

*A happy Hibiscus,
ready to winter
over in the round
'turret room,' # 4*



First Baptist Church Amherst

www.firstbaptistamherst.com

90 Victoria Street, Amherst, NS B4H 1X6

902-667-2001

Worship on Sundays at 10:30 AM

Senior Minister

Rev. Jeff G. White, B.Sc, M.Div.
jgwhite@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Minister Emeritus
Organist & Choir Director
Administrative Assistant

Rev. Byron Corkum, B.A., M.Div.
Kevin Dupuis, B.Mus, B.Ed.
Angela Marks
ambapt@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Custodian

Shauna McCallum



The Reflector

November 2022

Reflecting the life of First Baptist Church Amherst

Welcome back to 'The Reflector.' Since... when? Since March, 1897, this little paper has been information and entertainment for First Baptist folk. I am making an attempt to get this published again, and I certainly would like some editorial and copy helpers. In fact, don't be surprised if I seek to recruit *you* to produce a little something for these pages.

—*Jeff White*

Lest We Forget

November 11th is on a Friday this year, and the ceremonies at the town cenotaph will be conducted as usual, beginning before the eleventh hour. Wreath laying will then take place inside First Baptist Church.

CONGRATULATIONS, JIMMY!

After twenty-two years of service as Custodian for First Baptist, Jimmy Murphy has retired. Now he is our expert consultant! What can we say, after all the long hours of faithful work, overtime, good humour, wisdom, and friendship?



So, for the third time this year, we wish a happy retirement to a beloved

employee. Let's have a little celebration and thank Jimmy for... being Jimmy. Date and time to be announced.

Opportunities to Help Out

USHERING & GREETING

Members of the ushering and offering group, please check the notice board beside the elevator and, if possible, attend on your designated months to assist with handing out bulletins and guiding newcomers. Kim and Ken have held the fort for the past 30 plus months, and it is time for the rest of us to 'earn our pay' so to speak. Please arrive for 10:00 am to assist as needed and hand out bulletins.

Thank You , *Rick Creamer*

SCRIPTURE READING

Sign up on the list at the office door or let Angela Marks know by calling at 902-667-2001 or by email: ambapt@ns.aliantzinc.ca

NURSERY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

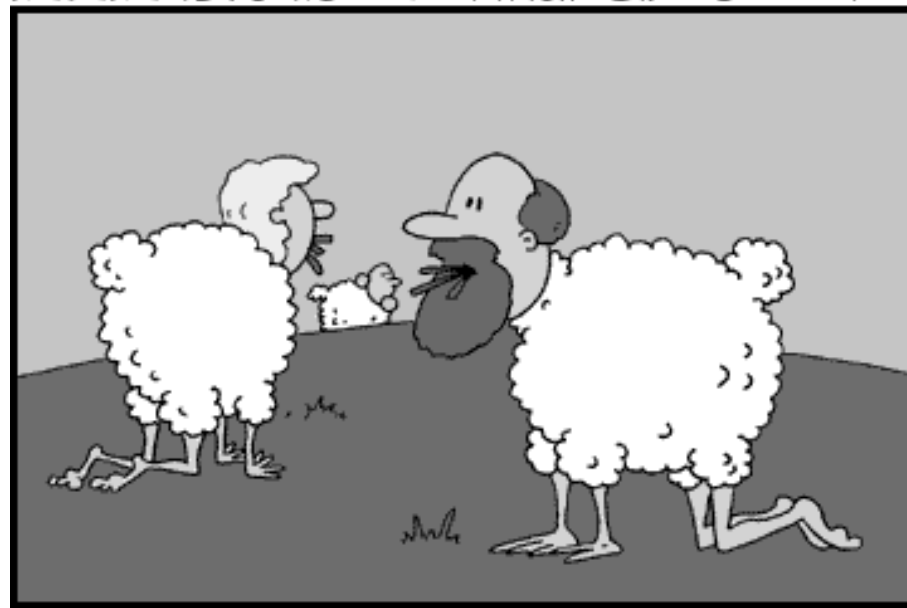
During worship on Sunday mornings, we are once again offering simple programs for our young attendees. Servants to help out monthly (or more often) are needed. Please contact Lisa Brunt, Amy Patriquin, or Angela Marks, in order to help out, and to renew your screening for these ministries. Thank you!

