**Be United Communities of Faith**

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

**June 4th, 2023 Trinity Sunday Pride Sunday Union Sunday**

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

**Greeter:** *Cathy Etter* **Greeter:** *Karen Townsend* **Guest Musician:** *Charlotte Brooks*

**Audio Visual Technician:** *David Walker* **Sound Engineer:** *Ewart Morse*

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

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

Prelude

**\*Hymn:** **# 315 VU – Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty**

Welcome and Announcements

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

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Invitation To Worship:**

Good Friends, I say to you by the Spirit,

who breathed life into Creation and into the Church, peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Today we come to worship in the midst of the Holy Trinity:

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit;**

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer;

**Maker, Lover and Keeper;**

The Source and Model of all loving relationships eternally,

giving and receiving in a circle of love.

**Entwined by Sacred Unity we worship.**

**Chorus: # 652 VU – Be Still, My Soul – Verse 1**

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

**O God, who makes us a reflection of the Trinity! Gather us as Christ’s Body. Unite us in worship by your Spirit. Show us how our diversity expands the opportunities for us to be creators of goodness. Make us more aware of what it means to live in your image. Then send us out to reflect your unity and your diversity. Amen.**

Your Generosity Matters: Protecting Love around the World

Offering our Thanks

**Offertory Response: # 191 MV – What Can I Do?**

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

**With thanks, we dedicate our offerings to you, God the Parent, God the Child, God the Spirit, the triune God of our faith. Accept these gifts of time, talent and treasure. Use the gifts we offer in love and gratitude to be a blessing to others. Amen.**

Time with Children

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn: # 28 MV – God of the Bible – Verses 1, 2, 4 and 5**

Gospel Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1 to 2:4a

And God saw that it was good.

**It is very good indeed.**

Message

Time to Reflect

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn: # 602 VU – Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

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 my parents,***

***Reverend Douglas and Verna Gass,***

***gift of daughter, Debby Gass.***

***The June church website is presented to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of uncle and husband, Joe. E Hebb,***

***gift of Kelly and David Barnes and Barbara Hebb.***

**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**

**Your Continuous Support of B-United Is Appreciated**

Though there is less activity around the building, the expenses of the Church continue during the summer period. Even though you may not be present on Sunday mornings, you can still make sure that your financial contributions are received by the Church. You can donate by e-Transfer at info@bridgewaterunited.ca. You can send cheques in by mail, you can sign up for pre-authorized remittance (PAR), again that is a great gift to our Ministry, as we can rely on those sorts of consistent funds. We would love to have you join us for worship this summer, and if you have visitors, bring them along so they can experience the joy and love of our Church Community.

**BUD Online Ministries**

We continue to provide Online Video Worship Services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, and Online Audio Podcast Messages on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. This is a combination of new and archived messages from past and present Ministers.

**Volunteers for Worship at Bridgewater United**

We are always looking for volunteers for Worship. This could be a Lay Leader, a Presider, a Scripture Reader, a Greeter or an Audio Visual or Sound Engineer. They all provide an essential service to our Worship. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

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

Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated throughout the month. For June, there is a request for Kraft Dinner, Instant Rice, Jam, Animal Crackers and Canned Stew. Be mindful of expiration.

**Coffee, Treats and Conversation**

Please join us today, June 4th, following Worship, in the Chapel (next to the gym area,) for Coffee, Treats and Conversation, hosted by the UCW.

**B-United’s Spring Property Clean-Up**

Join your Church Community on Thursday, June 8th at 6:30pm as we do our Annual Spring Clean-Up around the church property. Bring along a rake and some gloves, as many hands make light work. Your help and support are appreciated.

**B-United Church Picnic and Fellowship**

Join us on June 11th following Worship for a Picnic and Fellowship. There will be entertainment with Stewart Franck, food and cold drinks. The Faith Formation Committee will be catering this event. Bring a lawn chair if you can! All are welcome.

