

## Announcements

**Tues, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Presbytery 6:30** will meet here at SPC  
**Wed, Sept 11 Session 7:30** will meet

### Renowned 'STORIES in STITCHES' Exhibition - September 10-14

Eastern Canada's most dramatic show of quilts, hooked rugs and artistic needlework runs from Tuesday to Saturday, September 10th to 14th — from **10:00 am till 5:00 pm at beautiful St. Paul's church in downtown Charlottetown (Grafton @ Church St.)**

A stunning display: close to 150 pieces set out on the rich woodwork of the church, plus demonstrations by skilled quilters and rug-hookers.

Admission is just \$10 at the door, and St. Paul's is easy to find: just look for the car parked on the lawn — robed in a tailor-made quilt!

Information: 902-218-2213; carolmcdnld70@gmail.com;  
photos at [www.stpaulschurch.ca](http://www.stpaulschurch.ca).



Have you signed up to receive emails from the church?  
It's a quick and easy way to stay connected with your church family!  
Speak to Rev. Brad or our church administrator Cheri for more information.

### **Mission Moment**

In an Indigenous community in Guatemala, Mercedes Coronado (36), a teacher and mother of eight, shares her transformative journey as the vice president of the agroecological group Los Arbolitos. The community women once faced challenges, including violence and a lack of decision-making power within their households. With the support of PWS&D's local partner, the Maya-Mam Indigenous Association for Development, Mercedes and the women are experiencing positive change through education and training programs, enabling them to advocate for themselves and future generations. Mercedes is grateful for her husband's strong support in her career pursuits, emphasizing the importance of gender equality in fostering harmonious relationships and eliminating discrimination.

## SUMMERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Minister: Rev. Bradford Blaikie  
Music: Ruth Ann Read Clay  
Youth & Families: Debbie Richard  
Church Administrator: Cheri MacKenzie



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~ September 1, 2024 ~

*“to know, love and serve God wherever we are and  
to inspire others to do the same  
by our thoughts, words and deeds”*

*SPC Mission Statement*

## Our Approach to God

Call to Worship:

Holy God, you call us to worship.  
**In your presence, we seek truth and forgiveness.**

Holy God, you call us to worship you.  
**In your presence, we seek the grace to forgive one another.**

Holy God, you call us to worship you, heart, body, mind and soul.  
**So we gather to offer you our prayer and praise with joyful thanks.**

Hymn: **#290 Immortal, invisible God only wise**

Opening Prayers

***Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.***

Assurance of God's Love

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Time & Hymn: **#631 Jesus' hands were kind hands**

## Listening for God's Word

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
James 1:17-27

♪ ***Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.*** ♪  
***Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.***

Message: "The Question of Hands and Hearts"

Hymn: **#644 May the mind of Christ my Saviour**

## Our Response to God's Word

Stewardship Moment

Reflection / Doxology & The Presentation of Gifts / Prayer

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures high & low  
Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.***

Pastoral Prayer

♪ ***Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.*** ♪  
***Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.***

Hymn: **#461 Be thou my vision**

Benediction & Dismissal: **May the God of hope go with us**

Postlude

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As you prepare for this morning's service to begin, you are invited to reflect on the following...

*"It's possible to get an A in Bible and still flunk Christianity."  
~ Rev. Fred Craddock*

*What traditions do you follow that are a part of your religious heritage?*



*In what ways do you work harder to maintain an outward appearance of holiness to others rather than an inner holiness to God?*

## **Things to pray for this week...**

We give thanks for those who have led worship over the past several weeks. The sharing of their gifts have provided an opportunity for Rev. Brad to rest and rejuvenate. May our church family be strengthened by the ministry they have provided throughout August.

We pray for students and teachers who are returning to school and for Sunday schools and church groups as they resume after a summer break, that they might joyfully return to fellowship and study.

Yesterday (August 31<sup>st</sup>) was the **International Day for People of African Descent**. Recognizing the violent history of colonization faced by people of African descent, we continue to seek the Spirit's wisdom to end ongoing anti-Black racism.



We pray for members of our SPC's Finance & Property Team as they continue to share their gifts of time and talents overseeing the faithful stewardship of our congregation's resources.

### Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (NIV)

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you. ...

<sup>6</sup>Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." <sup>7</sup>What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

### Scripture Reading: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (NIV)

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup>and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup>(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

<sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"

<sup>6</sup>He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

*"These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.*

*<sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.'*

<sup>8</sup>You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions." ...

<sup>14</sup>Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup>Nothing outside a person can defile them by

going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." ...

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

### Scripture Reading: James 1:17-27 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup>Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup>He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

<sup>19</sup>My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup>because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. <sup>21</sup>Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

<sup>22</sup>Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup>Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup>and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup>But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

<sup>26</sup>Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.