

THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT

A Monthly Snapshot of Bethany's Happenings.

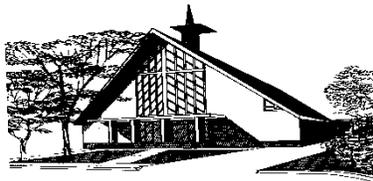
April 2019

Building on Faith

"We walk by faith, not

Welcome to Bethany United Church.

Providing an Awesome Experience of God's Love!



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www.bethanyunitedchurch.ca

The Ministry Team

Minister: Rev. Kevin Little

kevin.little@eastlink.ca

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Vincent Ihasz

vianne@ns.sympatico.ca

Music Director: Shawn Whynot

music@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

Children and Family Care Ministry: Louisa Duck

lduck@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

Community Engagement Facilitator: Ann Bradley

abradley@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

Finance Officer: Tina Gascon

finances@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

Reception/Ministry Resource: Dana Mills

dmills@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

Custodian, James Sweet

office@bethanyunitedchurch.ca

NO SCENTS IS GOOD SENSE. We are a Scent-Free Sacred Space.

TRANSPORTATION DRIVER - If you require a ride to church, please arrange by 9 pm of the Friday before the Sunday Service. If you need to cancel the pick-up, please notify the volunteer. For driver information, please call Heather Gillis at 902-454-5309 or Harriet King 902 477-5851

*** Building Closures ***

It is officially the transition into mild weather, but spring in NS can still be unpredictable. At Bethany, we are trying to simplify our building closure and program cancellation policies to ensure duty of care for our faith community. During the week and Saturday, Board of Managers in collaboration with lay and ministry staff, decide if the building closes to renters and members for clean up after weather systems or other building repair or maintenance issues. On Sundays, the process for this decision falls to the Lead Minister, Clerk of Session and Chair of the Executive Board regarding cancellation of worship service.

An announcement decision will occur by 8am.

Check in various locations, depending on access to power and technology as applicable for circumstances, i.e. CBC Storm Centre, Bethany website, social media, and a congregational email when possible.

On entry points to the building, posted will be a closure notice.



Children and Family Care Ministries

Louisa Duck

(lduck@bethanyunitedchurch.com)

Sunday School registration for children from age 3 to Grade 9 is ongoing! We are always in need of teachers for our Sunday School. Please speak to Louisa Duck in person or by email if you want to learn more about serving the church in this meaningful way. The winter term has begun. Please speak to her regarding our "new" Sunday School envelope process for 2019.

For those visiting with children under the age of 3, we do have an unsupervised nursery space for your use, ask an usher/staff member about directions to this family friendly space. Children's activity bags are available in the Narthex if you wish to use them during the worship service.

Vacation Bible School

~ Save the Date ~

July 15th to 19th, 2019 - 9am - Noon

Grades Primary to Six

Please contact Louisa for details.



Muffin Club Dates for 2019: Sundays in the Board Room

April 14th & 28th & May 12th & 26th

8:30am for muffins/coffee and 8:45am for lesson

Lay-led bible study. All are welcome to attend.

Contact the office for more information.



Bethany United Church Men's Club - Wednesday April 3rd

6pm for fellowship with 6:30pm start of meal.



Speaker for April: **Carl Yates**, the General Manager at Halifax Water and he will be speaking on the Daylighting of Sawmill Creek in Dartmouth. After 46 years of being buried underground, the Sawmill

River can see daylight again! You can now visit the river, which is back flowing above ground at Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth. This is an important step in reviving fish passage between Halifax Harbour and the Shubenacadie River system for species such as Gaspereaux.

Lent and Easter Letters - Please assist us with reducing our costs this spring by picking up your congregational letter from the Narthex before or after church on Sunday, March 31st or from the Fellowship Hall after the 2018 Annual General Meeting that is happening after the worship.



Annual Reports 2018 and Financial Reports 2018 are also available. There are blank letters for visitors or friends of Bethany as well.

A tour of D'Arcy Wilson's "The Memorialist" showing at the Dalhousie University Art Gallery (downstairs from the Rebecca Cohn) is occurring for Sunday April 7th at 2:00PM.

The Memorialist is a body of artwork inspired by the historic Andrew Downs Zoological Gardens, which opened in Armdale in 1847. Today 5 acres of the original zoo lands remain undeveloped and are owned by the family of Shirley Hill, a life-long member of Bethany. Shirley kindly assisted D'Arcy in her research for this project, and the results raise some important awareness of how we humans have valued our natural habitat and how we have viewed our relationship with indigenous wildlife. The remaining zoo land is a primary gem of our Armdale history.



