



**Minister:** Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden  
**Music Director:** Daphna Pearson  
**Office Administrator:** Kristen McGraw  
**Greeters:** Claudia Schaerer  
**Door Attendant:** Fernand Daigle  
**Teller:** June Kelly

***Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts***

*Welcome to Visions United - "God's Doors Are Open to All"*

Visions United seeks to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity

**Spirit Gathering - Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

<b><i>Events at a glance</i></b>		
February 4	9:30am	Conversation Café (Congregational Care & Spirit & Worship)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering
February 8	7pm	Choir Practice
February 11	9:30am	Conversation Café (Congregational Care & Spirit & Worship)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering - Special Service of Story & Song with our Choir
February 25	11:30am	Annual General Meeting

**Today, we welcome and thank Rev. Hugh Farquhar**  
 for leading our Spirit Gathering this morning  
 while Rev. Shawn is away on leave.

**Children's Spirit Space**

*This week's leader:* Ruth Flanagan; *Nursery Helper:* Hannah Baisley.

Spirit Space is our program for all-ages held downstairs. Children gather with the congregation in the Great Room for our opening. We will let you know when Spirit Space begins! There are also activity bags available for children who choose to remain upstairs.

**Open Hearts - Uncommon Boldness**

Each month last fall, we considered one of our Core Values. Last Sunday we invited you to hold in prayer our final value, *Uncommon Boldness*, and consider the ways we aspire to practice this value. Especially, in these weeks leading up to our Annual Meeting (Feb 25<sup>th</sup>) when we consider our future, how are we called to live into this core value, as individuals and as a community of faith?

## Visions News & Updates

We offer our **condolences** and hold in prayer the **family of Rev. Ronald Maund**. A service to celebrate and honour the life of Ronald was held Friday in Charlottetown, PEI. A donation was sent to the Friends of the Moncton Hospital from friends at Visions.

**Notice from Ministry & Personnel:** It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Rev. Shawn's father on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Funeral arrangements are as follows: Visitation is Sunday, February 4 from 6:30-8:30pm at the Colchester Community Funeral Home (Truro NS). The funeral is Monday, February 5 at 3pm at the Upper Stewiacke United Church. For more information, please visit: <http://colchesterfuneral.frontrunnerpro.com/book-of-memories/3420235/Redden-Donald-Bill/service-details.php>

Rev. Shawn will be away on leave. Her date of return is unknown at this time and will be determined over the course of the next couple of weeks. While she is away, please contact Peggy Renton (Chair for Congregational Care) with any pastoral concerns. Rev. Stephen Brown (Petitcodiac) will visit the Hospitals. In case of a funeral/crisis, Peggy will contact either Rev. Catherine Gaw or Rev. Stephen Brown to respond. We offer our condolences to Rev. Shawn and her family and hold them in prayer as they go through this difficult time. Please be in touch with chairperson, Terry Hawkes ([terry@hawkeyesoftware.com](mailto:terry@hawkeyesoftware.com)), with any questions or concerns.

**2018 Offering Envelopes** are now available. If you would like to enroll in PAR (pre-authorized monthly remittance) or receive weekly offering envelopes, please contact Kristen at the office.

**Storm Cancellations:** On Sunday mornings a decision will be made by 8am. When any services or special events are cancelled due to bad weather, a message will be left on Visions United's answering machine (384-0843), and a notice placed on our Website and Facebook page. We will also try and give notice to radio stations such as CBC and you can check: <http://www.cbc.ca/stormcentre>

**Grocery Card Program:** *Easy for you fundraiser!* For every grocery card sold Vision United gets 4%; that's \$4 for every \$100 sold. Get your Sobeys, and Superstore cards before the service.

## Visions Events

**Book Club** – Saturday, February 10 (7pm)

We will be discussing the book "The Jade Peone" by Watson Choy. Please join us at the home of Claudia Schaerer (333 Shediac Road). Hope to see you there.

**UCW Annual Seniors & Friends Luncheon - Wednesday, February 14** (12pm)  
Visions United Church, 1270 Gorge Road. Doors open at 11:30 am. Come and bring a friend. There will be a free will offering with proceeds going to UCW charities. If possible, please call the church office at 384-0843 so we will know how many to prepare for. Snow date is Thursday, February 15th.

