

Stairs Memorial United Church

Faith that Matters

Love that Matters

Community that Matters

Weekly Announcements for March 3rd, 2019

Stairs' Contact Information

Church Office stairsmemorial@eastlink.ca; 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.

We are in need of someone to operate the elevator on Sunday night and on Monday afternoon for the visitation and memorial service for Lillian Randall. See Sarah if you can help. Thank you!

Lent begins on Wednesday this week. Our theme for Lent will be Knit, Pray, Love and will draw on imagery from the transformation of fleece into something lovely.

We will also be holding a congregational fast from plastic throughout Lent.

Fast From Plastic Week 1: Grocery Store Bags

As Lent begins, we are all asked to consider the holiness of the earth and our relationship with the ground and the waters as we, to the best of our ability, refrain from acquiring any plastic grocery store bags.

Services and Events for This Week

And Jesus Wept: A Seminar Series on Grief at Stairs Memorial

Saturday, March 2nd 10am-12pm in the Parlour

An exploration of grief from a Christian perspective, living in a secularized world.

How do we live and grieve and respond to grief of the other as Christians as we occupy secular spaces?

Sunday, March 3rd: Communion Service

Spirit Café Discussion Night

Tuesday, March 5th from 5:30 to 6:30pm at Grace United Church, as part of their Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The discussion will be led by Rev. Ivan Gregan: "What are Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent?"

Pancake supper is \$5/adult, \$15 for a family and the entrance is via the outside basement stairs on King Street

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 6th at 7pm

UCW Turkey Soup Take-out Meal

Pick-up March 9th from 3 to 4pm or March 10th after church

Menu: 12 ounces turkey soup, roll, tea biscuit, carrot cake - \$10

**Please remember that on Sunday, March 10th
Daylight Savings Time begins – “Spring Ahead” one hour**

Daffodil Orders

Please note that orders will be taken for daffodils until **Sunday, March 10th**; each bunch will be \$8.00.

Annual Report Time

Please submit your reports to the church office no later than **Sunday, March 10th** – thank you!

Upcoming Services and Events

Worship Service Led by the Men

Sunday, March 17th

Alternative Service and Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 31st

Planning for the Future of Stairs

There is still opportunity to express your thoughts concerning the future for Stairs! If you haven't already, please fill in a survey/questionnaire (printed on yellow paper) and return it to the marked box in the narthex; it is important that as many members as possible have their input.

Mark on Your Calendars:

Readers' Circle will gather again May 16th to discuss the book “Beholden” by Lesley Crewe.

Upcoming Worship Hosts

Mar 3 Susan T.

Mar 10 -----

Mar 17th Men's Group

We are in need of a worship host for March 10th; if you can help, please sign up in the church office

Upcoming Coffeetime Hosts

Mar 3 Finance & Property

Mar 10 UCW

Mar 17th Choir

Register Now for Intermediates @ Conference and Youth Forum

May 23rd to 26th in Sackville, New Brunswick

Grades 7 to 9 (I@C): <https://form.jotform.com/90225024164244>

Grade 10 to age 19 (YF): <https://form.jotform.com/90224670995262>

I@C and YF meet as two separate groups. Each group creates an inclusive, diverse and safe community of over a hundred youth in the name of Christ. Each provides a place for youth to explore their faith and to learn more about the United Church while sharing in music, worship and fun in a spirit-filled community.

If there is a storm and it seems unsafe or unwise to have a service, we will cancel.

You can check the phone message at the church (902-466-4389) any time after 8am on a storm day.

If Sarah has power, an email notice will also be sent out, and a message will be posted on Facebook.

Canned Milk Sunday

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.

Card Campaign

Cash cards will be available to purchase on the first and third Sundays in the church hall during coffee-time or at the church office with one day's notice.



The Fair Trade community includes individual citizens, schools, academics, unions, activists, religious organizations, and more, all unified in their desire to make the world a better place.

Communication Center

At the back of the sanctuary is a board where we will try to communicate everything that is going on. This is where you can sign up to indicate your interest in events. If you would like to initiate an activity of any kind at Stairs, you are welcome to fill out one of the forms on the bulletin board and put it in the envelope, and an elder will be in touch with you shortly.

Announcements Paper Copy

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

Online Giving

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

Community Events

Volunteers Needed at Dartmouth General Hospital

Dartmouth General Hospital is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our valuable volunteer team. Volunteer programs are available daytime, evenings and on weekends; there's one waiting just for you! For more information, please call us at 902-464-4805 or visit www.nshealth.ca/volunteer

Taizé Prayer at St. John's United Church, 6199 Chebucto Road

Sunday, March 3rd at 7pm in the Judith Grant Room (via St. Matthias' Lane); all are welcome

St. Paul's Church, 197 Windmill Road, Food Bingo

Saturday, March 9th from 2 to 4pm, cards: \$10, contact Paul at 902-463-5962

Music at Grace presents Nova Scotia Pianist Cindy Thong in a Piano Recital

Sunday, March 10th at 3pm at Grace United Church

Tickets are \$10 and available from the church office - 902-466-3329 or at the door

Cindy is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in piano performance at the University of Montreal

Allie Fulford is a member of Dalhousie Collegium Cantorum. The choir is performing J. S. Bach: St. John Passion

Monday, April 1st at 7:30pm at St. Andrew's United Church, Coburg & Robie Streets, Halifax

Tickets: \$25 regular /\$20 for students available at Dalhousie's Fountain School of Performing Arts, from choristers, online at brownpapertickets.com, or at the door.

Feature soloists: Jennifer Farrell (soprano), Paula Rockwell (alto), Jason Davis (tenor), Michael Donovan (bass) and Jon-Paul Decosse (bass). The Halifax early music ensemble Réjouissance will provide accompaniment, with

Hilary Brown (cello) and Garth MacPhee (organ). Tara Scott is the accompanist for Dalhousie Collegium Cantorum, and the performance will be conducted by Gary Ewer.