We will meet in the foyer of the Rebecca Cohn at 2:00 pm and then go down to the art gallery. <http://artgallery.dal.ca/d%E2%80%99arcy-wilson-memorialist>

BETHANY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Ann Bradley Facilitator (abradley@bethanyunitedchurch.ca)



YOUTH GROUP: Grades 7 to 12; Sundays, 7:00 - 9:00p.m.

This is an opportunity for youth in grades 7- 12 to expand and deepen their faith in a safe and faithful community of peers.

Throughout the year, each evening planned around a particular theme with lots of fun games, activities, and events!



WALK AND TALK: An indoor walking program on

Wednesday mornings, from 10:00 to 11:30 AM through the end of April.

Whether you are a fast or slow walker and/or talker we welcome you to join us as we walk the meandering hallways and rooms of this building to stay healthy and fit during the winter months. Coffee, tea, healthy smoothies, crossword puzzles and conversation follow the walk. The first Wednesday of each month Rev. Kevin joins us with a thought provoking question engaging us in conversation. We are partnering once a month with the HRM Community Health Team to offer the following programs:

April 17th - Strength and Balance

Exercise, eating well and community engagement are essential to living a healthy lifestyle so bring a friend or family member and walk and talk with us! A small weekly donation is accepted to cover the cost of refreshments.

JOY LUNCH CLUB: Join us Tuesday April 2nd at Noon.

Guest speaker: Kevin Little.

Kevin's daughter Lucy was selected, recognized and celebrated for her art work at The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's Imagine a Canada event, held in Winnipeg last May. Kevin will share with us what that journey

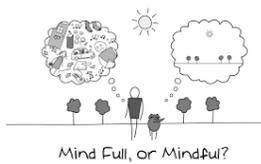
meant for he and his family and give us a glimpse of Lucy's work and the inspiration behind it.

Save the Date: Tuesday May 7th at Noon Guest Speaker: Kathy Brown
"How Newfoundland Outposts Captured a Young Man's Heart."

Kathy will share the story of her father, Rev. W.G.Berry who served some of the first missions of the United Church in Newfoundland from 1925- 1928.

Murray Brown will provide us with Jazz Piano Music preceding the talk, as we wrap up another season of JOY.





Meditation with Yvonne Macor: Join us in the Chapel Thursdays at 12 Noon until April 18th. Our Spring Session begins May 2nd - June 13th. Come rest and rejuvenate your mind, body and spirit.

Bethany Community Meal Dates: Our is once again offering an opportunity for Bethany folk and friends to prepare and eat a nutritious meal together. Our goal is to bring people together at the table, with nutritious food, where stories are shared and community is formed. We invite you to join us in the kitchen where you will be assigned a preparation duty or just come eat with us and enjoy this time of community over a delicious, healthy meal!

Monday April 29th - Supper

Price per person is \$10.00 for supper. Please see the sign up sheet for details and indicate your level of participation whether cooking, eating, clean-up or all of the above!



ISANS Conversation Circle at Bethany: Bethany continues to support Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia by hosting a Conversation Circle for newcomers once a week on Wednesday afternoons 12:30 - 2:30 in the Parlour. Julie MacDonald, ISANS Instructor, is pleased to team up with Bethany volunteers who like to engage in very beginning level conversation with new immigrants age 55 plus. No previous experience is required, just a friendly welcoming smile! Volunteers operate on a rotational schedule and therefore your commitment need not be every week. If you are interested in this outreach program please contact Ann Bradley.



***NEW* ESSETRICS EXERCISE FOR FITNESS, PAIN RELIEF AND FLEXIBILITY, SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES: Wednesdays 11:30am - 12:15pm in Fellowship Hall**

A dynamic workout based on the theories of Miranda Esmonde-White that simultaneously lengthens and strengthens every muscle in the body, resulting in greater joint mobility and lean, long muscles. A completely original workout that draws on the flowing movements of tai chi which create health and balance, the strengthening theories behind ballet which create long, lean, flexible muscles and the healing principles of physiotherapy which create a pain free body. This a PBS program and will be DVD led, and it is free! All are welcome. No exercise equipment necessary, just comfortable clothes!