REFLECTOR Editors and Writers...

You too can submit notices, articles, news and fun stuff to 'The Reflector.' Rev. Jeff does not want to do it all! Take a turn some month to be 'the Editor,' or write a book review, tell a joke or a story, write some poetry, get creative!

Christmas Caroling

Let's go Tuesday evening, Dec. 20th, driving around the community to sing. Rev. Jeff will lead the way.

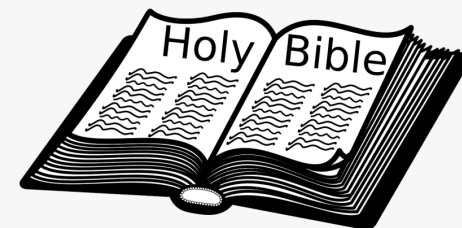


11-02-1998

BEFORE A SHEPHERD CAN ACHIEVE 'GOOD SHEPHERD' STATUS HE MUST FIRST ATTEND A SHEEP AWARENESS SEMINAR

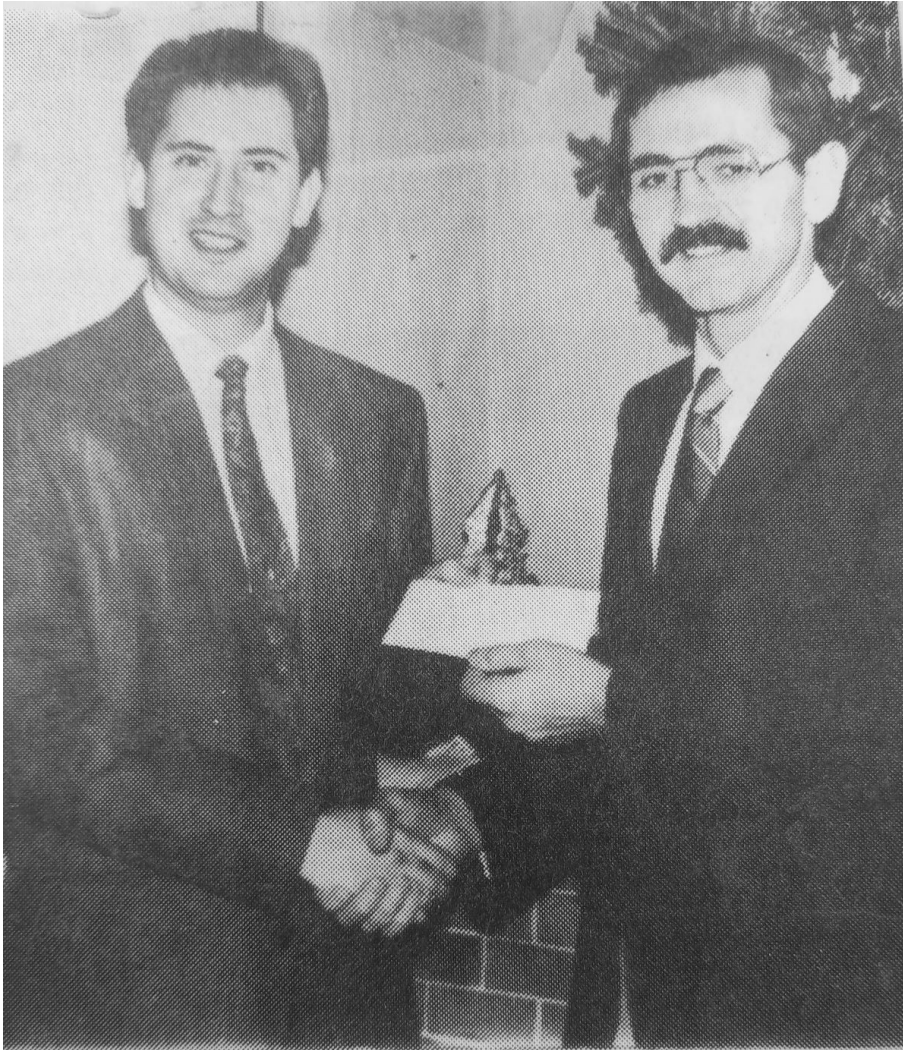
BIBLE BASICS

Rev. Jeff White (and Lic. Sharon White) lead a Bible Study on Monday evenings in the Parlour (6:30—8:00). About ten people have attended, from age ten through seventy. Here is the upcoming schedule of studies (quite ambitious: every book of the Bible!).



