



Minister: Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden
Music Director: Daphna Pearson
Office Administrator: Kristen McGraw
Greeter: Carol & Charlie Kelly
Door Attendant/Greeter: Charlie Kelly
Teller: Jocelyne Quann

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, April 8th, 2018

<i>Events at a glance</i>		
April 8	9:30am	Conversation Café (Vision Aiders)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering
April 10	7pm	CLT Meting
April 11	2pm	UCW Meeting (29 Adelle Lane)
	7pm	Working Group: Future of Stilesville Campus
April 12	7pm	Choir Practice
April 14	8am-1pm	Stilesville Pancake Brunch
April 15	9:30am	Conversation Café (Vision Aiders)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering

This week's theme is **Honouring the Sacred in Our Lives.**

Wisdom Reading: Jacob's Spiritual Memoir - **Genesis 28: 10-19.**

We begin a new series for our Spirit Gatherings today. It is part of the Spiritual Memoirs Project, a partnership between Visions and the Prayer Bench. Each week we explore spiritual memoir stories in the Bible and are invited to listen to our lives and reflect on the meaning of our ordinary stories, discovering the Holy in our lives. Consider signing up for the small group study called *StoryTellers* (see announcement next page for sign-up information).

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.

Visions News & Updates

Loblaws \$25 Gift card - Why not donate it to the Karing Kitchen?

If you are planning to register for the \$25 gift card through Loblaws (Superstore) why not consider donating the card to the Karing Kitchen or a food bank. To register for your \$25 card, go online to loblawcard.ca. The deadline for registering for a gift card is May 8th.

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>

DID YOU KNOW....

There are over 20, 000 species of bees in the world. The bee is the only insect that produces food eaten by us. Visit online to "www.BringBackTheBees.ca" to learn how you can help the bees survive. AND you can receive free wildflowers from Veseys Seeds and a free children's book from Chapters.

The StoryTellers Small Group Study - Begins April 19 (10:30am – 12pm)

We all have a story to tell... In this small group study we will listen to a teaching on spiritual memoir and then show and share the story of whatever article we choose to bring. Together, we reflect on the sacred in our life.

There are four sessions:

1. Introduction: Honouring the Sacred in Our Lives
2. Family Recipes, Old Photos & Antiques: Listen to Your Life
3. Quilts & Other Precious Possessions: Making Meaning
4. Diaries, Letters & Commonplace Books: Living Fully

When? April 19, 26, May 3 & 10. 10:30am to 12pm

Where? 190 Carson Drive, Common Room. (Home of Anna Peters)

Sign-up sheet in the foyer or contact the office. (If you are interested and can only attend an evening, please indicate on the sign-up sheet for possible evening session.)

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

Visions' Used Book Sale – April 14

Visions is having a used book sale each Saturday during the pancake brunches. If you have any used books you'd like to donate, please contact the office.

Working Group: Future of Stilesville Campus: April 11 - 7pm

This is a followup meeting from Feb 26th. We will hear a report about information gathered on the value of the property and consider possible next steps. Past attendees will receive and email notice with the past meeting notes. Anyone interested in the discussion about what we should do with our present property are welcome to attend and contribute.

Last Pancake Brunch for 2018 - Mark your calendar: April 14th

(8am-1pm) Adults - \$12/Children under 12 - \$6. If you are able to donate sweets (cookies or squares, no cakes please) or baked beans for the upcoming Pancake brunch (April 14), please deliver these items to Visions on the preceding Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or early on the morning of the brunch. Also, if you have not yet been asked and would like to help in the dining room or kitchen, for the Brunch, would you please call Joan at 204-6024 (kitchen) or June at 859-0788 (dining room).

Book Club – Friday, May 4 (7pm)

We will be meeting at 1118-190 Carson Drive. We are reading “The Other Einstein” by Marie Benedict. All readers welcome.

Stroll for the Soul - 21 Days of Encouragement begins May 7

Are you a fair weather person needing encouragement to get back in your walking shoes? Are you a runner seeking mindfulness on your daily run? Are you a biker, a hiker, a skateboarder wanting inspiration with your exercise? Are you yearning to deepen your awareness of the Divine in the world?

Stroll (or Roll) for Your Soul invites mindful attention and offers 21 emails delivering incentive, focus and inspiration to your inbox from the Prayer Bench retreat ministry.

WHEN: You receive daily emails from May 7-28.

SIGN UP: Contact the Office by April 22 or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer. **This program is offered free of charge as part of a Congregational subscription your Spirit & Worship Team has purchased for Visions.*

Other Church and Community Events

Moncton Headstarts Annual Lorne Preston Scholarship Breakfast – Friday,

April 27 (8am) Camden Place, 55 Camden Crescent, Moncton.

Admission is \$10.00 seniors and \$20.00 adults, with a tax receipt upon request. All proceeds go towards Lorne Preston Scholarships.

Please contact Glenna Lightfoot (383-8240) for tickets or more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address:	1270 Gorge Rd., Stilesville, NB, E1G 3E5
Mailing Address:	RPO North End Box 29101, Moncton, NB, E1G 4R3
Telephone:	384-0843 (Office) 588-0326 (Minister Cell)
Fax:	384-8013
Email:	office@visionsunited.ca minister@visionsunited.ca
Web:	www.visionsunited.ca
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/visionsunitedchurch www.facebook.com/groups/visionsunited
Office Hours:	Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 1pm
Minister Hours*:	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 all gifts during the "Invitation to Generosity".

Weekly Offering - There is a ***Giving Table*** at the entry of the Great Room with envelopes for visitors or occasional gifts. Contact the Church Office to request your own box of weekly offering envelopes.

Pre-authorized Remittance (PAR) is an easy way for you to make regular and reliable contributions on the 21st 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.



Charitable tax receipts for Envelope & PAR contributors are issued at the year-end.

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 2018 objective of \$18,500.



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.

CURRENT FOCUS – "Give it Up for the Earth" and environmental concerns. Give up plastic shopping bags, disposable water bottles and coffee cups.