For those unable to walk in the parade, we encourage your attendance on the parade route. We are informally designating TWO locations for folks to gather: one at the end of Hillcrest Street at Empire Street and one by the old post office at the corner of Dominion Street and King Street. We hope you can come and join us. Following the Pride Parade, we will meet back at Bridgewater United for treats provided by the Church Council Executive and Faith Formation Committee and punch provided by the UCW in the Chapel; located next to the C.E. Centre (Gymnasium.) Hope to see you!

**Masks No Longer Required**

Physical distancing is still recommended and when this is not possible, the use of a mask is encouraged. Remember to be kind, understanding and respectful of all.

**Worship at Bridgewater United**

July 9th (10:30am) – Bridgewater United worshiping at West Side United

July 16th (10:30am) – West Side United worshiping at Bridgewater United

July 23rd (5:00pm) – Bridgewater United worshiping at Crescent Beach; Highway 331

July 30th (10:30am) – West Side United worshiping at Bridgewater United

**Grads of 2023**

We have eight graduating students from High School and Post-Secondary Studies that have connections to Bridgewater United. Eva, Catie, Emilee, Abby, Libby, Emma, Jacob and Kaitlynne, have all worked hard and successfully completed this journey of their education. The Church Office was unable to obtain permission at this time to share their mailing addresses, but there are cards in the Narthex for the congregation to sign, in support of these amazing grads and their accomplishments.

**3rd Bridgewater Scouting Group**

A huge thank you is extended to the 3rd Bridgewater Scouting Group for their generous effort to clean the downed branches from the back hill behind the Church. This was a huge help to our Property Committee and to B-United! Thank you.

**Church Activity Calendar**

During the months of July and August, we do not create a printed Church calendar, but please note that the Church Office updates the calendar on our website daily.

**What Is a District Representative?**

We are currently without District Representation for the following ten Districts and hope to fill these positions before the **end of July**. Everyone on our list is important to B-United, and no one should be left behind. Being a District Rep involves contacting the members on your list approximately four times a year. Thank you.

*~ Atlantic Street/Micmac Avenue/Pine Street (6 families)*

*~Dufferin Street/Pleasant Street (4 families)*

*~Hillcrest Street (4 families)*

*~ George Joudrey Road/Danica Drive/Jenny Drive/Jessie Lane (Pine Grove) (9 families)*

*~ Highway 10 (Cookville) (7 families)*

*~ Prince Street/Jubilee Road, King Street (6 families)*

*~Queen Street/Victoria Road/Victoria Grove (5 families)*

*~ Hollingsworth Drive/ Sweeny Lane (5 families)*

*~ Hirtle Drive/Porter Crescent (6 families)*

*~ Phone Call List ONLY (May Contain Some Long Distance Numbers)*

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“Your courage will be tested during the adversity,*

*as well as during the change.”*

*~ Amit Kalantri*

***“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

***~ Matthew 6:21***

Prayerfully decide what you will give each year to your Church and divide that amount by twelve. Contributions help our Church’s Ministry, with a dependable flow of contributions, to increase our overall financial stability. Church envelopes allow your Church Givings to be tallied into a year-end income tax receipt. Your regular givings supports the local ministry of our congregation. With a Church Envelope you can designate where you would like your givings to be distributed.

**Local Expenses Designation** helps with the overall daily upkeep of the building, such as electricity, heating costs, insurance, as well as personnel expenses.

**Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects that The United Church of Canada is a part of such as helping people overcome poverty, train new ministers and Mission and Service Gifts support vibrant and vital ministries for the healing of the world.

**Building Fund Designation** helps with repairs/upgrades that need to be undertaken by B-United, to make sure our building is safe for all that use it.

**Food Bank Designation** helps The Bridgewater Inter-Church Food Bank, which provides help to those who are in need. We encourage our members to bring in non-perishable food bank items to be placed in Brother Lawrence’s Wheelbarrow in the Narthex throughout the month or you can place a monetary donation in the Offering Plate. This can be specified on your Church Envelope.

**PAR** is a monthly pre-authorized bank withdrawal by Bridgewater United Church directly, that can be increased or decreased five business days before the end of the month. PAR is not only convenient, but it ensures regular monthly givings to help your Church’s Ministry even when you are away.

**Sunday School Local Designation** helps with obtaining supplies for weekly curriculum, snack items, yearly curriculum lessons and events the youth will be taking part in and much more. It provides for the daily upkeep of Sunday School.

**Sunday School Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects of The United Church of Canada.

**e-Transfers** are now accepted by Bridgewater United Church. Add [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca) as a payee, and you can submit your donation that way.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tracy Rafuse, Envelope Steward, at (902) 543-4833 or by email at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca). Thank you.

*We are now given an opportunity to be a blessing to others.*

*Through our PAR commitments, through our money, and through our time and talents,*

*we now return to God, so that we might be a part of God’s Love and God’s Mission.*

**B-United PAR Authorization Form**

**(Pre-Authorized Remittance)**

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**B-United PAR Authorization**

Donor Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Gift Amount: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My Monthly Gift of $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be designated to benefit monthly:

*(Please specify amounts designated to which Church Fund)*

Local: $\_\_\_\_ Mission and Service: $\_\_\_\_ Building $\_\_\_\_ Food Bank: $\_\_\_\_

I/we authorize, Bridgewater United Church, to debit my/our bank account on one of the following dates, 1st, 20th, or Month-End of every month, starting on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

I/we may change the amount of my/our contribution five days before month-end, by contacting the Envelope Steward with this adjustment. I/we have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. I/we waive my right to receive pre-notification of the amount of pre-authorized remittance (PAR) and agree that I do not require advance notice of the amount of PAR before the debit is processed monthly.

I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and understood all the provisions contained in the terms and conditions of the pre-authorized payment authorization and that I/we have received a copy.

Please attach a **VOID** cheque.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_