MINISTRY OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE: The Congregational Care Team of Bethany consists of volunteer laypersons offering care and support to our congregation. This ministry supplements the visitation ministry of our lead Minister. The Care Team offers support to those who may be housebound or in senior's residences and can no longer come to church, OR to anyone who may feel disconnected from friends and family throughout the week and would appreciate a visit or phone call. We also provide support in times of crisis, such as an illness or bereavement. If you know of someone who would appreciate a visit or a phone call from a Congregational Care Team member, please contact coordinator Ann Bradley.

Congregational Care Team Ministries:

Home Visits/ Phone Calls

Meals in Time of Crisis (illness or bereavement)

Long Term Hospital/ Nursing Home Visits

Home Communion

Transportation to Medical Appointments

Our Dog Ministry as part of our Congregational Care Ministry. Drake will be available for pastoral visits through care team volunteers: Sharon Meadows, Janet Sponagle Hopper and Bev Johnson, all of whom have experience with dog therapy programs. See above for who to call regarding booking Drake for a pastoral visit.



Local Outreach

Thank you to all who contributed to the Hat and Mitten Collection Box during the winter months. This ministry will begin again in November 2019.

The Bethany Local Outreach committee is very thankful for the life and ministry of Grace Veino. Grace dedicated many years of service to assuring that various non- profit agencies in our city received warm items of clothing for people in need by distributing items donated to the Hat and Mitten Box. Grace had been a member of the Outreach Committee for at least 17 years and also chaired the committee for a number of years. She also organized the Salvation Army Wish Tree during the Christmas season. Grace will always be remembered for her caring and generous outreach to others. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her and also those who did not have the opportunity to know her, but felt her generosity through her quiet attentiveness to the needs of others. 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

New Outreach Initiative - Dignity. Period.

Campaigns to help people with periods in Nova Scotia afford the menstrual products they need. Did you know that 1/3 of Canadian women and girls under 25 have trouble affording menstrual hygiene supplies? And that 1 in 7 girls misses school because she doesn't have pads or tampons? Nova Scotia is the province with the highest rate of food insecurity in Canada, with 1 in 6 households unable to afford healthy food, which means they also can't afford personal care products. Dignity. Period. is a campaign to get people talking about period poverty and taking action to address it. There will be a collection box located at the front entrance of the Sanctuary. Donations of pads, tampons, and menstrual cups are welcome! They will be distributed in Halifax through food banks and other organizations.

For information, follow us on Facebook at [@DignityPeriodCampaign](#) or email dignityperiodcampaign@gmail.com.

Notes from the Rental Committee and Board of Managers

- ☒ For your information, the building is open for rentals and accessed by community members and group of children and youth programs, health and wellness programs, social programs, and other community events or opportunities.
- ☒ Please visit our various bulletin boards around the building or contact the Office to see what is happening here and in our surrounding community.
- ☒ The Board of Managers would appreciate that push pins/tacks or tape will no further be used on our walls when hanging event notices. Please bring all event notices to the Office for proper placement on our bulletin boards.

☒ Sunday Parking Appeal

The parking spots designated along the embankment to the right as you enter the back-parking lot are to be accessible for those from our church family with mobility issues. This appeal is for the use of those individuals attending our Sunday morning service only. Your attention around this need appreciated.

☒ Suggestions - Do you have some?

Just a reminder that as a community of faith, we are open to conversation here at Bethany. A suggestion box is in the Narthex, and reviewed frequently by members of our Worship Committee, who report to Session.

Upcoming Bethany Governance Meetings

There will be a meeting of Session on **Monday April 1st**, at **7:30pm** in the **Chapel**. All Elders requested to attend. If you have any comments regarding the style of the last Communion, please contact Carol Knapp (902) 455-5868 or speak to any Elder. Input welcome.

There will be a meeting of the Board of Managers on **Monday, April 9th, 2019** at **7pm** in the Board Room. All Board of Manager members requested to attend.

There will be a meeting of the Executive Board on **Monday, May 13th, 2019** at **7pm** in the Board Room. All Board of Manager members requested to attend.

