

# Union Presbyterian Church

## Thorburn, NS

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*Modelling faith in our communities one conversation at a time*



### **What Is Ministry?**

For most of my life, the word ministry seemed to be reserved for the elite, extra-spiritual people among us who felt called by God to go through years of training to answer that call. People were “called to the ministry” and to “doing ministry” in ways that always seemed to be in front of a crowd, preferably with a microphone.

But then, as I became a minister myself, I realized that my mentality and beliefs about ministry were too narrow and unbiblical. Today, I can easily see that every follower of Christ is essentially “called to the ministry” because ministry is simply what Christians do when they exercise their gifts in the community.

In Acts 6, the apostles made a big organizational decision. When they said that they devoted themselves to the “ministry of the Word,” the word “ministry” in Greek was essentially the same word they used for “serving tables”. The word meant, very simply, to serve or execute the command of someone else. In scripture, no matter where we look, we find that the word “ministry” means a type of general service.

So, does that mean that there is no distinction between any type of ministry and that no matter what we do - whether it is serving tables, teaching Scripture, taking out the trash, or watching kids - is all equal in importance?

No. There are definitely orders of importance. The main goal for every believer, every church, and every organized ministry in the church must be to work together to proclaim the gospel to the world around us with our actions as well as words, so that, through the church, the “...manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places”. (Ephesians 3:10)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Interim Moderator:

**Greg Dickson**  
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#### Clerk of Session:

**John Reeves**  
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#### Board of Managers:

**Jane Taylor**  
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#### Treasurer:

**Kathy Campbell**  
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### **Service Times**

**Thorburn: 11:00 a.m.**



## **What Is Ministry? (con't)**

We are all called to do ministry and be ministers - but in all kinds of different ways so that the gospel can be proclaimed, the kingdom established and grown, and God can be glorified. The important distinction between what kind of ministry we do is not who we are, what job we do, or even what abilities we have — it is in our response to the calling of God. It is the privilege of all believers and means giving our time, talents, and resources to bless and help others.

The cry of the minister is, “someone’s got to do it, so it might as well be me.”

