



**Minister:** Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden  
**Music Director:** Daphna Pearson  
**Office Administrator:** Kristen McGraw  
**Greeter:** June Kelly  
**Door Attendant/Greeter:** John Russell  
**Teller:** Peter Lightfoot

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***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, May 20th, 2018**  
**Pentecost Sunday**

Ezekial's Vision: Ezekial 37:1-14

<b><i>Events at a glance</i></b>		
May 20	9:30am	Conversation Café (UCW)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering – Pentecost Sunday
May 27	9:30am	Conversation Café (UCW)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering

**Pentecost Sunday!** Wear something red, orange or yellow to celebrate Pentecost and the gift of the fiery Spirit.

**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.

Our **Sympathy** is extended to **Eleanor MacIntosh** on the death of her sister Frances of Fredericton on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We offer our prayers for healing peace.

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## Visions News & Updates

**NEW! - Announcements** - Visions has a new email address just for announcements. If you have anything you want added to the announcements please send the information including what, when, location and when you would like it to be added to ***announcements@visionsunited.ca***.

**NEW! – Finance** - Do you have PAR changes, need offering envelopes, or have questions about your givings? Send an email to ***finance@visionsunited.ca***.

**Update on our Petition for Ban on Single-use Plastic Bags:** Visions presented a petition to Moncton City Council on May 7 for the introduction of a by-law banning single-use plastic shopping and grocery bags.

Council indicated this is on the agenda for discussion at the upcoming Tri-Communities meeting on June 13th!

We've now created a ***\*New Online Petition\**** for the Tri-Communities. We are asking those who already signed the petition to Moncton City Council to sign this new one online. We will have a computer set up at this Sunday's Spirit Gathering or you can go online yourself to our website: [visionsunited.ca](http://visionsunited.ca)

Please take a few postcards and share with your friends and family.

**Who are we? Have you put your pin on the Visions' pin map?** Since we created this map of our Visions' family in the fall 2016, there have new people join us. We also know a few people may not have put their pin on the map to show where they live (one pin for each household). This is a visual story of who is part of our Visions' family. We will be using it in our "exploring partnership" conversations. *(Note: Stilesville, Indian Mountain, and Irishtown areas are in an enlarged insert at the top left of the map).*

**United Codiac Refugee Committee** - May is shaping up to be an exciting month for UCRC! We received word our second Syrian family, Haya Samaan and her parents have an interview scheduled at the Canadian Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Haya graduated in medicine from Damascus University in 2016, which is where she and Manar Dawod met and became engaged. Haya and her parents escaped Syria to Beirut in 2015. If all goes well, they could be coming to Canada in a few months. Meanwhile, Manar wrote the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Exam on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We anxiously await his results. Please keep Haya and her family, and Manar in your prayers. *Loving God, we ask that you be especially with Haya and her parents during their interviews. Bless them with wisdom and grace as they talk about their situation. Be also with the Canadian representatives and fill them with compassion and insight as they listen to all who are seeking peace and a new life in Canada. Amen.*

**Visions Vacation Month:** July 1st-July 31st. We will not be holding Spirit Gatherings during the month of July this year. Services will resume August 5<sup>th</sup>.

**The Observer** – Pam Harrison will be promoting The Observer today. The cost of this interesting magazine is \$2.50/month and contains important issues that face our faith community. She will be collecting the annual fee of only \$25 (Cash or Cheque).

**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 Sobeyes, and Superstore cards before the service.

**Hospital Visits:** Rev. Shawn visits the Moncton Hospital weekly, and the Dumont when requested. Reminder: You need to advise the hospital you are part of Visions United, otherwise we will not be advised of your admittance. Please let the Office/Rev. Shawn know of anyone needing a visit.

### **Visions Events**

**Fiddlin Friends – Friday, June 8 (7pm)**

Visions will be hosting the “Fiddlin Friends” on Friday, June 8 at 7pm. \$5 per person with proceeds going to the United Codiac Refugee Committee. Light refreshments to follow. Hope you can join us!

**Book Club – Saturday, June 9 (7pm)**

Our next book will be “The House of Unexpected Sisters” by Alexander McCall. We will meet in the Common Room at 190 Carson Drive. All are welcome.

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

**Rummage Sale – Saturday, May 26 (8:30am-1pm)**

Saint John's United Church rummage sale. Clothing, books, toys, linens, electronics, household and much more. 75 Alma St. Moncton.

**Lobster Take-Out – Saturday, June 2** - Mountain View United Church

Pick up will be between 10:30am and 1:30pm (85 MacBeath Ave) or delivery is available. \$20. To order, call the church office at 857-4817 or 384-1198.

**Samaritan's Purse – Help New Brunswick Families Clean Up After the**

**Floods** – Help us restore lives for hundreds facing loss and damage. Bring Christ's love to those in crisis. To volunteer cleaning out homes, visit [SamaritansPurse.ca/NBFlood2018](http://SamaritansPurse.ca/NBFlood2018).

## 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
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<b>Web:</b>	www.visionsunited.ca
<b>Facebook:</b>	www.facebook.com/visionsunitedchurch www.facebook.com/groups/visionsunited
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesday , Thursday, Friday – 1pm to 4pm
<b>Minister Hours*:</b>	Tuesday – 1pm to 3:30pm & Thursday – 10am-12pm *Minister is available other hours by appointment

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

You may have noticed we don't pass an offering plate during the service, but we do bless all gifts during shared during our "Invitation to Generosity". You can choose one of two ways to support the ongoing work and ministry of Visions:

**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 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.



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** – Petition to City Council for Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags and Mental Health Awareness.