



**Minister:** Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden  
**Music Director:** Daphna Pearson  
**Office Administrator:** Kristen McGraw  
**Greeter:** Carla Bourque  
**Door Attendant:** Douglas Bourque  
**Teller:** Jocelyne Quann

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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 people of all races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities to worship.

**Spirit Gathering**

**Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

***Epiphany***

***"Star Words for Star-wards"***

January 6	9:30am	Conversation Café (Choir)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering - Epiphany Sunday
	11:30am	Dedecorate the church (We welcome all help)
January 8	7:00pm	CLT meeting
January 9	1:30pm	UCW Meeting (190 Carson Drive - Common Room)
	7:00pm	Spirit & Worship
January 10	9:30am	Vision Aiders
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
January 13	9:30am	Conversation Café (Choir)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering

**Children's Spirit Space**

*This week's leader:* Linda Higgins; *Nursery Helper:* Kaylee Cormier.

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.

**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 to give notice to radio stations such as CBC and you can check:  
<http://www.cbc.ca/stormcentre>.

### **This Sunday - Receive Your Epiphany Star Word for a New Year**

On this first Sunday of this New Year we celebrate Epiphany and the story of the journeying Magi - Wise Ones.

We will welcome the growing Light and we will receive the gift of our Star Word.

The Magi travelled in response to a gift they were given.

The wild star guided their path to Bethlehem and brought them to a manger.

Never would they have expected this destination.

Never would they have expected to worship a tiny Child.

During the service you choose a star. It will have a word on it.

This is your Star Gift Word for 2019.

It is a simple gift that may take on deep meaning

as you wonder about your word and ponder its meaning.

Will your word surprise you?

Will your word become your prayer?

Will your word offer you guidance in 2019

or support your spiritual journey in surprising ways?

**Missed having your photo taken for the directory?** If you would like to submit a photo, you can do so by giving a photo to Helen Halfpenny or Audrey Hayward or by emailing a digital copy to [office@visionsunited.ca](mailto:office@visionsunited.ca) by January 7.

### **Book Club – Saturday, January 19 (4pm)**

The next Book Club meeting will be held in the Common Room at 190 Carson Drive. We will be discussing the book "Reluctant Genius" by Charlotte Gray.

Partners are invited to join us at 5:30pm for a Potluck Supper.

**Team Annual Reports** – Representatives who submit reports without financial statements for the Annual Report are asked to do so no later than January 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **An Update from the Partnership Exploration Team**

Just prior to Christmas, the Trustees of Visions United and the representatives from the Board of the John Howard Society of Southeastern New Brunswick Inc. signed the Memorandum of Understanding to enter into a partnership. Our commitment is to work together to realize the development of a community hub in the area of north Moncton with affordable housing units. We are now able to share this news with others outside our congregation.

The community hub will engage other community organizations that share similar values and vision of collaboration to share space and programming. The building will be constructed and owned by the John Howard Society, with Visions as a major partner in the development of the hub and lease occupant of space.

A Joint Steering Team with equal representation from both Visions and the John Howard Society will oversee the project. The CLT will name our representatives at our meeting this Tuesday. There is opportunity for other persons from Visions to participate in aspects of the project, including the design of the building and the development of the community hub. Please contact Claudia Schaerer, CLT Chair, or Rev. Shawn if you have interest.

Please remember that if you receive any queries from the media, that all media questions are to be handled by Joanne Murray, Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Southeastern NB.

We hope you are as excited as we are as we move forward on further developing and implementing this exciting partnership!

### **Other Church and Community News & Updates**

#### **Pancake Breakfast – Saturday, January 12** (8 to 11am)

Mountain View United Church, 85 MacBeath Ave. Moncton NB. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, toast, beans, tea/coffee/juice. Freewill offering.

**Seniors Fitness Classes** - St. Paul's United Church, 404 Cleveland Ave. Riverview will begin on January 8. We have two levels of activity, "50 Plus Fitness" at 9am , a strenuous workout promoting cardio, strength, flexibility and balance, and "Senior Fitness" which is an easier level at 10am. Cost for Jan. to May 31 is \$90, which may be paid in two installments in Jan. and March. To register or for more information, phone 386 3335 or 372 4570.

## 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 , 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. All loose offering is given to our Visions Aid fund for local outreach.

**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** - December Leaf on the Giving Tree – Gifts with Vision (M&S)