

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

-Proverbs 8:22-23

Greetings Kindred in Christ,

We see so much beauty throughout the summer months. Yes, there has been a lot of rain over the last few weeks, but we have had glimpses of sunshine.

As we continue through the month of July, pause from time to time and take in the gift that is creation: the sky, the trees, the people, and yes, even the rain.

Let us give thanks for the gift of creation and our part in shaping it. Let us pray:

Work in us as you did in the days before days, O God. Guide us that we might work with you in the building of the kingdom, the shaping of creation. Send your Holy Spirit into your lives and empower us. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Word that walks among us.

AMEN

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Richard Bowley

Keep reading for more information on what is happening at Quispamsis United Church

Weekly Announcements for Quispamsis United Church July 6th, 2023

1. Readers for the coming Year **(NEW) ***PLEASE READ*****
2. Farewell to Rev Richard and his family **(NEW)**
3. Faith Profile Survey **(NEW)**
4. Letter from Regional Affirm Committee
5. First Nation Storytellers **(NEW)**
6. HUC – Strawberry Festival **(NEW)**
7. Faith Profile Committee **(UPDATED) ***PLEASE READ*****
8. Worshipping In-Person
9. Worshipping Online **(UPDATED)**
10. One-Day Choir Workshop **(NEW)**
11. New Battery for AED and Instructional Video

12. QUC Office Hours
 13. Special Services in July (**REMINDER**) *****PLEASE READ*****
 14. QUC Calendar
 15. Sunday Readers for the Next 4 Services (**UPDATED**)
 16. Pastoral Visits
 17. Dedicate a Service
 18. Looking for Tech Volunteers
 19. Financial Report
 20. How You Can Direct Your Givings *****PLEASE READ*****
 21. Submitting Announcements
 22. Sharing our Message on Social Media
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1. **Readers for the coming Year:** Do you want to lend your voice to the weekly worship service? You can! Reach out to Leslie at office@quc.ca to get your name on the reading list for the 2023-24 year. When you are a reader, you offer the welcome, read responsive pieces, the Minute for Mission, and - of course - the scripture reading. Please reach out to Leslie before July 16th as she will be putting the new list together over the coming weeks.

2. **Farewell to Rev Richard and his family:** Please mark your calendars! Friends and family of QUC are invited to share in a light lunch following the service on July 16th. This will be a celebration of the time we have shared with Rev Richard and his family and an opportunity for all of us to wish them well as they move on to a new ministry. Hope to see you all. Any questions please call Sally Allanach or Diane Tonge

3. **Faith Profile Survey:** A box marked Profile Survey is in the narthex for those dropping off their completed surveys. Your opinion is important to us. Please have completed surveys returned by September 10th, 2023.

4. **Letter from Regional Affirm Committee:** This week the council of Quispamsis United Church was sent a letter of congratulations from the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Affirm Committee to mark the occasion of our 1st anniversary as an Affirming community of faith. You can read the letter by clicking the following link:
<https://www.quc.ca/s/letter-to-Quispamsis.pdf>

5. **First Nation Storytellers:** Evening talk presented by Affirming Committee Quispamsis United Church. Come and listen to Dave Smith deliver a talk on the edge of the river. Discover the local Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq history from a unique Indigenous point of view. You are invited to this shared local United Church congregations' event. East Riverside Kinghurst Park under the Gazebo at 2603 Rothesay Road. Tuesday, July 25th, 6.45 pm. The talk will start at 7 pm and finish at 8.30 to allow question time. Sunset is 9 p.m. Bring your own folding chair, snacks, drinks, bug spray, and donations towards the event (payment and a tip will be given from these donations). Accessible bathrooms are open on-site. Please invite friends.

6. **Hampton United Church** will be holding its Annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, July 8. This year offering Eat-in and Drive-thru options. On the Menu: cucumbers and tomatoes served on a bed of lettuce, potato salad, marinated carrots, coleslaw, and ham. Fresh strawberries and whipped cream served on a homemade biscuit for dessert! ALL MEALS MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE by calling (506)832-5050 or emailing office@hamtonunited.ca before July 3. (please leave your name, contact info, number of meals and if you would like to eat-in or pickup) Price for a full meal is \$15.00 with \$8.00 for half meal.