**Rev. Greg Dickson**

**Interim Moderator**

## **Thorburn Fair Church Service**

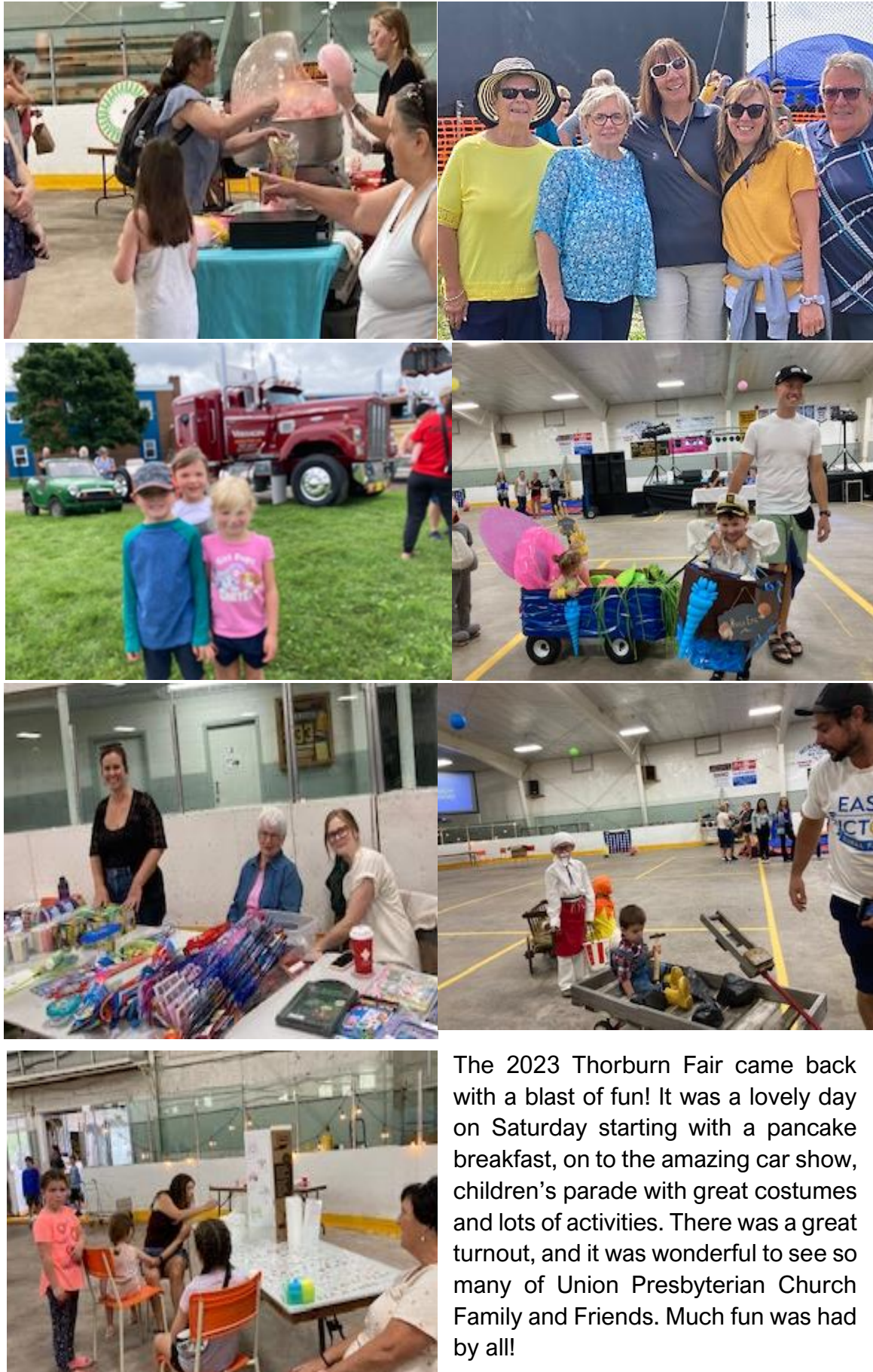


The 2023 Thorburn Fair Church Service was held for the glory of God and to take time to reflect on God’s desire for us to support our church and community. Both help us grow in our faith. Above, Sheryl Tree gives us a history of the Thorburn Fair and John Reeves thanked all the great volunteers over the years, especially those who got the fair restarted this year after a long absence. These volunteers did an amazing job and the crowds that came out showed the importance of the many events. During the service Sheryl also presented a gift and flowers to Katey Aucoin who is heading off to university. We will miss her and her brother, Pierre, as well as their family, who all blessed us in the time that Katey served as our music director. We were also blessed to have Ray Stewart and Jeannie Cameron sharing their beautiful music at this service. Thanks to the choir and to everyone who made this service special!





## Thorburn Fair



The 2023 Thorburn Fair came back with a blast of fun! It was a lovely day on Saturday starting with a pancake breakfast, on to the amazing car show, children's parade with great costumes and lots of activities. There was a great turnout, and it was wonderful to see so many of Union Presbyterian Church Family and Friends. Much fun was had by all!

## A glance back to the 70's...



This photo of past choir members was taken in 1976 at the dedication of a church renovation. No doubt some of you were there. Back, L to R: B. MacDonald, A. Fraser, C. Feit, W. MacPherson, K. MacDonald, E. MacDonald Centre, L to R: G. Fraser, C. Fraser, A. MacLean, I. Fraser, S. Ferguson, I. Murdoch Front, L to R: H. Fraser, M. Smith, M.A. MacDonald, H. Swallow, J. Swallow.

## Sunday School & U.C. Friends Youth Group



Please spread the word! Sunday School will be restarting on September 24th at 11:00 am. Classes will take place downstairs at Thorburn Union Church each Sunday at 11:00am to 12:00 noon. The purpose of the program is to help young people enjoy time together while developing a love of God, good values, faith in times of difficulty and to interact in a positive way with others. This will be done through stories, crafts, videos, games and music while teamwork and youth leadership are developed. The program is not specific to any one religion /denomination but is based on Christian values. For further information or sign up, please contact Darlene Reeves at [darlreeves@hotmail.com](mailto:darlreeves@hotmail.com) or text at (902)921-0639. All children and young people are very welcome!

### ***Volunteer Needed:***

*To help out with Social Media postings for our Facebook and Church Website.*

*As we hope to reach more children and their families, your help periodically could make all the difference. Please let Darlene know if you are available to help. Text 902-921-0639 or e-mail [darlreeves@hotmail.com](mailto:darlreeves@hotmail.com). Thank You!*

***“All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.”***

***Isaiah 54:13***

Wishing everyone a beautiful autumn season! May God bless all our children, their families and school staff to have a safe, happy 2023-2024 school year!