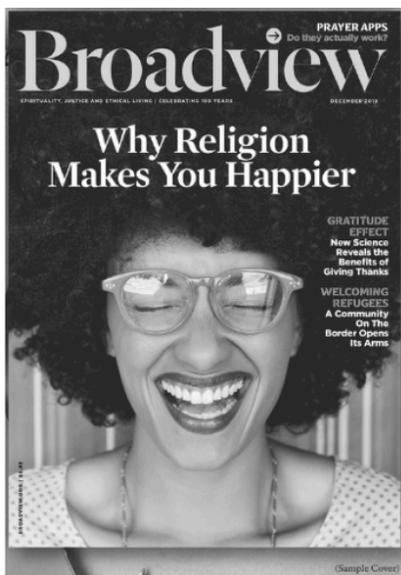
United Church Women - MacKinnon Unit - April meeting:

Carol Knapp will tell us about her recent trip through the Panama Canal.

Meet at the home of Sharon Wentzel, Apt. 320, 212 Greenpark Close, on Thurs. April 18, at 1:30 PM. All women in the congregation are welcome.

Call Kathy Brown, 479-3115, for information.

We will donate fruit for Sunday Suppers - apples, oranges, bananas, no fruit trays. Please drop that off, or put in kitchen at Coffee Hour, on Sun April 28.



“BROADVIEW”- the new United Church Observer

No, the mail person has not made a mistake! The magazine BROADVIEW in your mailbox in early April is the Observer with a new name, and new format to draw new readers. Coming early to give longer news stand life. No United Church of Canada on the masthead - OK

because it has actually been independent for years. United Church coverage remains. More pages, new look. As your BROADVIEW Rep. and also a member of the BROADVIEW Board, I would like comments and opinions. I can pass them on at the AGM in June.

You can see me at Coffee Hour, email: kathy@fromthesea.ca, or call (902) 479-3115. Kathy Brown

Offering of Gifts: If you wish to contribute to the life and work of Bethany we have options for you to consider. The church office are happy to help support you with setting up one of the following options:

- Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) - We are able to process monthly (20th of each month) donations using a chequing account, VISA or Master Card.
- Weekly Envelope Program - At the start of each year, or throughout the year, contribution envelopes are available from the Office.
- Visitor Envelopes - Located in the pews and Narthex we have visitor envelopes for use during worship services. Ask an usher for assistance if there is not one available. If visiting and you wish to receive an official receipt it is important to provide the details on the envelope as requested.

It is important for those contributors on PAR or with the Weekly Envelopes make note of their contribution number that has been assigned to them. This contribution number is important to place on any financial donation being given to the church by a donor who is registered with the church as either a member or adherent so that it is attributed correctly for an official receipt.

Memorial/Tribute Donations:

Donation cards/envelopes are available for anyone wanting to provide a gift in memory or in tribute to a loved one. These packages can be found in the Narthex or in the foyer outside the church office.

Our bulletin each week has a spot for Bethany family members and friends to honour a special occasion or celebrate the life of someone special. Please contact the Office if you have questions about this opportunity or wish to make this expression of love.

“Birthday Ministry” is a celebration of life - a labor of love! As a part of the Coffee Hour time after church, on the first Sunday of the month we wish to let you know that we thank God for YOU! Our goal is to make people born in that month feel loved and remembered on “their” upcoming special day. If you wish to become involved in this new ministry please contact the Office.

Scholarship Opportunity - Visit www.ns.cfns-fcne.ca for further information or contact the Office. The scholarship is administered by the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia.

UCW expresses their gratitude for the congregation’s support toward the March 2019 No-Bake Bake Sale.

Save the Date! The **UCW Spring Brunch** is being held **Saturday, April 27th, 2019** in the **Fellowship Hall**, an event for all ladies of the church. Come at 900am for 930am. *Goodwill donation at the door.

Guest Speaker: To Be Announced

Sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board by the side door entrance

*Bethany United Church
Presents
The Gift of Life - John Rutter
Choral Canticles of Creation*

In memory of Janet Paton

Featuring

Bethany Church Choir - Shawn Whynot, director

Lynette Wahlstrom, piano



Sunday April 28 at 3:00 PM

Bethany United Church

7171 Clinton Ave, Halifax

Admission By Donation

www.bethanyunitedchurch.ca



Join us on Friday April 12th at 7 pm for Bethany's Coffeehouse in the Rev. Ewen Moase Fellowship Hall for a fun night of entertainment and good company.

Hear great Bethany music and hear stirring poetry.

Bethany has a lot of talent, come and experience it. From a cultural standpoint, coffeehouses have always served as centers of social interaction: the coffeehouse provides guests with a place to congregate, talk, and entertain one another, in small groups.