**Congregational workshop – Saturday, February 24** (9:15am-12pm)  
A congregational workshop will be held at the Stilesville campus to determine ministry initiatives and priorities for our Strategic Plan using Catherine Gaw's report from her October workshop. This workshop will be independent of the partnership aspect of the Strategic Plan. All teams are asked to attend, as well as other interested congregational members. Storm date is Sat. March 3rd.

**Coldest Night of the Year – Saturday, February 24** (5-9pm)  
Proceeds raised as a result of your participation in Coldest Night of the Year will go to support solutions to youth homelessness offered through two different Youth Impact Jeunesse programs. If you would like to participate or contribute, please see the signup sheets in the foyer or contact Trudy Colpitts at twcoreo@yahoo.ca or 506-874-2446.

**Annual General Meeting – Sunday, February 25**  
Stilesville campus, following the Spirit Gathering. We will be having a potluck luncheon of sandwiches and sweets only. We invite you to join us.

### **Other Church and Community Events**

**Pancake Supper – Tuesday, February 13** (4:30-6:30pm)  
Mountain View United Church, 85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton. Serving pancakes, maple syrup, sausages, baked beans, dessert, tea/coffee. Adults \$7; Children 6-12: \$3.50; Children under 6: Free.

**Lay Worship Leaders Information Day – February 24** (9am-4pm)  
Do you have an interest in learning about Lay Worship Leader training in Maritime Conference? If so, you are encouraged to attend a Lay Worship Leaders Information Day sponsored by Chignecto Presbytery at Mountain View United Church, 85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton, NB. The Rev. Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Co-ordinator of the LLWL Atlantic program, will present the *LLWL Atlantic* program which provides such training at Tatamagouche Centre. **Advance registration before noon on February 17th is necessary or the event will be cancelled.** There is no cost to attend. To register or for more information, please contact Craig Dickson at dicksonc@nb.sympatico.ca or phone 506 382-8432.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Address:</b>	1270 Gorge Rd., Stilesville, NB, E1G 3E5
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	RPO North End Box 29101, Moncton, NB, E1G 4R3
<b>Telephone:</b>	384-0843 (Office)                      588-0326 (Minister Cell)
<b>Fax:</b>	384-8013
<b>Email:</b>	office@visionsunited.ca minister@visionsunited.ca
<b>Web:</b>	www.visionsunited.ca
<b>Facebook:</b>	www.facebook.com/visionsunitedchurch www.facebook.com/groups/visionsunited
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 1pm
<b>Minister Hours*:</b>	Wednesday & Thursday - 9:30am to 12:30pm *Minister is available other hours by appointment

### **We Value Abundant Generosity! *How Can I Share an Offering?***

Choose from two easy ways to make donations to Visions United to support the ongoing work and ministry. We don't pass the offering plate during the service, but we do dedicate the gifts we all share with prayer and thanksgiving:

**Weekly Offering** - There is a **Giving Table** at the entry of the Great Room with envelopes for visitors or occasional gifts. We encourage regular participants to contact the Church Office by phone or email to request your own box of weekly offering envelopes; a charitable tax receipt is issued at the year-end.

**Pre-authorized Remittance (PAR)** is an easy way for you to make regular and reliable contributions on the 21<sup>st</sup> each month to ensure the vitality of Visions' ministry. Deductions can be changed/cancelled anytime with sufficient notice to the office.

- Request a PAR form from the church office or print and fill out *PAR form* from the website with your monthly offering amount.
- Place a "VOID" cheque and completed form in a sealed envelope. Give it to the office or place in the offering plate during service.
- Tax receipts are issued at the beginning of each year for the previous tax year.



### **VISION AIDERS' PROJECTS: *Our outreach in the community & around the world***

**MISSION & SERVICE** - the United Church of Canada's unique way to fund global and Canadian mission projects, bringing healing, justice and hope to life! Your M&S gift helps Visions meet our 2017 objective of \$20,000.



**RECONNECT JAR** – Your donation supports the Reconnect Street Intervention Program in Greater Moncton, outreach to those who are homeless and at risk.

**KARING KITCHEN** – Your chance to donate groceries and/or grocery store cards, the 1st Sunday of each month, to assist Moncton's largest soup kitchen.

**OTHER** – You are invited, at various times, to respond to local, national and international requests for assistance.