

Clifton Pastoral Charge

Old Barns and Hilden United Churches

We are Affirming Churches in an Affirming Pastoral Charge

Clergy: Reverend Phillip Kennedy

Organists: Old Barns--Beckie Burrows, Hilden--Edith Selwyn-Smith

Church Bulletin Secretary: Judy Loughhead

Mission Statement: To provide a friendly welcoming, caring, and safe environment to promote spiritual growth.

September 1st, 2024

Joint Service in Hilden at 10:00 a.m.

Led by Bruce Varner

Music provided by - Choir Members

Reader - Sheila Marshall

Greetings & Announcements

WE APPROACH GOD

Call To Worship (*Responsively*)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of one who brings good tidings.

We receive good tidings of joy, words of peace, a message of salvation.

Break forth into singing, for God has comforted the people, brought bloom to the wasteland, shown strength in all the nations.

Word of the infant born in Bethlehem is our good news.

Christ is born, the prophet's hopes are made flesh and all our longings are made in human joy.

Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is born!

Introit (VU # 958) "Halle, Halle, Halle"

Prayer of Approach (*In Unison*)

Loving God, Creator and Friend, we pray this day for all who have come with us to Bethlehem. We pray for those who are poor and cold and hungry like the shepherds, that they may hear good news. We pray for those who are wandering and searching like the Magi, that they may find the place to leave their gifts and their burdens. We pray for those who are busy, hurried, pre-occupied like the inn keeper, that they may know the peace that comes from a genuine act of hospitality. We pray for those like Harod who have power, that they may use it with good will. We pray for ourselves – we, who each need

comfort and peace, even joy, in this starlit season and all the days of our lives. Amen

Hymn (VU # 333) "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

WE LISTEN TO GOD

Invitation To Confession

Prayer Of Confession (*In Unison*)

Loving God, Creator and Friend, we have sought You in high and holy places; we are ill prepared to acknowledge Your presence among the lowly and poor. We believe You are profound, but overlook Your obvious truths. We are anxious about the unknown but we hardly consider the realities immediately in front of us. Turn us, incarnate God, by the simple wonders of Your love, to a rebirth of faith, hope and joy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn (VU # 47) "Still, Still, Still"

Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

O God, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and Your word is proclaimed, we may hear what You are saying to us today. Amen

Scripture Reading Matthew 5: 3-10

L: This is the word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Hymn (VU # 7) "Hope Is A Star"

Meditation "The Twelve Days Of Christmas"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Minute for Mission

Offering & Offertory

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Introit (VU # 896 verses 1, 2 & 3 with Refrain) "Blest Are They"



PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Hymn (VU # 87) "I Am The Light of the World"

Benediction & Commissioning

Postlude

HILDEN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hilden Cards/games will be starting up for Fall -
Sept. 11th (Wed) 10:00am Sept. 27th (Fri) 1:00pm

September 3rd - Tuesday, Hilden UCW meeting. Location will be determined by Sunday.

OLD BARNs ANNOUNCEMENTS

More than pleased to announce the **birth of Clifford Lee Burrows**, son of Hannah and grandson for Leslie and Jim, born on Tuesday, August 27th. He is doing well. Thank you to all for your prayers and positive thoughts. He beat the odds. He is a miracle baby!!

September 4th - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., **Old Barns UCW** will be meeting in the Russell Room.

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with the *Back-to-School program*. Over 500 students will receive a backpack and the basic supplies to get the school year off to a good start.

Phillip is on vacation from August 25th until the September 17th. In case of emergency, the clergy of the Truro area are covering for each other.

Over the course of the next several weeks the **Future Visioning Committee** will be placing **Bulletin Bullets** in our bulletin, advising some of the many different topics which have come up for discussion (not necessarily action items) in our Committee meetings to date.

**As a committee, we invite any interested persons to become a part of this process of 'envisioning' our future as a Pastoral Charge. So if you are interested in joining this committee, please feel free to become involved.

** Our next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. in Hilden.

FUTURE VISIONING COMMITTEE BULLETS:

Sept. 1

1. **How do we focus on renewal rather than cash flow?**
2. **We plan to reach out to Sharon Ballantyne, Growth Animator for Atlantic Canada, for a possible workshop following a Joint Church Service. Based on Stats and Geographical data charts she would help us identify target areas of interest in each community. (OB & H) *This is 1 of 3 different workshops which are on the radar.***
3. **What are the needs of our immediate communities, and how can we help address those needs?**

Lectionary Readings Next Week - Sept 8th Led by Kent Loughead

Scriptures:

Theme:

Worship Services Schedule

Sept 8 - 10:00 a.m. Joint Service in Old Barns, led by Kent Loughead

Sept 15 - 10:00 a.m. Joint Service in Hilden, led by Hilden Session

Sept 22 - 9:30 a.m. in Hilden, 11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

Sept 29 - 9:30 a.m. in Hilden, 11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

Bookings -

Old Barns - contact Reg Henderson at 902-895-0740 or rlhenderson8@hotmail.com

Hilden - contact George Creelman at 902-897-4493 or georgecreelman@hotmail.com

Bulletin Announcements - contact Judy at 902-895-7243 or

lougheadjd@gmail.com by Wednesday evening.

Charge Website - cliftonpastoralcharge.ca

Church bulletins & video of services are available on the website under the heading "Worship". **All Policies** - (*Funerals, Marriages, Baptisms or Blessings*) are located under the heading "About Us".

Clerks of Sessions - to contact the Session with any questions or concerns regarding the Spiritual Life of the church or to request a baptism or wedding, please contact your Clerk of Session:

Old Barns - *Leslie Burrows* 902-890-4682 or email obsession@cliftonpastoralcharge.ca

Hilden - TBA or email hildensession@cliftonpastoralcharge.ca

Minutes for Mission playlists at www.youtube.com/unitedchurchofcanada

stories and photos on www.united-church.ca

Need a Drive to Church (OB) - Contact Gordie at 902-895-6833

Old Barns Treasurer - regarding church business or e-transfer donations contact Bob Francis at oldbarnstreasurer@cliftonpastoralcharge.ca

Social Committee (OB) - contact Julia Blois at 902-893-2641.

The Reverend Phillip Kennedy can be reached at 902-957-4727 (cell) or by email at phillip.kennedy@cliftonpastoralcharge.ca

Visitation - If you, or someone you know, want or need a pastoral care visit, please contact either the Clerk of Session or the minister, Rev. Phillip Kennedy.