



Minister: Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden
Music Director: Daphna Pearson
Office Administrator: Kristen McGraw
Greeter: Carol Kelly
Door Attendant: 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 people of all races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities to worship.

Spirit Gathering

Sunday, March 3rd, 2019

Transfiguration Sunday

"Close Encounters" - Stories of Grace for the Journey

March 3	9:30am	Conversation Café (Trustees, Property, Communications)
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering
March 4	2:00pm	Joint Steering Team with John Howard
March 6	5:30-7:00pm	Congregational Lenten Event & Supper (Ash Wednesday)
	7:00pm	Spirit & Worship Team (Campus)
March 7	7:00pm	Choir
March 10	9:30am	Conversation Café
	10:30am	Spirit Gathering - Lent 1 - Communion

Children's Spirit Space

This week's leader: Ruth Flanagan; *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.

Epiphany Star Words - The season of Epiphany draws to a close this Sunday, so it is a good opportunity to recall our Star Words we received on Epiphany Sunday (there are still some available for 2019 if you are interested). How is your star word inviting you into moments of grace?

Visions News & Updates

Office Hours - There will be no office hours the week of March 4-10. We hope to have arrangements made for office administration services by next week.

PARTooniepaction Stewardship Challenge *Every Action Makes a Difference!*

Every Gift Counts! We hope you can return your completed Giving Intention Card and Volunteer form by March 3rd. Thank you! Looking for the blank envelope to return your intention card? Oops, we missed it. There are envelopes on the giving table this Sunday; or put your card in your own envelope and mark "Attn: Treasurer" for confidentiality.

What's **PARTooniepaction**? **PAR**- Will you become a PAR supporter?

'Toonie'- Can you increase your contribution by \$2 a week to our Congregational Life fund for 2019?

Action- What can you share of your time and talents with Visions?

"Lent on a Plate" Prayer Bench Email Retreat - Register by March 5th

Table-sharing is more than feeding. It is a way of becoming nourishment and love for one another. Jesus brings a feast of Presence to his picnics, potlucks, dinner parties, breakfasts and snacks. We'll explore these stories and discover themes that will guide and support our journey through Lent. The meals we set upon our kitchen table become the focus, not just of our nourishment, but of our spiritual practices and prayer. This is what's great about *Lent on a Plate* – every time we eat and drink we are reminded of God's Presence and give attention to this ordinary sacrament.

Here's What You Receive:

1. Your retreat series arrives by email. Each retreat offers an opening, a brief meditation, questions for reflection, a recipe and story, and a spiritual practice.
2. You receive a Welcome Email on Ash Wednesday March 6.
3. You receive six Email Retreats on the following six Saturdays.
4. Too busy to keep up? Within your retreat is a button where you can download, save and print your retreat for a quiet time.

Register: Email revshawnnredden@gmail.com with subject line: Lent on a Plate
Provide Name and email address.

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>.

RECYCLING for RECONNECT WILL CONTINUE IN 2019 - 2nd & 4th Sundays

All proceeds from donated refundable drink containers go to ReConnect.

Jerry O'Connell is no longer able to do this, but John Foster and Jane Aikman have graciously offered to pick up any bottles, cans, etc. on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Please leave your donations in the room at the bottom of the back stairs.

Visions Events

Congregational Lenten Event - March 6 (5:30-7pm) - Ash Wednesday

Join us for a light supper (Chili, homemade rolls, cookies), an all-ages story and activity, and a short Ash Wednesday ritual with prayer and song. Take home a "Lent-in-a-bag" to use for your Lenten journey. **RSVP** for planning and supper by Tuesday March 5th. Sign-up sheet on the giving table or RSVP by email: revshawnredden@gmail.com with the subject: Lenten Event.

Other Church and Community News & Updates

Salisbury United Pancake Supper – Monday, March 4 (4-6:30pm)

Where: Salisbury Lions Club, Peter Street. Pancakes, Homemade Baked Beans, Sausages, Rolls, Dessert and Beverage. Cost: Adults \$8; Children Under 12 \$4.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Tuesday, March 5 (4:30-6:30pm)

85 MacBeath Ave. Moncton. Pancakes, maple syrup, sausages, baked beans, dessert, tea/coffee. Adults \$8. Children 6-12 \$3:50; Children 6 & under Free.

SILENT AUCTION & DESSERT EXTRAVAGANZA - Thursday, March 14 & Friday, March 15, 2019 at St. John's United Church (75 Alma Street, Moncton)

SILENT AUCTION: Thur. ~ 9am-9pm; Friday ~ 9am-4pm. DESSERT + Tea or Coffee: Thur. 2-4 & 7-9pm; Friday 2-4pm. Eat-in or take-out. \$5.00/serving.

Sweeping Away Barriers is a fund raising event which puts teams of 4 against each other at CURL MONCTON on April 06, 2019. REGISTRATION \$200. PER TEAM, Limit 20 Teams. Each team is GUARANTEED 3 Games and lunch is included. Each Team Pledges to Raise \$1,000

Note: REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 15, 2019 (Visions has participated in the Fun Challenge event which is being replace by this Curling event)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Web:	www.visionsunited.ca
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/visionsunitedchurch www.facebook.com/groups/visionsunited
Office Hours:	No Office Hours March 4-8
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. 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 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 - Giving Tree February Leaf: *Coldest Night Walk & Youth Quest*