**Be United Communities of Faith**

**Bridgewater United West Side United**

**July 30th, 2023 9th after Pentecost**

**Minister:** *Reverend Neil McEwen*

**Music Ministry Director:** *Barbara Pate* **Guest Musician:** *Terra Lee Kelly*

**Audio Visual Technician:** *Ewart Morse* **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:** **# 556 VU – Would You Bless Our Homes and Families**

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Chorus Video: B-United**

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Invitation To Worship:**

The Spirit of God calls to us,

**and we respond with open hearts.**

The Spirit of God calls to us,

**and welcomes us with openness and joy.**

The Spirit of God calls to us,

**and we offer praise and prayer.**

The Spirit of God calls to us,

**and we worship this day.**

**Chorus:** **Beautiful**

**Opening Prayer:** (*unison) (words from # 150 More Voices)*

**Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.**

**Blow through us, bringing strength to go on.**

**Through change, through challenge, we’ll greet the new dawn.**

**Spirit God, be our song.**

**Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.**

**Reaching out, joining hands as we share,**

**we seek your guidance through friendship and care.**

**Loving God, be our prayer. Amen.**

Your Generosity Matters: What is Gifts with Vision?

Offering our Thanks

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

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

**Source of Blessings, you give to us in so many and abundant ways that we are astounded when we look closely at the fullness in our lives. When we share our gifts, we are astonished at how our simple gifts can be transformed into messages of love, grace, acceptance and hope. Thank you for partnering with us in the sharing of our gifts and the ministry we offer within this place, our community and the world. Amen.**

Time with Children

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn: # 670 VU – Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 105:1-11 and 45b**

Message

Reflective Meditation

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn:** **# 424 VU - May the God of Hope Go with Us**

Extinguishing The Candles

Commissioning And Benediction

Postlude



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

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

***and in loving memory of Eldridge and Ethel Dillon,***

***gift of their family.***

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

***and in loving memory of parents, family, and friends,***

***gift of Everett and Margaret Anne Cook and family.***

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

***and in memory of Barbara Fulton, gift of her family.***

**Bridgewater United Church**

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

1. Please pass along your email to the Church Office at 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.



**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 McEwenwestsideunitedchurch@gmail.com (902) 523-5687

Barbara Pate music@bridgewaterunited.ca (902) 830-0708

Church Office E-mail:  info@bridgewaterunited.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**

**Church Office Hours**

Church Office Hours are Tuesday to Friday from 10:00am - 12:30pm, unless otherwise stated on our voicemail or social media. From time to time, you may see staff at the office on Mondays, to access items to complete their work.

**What Is a District Representative?**

Being a District Rep involves contacting the members on a church list provided to you, approximately four times a year under the supervision of the Pastoral Care Ministry. This open line of communication is essential to providing love and care to all our members on our Church list. Consider being a part of this wonderful ministry!

**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.

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

The Ways and Means Ministry require **three members.** This Ministry is responsible for developing and promoting financial stewardship programs and activities.

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

The Board of Trustees require **three members.** The Board is responsible for holding all congregational property including land, buildings, funds and investments. They must give the same care to congregational property as they would their own property.

**Church Office Vacation**

The Church Office will be closed from August 1st to August 4th and August 9th – August 11th for vacation. Voicemails and emails will be checked when the Church Office reopens on August 15th. For Pastoral Care concerns during this time, please phone (902) 543-6854, to be connected to our Pastoral Care Ministry Team.

**Berwick Camp UCW Afternoon**

On August 2nd at 2:00pm, the Maritime United Church Women will hold a very special afternoon at Berwick Camp. The afternoon will bring you news of the Maritime UCW, share in a worship/devotion program and a time which will include the dedication of a bench in memory of Ruth Rudderham. Refreshments and social time will follow at the Cookie Cottage. The camp runs from July 28th to August 6th.

**Church Office Closed**

The Church Office will be closed on August 8th in lieu of the Civic Holiday/Natal Day on August 7th. For Pastoral Care concerns, please phone (902) 543-6854.

