

Fort Massey by-the-Sea

A Congregation of The United Church of Canada

Watching over Halifax Harbour c. 1871

~ transforming God to a verb ~

“Here is God's purpose - for God, to me, it seems, is a verb, not a noun, proper or improper; is the articulation, not the art, objective or subjective; is loving, not the abstraction "love" commanded or entreated; is knowledge dynamic, not legislative code, not proclamation law, not academic dogma, not ecclesiastic canon. Yes, God is a verb, the most active. Let it burn swiftly.” – R. Buckminster Fuller

Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ 10:30 am, March 30, 2014

Trent D. Cleveland-Thompson, Pastor
Simon Abbott, Organist & Music Director
Leah Collins Lipsett, Pianist & Jr. Choir Director
Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons
Colleen Estabrooks, M&S Enthusiast
Sancia Knorr, Church School
Kathy Cochrane, Office Administrator
Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
Alasdair Sinclair, Clerk Emeritus
Alan G. Hayman, Senior Trustee
H. Douglas Ritcey, Honorary Elder
Irene Parks, UCW President
5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3
www.fortmasseychurch.com

Heather Ferrier, Student Minister
John Walter, Assistant Organist
Kevin Roberts, Flutist
Ian MacDonald, Tech Support
Elliott Prouty, Head Usher
Janna Janson, Nursery
Maddy Spicer, Assistant Administrator
John Gillis, M&P Chair
Ruth MacKenzie, Chief Steward
Leslie Pezzack, Treasurer
Ian MacDonald & Elliott Prouty, Presbytery
Martina Sommer, Facilities Rental Manager
902.423.4294
ftmassey@eastlink.ca

ORDER of SERVICE

* indicates standing for those who are able

PRELUDE

Ringling of the Trinity bell and lighting of the Community candle

INTROIT

Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary (3X)

MV 18

OPENING WORDS

*OPENING HYMN

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery
VERSES 1-5 and LENT 4

VU 121

THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

MINUTE FOR MISSION “Open-Door Policy” – *Sally deWolf*

OFFERINGS

* Response: We Give Thee But Thine Own vs.1 VU 543
Standing, as the offering plates are brought forward.

CHILDREN’S TIME with the *Sunday’s Cool Crowd* – *Heather Ferrier*

PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

*HYMN Go Make a Diff’rence MV 209

PRAYER

ANTHEM In the Bulb There Is a Flower — Natalie Sleeth

READINGS “When Children Ask About God” (excerpts) Rabbi Kushner
Exodus 3:10-14
*Offered as wisdom for the journey. **May we walk in its light.***

SERMON Trekking Through the Conga Line – *Rev. Trent*

*AFFIRMATION A New Creed VU 918

*CLOSING HYMN Here I Am, Lord VU 509

*PARTING WORDS

POSTLUDE

* * *

Welcome to Fort Massey. A special welcome to our **visitors**. We are delighted to have you joining us today. You are invited to sign our Guest Book; if you’re looking for a church home, please fill out a **Welcome Card** at the left of the main doors upon exiting the nave, leaving it with the **guest book**. Join us in the lower hall after the Service for **Coffee & Conversation**. **Hosts today** are: *Sally deWolf* and *Matthew Dick*.

Today we say “Thank You” to our student minister, *Heather Ferrier*, for her ministry among us the since January 2013. She will be providing pulpit supply the last Sunday in June and all of July prior to going on an eight month internship (location yet to be decided by the national church).

Lay resource Team members for *Heather Ferrier* were *Sally deWolf*, *Matthew Dick*, and *Kathy Evans*. Our thanks to them for their ministry.

The Sunflower Project. Thank you for supporting the Sunday School children of High River United Church in brightening up High River, Alberta, after last year’s flood, with sunflowers this spring. They will bring a ray of hope to each household (4000) by placing an envelope of sunflower seeds into every mailbox in High River. Sunflowers are great at pulling toxins out of the soil (*left by the flood waters and all the chemicals that were mixed in which sat for weeks in parts of town*). Today is the last day we’ll be collecting seeds.

Fort Massey United Church Halifax ~ March 30, 2014

In Hospital: *Betty Easton* (INF), *Doug Ritcey* (CH, Parkland at the Gardens-Apr 5)

Holy Week Services Participants are needed for Palm Sunday (4 youth readers), Maundy Thursday (2 female readers), Good Friday (2 readers). Contact *Rev. Trent*.

