



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church



January 5, 2025.

2nd Sunday after Christmas/Epiphany

Our Mission Statement

"St. Andrew's United Church is a Christian Community of Faith
that shares Christ's love through
Worship, Fellowship, Spiritual Growth, and Outreach."



*Wisemen bringing their gifts
< Photo Credit: Photo stock >*

188 Wellington Street. Miramichi, NB. E1N 1M4
Tel: 506-773-9932 / Fax: 506-773-9932
Church Email: chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com

Sunday Worship Service
2nd Sunday after Christmas/Epiphany

Worship Leader: Pastor Derrick Carnahan,
Organist & Choir Director: Lois McKinnon
Greeters: Ferne & Ernie MacLean

* Symbol indicates to stand as able.

We Gather To Worship

Music Prelude:

Introit: VU #96 vs. 5 “We Come and See the Light”

**Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the candle lit at night there’s a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about
is to dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

Lighting the Christ Candle: *Carol Johnston*

We light this Christ candle on this Sunday of Epiphany,
recognizing how far Christ’s light shines:

outwards to help those around him,
inwards to heal those he seeks.

The healing light of Christ dwells also in each one of us.

Christ within us-we too are the light of Christ. Amen.

Kate Gregory, Trenton, ON

As the candle is lit we sing: VU #82 chorus

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God’s radiant love
is burning bright, living in the light.**

Welcome: Theme “Wisemen following the Light”

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Arise, shine: for your light has come!

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

One: Lift up your eyes and look around!

All: We shall see and be radiant; our hearts shall rejoice.

One: For the Lord will be our everlasting light and our glory!

All: And so we bring God our worship in humble expectation.

Prayer of Adoration:

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

God of mercy and loving kindness, you sent Christ among us to be the light of the world and to reveal your love to all people. Lord, we confess that our sins hide the brightness of your light that should shine through us. Lord, sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place. Forgive us our sins O God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives from being firmly rooted in you and remake us in the image of your Son with your mercy, and teach us how to follow him in this new year. In His name we pray, amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

***Opening Hymn:** VU # 81, “As with Gladness Men of Old”

Opening Prayer:

The Word of God Proclaimed

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 72:1–8, 10–14 (VU p. 790 Parts One and Two) “God’s anointed defends the poor.” – *Wanda MacDonald*

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1–6 “Arise, shine, for your light has come.” – *Wanda MacDonald*

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1–12 “Boldness and confidence through faith.” – *Wanda MacDonald*

Anthem: “See Amid the Winter’s Snow”

Gospel: Matthew 2:1–12 “The visit of the magi.”

Prayer for Understanding: (Unison)

God of this season of light, we long to hear your Word and wisdom in fresh and transforming ways. Open our ears to your voice calling to us. Open our eyes to the dawning of a new day, of a new year. Open our hearts to a new way of living, following Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Message: “Wisemen following the Light”

We Respond to God's Word

***Hymn:** VU # 62, "Once in Royal David's City"

Announcements: *Judy Donnelly*

Invitation to the Offering:

***Offering Hymn:** VU #55, "In the Bleak Midwinter"

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.**

***Offering Prayer:** (Unison)

**God of majesty and mystery, we bring a portion of the gifts
You have blessed us with to you. We are thankful for them
and are grateful that you are with us in good times and in hard
times. We do not know what the year ahead will hold, but your
love shines like a star to guide us. Lord, bless these gifts that
they may keep the light of Christ shining through the church
to guide and embrace the world you love. Amen.**

Praise Before Prayer: MV #119, "God Our Protector"

**God our protector, keep us in mind,
always give strength to your people.
For if we could be with you one day at a time
it is better than a thousand without you.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession / Lord's Prayer

WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Closing Hymn:** The Hymnary #571, "Standing at the Portal of the
Opening Year"

***Commissioning and Benediction:**

***Choral Closing:** VU #37, "Gloria"

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Musical Postlude

Announcements

- **Greeters: Jan. 12** – Ron Carter & Ann Brown/**Jan. 19** – Joan MacKnight-Savoy & Marjorie MacPhee/**Jan. 26**- Ray & Janice Carter
- **Sound System: Jan. 5** – Ernie MacLean/**Jan. 12** – Paul Rose/**Jan. 19**- Barry Campbell/**Jan. 26** – Brian Savoy
- **PowerPoint: Jan. 5** – Jennifer Walker/**Jan. 12** – Barry Campbell/**Jan. 19** – Mary Reynolds/**Jan. 26** – Karen Rose
- Offering Collectors: Jan. 5** – Helen Jones, Brian & Joan Savoy, Marjorie MacPhee/**Jan. 12** – Bev & Barry Campbell, Holly Daley, Judy Donnelly/**Jan. 19** – Patti Deitch, Cynthia Duplessie, Dennis & Judy Morrison/**Jan. 26** – Debbie Stymiest, Moses Akinyode, Ernie & Ferne MacLean
- **Offering Counters: Jan. 5** – Brian Savoy & Cynthia Duplessie/**Jan. 12** – Karen Rose & Barry Campbell/**Jan. 19** – Dennis & Judy Morrison/**Jan. 26** – Karen Rose & Debbie Stymiest

This Week:

1. Weekly Collection;

Collection on Sunday, Dec. 22 nd	\$ 1,472.00
Weekly Par Collection	<u>\$ 1,286.77</u>
Total for Week of Dec. 22nd	\$ 2,758.77

Collection on Christmas Eve \$ 1,590.00

Collection on Sunday, Dec. 29 th	\$ 1,120.00
Weekly Par Collection	<u>\$ 1,286.87</u>
Total for Week of Dec. 29th	\$ 2,406.87

2) This morning we will share in our “Hymn Sing’s. Please select your favourite Christmas hymns from Voices United and be ready to sing at 10:50 a.m.

3) Monday, Jan. 6th – 10:00 a.m. – Volunteers are needed to take down and help pack up and put away the Christmas decorations.

4) We still have church calendars for sale in the church office for the 100th Anniversary of the United Church.

5) There is still some people that did not pick up their offering envelopes for 2025, they are on the back table by the church office.

Pastoral Care:

Rev Alice Szemok is covering for any pastoral emergencies. If you need pastoral care, please contact the church office at 506-773-9932, and Karen will arrange it.

We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins in loving memory of Shirley Traer (deceased Jan. 5, 2017) by her family.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the St Andrew website.

Online St. Andrew's United Church

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

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Offering E-Transfer:

standrewswellingtonstreet@gmail.com