7. **Faith Profile Committee:** "The Faith Profile committee has prepared a survey which was sent to you last week. This survey will provide valuable input as we prepare our Faith Profile. We want everyone's input. Please return by Sept 11/23 by mail, drop it off at the QUC office, or a box in the Narthex on Sunday. There will also be copies of the survey, if you require one, in the Narthex. Reach out to any of the following if you have any questions: Bob Crowley, Kim Brown, Carolyn Kimball, Hally Kimball, Heather McDonald, Faye Sherrard & Tom Wilson. Thank you in advance for completing the survey."

8. **Worshipping In-Person:** If you plan on attending in person, please review these guidelines as there may have been changes since you were last with us!

- a. **Masks Encouraged but not Required:** Masks have been a great way to ease the spread of not just COVID but other common illnesses. Because of their effectiveness, we are still encouraging attendees to wear them. However, they are no longer a requirement to participate in worship with us.
- b. **Entry & Exit:** There are two main entrances/exits to the building: the sanctuary door, and the side door. Feel free to come and go through either of these doors.
- c. **Physical Distancing:** As with masks, you are not required to physically distance yourself, but if you prefer to maintain that spacing for yourself and others, you may do so, space-permitting.

If you have concerns regarding these changes, please share them with your Safe Church Committee through our chair Bill Whittaker, whittakerw3@gmail.com. Know that any concerns and comments will be reviewed and given attention.

9. **Worshipping Online:** Follow the instructions below for logging on to Zoom, getting your copy of the bulletin, and catching up on services you may have missed.
- a. **Zoom Information:** The information to join our Zoom worship is below:
 - i. The Zoom link for smartphones, tablets, or computers is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/233787625?pwd=V2gxY05oYU5NMm1YMFZKTElnM2NtZz09>
 - ii. The password for this meeting room is: **400688**
 - iii. For those who would prefer to call in the number is: **1 647 558 0588** then use the Meeting ID: **233 787 625**, and then enter the passcode **400688** when prompted (long-distance charges may apply if you do not have a plan)
 - b. **Bulletins for Sunday:** The bulletin is available for viewing on our website, and can be found at the following link:
 - i. Sunday's Bulletin: <https://www.quc.ca/s/July-9-Bulletin.pdf>
 - c. Council Minutes: <https://www.quc.ca/congregational-minutes>
 - d. **Last Sunday's Worship:** In case you missed it, the worship service (video) and message (audio) are on the website. Just follow the links below, scroll to the date, and watch or listen.
 - i. Videos of Previous Worship Services: <https://www.quc.ca/worship/videos>
 - ii. Audio of Message: <https://www.quc.ca/worship/messages>
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10. **One-day Choir Workshop:** The Diocese of Fredericton's 64th annual Choir School is holding a one-day workshop and Festal Choral Evensong on Saturday, July 8th at Trinity Church in uptown Saint John. Music will be directed by Spencer Belyea of Trinity Church, Thomas Gonder of Christ Church Cathedral, and Dr. Neil Cockburn of Kings College, Halifax. The public is cordially invited to attend the service at 7:30 pm (note the change of time) that evening. Freewill offerings will be received.

11. **New Battery for AED and Instructional Video:** A new battery was acquired for the AED in

the hallway (donated by Janie and Kid Zone)! An instructional video on the use of this device is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uhZPzvyyu10&t=51s>. We will be showing this video at an upcoming worship service.

12. **QUC Office Hours:** Barring emergencies, the church will be accessible and Leslie will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30-12:30. Should you need access to the building outside these times, please contact Leslie at office@quc.ca to make arrangements.

13. **Special Services in July:** Mark your calendars! With Rev. Richard's time at QUC coming to a close at the end of July, there will be some special services to mark our time together.

