

Stairs Memorial United Church
"Rising Together in Faith"
Weekly Announcements
February 17, 2017

2016 Income Tax Receipts are available in the narthex.

Upcoming Events:

Turkey Soup Takeout	February 25	3:30 – 4:30 Saturday and after church on Sunday the 26 th
Transfiguration Sunday	February 26	Communion Service
African Heritage Coffee House	February 26	during coffee time
Ash Wednesday	March 1	7PM Service
Congregational Meeting	March 5	following worship



Fair Trade seeks to change the terms of trade for the products we buy - to ensure the farmers and artisans behind those products get a better deal. Fair Trade products are available for purchase during coffee time most Sundays.

Church Offering

Offering, February 12 \$1007.

Online giving: If you prefer to give online, there is a "donation" button available on the Stairs website: www.stairsmemorial.ca

We are trying to be environmentally conscious. If you read the announcements online, please don't take a paper copy on Sunday. Also, please only take one copy per family. Thank you.

Upcoming Worship Hosts

February 19 Sandra Jamieson February 26 ?? March 1 (Ash Wed) Sandra Jamieson

We are in need of a worship host for February 26, if you can help please contact Wendy. A new signup sheet has been posted in the church office, please drop by or call Wendy with your available dates. Thank you.

The first Sunday of each month is designated *Canned Milk Sunday*. Those who are able are asked to bring in canned milk for the foodbank on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you.

There are a number of people who worship among us who are quite sensitive to scents. For the comfort of those around you, please avoid using perfumes, colognes or heavily scented products when coming to the church. Thank you.

Spirit Cafe - a non-traditional spiritual gathering sponsored by Dartmouth United Churches. Drop by Ma Belle's Cafe, 44 Ochterloney St, 5:30 on the first and third Tuesdays of every month. First Tuesday: faith-based discussion. Third Tuesday: music and fellowship. Menu of soup, sandwiches, sweets available.

Stairs' Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on March 5 following Sunday worship.

African Heritage Coffee House - join us for a guest speaker during coffee time on Feb 26.

Cleanup/Spruce-up Day

We are having this event again on Tuesday, 9 May and Saturday, 13 May (for those not able to come on Tuesday). Please begin thinking of things that need to be or can be done around our church. If there is a job that you can do or plan, alone or with others, please discuss your ideas with me. Bruce Fraser, Chair, T&P Committee, 902-404-6598

Sunday Coffee Fellowship - It has been decided that we are going to try something different with our coffee time after church on Sundays. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get people to sign up to host the coffee time. The UCW will continue to host the last Sunday of each month. For the other Sundays, a group of us have agreed to do the set up each Sunday. We invite people to bring a snack or a bag of cookies to share. If nothing is brought in there will just be the tea and coffee. If we get more snacks than we need we will save some for another Sunday. We will need people to volunteer to help with the cleanup. We are hoping that this new approach might work out okay. So, we are going to leave the coffeetime sign up sheet up for people to sign up for the cleanup only. If someone still wanted to host, that would be okay also.

The Stairs Memorial UCW are having a bakeless bake sale fund raiser in the month of February. Instead of baking, we ask that you drop an envelope containing your contribution and marked "bakeless bake sale" into the collection plate on any Sunday in February. This is a great way to support the church without donning your oven mitts.

UCW Turkey Soup Take-out Meal

Pick-up February 25th 3:30 - 4:30 PM or February 26 after church.

Menu: 12 ounces hearty turkey soup, homemade roll & tea biscuit and carrot cake for dessert. Cost: \$10. Tickets are available now.

Stairs' Contact Information:

Rev. Sarah Reaburn: sreaburn@eastlink.ca
Church Office: stairsmemorial@eastlink.ca
Office Phone No.: 902-466-4389
Facebook: Stairs Memorial United Church
Website: www.stairsmemorial.ca

Emergency Contact: In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call 902 469 4472 or 902 466 4053.

Building Security

Please be sure to check that all exterior doors are locked when leaving the building.

Storm cancellations: If worship is cancelled due to weather, we will put an announcement on the Stairs answering machine by 8:00AM. If there is no announcement, assume we are gathering as usual. We will also put the announcement on the internet on the CBC Storm Centre (at <http://www.cbc.ca/stormcentre/ns/>).

Anyone who wants to be confirmed, or to transfer your membership from another church, please either see Sarah or contact the office.

As of today, Friday, 17 February, the city has not cleared the 4 feet of snow on the sidewalk in front of Stairs, and we do not know when it will be cleared. Therefore, I have advised our janitor to leave the front step uncleared until next week. When entering the church from the parking lot, please be on the lookout for black ice which can form quickly in certain weather conditions. Bruce Fraser, Chair, T&P Committee 902-404-6598.

Youth Forum and Intermediates at Conference - anyone in junior high (IAC) or high school (YF) is welcome at these high energy faith gatherings happening in Sackville, NB, May 25-28. Applications are open online at <http://marconf.ca/youth-forum-registration/> until March 31.

Readers' Circle - Our next book will be "Amazing Grace" by Lesley Crewe, May 11 over lunch.

VALENTINE TEA & SALE - St. Paul's Church, 197 Windmill Road, Saturday, Feb. 11th from 11:30 to 1:30. Admission \$6. Enjoy turkey-a-la-king luncheon, books/games/puzzles, bake table, fudge, raffles, white elephant, crafts, etc.

Men's Prayer B'fast (DCMFPB) will meet Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7AM at the Dartmouth Seniors' Service Centre, 45 Ochterloney St., when the guest speaker will be Rev. Kirby Spivey III of New Beginnings Church, Cherry Brook. All men are welcome to attend and share in the fellowship. Please register at this site <http://www.dcmfpb.ca> by 10AM Monday Feb. 20 or call Bob @ 434-4348. Cost is \$10.

Come to our Down Home Saturday Night "Ham Jam" on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Grace United Church, 70 King St., Dartmouth (lower hall)! Drop in any time from 4:30-6:30 pm. Join us for some musical treats and mighty fine eats. There's baked ham and scalloped potatoes with brown bread, and, gingerbread with lemon sauce for dessert. Music will be provided by Greg Hatcher and Lester Atkinson, and, Andrew, Simon and Marcel. There will also be a special Beatles treat. Tickets are \$15 each (\$5 for 12 and under). For more information please contact the church office at (902) 466-3329.