As early as the 1950s Beatnik era and the 1960s folk music scene, coffeehouses have hosted singer-song-writer performances. Relive those times with a mellow, laid-back evening of fun, good music and great company. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.

And what about desserts? That's where you come in. If you plan to attend and can supply something sweet and tasty we would be very grateful. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board for you to let us what you are bringing.

Coffee, music, desserts and good conversations. What could be better? See you there.

EASTER MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations are being accepted for the Rackham Memorial Music Fund or the Lillian Piercey Scholarship Fund Donations may be submitted directly to the church office or placed in the donation plate on Sunday clearly marked with either fund's name.

We also require: your name, name in memory, envelope number/PAR number. Loved one's names will be printed on the Easter Sunday, April 21st worship service bulletin.

Thank you for your support.

The Bethany Flower Committee is now accepting Easter Flower Memorial Donations

Donations may be submitted directly to the church office or placed in the donation plate on Sunday clearly marked "Flower Committee - Easter Flower Memorial Donation".

We also require: your name, name in memory, envelope number/PAR number. Easter flowers will be displayed in the sanctuary Sunday, April 21st. Loved one's names will be printed in the Easter Sunday worship service bulletin. Thank you for your support.

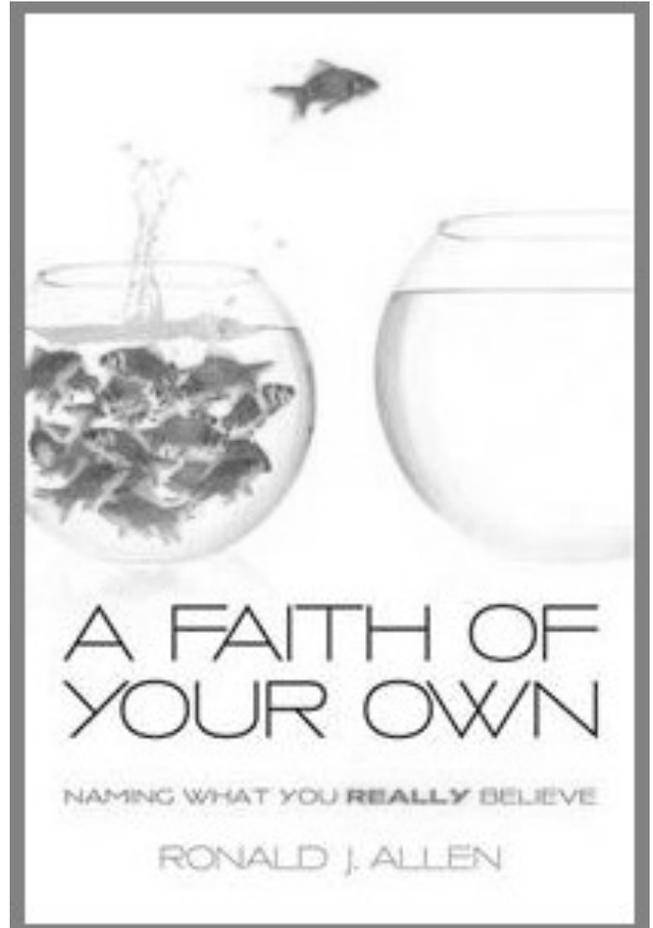


2019 Spring Faith Study

Join Our Spring Faith Study as we explore “A Faith of Your Own”
If you have a hunger to know what you believe this is the place to be.
Five Wednesday Nights, May 1st to May 29th in the MacKinnon Chapel.

A faith should be a living thing. What we believe necessarily evolves in response to insights into the Bible, to questions or doubts we face, to changes in life circumstances, or to things that happen the larger world. Nevertheless, Christians often find it helpful to identify what they can most fully believe at a given moment. Such clarity empowers the present and leads us toward the future. With that foundational knowledge, participants can make a judgment as to which viewpoints seem more or less persuasive to them personally.

Topics include; God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, the Trinity, God’s purpose, the Church, evil, other religions...Author, professor and theologian Ronald Allen offers clearly written, concise, balanced chapters on each topic, giving the reader the best argument for each of the Christian approaches to these challenging topics. Allen is painstakingly fair!



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Please join us. A sign-up sheet will be available outside the sanctuary on the bulletin board. If you want to order the book please indicate that on the sheet, though you do not need the book to participate in the study. Contact the Office for the book cost details

