

# Union Presbyterian Church

Thorburn, NS

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



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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Interim Moderator:  
Rev. Greg Dickson  
902-759-8221

Clerk of Session  
John Reeves  
902-922-2666

Board of Managers :  
Jane Taylor  
902-755-4408

Treasurer:  
Kathy Campbell  
902-759-1705

## Service Times

Thorburn: 11:00am



## Website

[unionchurchthorburn.ca](http://unionchurchthorburn.ca)

## Online Donations

[www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/union-presbyterian-church/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/union-presbyterian-church/)

## The Calvinist Reformation

Because John Calvin's ideas form the basis of modern Presbyterian thought and theology, this subject deserves our close attention and will take more than one Newsletter article to cover.

The major thrust of the Reformers in the 16th Century (including John Calvin, Desiderius Erasmus, Martin Luther, and John Knox), was to return the church to the practice and theology of the New Testament, and to correct what they regarded as imbalances in the life of the church.

### **Priesthood of all Believers**

One of Luther's major contributions was his emphasis on the doctrine of the "priesthood of all believers". Each Christian, he originally taught, is open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and is called to be a vehicle of God's work on earth.

Many church leaders in that time claimed to have been directly inspired by the Holy Spirit to take these actions, so much confusion followed. Luther later modified his position to one that was advocated by John Calvin, who taught that the actions of individuals must always be subject to the work of the Spirit speaking through the church.

### **Calvin and the Place of the Laity**

John Calvin made many other significant contributions in regard to the work and place of the laity in the life of the church and the faith. In regard to worship, the liturgy was now said in the language of the people. The singing of psalms and the sermon were also recovered as a major part of Sunday worship.

At the same time as he restored the place of the laity, Calvin recognized that God called certain individuals and gifted them for ministry of Word and Sacraments.

**Rev. Greg Dickson Interim Moderator**

## U. C. Friends Skating Party



Photos of some of our skaters at the Sobey's Arena at the Pictou County Wellness Centre.

Our group had a great evening of fellowship together followed by refreshments. Many thanks to the municipality of Pictou County which helped fund this event. Also, a huge thank you to all the volunteers. These intergenerational gatherings always provide a positive and enjoyable time for our young people and families. Everyone's encouragement and support are much appreciated!

### An Interesting Study - Harvard University

Recently we heard about a study from Harvard where researchers found that people who attend weekly church services live longer, have less depression, lower suicide rates and showed more optimism in life. We shouldn't be surprised but we often don't hear about good news like that. It's definitely something to encourage us and help us grow even more in our faith and worship of God.

## A Glance Back...

Can you help us fill in the names of the last row in this old photo? The names were written out, but some were missing. Also, we are trying to verify the year as it came with a question mark. Certainly, a nice looking group of some of our relatives or ancestors!



*Thorburn School – 1942?*

*(Grades 8,9,10,11)*

Front Row: Hilary Mac Donald, Fred MacIntosh, Vernon MacLaren, Malcom (Buddy) Beaton, Stanley MacGregor, Douglas MacIntosh, Jackie Sutherland, John (Sonny) Simm.

Second Row: Jean (Lawlor) Brown, Esther (Robertson) Jenkins, Frances (Dwyer) Hughes, Marjorie (Forsythe) Robson, Jessie Fraser, Ceceila (Bain) Robertson, Edith (Nicholson) Mac Donald, Dorothy (Dunford) Long, Isabel (Jordan) Nason.

Back Row: Theresa Murphy?, Nellie (MacLeod) Green, Mary (Murphy) Murdock, Principal Allan J. Fanning

## A few photos from our Monthly Soup Lunch

Our soup lunches remain popular and are a great time of fellowship. The dedicated volunteers make everyone comfortable and serve up some delicious soup, rolls, biscuits, and desserts along with tea and coffee. Many thanks to everyone who comes and everyone who supports this activity. Your efforts are much appreciated!



## Another Delicious Dinner from our Board of Managers



Another great evening at the Board of Managers Dinner! Lots of fun, fellowship, and delicious food. Some of the hard-working team have a little break and above you can see a lot of happy faces!

**Jesus** (Author unknown but with Easter coming up this seemed timely!)

Greatest man in history... **Jesus**

Had no servants yet they called him... **Master**

Had no degree yet they called him... **Teacher**

Had no medicine yet they called him... **Healer**

Had no army yet Kings feared... **Him**

He won no military battle yet... **He Conquered the World**

He committed no crimes yet they... **Crucified Him**

He was buried in a tomb yet... **He Lives Today!**

**Happy Easter  
Everyone!**