



BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

1141 - 5th St. E. Saskatoon, SK, S7H 1H4

Telephone: 343-6085 Fax: 343-7757

e-mail: bethelunited@sasktel.net

www.bethelsaskatoon.com

Minister: Rev. Norm Laird

Organist and Choir Director: Robert Don

November 23rd, 2008

Last Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Words of Gathering:

Long before the scientists broke creation into parts,
Dividing up the universe with subatomic cracks.
Long before cosmologists could grasp the basic facts,
Relationships were rife in the abyss.

Long before religionists got dogma on the run
With doctrines of the Trinity, enrolling three in one.
Long before the theories of who begot the Son,
Relationships were rife in the abyss.

Long before we separated one thing from the next,
Ensuring that the hierarchy would remain forever fixed.
Long before we atomized what previously was mixed,
Relationships were rife in the abyss.

Long before the churches prescribed us to commune,
Alleging that divinity connected through a loom.
Long before the discourse of communion was abloom,
Relationships were rife in the abyss.

For long we've missed the crucial point that relating is the
clue,

And it's only through connecting that we'll see the whole
thing through.

Too long have we ignored the web that always weaves the
new,

The Weaver at the heart of the abyss.

Catching Up with Jesus Diarmuid O'Murchu

Hymn: 375, Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Prayer of Humility: (together)

**Holy, loving presence, Creator of earth and sky,
of endless space and burning stars, we come together
knowing that we are important to you. You created
us; you sustain our living; you fill us with hope.
Open our hearts, expand our minds, set free our
spirits, that we might indeed feel your undying love in
every molecule of our being...** (continue to pray as you
choose...)

Assurance of Love

Hymn: 282, Long before the Night

Children's Time

THE WORD OF GOD

Scriptures and Reading:

Genesis 1:1-4

Psalms 100, Make a Joyful Noise, VU 820

A Reading from *Catching Up with Jesus* p.79

Reader: This is the Word of God as it is written
in our Christian scripture.

**All: The written word of God is enlightened
by the living Word of God that is within us.**

Musical Pause

Sermon

THE RESPONSE

Hymn: 154 MV, Deep in Our Hearts

Minute for Mission: "Getting to Know Our Disciples"

Offering and Prayer of Dedication: (together)

**Our God, the wonder of you is your continual
outpouring of love upon us, through all time and
forever. The security of your love frees us to live
and to give. Use us and these gifts to bring wholeness
to the world. Amen**

Prayers of and for the people and the prayer from Jesus (Sung
960 VU)

Choir Anthem: When We Gather at the Table

-Farquharson and Klusmeier

*When we gather at the table
Wine is poured and break is broken.
Then love claims us, offering healing,
We hear welcome, gently spoken.*

(Anthem is taken from #198 *More Voices* and is reproduced with permission
from United Church Publishing House and Wood Lake Publishing Inc.)

The Common Meal at the One Table

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen

Postlude

The Life and Work of the Congregation November 23rd, 2008

Good morning and welcome! We are glad you came! **Visitors** are asked to sign our guest book in the vestibule. **All are invited** to the auditorium following the service for refreshments and visiting.

Coffee (regular and decaf.) and juice are being served in the narthex each morning before the service. This is an opportunity to socialize prior to the Sunday worship services and is one way congregations are engaging in the **Emerging Spirit Campaign**.

'Hanging of the Greens': After the service today plan to stay and help decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please plan to attend, as more help is needed with decorating.

This morning:

Head usher: Peggy Amy

Ushering and greeting: Doreen Froom, Adele Sowter,
Glen and Karen Baxter

Reader: Lillian Genereux

Serving Communion: Harvey Clarke, Mary Rowell, Charles Andres,
Gladys Kemmer, Armand and Barbara Bourassa

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Davis Morrison and his daughter, Anne, in loving memory of Marguerite Morrison.

Come join us after the service
next Sunday, November 30th
Sunday School students will be making
biscuits

St. Andrew's Auxiliary ladies will provide
dainties and refreshments.

Silver collection proceeds will go to
St. Andrew's Auxiliary

(This is in lieu of the tea which the Auxiliary
sponsored in previous years.)

Norm will be in his office for part of the day Tuesday to Friday most weeks. Feel free to drop in if you see his car parked in its spot. In an effort to be more easily accessible, Norm will for sure be in his office **Tuesday evenings 5:00-7:00, and Thursday mornings 9:00-noon**. Again, feel free to drop in or call during these times.

Please check your church mailboxes for the annual participation sheet. The Stewardship Committee needs your input and commitment in order to plan for 2009. **Please return them** to the church office or on the offering plate **by November 30, 2008**.

To help prevent the spread of colds and flu-like illnesses, please remember to use the **hand sanitizer** that is provided on the table in the narthex and on the table at coffee time.

A martial arts group will be meeting in the gymnasium this evening. Please stay for a few minutes after coffee time, if you can, and help put away some of the tables and chairs. Thank you.

The Taste of Peace: From Palestine to Canada: Zatoun founder Robert Massoud will be speaking tomorrow, **November 24, 7:00 p.m.**, at Grace Westminster United Church, 505 – 10th Street East. Admission Free ~ Wheelchair Accessible. Zatoun is a non-profit grassroots organization building bridges between Palestine and North America through the sale of cultural and symbolic products from Palestine such as olive oil, soap, hand crafts and other items. Proceeds are used to support Project Hope, an organization that brings volunteers – many from Canada – to offer their services to youth living in the refugee camps of Nablus. Such programs have psychological, skills training and personal-empowerment benefits that cannot be understated. See poster on bulletin board next to church office or visit www.zatoun.com

Bible Study: Cantor Neil Schwartz of Congregation Shir Chadash will be with our Bible Study group Wednesday morning. We will hear his comments on the flood story of Genesis 6-9.

