

Our sympathy to *Mary & Angus McDonald, Alison & family*, on the death of Mary's brother last week in Scotland.

Elder Election. Elders are those persons of the Congregation who are chosen by the congregation for their wisdom, caring, spiritual discernment and other gifts of the Spirit, and to whom the responsibility of leadership is entrusted within Fort Massey. Elders at Fort Massey are elected by members of the congregation, voting by mail ballot. All members are eligible to become elders, and all members are eligible to vote in the election. Those who receive the most votes are asked if they are prepared to serve as elders. The ballots will be available today, and the close of the voting will be June 1st. **The list of the members eligible for election includes members on the membership list plus those elders whose term is up and are re-offering: Kathy Evans, Irene Parks, Peter Coulthard, Jim Janson, Carol Sinclair and Ruth MacKenzie.**

Our appreciation to all those who helped with last Sunday's Victorian Tea. A special note of thanks to cake bakers extraordinaire, *Annika & Linnea Sinclair*.

This Week @ the fort ...

- *Women's Coffee Group*, Tue, May 27, 10 AM, *Mary Carmichael's*
- *YOGA with Jenny*, Tue, 7 PM, Lower Hall
- *Spirit Connectors*, Tue, May 29, 10:30 AM, The Berkeley on Green St.
- *Tea & Tango*, Sat, 2-3:30 PM, Lower Hall

The UCW Presbyterial Rally will be held Monday, May 26, 6 for 6:30 PM, St. James United Church Hall, 181 Portland St, Dartmouth. Pot luck supper. Please bring your own dishes & cutlery. Guest speaker is *Krista Anderson* "All About Egypt!" Music by the *Carillon Bells*.

Music Recital, Sat, May 31, 5 PM, Fort Massey Sanctuary, with *Jennifer Farrell's* students. All are welcome. Admission – free.

Everything you wanted to know about the new Maritime Conference building, Wed, June 4, 7 PM, Edgewood Oxford UC, Connaught near Bayers Rd.

Lunch in Hall's Harbour, Thu, June 19. Leaving Halifax at 10 am. Sign-up in the Tobin St. lobby. Please indicate if you can offer a ride OR need a ride.

Fort Massey by-the-Sea

*A Congregation of The United Church of Canada
Watching over Halifax Harbour c. 1871*

6th Sunday of Easter ~ Rogation Sunday



10:30 am, May 25, 2014

Trent D. Cleveland-Thompson, Pastor
John Walter, Assistant Organist
Kevin Robarts, Flutist
Ian MacDonald, Tech Support
Elliott Prouty, Head Usher
Janna Janson, Nursery
Linda MacDonald, Nominating
Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
Alasdair Sinclair, Clerk Emeritus
Alan G. Hayman, Senior Trustee
H. Douglas Ritcey, Honorary Elder
Irene Parks, UCW President

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
Maddy Spicer, Assistant Administrator
John Gillis, M&P Chair
Ruth MacKenzie, Chief Steward
Leslie Pezzack, Treasurer
Ian MacDonald & Elliott Prouty, Presbyters
Martina Sommer, Facilities Rental Manager

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ORDER *of* SERVICE

* indicates standing for those who are able

PRELUDE

Ringing of the Trinity bell and lighting of the Community candle

CHORAL INTROIT

All Creatures of Our God and King v. 3

VU 217

GREETING

Leader: *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN

Great Creator of Everything

INSERT

*THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION in unison

Almighty God, you have created what we humans need to sustain our earthly lives. We confess that we have often neglected to care for your creation. We have carelessly used the soil, air, and water. We have forgotten how to love. We have forsaken the needs of future generations. Our concern is for the immediate satisfaction of our own interests. Forgive us and set us on a new path pleasing to you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE & ASSURANCE

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

MINUTE FOR MISSION “Emerging Farmers”

OFFERINGS

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Offertory:

Response: We Give Thee But Thine Own (vs. 1 & 2)

VU 543

CHILDREN'S TIME with the *Sunday's Cool Crowd* “God's Creation is Good”

PRAYER

*CHILDREN'S HYMN

We Praise You for the Sun

VU 225

MESSAGE

Blessing of Soil, Seed, Water & Sower Ceremony

Hymns will be unannounced, remaining seated

ANTHEM

Introduction

Blessing of the Soil: Matthew 13:3-9

All Praise to You

Blessing of the Seeds: Mark 4:26-32

VU 297

HYMN	O Lord My God Blessing of the Water: Genesis 1:20; Zechariah 10:1; Leviticus 26:4; Isaiah 55:10-13	VU 238
HYMN	Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore Blessing of the Sower of Seeds: II Corinthians 9:6, 10-15	VU 563
HYMN	Rogationtide	INSERT

PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

*CLOSING HYMN For the Fruit of All Creation VU 227

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* * *

Welcome to Fort Massey. 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. Please join us after the Service for our **Coffee & Conversation** in the lower hall. Your **hosts** today are *Irene Parks* and *Leslie Pezzack*.

Today is *Rogation Sunday*, a celebration of rural life, something many of our members have experienced in their lives. Our Service, conducted by our lay people under the guidance of Membership Development Chair, *Nancy Riggs*, was created by our newsletter editor, *Holly MacIntosh Benninger*. Our thanks to Holly and to all today's participants.

Maritime Conference is concluding with the Ordination Service in Sackville, NB, today. Ten candidates are being ordained at the 89th Annual Conference gathering. Our minister and two presbytery reps, *Ian MacDonald* and *Elliott Prouty*, are in attendance.

Sunday Church School Closing will be next Sunday, June 1st.