- a. **Sunday, July 16th:** This will be the last **in-person** service until returning on August 20th. At this service, along with communion, there will be a special **end-of-covenant** piece included to mark the end of the relationship between QUC and Rev. Richard.
- b. **Sunday, July 23rd:** This is Rev. Richard's last Sunday. Appropriately, because so much time was spent early in the pastoral relationship on Zoom, this last service will also be on Zoom. Come in your favourite PJ's with a coffee to end as we began.

14. **QUC Calendar:** For any events you would like to see posted, contact Leslie. You can find the calendar by using the following link: <https://www.quc.ca/quc-calendar>

15. **Sunday Readers for the Next 4 Services:** One of the great gifts that we have each week is your participation in Sunday Worship in the welcoming, Acknowledgement of Land, the responsive pieces (Call to Worship, Commissioning, etc.), the Minute for Mission, and of course the scripture reading. You add so much to the experience of worship every Sunday! Below are the readers for the next 4 Services. If you see your name here and are unable to be available for your Sunday, please **check the reader list and arrange a replacement and let Leslie know.**

- a. **July 9th:** Heather Alward
 - b. **July 16th:** Cindy Millican
 - c. **July 23rd:** Ben Alward
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16. **Pastoral Visits:** Rev. Richard is available for pastoral visits until July 20th. If you would like him to stop by, contact him at rev.bowley@outlook.com or by phone at **(506)898-4747**.

17. **Dedicate a Service:** CELEBRATE a member of your family or place a MEMORIAL in our weekly bulletin by making a donation. Just send your donation, details of the announcement “Dedicated by (donator) in loving memory/celebration of people/situation” and your chosen date to Leslie. She will include your message in the PowerPoint.

18. **Looking for Tech Volunteers** – We have regularly been updating our technical abilities at the church with new laptops, microphones, screen, cameras and are still planning future updates. We have a very small crew and we are looking for some help. If you enjoy learning and/or are a bit tech-savvy, we would love for you to join us. If you are interested, please reach out to us through Leslie at office@quc.ca.

19. **Financial Report: For the Period of May**

	Current Month	Year To-date
Total Receipts	\$ 17,248.82	\$77,290.64
Total Expenses	\$15,000.12	\$79,142.83
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$2,248.70	\$1,852.19
M&S	\$776.50	\$4,552.50

Another good surplus in May, let's keep it going!!!

20. **How You Can Direct Your Givings:** Did you know that when you give financially, you can direct where that money goes and how it supports the work of our church and mission? Here are some of the categories for directing your offerings: **Local, M&S, Memorial, Building, Outreach, and Special (Advent, Lent, etc)**

If you want to make any changes to where your gifts go to support the work of this community of faith, just follow the directions below:

- a. *Envelope givers* – Already divided between Local and M & S. If you want it to go to another category just write on the envelope
- b. *E-Transfer givers* – Write in the message section where you would like it recorded. If no comment is made it will be recorded as a Local

- c. *PAR givers* – Send Brion a message stating how much in each category. If no comment is made it will be recorded as a Local
- d. *Mail givers* – Write on the cheque which category and how much in each. If no comment is made it will be recorded as a Local

For any queries or concerns please give Brion Crossman a call at 849-6003 or Hally Kimball at 849-9618.

21. Submitting Announcements: To get your announcement in this weekly notice, we ask that you submit them to Leslie with a **small paragraph** of detail by Wednesday of the week you want your announcement to run. Also, include the number of weeks that you want this announcement in the weekly notice (if no number is given we will run it for 4 weeks or until the event has taken place). Send all announcements to Leslie at office@quc.ca

22. Sharing our Message on Social Media: Sometimes we have some pretty amazing events going on at QUC. Sometimes we do some pretty awesome stuff in the community. Sometimes we just want to remind people of the welcoming home that they can find at QUC. We can share all of these messages through Facebook! If your **committee** has a message to share with the wider community, send that brief message (preferably with a picture) to Leslie through office@quc.ca and she will get our message out there!