

## **President's Message, November 12, 2025**

It is another grey and raw day on New Brunswick's Northshore today. One so typical of the days near November 11 when we pause to honour the countless young lives lost in the pursuit of freedom and show gratitude for the service given to our country by so many more in wars and conflicts past and in current postings at home and abroad. Lest we forget!

As your President it has been a busy month once again. On Oct 26 I participated in a meaningful decommissioning of the Lake George United Church founded in 1854, as we sang, prayed and shared stories of the history of this community of faith. It seemed so fitting that from its prominent position on the hill with a full panorama of the lake that we shared in singing Jesus You Have Come to the Lakeshore.

The next day the Regional Executive Committee met for two days of planning and reports in the Sackville office as part of our regular fall face-to-face meeting. We reviewed our annual regional objectives, talked a lot about the future of the United Church and allowed the Holy Spirit to guide us gently through our agenda as we discussed better communication and connection within the Region. The Executive will meet again virtually on Dec 2 to review our progress.

On Saturday November 6, I was present at First United Church in Campbellton NB to participate in an exciting workshop presented by Rev. Shepherd Munikwa, Minister for Justice, Mission & Outreach entitled "Diversity: How Can Our Churches Be Radical, Intentional, Welcoming & Inclusive in Today's Global Village?" Shepherd challenged us to open our eyes to the changing world around and shared strategies for our communities to become more inclusive and welcoming. The workshop was well attended with over 20 attending from across the Northeast.

The following day I assisted in the covenanting service for Rev. Limon Daka, again at First United in Campbellton, as he embarks on a new ministry with this community. This congregation is intent on revitalizing its ministry in the community.

This Sunday Nov 16, I will be on the Dalhousie - New Mills Pastoral Charge to celebrate the covenanting of Kimberly Inglis as a diaconal candidate in this community while Past President Susan LeMaistre will be on the Prince William Pastoral Charge to assist in the covenanting for Beverly Sharpe. It is so exciting to have so many covenanting celebrations happening across the region this fall. Candidate Nathan Zwicker's covenanting on the Vernon Bridge Pastoral Charge was well attended on Oct 29 and another occasion filled with joy. Additional covenanting services are currently being planned across the region. God is definitely at work in FSLDW, and we are grateful for these new ministries and their promise.

On November 1 we welcomed Rev. Lloyd Bruce as our new Regional Minister for FSLDW. We all look forward to working with Lloyd and receiving his counsel in pastoral relations discussions.

You are invited to watch our weekly announcements for information about additional Cluster Gatherings currently being planned within the Region. It is important for us to stay connected and communicate.....after all, We Are the Church TOGETHER !

Blessings and Peace,  
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