



Minister: Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden
Music Director: Daphna Pearson
Office Administrator: Kristen McGraw
Greeter: Peggy Renton
Door Attendant/Greeter: John Russell
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, September 23rd, 2018

"Risking Faith, Daring Hope"

Events at a glance

September 23	9:30am	Conversation Café (Spirit & Worship)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering
September 27	9:30am	Vision Aiders
	7pm	Choir Practice
September 29	8-11:30am	Pancake Breakfast
September 30	9:30am	Conversation Café (Spirit & Worship)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering - Baptism

Children's Spirit Space

This week's leader: Linda Higgins; *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

Baptism – We will celebrate Baptism on September 30th. Please contact the office if you have a request.

Adult Profession of Faith/Confirmation/Baptism – Rev. Shawn will be organizing a program this fall for anyone who is interested in a profession of faith or renewal of faith. For adults, this is the rite of membership in the United Church. Please contact her by email if you are interested.

Basket For Friends of Moncton Hospital - Anyone wishing to donate something for Christmas Basket for Hospital donated from Visions please see Ruth Flanagan. Basket will be given to Hospital by Mid October. Ruth will bring what is in Basket to date to church on Sunday. This is follow-up to her Piece for Peace presentation at Christmas last year.

A Financial Snapshot of where we are year to date at Visions

Visions is a Community of Faith exploring partnerships and opportunities, and a congregation of very generous people.

As of the end of August, we can report our offerings are currently \$400 behind total budget, but we are also \$7,000 ahead in comparison to last year. Overall, our total income is \$4,000 behind budget but with the success of a couple of fundraising efforts, and your support of these, we can make a difference. In addition, our actual expenses are \$7,000 less than budgeted for this year.

The number of contributors on PAR has made a significant difference. Our biggest months of givings are traditionally September to Dec. 31st, including special the special Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas Eve offerings.

Our budget we all approved at the AGM asks for \$38,357 in total givings for our local expenses (Congregational Life Fund) for the remaining period of September to December 31st. This is achievable. We, as a church, support outreach ministries (Visions Aid) and Mission & Service (National and Global), and these gifts are over and above this budget, and an important part of our generosity.

Will we have a deficit as budgeted? Yes, we still project a deficit of over \$35,000, provided our budgeted givings remain on track.

Two fundraising events are planned to obtain the goal of ensuring our total building expenses of \$17,000 is met through fundraising and grocery cards.

- September 29 Pancake Breakfast/U.C.W. bake sale, and
- November 3 Roast Beef supper planned with two seatings.

Please share with all your friends and come and join us for some warm hospitality and great meals.

What is the balance of our Investments? The balance of our Ministry Fund (*which we use to offset our deficit*) is \$20,500 as of August 31st. The Manse Fund balance remains at \$115,971, and these funds are restricted. The Finance Team is considering a plan for these funds in conversation with Presbytery.

Your finance Committee has a role in providing awareness and with four months to go in 2018, we wanted to share the good and concerning news.

Respectfully submitted John Pearson,
Chair on behalf of your Visions Finance Committee

Visions Events

Visions United Pancake Breakfast – **Saturday, September 29** (8am to 11:30am) Join us for a delicious breakfast including pancakes, bacon, eggs, pan fries, toast, juice, tea and coffee. Hope to see you there!

Book Club – **Monday, October 1** (7pm)

Our selection this month is *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan. We meet at the home of Rosemary Geddes (491 Indian Mtn. Road). Sandy Tolan brings the Israeli-Palestinian conflict down to its most human level, suggesting that even amid the bleakest political realities there exist stories of hope and reconciliation.

Other Church and Community Events

Apple Pie (U-Bake) Sale - **Saturday's, September 29 and October 13**

Mountain View United Church, 85 MacBeath Ave. Moncton. Pies available with Splenda upon request. To order call Nan Leger 384-1198 or the church office at 857-4817. Pick up between 10:30am to 1pm. \$7 each.

Trinity United's Ham, Bean & Scalloped Potato dinner – **Saturday, Sept 29** (4:30-6:30pm) – 379 Main Street, Shediac. Includes Tea, Coffee and Dessert. Adults \$15/Children under 12 \$10. Take out Available.

Trinity Fall Fair – **Saturday, September 29, 2018** (10:30am-1:30pm)

85 Old Coach Road, Riverview. Please join us for children's games, bouncy castle, petting far, silent auction, barbecue & more.

International Day of Older Persons Reception – **Sunday, September 30** (2pm)

The Mayor's Seniors Advisory Committee will be hosting this reception at Moncton City Hall, 655 Main Street. Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Marcia King, City Clerk's Office by email marcia.king@moncton.ca or by telephone 853-3499.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address:	1270 Gorge Rd., Stilesville, NB, E1G 3E5
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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 - July - Donation to Camp Ta-Wa-Si; August - Coats for Care