Meals on Wheels: Volunteers are needed to continue delivering meals. The sign-up calendar is on the literature table. Bethel's coordinator is Shirley McKay (374-4883).

"Challenging Empire": The next study date in this 5-week course on the theme of social justice is **Tuesday, November 25th, 7:00 p.m.** **The film on 'Empire' will be shown at this time**, rather than November 30th at 9:15 A.M. as was indicated in the Newsletter. The film will be shown as part of the last workshop on **Empire**. All are welcome.

Wednesday, November 26, 1:00 p.m. in the lower hall: It is that time of year again when you are invited to gather to make wreaths and other Christmas decorations. All supplies will be provided and the proceeds from the decorations will be donated to the church. Barb Bourassa will show us how to create beautiful festive decorations. Coffee and tea will be provided but if you would like to bring a few goodies to share that would be great. Please let Barb or Jeanette know if you will be coming so they can set up the appropriate number of tables.

Saturday, November 29th, 9:30 a.m......re-arranging the Sanctuary.....

Bethel Art Group meets Monday mornings from 9:30-11:30 in the Upper Room. Each person works in his/her medium of choice. No special talent is needed and new members are always welcome.

Samples of the 2009 Bulletin Covers are in the church office. If you wish to sponsor a bulletin to honour a loved one, a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, the cost is \$30. All contributions are tax deductible.

2009 Canadian Church Calendars will be available from the countertop next to the church office today - \$5.00.

2008 Annual Reports: People or groups who will be writing reports are asked to hand them in to the church office **by Sunday, January 11th**. The goal is to have the printed 2008 Annual Reports available to the congregation the Sunday prior to the annual meeting. At its meeting November 27th, Church Council will be setting a date for the annual meeting. Thank you.
– Bev.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast: Saturday, December 6th, 9:00 a.m., Social Hall.

Check out Bethel's website for general information about our church, our service and news and events. The site address is: www.bethelsaskatoon.com or go to the WonderCafe site and do a church search using either the church name or postal code. **Any information for our website** must be forwarded through the church office. Information from a source, other than the church office, will not be posted.

Calling Lakes Centre (PCTC) events:

-Creativity and Arts 2009, January 16-18, 2009 (Stay for an optional day to continue creating on January 19 for \$25) Join with others for a time of fun, reflection, and creativity as you work on your own project or receive guidance in an exploration of one or 2 of the following activities: Pen/Ink/Acrylic, Wood Carving, Silk Painting, Quilting, Card Making. Beginning Knitting, Yuen (a Chinese energetic method of healing with Mona Buchanan). Cost: \$240; \$265 after January 2. Add \$25 to extend stay to January 19.

For more information: 306-332-5691 register@callinglakes.ca
www.callinglakes.ca

Other Church and Community Events:

-'Caring, Sharing, Remembering Candlelight Service', Wednesday, **November 26th, 7:30 p.m.** at Knox U.C.

-Mayfair United Church is hosting a Dinner Theatre, "Captain's Outrageous" – A Comedy by David Deboy; directed by Dennis Beerling, **beginning Thursday, November 27th.**

-Saskatoon Children's Choir (SCC), Annual Christmas Concert "Sing Choirs of Angels", **November 28 and 29, 7:30 pm** at Third Avenue United Church. Tickets, \$17, (reserved seating) from McNally Robinson Booksellers, and at the door.

-Oliver Lodge Day Program Christmas Craft Sale, Friday, **November 28th**, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

-St. David's Trinity United Church, (3318 Merritt Street, Montgomery Place) will present "*The Greatest Story Ever Retold: COTTON PATCH GOSPEL*", Friday, Nov. 28 and Saturday Nov.29.

-Knox United Church Bake Sale with crafts, seasonal gifts and chili lunch (\$5.00), **Saturday, November 29** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

-St. Martin's UC Music Ministry Presents "The Sounds of the Season", Sunday, November 30, 7:00 pm.

-World AIDS Day, Annual HIV/AIDS Candlelight Vigil, December 1, 6:30 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle Church in Bishop Klein School, 1121 Northumberland Ave. Everyone welcome.

-Christmas Tea & Bake Sale, St. Martin's U.C., 2617 Clarence Ave., Saturday, **December 6**, 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Free-will donation.

-Persephone Theatre presents A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, a beautiful classic for the whole family. The miraculous transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge, the cheerful courage of Tiny Tim and the loving devotion of his family will fill your heart with the true spirit of Christmas, Dec. 3–28 Box Office 384-7727

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

- Bethel Art Group, 9:30 (Upper Room)
- UCW Annual Meeting and Potluck, 12:00 noon (Social Hall)
- Cubs, 7:00 (Social Hall)

Tuesday:

- Staff Meeting, 9:30
- Stewardship Committee, 1:00 (Upper Room)
- Beavers, 6:30 (Social Hall)
- "Challenging Empire" social justice study, 7:00 (Upper Room)

Wednesday:

- Bible Study, 10:00
- Wreath-making, 1:00 (Social Hall)
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.
- Scouts, 7:00 (Gym)

Thursday:

- Property Committee, 6:00 (Kitchen)
- Church Council, 7:00 (Social Hall)

Stewardship Seconds 2008 - November 23rd:

Stewards see others as they see themselves.
We are all broken and in need.
What can we do to help each other?