



Minister: Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden
Music Director: Daphna Pearson
Office Administrator: Kristen McGraw
Greeter: June Kelly & Linus Dunn
Door Attendant/Greeter: Linus Dunn
Teller: Gordon Norton

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 6th, 2018

This week's theme: Living Fully - "Treasuring These Things"

Sources for Spiritual Memoir: Diaries, Letters and Commonplace Books

Wisdom Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 2-7

<i>Events at a glance</i>		
May 6	9:30am	Conversation Café (UCW)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering
May 7	5:00pm	Presentation of Petition to City Council <i>(meet at City Hall at 4:30pm)</i>
May 8	7pm	CLT Meeting
May 10	10:30am	Small Group: Storytellers (190 Carson Dr. Community Room)
	7pm	Choir Practice
May 12	9am	Dover Cemetery Work (Help needed)
May 13	9:30am	Conversation Café (UCW)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering - Christian Family Sunday
May 15	7pm	Stilesville Cemetery Meeting

The current theme for our Spirit Gatherings is about Spiritual Memoir.
 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. These services are part of the Spiritual
 Memoirs Project, a partnership between Visions and the Prayer Bench.

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

Pancake Brunch Report – Our Finance Team would like to thank everyone who contributed in helping make our Pancake Brunches a success. Our total revenue was \$11,124.26. Thank you!!

LAST CHANCE - Loblaw's \$25 Gift card - *Why not donate it to the Karing Kitchen?* If you are planning to register for the \$25 gift card through Loblaw's (Superstore) why not consider donating the card to the Karing Kitchen or a food bank. Register online loblawcard.ca. **The deadline is May 8th**.

Petition for Ban on Single-use Plastic Bags: Our action for Earth Day organized as a Green initiative. We have a petition to submit to Moncton City Council tomorrow, May 7th, at 5pm. If you would like to join us for the presentation, please meet at City Hall at 4:30 pm. Council proceedings are televised on Rogers (<https://www.rogerstv.com/show?lid=12&rid=49&sid=1110>). This is the last day to sign the petition.

"Given that City Council supports a healthy environment for the residents of Greater Moncton, and recognizing that plastic waste is a serious environmental issue because:

- Most plastics are manufactured from fossil fuels which are a major source of greenhouse gases
- Plastic is a non-renewable resource that degrades land, water, the health of humans and other creatures
- Waterways, beaches, and oceans are clogged with plastics making them unattractive and dangerous to both humans and sea creatures
- Plastics are not biodegradable, but instead break up into smaller pieces in creeks, lakes, rivers and oceans where they enter the food chain (including humans)

We, the undersigned, respectfully request the introduction by City Council of a bylaw which would ban single use plastic grocery and other plastic shopping bags." *Will you consider signing?*

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

The StoryTellers Small Group Study - May 10 (10:30am – 12pm)

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

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.

This week's theme: Living Fully - *Diaries, Letters and Commonplace Books*.

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

Watch your email inbox for a welcome message from the Prayer Bench. If you signed up and do not receive your welcome email, contact the office ASAP.

The Dover Cemetery – Saturday, May 12 (9am-12pm)

The Dover Cemetery is in need of some TLC. A work date with the cemetery is planned for Saturday, May 12. Depending on the resources available, we plan to clean up debris around the edge of the property, rake leaves, remove dilapidated fencing, and stabilize grave markers. If you have tools that would be useful for this project bring these with you. The cemetery is located 7 kilometers down Route 925 (along the Petitcodiac) from its intersection with Route 106. Contact Gordon Norton if more information is needed.

Stilesville Cemetery Meeting – Tuesday, May 15 (7pm)

The meeting will be held at Visions Campus.

Other Church and Community Events

***Spring Tea* - Saturday, May 12 (12pm)**

Celebrate Spring and Mother's Day at Mountain View United Church. Tickets are \$12 each (sandwiches, sweets, and entertainment) and may be obtained by calling the church office at 857-4817.

The Greater Moncton Chorale 30th Anniversary – Saturday, May 12 (7pm)

Community Peace Centre Forum - Concert program that is pure fun! Adults/\$18 (\$20 at door) and kids under 12/\$8 (\$10 at door). Advance ticket sales at Read's Newsstands in Moncton and Riverview.

Workshop, Concert, Retreat – David Haas, well known composer of contemporary liturgical music, will lead a free Workshop for Choir Directors “A Time of Information, Consultation and Affirmation” on *Friday, June 1 (1-3pm)**.

David Haas in concert, *Friday, June 1 (7pm)**. Tickets: \$20 at the door. Hymns written by him in Voices United are: “Sing for Joy” (253); “Blest Are They” (p896); and “The Lord’s Prayer” (959). David’s concerts are lively and ecumenically oriented.

David Haas, will lead a Workshop/ Retreat for Choir Members (Music Ministers) – “With Gratitude and Thanksgiving” -- in Churches on *Saturday, June 2 (9am-2pm)**. Cost: \$35 (lunch provided).

**All events are being held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Riverview. Advanced Registration required by May 15. Register at www.diomoncton.ca. Click on the David Haas poster.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Web:	www.visionsunited.ca
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/visionsunitedchurch www.facebook.com/groups/visionsunited
Office Hours:	Tuesday , Thursday, Friday – 1pm to 4pm
Minister Hours*:	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 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 – Petition to City Council for Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags.