**Be United Communities of Faith**

**Bridgewater United Church**

**October 15th, 2023 20th after Pentecost World Food Sunday**

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

**Audio Visual Technician:** *Ewart Morse* **Sound Engineer:** *Evan Rafuse*

**Greeter:** *Jane Martin* **Greeter:** *Linda Rowter*

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

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

Prelude

**\*Hymn:** **# 409 VU – Morning Has Broken**

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Chorus: B-United**

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Invitation To Worship:** *(Based on Psalm 90)*

O God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**From forever in the past to forever in the future, you are God.**

A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past.

**From forever in the past to forever in the future, you are God.**

You satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love.

**From forever in the past to forever in the future, you are God.**

We praise you and your glorious power.

**From forever in the past to forever in the future, you are God,**

**and we worship you.**

**Chorus:** **Listen in the Silence**

Listen in the silence,

listen in the noise,

listen for the sound of the Spirit’s voice.

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

**Loving God, as a parent tenderly cares for their child, you deeply care for each of us. May we come before you, without flattery, seeking neither praise nor prestige, but with hearts filled with the love of Christ, ready to do the work of the Gospel. Amen.**

Your Generosity Matters: Celebrating the Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Offering our Thanks

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

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

**We offer to you God, the work of our hands, the love of our hearts, the fruits of our labour, trusting that they will be used for your service and to your glory. Amen.**

Time with Children

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn: # 48 MV – I Can Feel You Near Me God (Jump for Joy)**

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Exodus 32:1-14

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

Message

Reflective Meditation

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn:** **# 213 VU – Rejoice, the Lord Is King**

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 parents,***

***Ethel and Vincent “Pat” Veinotte and brother, David,***

***a gift of Dawn, Brian, Todd, Jayne and Sophie.***

**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**

**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.

**Music Ministry at Bridgewater United**

From time to time, we require someone to fill-in for a Sunday at Bridgewater United for our Music Ministry. If you feel this is something that you would like to do, please be sure to reach out to Reverend Neil to discuss all that this involves. Thank you.

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

Food banks are reporting an increase in clientele, which has put a huge strain on them financially. Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated throughout the month. For October, there is a request for Peanut Butter, Jam, Cheese Whiz, Animal Crackers and Instant Rice. Thank you.

**40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism**

We offer this opportunity to learn and grow in our understanding and faithful response to racism in our church, community and circles of living. If you wish to participate in receiving information about this learning opportunity, please reach out to our Church Office. Please register before October 16th to receive the daily reflections and view other ways of engagement. We offer to our Communities of Faith this resource but also the opportunity to come together to discuss what we have heard and experienced. Two one-hour learning sessions will be available for your participation. An in-person discussion group will be held at Bridgewater United on Tuesdays at 1:00pm starting on October 24th and a ZOOM discussion session will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30am starting on October 25th. Be The Change.

**International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty has been observed on October 17th since 1993, when the United Nations General Assembly designated this day to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries.

**B-United Youth Group**

Please join us on Friday, October 20th from 6:30pm-8:00pm in the gym at Bridgewater United. We will be playing badminton. Bring along a racket, if you have one, and some comfy clothes! Bring a friend! All youth in Grade 6-12 are welcomed!

**West Side United Christmas Craft Market**

Please join West Side United; 2702 Highway 331, Pentz on Saturday, November 25th from 8:30am – 3:00pm for their Christmas Craft Market. Vendors can reserve a table for $20.00 by phoning (902) 688-1580. Come get a start on your Christmas shopping.

**Universal Cheer Christmas Market**

Universal Cheer will be hosting a Christmas Market on Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00am – 1:00pm at Bridgewater United. Admission is $3.00. Vendors can reserve a space for $25.00 by registering on Universal Cheer’s Facebook page. Space is limited. Bridgewater United Church is home to Universal Cheer on Wednesdays and Sundays.

**Living out our Faith with an Attitude of Gratitude**

Journey through this Season of Thanksgiving, by taking a drive or a walk around your community or simply get outside; observe the way the season of autumn changes the landscape. If you see some neighbours, stop and talk – even if you don’t know them.

**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. Together, we strive towards repentance, repair, and right relations with all peoples and the planet. Living purposefully into this call and vision anticipates becoming the Beloved Community—the ever inbreaking, transforming, reconciling realm of God, Today!

**Staying Connected Faithfully with Bridgewater United**

Bridgewater United provides video worship services on the 2nd and 4th Sunday and audio podcasts on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday. DVD or Audio CD of these services are available to anyone. All services, both online and on-site, can be found on our website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca). We are blessed to be in shared ministry with West Side United and Reverend Neil McEwen and Student Minister, Donna Kelly. Reverend Neil shares in ministry at Bridgewater United on the 1st and 3rd Sunday, on the 2nd Sunday; we have a video sermon with lay leadership, the 4th Sunday; we welcome a guest minister and the 5th Sunday; we alternate between worshiping at Bridgewater United and West Side United. This relationship also welcomes New West Pine, Caledonia Pastoral Charge and St. Andrews-St. Marks through our Be United Communities of Faith, who share in worship with us on the 1st Sunday and use our BUD Ministries services on other Sundays at their church. Our community is thriving and providing faith beyond our walls. Thank you to our volunteers, Todd Langille, Evan Rafuse, David Barnes and David Doggett. We are truly blessed.

**Fostering Faith Formation**

We are looking for volunteers with a recent Police Records and Vulnerable Records Checks, to teach Sunday School and volunteer in the Worship Nursery on Sunday morning from 10:15am-11:45am, from September to June. Please speak to Tracy.

**UCW “No Baking” Bake Sale**

The UCW are having a “No Baking” Bake Sale during the month of October. The success of this project in the past has been due to your generous response and will be much appreciated again this year. In the past, the UCW have supported projects such as Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Starfish Canada, Schools Plus Emergency Fund, Brunswick Street Mission, our Mission and Service Fund. Throughout the month of October, contributions may be left with the Church Office or with any UCW member. Please make cheques payable to Bridgewater UCW. Thank you.

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.”*

*~ Jean-Jacques Rousseau*

***“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.*

**B-United PAR Authorization Form**

 **(Pre-Authorized Remittance)**



**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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_