**Ways and Means Ministry Grocery Card Fundraiser**

The Ways and Means Ministry Grocery Card Fundraiser will be held on June 18th. Cash or cheques are welcomed, (cheques made payable to Bridgewater United,) with both Sobeys and Loblaws/Superstore grocery cards available. Gift Cards of $50, $100 and $200 denominations. Participate in the Grocery Card Fundraising Program and benefit the work of Bridgewater United. The Church receives as much as 5% of your purchase depending on the total volume purchased through the program. Every purchase adds to the total volume. Post-dated cheques up until June 30th welcomed.

**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**

June 4th (10:30am) - Reverend Neil McEwen with musical guest, Charlotte Brooks

June 11th (10:30am) - Youth of B-United with musical guest, Terra Lee Kelly

June 18th (10:30am) - Reverend Neil McEwen with musical guest, Terra Lee Kelly

June 25th (10:30am) - Bridgewater United worshiping at West Side United

**Get To Know B-United – Church Council**

Bridgewater United Church (BUC), a Pastoral Charge of the UCC, has established a Church Council as its governing body; as such, the Council is the court of BUC. All activities of the Bridgewater Pastoral Charge shall be carried out by, or organized through, the Church Council and its Committees or Ministries. Members of Church Council Executive for 2023: Elizabeth Burridge; *Church Council Chairperson*, Audrey Wamboldt; *Church Council Vice-Chairperson*, Edna Matheson; *Church Council Secretary*,Richard Greek; *Finance and Stewardship Committee Chairperson*, Blake Hirtle; *Church Council Treasurer*, Sam Elsworth; *Ministry and Personnel Committee Chairperson*,David Walker; *Past Church Council Chairperson* andReverend Neil McEwen; *Minister.*

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

The Ways and Means Ministry are responsible for developing and promoting an annual calendar of financial stewardship programs and activities. They communicate with the Finance and Stewardship Committee and other groups to plan and/or implement fundraising events, annual financial campaigns or financial stewardship education. The Ministry is essential to providing some financial stability to the Church. They require one member to be present at Finance and Stewardship Committee meetings, so that they are on the same page as our Finance and Stewardship Committee on financial needs and concerns of Bridgewater United. **The Ways and Means Ministry requires three members immediately, one which is a Co-Chairperson**. Please contact the Church Office if this Ministry is calling you.

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

The Trustees are responsible for holding all congregational property for the congregation as part of the United Church; this includes land, buildings, funds and investments, and any other kind of property. The Trustees must give the same care and attention to congregational property as a reasonable person would give to their own property. **The Board of Trustees require three members immediately, which includes Treasurer and Secretary**. Please contact the Church Office if this Ministry is calling you. We will redirect you to Brian Buck; *Board of Trustees’ Chairperson*.

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“The artist must be in his work as God is in creation, invisible and all-powerful;*

*one must sense him everywhere but never see him.”*

*~ Gustave Flaubert*

***“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 indicating the designation.

**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 events.

**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 Four-Month Period ending April 30, 2023**

**Receipts**

 Total Local Receipts $ 63,156.00

 Trust Receipts

 Mission and Service $ 5,091.00

 UCW Funds for M&S $ 1,000.00

 Food Bank Receipts $ 2,130.00

 Disaster Relief $ -

 Misc. Trust Receipts $ 1,435.00

 Building Use Receipts $ 19,844.00

 Send a Kid to Camp $ 1,020.00

 Fundraising Receipts $ 470.00

 Misc. Receipts $ 574.00

 **Total Receipts (Note 1) $ 94,720.00**

**Disbursements**

 Total Trust Disbursements $ 8,221.00

 West Side/B-United Agreement $ 12,600.00

 Total Personnel Expense $ 29,061.00

 Total Office & Admin Expense $ 5,123.00

 Heating Fuel $ 19,684.00

 Lights, Water & Sewer $ 4,536.00

 Snow Removal & Salting $ 7,551.00

 Insurance $ 4,456.00

 Floor Maintenance $ -

 Other Premises Expenses $ 3,817.00

 UCC Assessment $ 2,678.00

 Other Misc. Expenses $ 901.00

 **Total Disbursements (Note 1)**   **$ 98,628.00**

**Operating (Deficit) at End of Period**   **($ 3,908.00)**

**Bank Balance**: **$ 105,154.52**

**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.

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Hirtle; *Bridgewater United Church Treasurer*

May 30, 2023