**West Side United’s Lobster Roll Take-Out Supper**

West Side United; 2702 Highway 331, Pentz will be hosting a Lobster Roll Take-Out Supper on August 13th from 3:00pm-5:00pm. Lobster Roll, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Macaroni Salad and Dessert for $28. The alternative will be their own cooked ham with salads and dessert for $18. Please phone (902) 688-1580 to place your order.

**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.

**Be United Communities of Faith Summer Worship**

August 6th (10:30am) – Worshiping with Reverend Neil at West Side United

August 13th (10:30am) – Worshiping with Reverend Neil at Bridgewater United

August 20th (10:30am) – Worshiping with Reverend Neil at West Side United

August 27th (10:30am) – Worshiping with Reverend Neil at Bridgewater United

**The Moose Hide Campaign**

The Moose Hide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys who are standing up against violence towards women and children. Wearing the moose hide pin signifies a commitment to honour, respect and protect the women and children in your life and speak out against gender-based and domestic violence. In the Narthex, you will find Moose Hide Campaign pins for you to take and share the story with others. To donate to this campaign, just designate “Moose Hide Campaign” on your church envelope, and the funds will be forwarded.

**Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice**

The United Church of Canada is a community of hope, a vibrant and vital church with both purpose and vision. We live in a time of rapid change in religious life, great inequities between peoples, and collective harm to our earth community. As church, we have been complicit in injustice. And yet we have this hope. We believe we continue to be called to witness in love and justice to the liberating, healing Christ risen in this place and time. Together, we strive towards repentance, repair, and right relations with all peoples and the planet. Our call and vision statement speaks to how we boldly embody the Christian story in this time, filled with the certainty of resurrection and hope for new life. Living purposefully into this call and vision anticipates becoming what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others called the Beloved Community—the ever inbreaking, ever transforming, ever reconciling realm of God, realized in our time.

**Call**: The United Church of Canada Call reflects the core of our purpose, sharing who we seek to be in “such a time as this” (Esther 4:15). *Deep Spirituality*, *Bold Discipleship* *and Daring Justice.*

**Vision**: The United Church of Canada vision reflects what the church aspires to be over a 5 to 10-year span. Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, The United Church of Canada seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. These interlinked statements were adopted by General Council 43 on October 23, 2021.It is shared with the broader community as a pledge of identity and hope.

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“Do not anticipate trouble or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight.”*

*~ Benjamin Franklin*

***“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 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. 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.*

**Treasurers’ Report to the Church Congregation**

**for the Six-Month Period ending June 30, 2023**

**Receipts**

 Total Local Receipts $ 87,072.00

 Trust Receipts

 Mission and Service $ 6,856.00

 UCW Funds for M&S $ 1,000.00

 Food Bank Receipts $ 2,810.00

 Send a Kid to Camp $ 1,735.00

 Misc. Trust Receipts $ 1,515.00

 Building Use Receipts $ 31,965.00

 Radio Broadcast Service $ 1,050.00

 Fundraising Receipts $ 550.00

 UCW Donation for Local $ 1,000.00

 Misc. Receipts $ 665.00

 **Total Receipts (Note 1) $ 136,218.00**

**Disbursements**

 Total Trust Disbursements $ 11,666.00

 West Side/B-United Agreement $ 18,900.00

 Total Personnel Expense $ 42,634.00

 Total Office & Admin Expense $ 6,981.00

 Heating Fuel $ 21,091.00

 Lights, Water & Sewer $ 6,513.00

 Snow Removal & Salting $ 7,551.00

 Insurance $ 6,684.00

 Floor Maintenance $ 322.00

 Other Premises Expenses $ 6,537.00

 UCC Assessment $ 5,355.00

 Other Misc. Expenses $ 1,363.00

 **Total Disbursements (Note 1)**   **$ 135,597.00**

**Operating Surplus at End of Period**   **$ 621.00**

**Bank Balance**: **$ 108,865.67**

**Note 1:** Total Receipts and Disbursements does not include Building Fund Receipts or Disbursements and the B.U.C. Brigade Mission Fund Transactions.

This report is a brief summary of the 2023 Actual Sage Accounting Income Statement and includes a significant one-time Bequest.

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Hirtle; *Bridgewater United Church Treasurer*

July 25, 2023

**B-United PAR Authorization Form**

 **(Pre-Authorized Remittance)**



**B-United PAR Authorization**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_