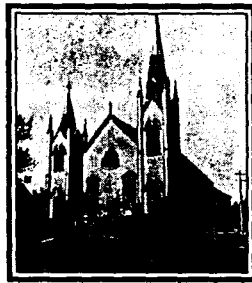
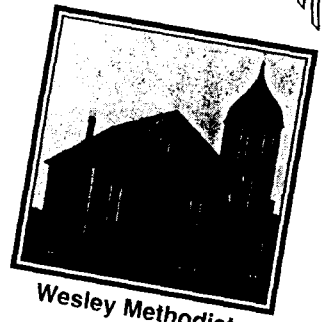




St. John Presbyterian



Sharon Presbyterian



Wesley Methodist



Sharon St. John United Church

The United Church of Canada Stellarton, Nova Scotia

The first Sharon Presbyterian Church was dedicated October 2, 1864. The second Sharon Church was dedicated August 17, 1890 and destroyed by fire on Sunday, February 24, 1924. Early in 1925 the congregation voted to become part of the United Church of Canada, which became effective June 10, 1925. The new Sharon United Church was dedicated February 21, 1926.

St. John Presbyterian Church and Wesley Methodist Church amalgamated to form St. John United Church May 9, 1926.

The present Sharon St. John United Church congregation was formed in 1934 with the amalgamation of St. John United and Sharon United Churches.

SHARON ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
Stellarton, N. S.

MINISTER: Rev. Howard Crooks

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Elizabeth Earle, B.A. (Music), R.S.W.

SERVICE LEADER: Mr. Robert MacRae

12th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2000

ORGAN PRELUDE

* *Indicates congregation stand.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Reg Darroch

* INTROIT: Praise to the Lord

835

* CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Let us come before God with thanksgiving; may we share with others the spirit of Christ.

*People: God is the source of all hope; Christ is the living example of divine love.
We seek to be at one with the Spirit, at peace with our neighbor.
Let us worship God.*

* PRAYER OF APPROACH, (Unison): *Almighty and ever-present God, we gather to raise our voices and hearts in expressions of thanksgiving. Open our eyes, minds and hearts to perceive the wonder of life and of the opportunities you spread before us. May a quality of gratitude permeate our hour of worship and our way of being, as part of your creation. Amen.*

* HYMN: 1, the Lord of Sea and Sky

509

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, (Unison): *O God, if we tend to let our imaginations build false images of ourselves, if our judgment is harsh on others, but easy of ourselves, if we have pushed ourselves forward at another's expense, if we have not valued our neighbor as ourselves, forgive us.*

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

* HYMN: Make a Joyful Noise

820

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

559

HYMN: Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love

574

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 45: 1- 2, 6- 9

HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River	710
HYMN: Blessed Assurance	337
SCRIPTURE: James 1: 17- 27	
SOLO: There is a Balm in Gilead	<i>-Norm Girard</i>

* **HYMN:** Will Your Anchor Hold 675

* **HYMN:** In the Bulb There is A Flower 703

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

* **OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** Grant Us Lord, the Grace of Giving 540

* **AN OFFERING PRAYER, (Unison):** *Gracious God, we who are your children, we who are Christ's sisters and brothers, we dedicate our lives and gifts, alone and together, to you and your purposes. Guide the life and work of our congregation and help us to live as faithfully as we pray. Amen.*

* **CLOSING HYMN:** Great Is Thy Faithfulness 288

CHORAL BLESSING: May the Blessings of God be Upon You 429

* **BENEDICTION** 915

ORGAN POSTLUDE

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

We welcome all who worship with us today, and we ask that any visitors sign our Guest Book at the back of the church. A special welcome to members of First Presbyterian Church, who will be gathering in worship with us for the month of August and the first Sunday in September.

During our vacation period, any pastoral emergencies may be referred to Mrs. Jessie Johnson at 485-5061.

Elders on duty this week: Ian MacDougall, George Langille and Blair Hodges. **Next week:** Andrew MacKay, Betty MacKenzie and Robert MacRae.

Greeters this week are Mary MacKenzie and May Darroch. **Next week :** Blair and Lois Hodges and children Catherine, James and Tasha.

Sharon St. John United Church
Stellar Street, Stellarton, NS B0K 1S0
Telephone (902) 752-4943

Minister: Rev. Howard Crooks
Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Heather Campbell
Church Office: Tues. 10- 12 noon, Wed. to Fri. 9 - 12 noon

Committees -- Contacts -- Meetings

Official Board: First Tuesday of March, June, September and December
Chairman: Sheldon Stewart, 752-2968
Vice Chairman: Peter Kay, 755-5363
Secretary: Helen Cruickshank, 752-8704
Church Session: Reg Darroch, 755-1811, Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Board of Stewards: Herb Murray, 752-6881, Third Sunday, 6:30 p.m.
Trustees: Reg Darroch, 755-1811
Ministry and Personnel: Peter Kay, 755-5363
Worship Committee: Keith Selwyn-Smith, 396-3954, 2nd Sunday, 4 p.m.
Senior Choir: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
Hand Quilters: Enid DeMone, 752-5728, Monday 9a.m.- 4 p.m.
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hall Bookings: Heather Campbell, 752-4943

United Church Women

General Group: Helen Cruickshank, 752- 8704
Esther Ruth Unit: Jean Girard, 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
C. Cutten-M. Rogers Unit: Monthly Leaders, 2nd Monday, 2 p.m.
Miriam Unit: Enid DeMone, 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Christian Development

Committee Chairman: Guy Aucoin, 752-1459
Sunday School: Gail Kay, Sunday 11 a.m.
Scouts: Al MacPherson, Monday, 7 p.m.
Moms & Tots: Leah MacKay, 755-5132, Tuesday, 9:30- 11 a.m.
Ladies Badminton: Joan Stackhouse, 752-5536, Wednesday, 9:45 a.m.
Youth Program (C.A.L.M.) Guy & Jillian Aucoin, Sunday, 11 a.m.

Mission Statement

The mission of Sharon St. John United Church, an open congregation, is to develop spiritually and to reflect hope and God's love by providing opportunities for active participation and communication in a welcome and nurturing atmosphere.