Newsletter deadline is TODAY.

Outreach Committee is looking for new members. If you have an interest in refugees, homelessness, poverty, or local outreach initiatives, please contact *Ian MacDonald* or the minister.

Easter Flower Festival, Sunday, April 20th. Contact *Carol Robinson* (429.5954) if you would like to make a financial donation to the flower fund, in memory of a loved one or in honour of an occasion. We are also looking for volunteers to deliver flowers to some of our parishioners after the Easter Sunday Service. Please sign-up in the Tobin St. lobby.

This Week @ the fort ...

- *Women's Coffee Group*, Tue, April 1, 10 AM, *Kathy Evans'*
- *Cozy Wear Outreach Project*, Tue, 1 PM, Lower Hall
- *YOGA with Jenny*, Tue, 7 PM, Lower Hall
- *Board of Management*, Tue, 7:30 PM, Church Parlour
- *Spirit Connectors*, Thu, 10:30 AM, The Berkeley on Green St.
- *Choir Practice*, Thu, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary
- *Men's Breakfast*, Fri, 9:30 AM, Athens Restaurant
- *Lunch Prep*, Fri, 1 PM, Kitchen
- *Tea & Tango*, Sat, 2-3:30 PM, Lower Hall

Next Sunday @ the fort... we'll be celebrating the sacrament of baptism and blessing the tartans (National Tartan Day) at our 10:30 Service; and *Tom & Vi MacDougall's* 40th wedding anniversary during our **Haggis Lunch** at 11:30 in the Lower Hall. We need helpers to prepare, serve and clean-up. Sign-up sheet is on the easel board in the Tobin St. lobby.

Covenanting Service TODAY for the Rev'd *Kevin Little* at 3 pm in St. Andrew's church hall, 6036 Cobourg Rd., Halifax.

Chowder lunches at the Presbyterian Church of Saint David, Weds 'til April 16.

SCOTIA BRASS in concert, Rockingham United Church, 12 Flamingo Dr, Halifax, Wednesday, April 9th, 7:30 pm. Cost \$10

Garage Sale: First Baptist Church Halifax (1300 Oxford Street) Sat., April 26, 9am - 12noon; Admission \$1. Rain or shine! Books, clothes, jewellery, Household items and more.

Grand Book Sale & Flea Market, May 3rd, 9:30-11:30 am, Fort Massey Church Hall. Start cleaning off those book shelves and going through your attic.

United Church Members Are Being Asked to Sign a Pledge for Medicare

Toronto: For 60 years The United Church of Canada has advocated in support of universal health care. Now the church is calling on its members to sign the Medicare Pledge launched by the Canadian Health Coalition, a public advocacy organization dedicated to the preservation and improvement of Medicare.

The Medicare Pledge is part of an ongoing campaign spearheaded by the coalition, of which the United Church is a member. In part, the pledge says that “quality health care must be based on need, not ability to pay” and that we “must improve our public health care for everyone, instead of expanding private for-profit services that benefit only a few.” So far over 10,000 Canadians and more than 100 organizations, including the United Church, have signed the pledge.

The United Church’s call for its members to sign the Medicare Pledge comes just days before a National Day of Action for a New Health Accord on March 31. The day of action coincides with the date that the current health accord between the federal government, the provinces, and the territories expires. Thus far, the federal government has refused to renegotiate the agreement.

The coalition argues that without a new health accord it will be impossible to ensure national health care standards across the country.

“Medicare is not something that Canadians should take for granted,” says The United Church of Canada’s Moderator, the Right Rev. Gary Paterson. “Signing the Medicare Pledge is one way to ensure that, for generations to come, the health care system that we have been privileged to enjoy is preserved and protected.”

For more than half a century, the United Church has supported the concept of universally accessible health care for all Canadians. In 1954, the church first endorsed the principle of a national health insurance plan, and urged all levels of government to move toward the establishment of such a plan. In 1994, it strongly affirmed its support for the core principles of Medicare: that Canada’s health care system remains universal, accessible, comprehensive, portable, and publicly administered.

To sign the Medicare Pledge go to <http://medicare.ca/medicare-pledge> .