Nov 7	Leviticus
Nov 14	Numbers
Nov 21	Deuteronomy
Nov 28	Joshua
Dec 5	Judges
Dec 12	Ruth

From the Archives



MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION — The Amherst Y's Men's club made a presentation to the Amherst Ministerial Association during a dinner held at the Amherst YMCA on Wednesday night. Rev. Don Miller of the Amherst Baptist Church is shown above left, being presented with the cheque from Kent Leslie, chairman of community services for the Amherst Y's Mens' group. Miller is the representative for the Ministerial Society.

1990 June

(McNeish)



First Baptist hikers and friends at Fundy Winds Marsh, Eddy St., October 22.

Our Next Hike... 'the Glen'

Jeff White's next 'nature and spiritual nurture' hike will be at the Amherst Point Migratory Bird Sanctuary, **Sunday, November 13th**. We start at 1:15 from the parking lot out at the Bird Sanctuary. This will be about a **3 km hike**, with an emphasis on identifying trees *without* their leaves. Can you do it? Our meditative moments will use scripture texts about trees, naturally. ;)

Please dress well for the weather, and the trail. Bring water (or a hot drink) and a snack for yourself. Sign up on the list on the Vestry table to let Jeff know you plan to come. (Do come last minute, even if you did not sign up.) Storm date: Monday, 14th.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL



Each day, do you read a page from ‘Our Daily Bread,’ or ‘Christ in Our Home’? Perhaps you are like me (Jeff W) and use some other book of prayers and readings for each day of the week.

What would it be like for us to write our own book of daily devotions, for the season of Advent and Christmas? It would be wonderful! We can do it—other congregations have. On the

opposite page you can see a couple sample pages. **Sign up on the sheet our in the Vestry, take a blank page,** and put together a thought for the day, based on the scripture or carol lyrics. Add a prayer at the end. Jeff and Angela will serve as editors.

Your devotion could be a few thoughts—a mini sermon—or a story you tell. You could write your devotion in the form of a poem. Your page limit is about 200 words. **The deadline is Sunday, November 20th.** We will publish our book for everyone to pick up by November 27 (or read on our website). Turn your page in to the office on paper, or email it to us at ambapt@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Let us share our spirituality in this special season.

*The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.*

Christmas Cheer

With Christmas just around the corner, it is time to think of our **Annual Christmas Cheer Program** that our members have so generously supported over the years. The value of each food box is in excess of **\$100.00**. If you would like to sponsor a box, or any part of a box, you may drop into the office of First Baptist Church with your sponsoring gift or through your offering envelope with “**Christmas Cheer Food Box**” marked on it. Any and all amounts help.

**PHONE LINE FOR
CHRISTMAS CHEER
FOOD BOXES &
CHRISTMAS FOR
KIDS:**

November 1 – 30
902-667-1949



For Your

Information... here is a

*list of the usual contents of a **Christmas Cheer***

Box: apples, bread, brown beans, candy/chocolate, canned fruit, canned veggies, carrots, cereal, cookies, crackers, eggs, jam, juice, Kraft Dinner, margarine, mayonnaise, onions, oranges, peanut butter, potatoes, sandwich meat, soup, stove top dressing, sugar, tea, turkey/ham.

Rachel MacLean in Concert Sat., Dec. 11, 7 PM,
First Baptist Church. Cash donations for our local
Food Bank.

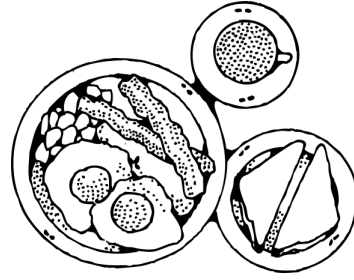
Hanging of the Greens Service

At 10:30 AM, the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, we worship again with the tradition of 'greening the church,' or we might even call it, 'decking the halls.' If your name is Green or Hall, you have nothing to fear!



Advent Festival

On the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, we plan to enjoy this luncheon and craft workshop in person in the Christie Room, downstairs. Stay after the service for a lunch of cold food (bring savoury if your name begins with A-N, sweets: O-Z), carol singing, and creative arts and crafts!



Church Family BRUNCH

After service on Nov. 20th we get to enjoy a breakfast/brunch downstairs. Plan to stay for fellowship and the great food!



Church Family Turkey Dinner

After service on Dec. 11th we enjoy a festive feast together, downstairs in the Christie Room.

SAMPLE PAGES:

Wednesday, December 25

*Luke 2:1-7
the time came for her to deliver her child*

On April 3rd, 2007, Andrew and I had an early morning conversation that went something like this: "Hey, want do you want to do today?" "I dunno, want to have some twins?," "Sure, why not!". Because they needed to be born 3 weeks early, we had a sure date and time as opposed to Bruce (and most babies) where the due date is a mere suggestion. I can only imagine what it was like for Mary who was far from home, her family, and usual comforts. I would like to think that she was able to get connected with a local midwife who would be able to give knowledgeable comfort and assistance and perhaps she was the one that told Mary, "The time has come!". In any case, today, Christmas has come whether we are ready or not. We may be away from our usual comforts or say like many mothers to be - "I'm not ready!". Do we do this with God? How often do I tell Him that I'm not ready!". Do we do that He is laying before me, or conversely, that I am impatient for the things that have yet to happen. Christmas is here - let's enjoy it. Jesus is here - let's enjoy the peace He brings!

Prayer ~ Dear God, Your timing is perfect. For the things we are waiting for, grant us patience. For the things we are dealing with, grant us strength. Thank You for Your gift 2000 years ago and for the good gifts You give us each day. Amen.

Allison Fritars

Thursday, December 26

Luke 2:15-20

Mary treasured all the words and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds and others who heard the story of the angels were excited and impressed, but to Mary it was a heavenly confirmation of what was happening. She had deep and serious thoughts and concerns along with the excitement of being a new mother - the mother of her Saviour. How strange and wonderful is that? As Mark Lowery puts it in his song, "Mary, did you know?". Did she know that when she looked into the face of her baby boy, she was looking into the eyes of God?!

Mary had nearly been rejected by her fiancé and ridiculed by neighbours in her home town. She was forced by circumstances to deliver her first baby far from home in a place where only calves and lambs were born. What next? Lots to ponder.... "How long will we have to stay in this house? Will people keep coming to see my miracle baby? What does the future hold for my baby? He is also God's baby! Really? I that's what the angels told me, Joseph, and the shepherds. Can Joseph and I do a good job at raising the Son of God? Can this baby Jesus grow up to be the hope of all the nations and the Saviour of the world?"

Another Christmas Day has come and gone. Take time to sit down, relax and ponder the real 'Reason of the Season'.

Prayer ~ Dear Heavenly Father, thank You that You sent Jesus to us, to show us how to live and to die, that we may live forever. Thank You, Jesus, that You were willing to humble Yourself for us. Thank You, Holy Spirit for the blessing of Your presence in our lives. Amen.

Evangeline MacLeod

NOVEMBER

2022 F B C



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 October 10:00 Choir 10:30 Worship	31 <i>Halloween</i>	1 7:00 Board of Christian Ed. 7:00 Cumberland Eng. Language Learners	2 9:30 Staff Meeting	3 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 10:00 Choir 10:30 Worship	7 6:30 Bible Basics 7:00 IODE	8 7:00 Board of Management 7:00 CELL	9 9:30 Staff Meeting	10 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	11 Remembrance Day	12
13 10:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 1:15 Hike at Bird Sanctuary	14 10:00 White Birches choir practice 6:30 Bible Basics	15 7:00 CELL	16 9:30 Staff Meeting	17 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	18 6:00 Town Light Up & Carol Sing	19
20 10:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 11:45 Brunch	21 6:30 Bible Basics	22 7:00 CELL	23 9:30 Staff Meeting	24 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	25	26
27 10:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 11:45 Advent (Craft) Festival	28 6:30 Bible Basics	29 7:00 CELL	30 10:00 Deacons Board 3:00 Staff Meeting	1 December 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	2	3 7:00 PM Rachel MacLean in Concert