



BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Norm Laird

Organist and Choir Director: Robert Don

October 5th, 2008

Worldwide Communion Sunday

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: #7 MV, Gather Us In

Words of Gathering:

Rejoice, good friends, rejoice!

Celebrate God and the life that is yours.

**We sing to our God with joy and thanksgiving,
grateful for the gift of our being.**

Rest in God, be at peace.

You are loved more than you know.

Tenderly, tenderly, God holds us and cares for us.

We give honour to our compassionate God.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn: 333, Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Prayer of Humility:

**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: 133 MV, Jesus Laughed Out Loud

Children's Time

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture:

Exodus 20:1-21 *p. 66*

The Ten Commandments

Matthew 22:34-40 *p. 25*

The Greatest Commandment

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.**

Choir Anthem: As We Gather at the Table

-Winnagene Hatch

*"We have taken these gifts from your hand –
Bread and wine,
Tokens of your body broken for us.
And we bring them now to the sacred board,
As we gather at the table with you, Lord."*

Sermon

THE RESPONSE

Hymn: 372, Though I May Speak

Minute for Mission: "Getting to Know a Hospital Chaplain"

Offering and Prayer of Dedication:

**As we dedicate these offerings to the work of this church in service with you, we recognize that what we offer goes beyond what is on these plates. May we, each day, remember that we truly are your hands and feet, your heart and your love, in a world that is waking to the wonder of your presence all around.
Amen**

Prayers of and for the people and the prayer from Jesus
(*A Translation* p.916)

Finding Nourishment at God's Table

Hymn: 198 MV, When We Gather at the Table

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen: 974 VU

Postlude

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**The Life and Work of the Congregation
October 5th, 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.

Following the service today, the **Outreach Committee** will be serving a light lunch, and **Sherri** from **AIDS Saskatoon** will speak about their work. Since April 2007, the Outreach Committee has sponsored a **CHEP Good Food Box for AIDS Saskatoon**, at a cost of \$25 every two weeks (\$600 per year). The proceeds of today's lunch will go towards this cost and other donations are welcome. Everyone is welcome to stay.

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.**

This morning:

Head usher: Jim Reid

Ushers and greeters: Tanner and Pam Barmantloo,
Doreen Froom and Lois Randall.

Reader: Craig Balfour

Serving Communion: Takako Watanabe-Travis, Dick and Jenny Neal, Steve and Diane Rambally and

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Lois Randall "to express gratitude for the love of Bethel United Church family."

Fall Fashion Show

Tuesday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m.

in the Bethel gym

Featuring fashions from Tan Jay and Alia

Tea, coffee and dainties will be served.

Admission: \$5 at the door.

Proceeds to go to the Dishwasher Fund.

This event is sponsored by the Bethel UCW.

Everyone is welcome!

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.

A martial arts group rents the gymnasium each Sunday evening. Please stay for a few minutes after coffee time, if you can, and help put away the tables and chairs. Thank you.

Highlights of the Bethel Council Meeting held on September 11th are available from the literature stand at the back of the narthex (blue half pages)

Bethel Church Council: There are two matters coming up for discussion at the **October 16 meeting** of Bethel Council: one is about our Planned Giving plan and the other is a set of recommendations for revising the structure and functions of the various church committees and of the Council itself. All members of the congregation are encouraged to come to **Council on Thursday, October 16** and join in the discussion and decisions on these items. Copies of the recommendations are available from the ushers if you did not receive them last Sunday. Please look these over and bring your thoughts and ideas to the meeting.

-Bethel Stewardship Committee

Turkey Supper Report: Once more our Turkey Supper was a resounding success! We would like to thank everyone who helped us in any way to serve well over 500 people. We would ask that anyone who still has pots and pans at the church to please pick them up from the kitchen as soon as possible. The figures from our Treasurer, Jan, are as follows: Gross \$5,310; Expense \$1,158; Net = \$4,152 Thank you everyone! *-Corrinne and Freda*

Shining a Light on the Path - In repeat of a course offered earlier this year, Bethel is hosting a seven session course on spirituality that is modeled after the teachings of the mystics of many religions, both past and present. (No charge for this workshop and one may attend any or all of the sessions.) **The workshop will continue Wednesdays to and including October 22nd, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., in the Social Hall (please enter by the main church door).**

Gym Door: During church office hours the gym door will now be kept locked at all times. Please use the call button located to the right of the doors. When leaving, please be sure the door has latched behind you.

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.

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).

Federal Election Resources

There are resources available on The United Church of Canada website at www.united-church.ca to help you engage candidates on critical justice issues. The non-partisan strategy is intended to raise public awareness about justice, peace, and sustainable communities with candidates in communities across Canada, and to build relationships with our politicians and our communities around these issues.

Items on the website are a) "Take Action" on aboriginal rights and b) The United Church Federal Election Kit. These documents have been developed based on the policies of The United Church of Canada. The United Church has been active in the public arena and elections since the church was founded. This practice is a result of the belief that ours is a living faith, a faith that is expressed not only in ministry, but also in mission and with the world.

The kit includes information on key justice issues along with suggested questions to pose to candidates at town hall meetings, tips for writing letters to the editor and using the media, as well as links to other helpful web sites.

There is also a federal election resource available on the KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives website at www.kairoscanada.org

“Challenging Empire”, a course on the theme of social justice, will be held for 5 weeks, **beginning Tuesday, October 28th**, at 7:00 p.m. at our church. The term ‘empire’ was well known in Jesus’ time but it does not have the same meaning today. In these five weeks we will learn the meaning of ‘empire’ for our time and how we in Canada are affected by it. We will discuss what the words ‘global south’ mean and how our lifestyle affects these people. We will hear stories about how we benefit and how we are complicit in empire’s impact on other people, and all of creation. Finally, we will develop ways to challenge empire and create alternatives to it. Come and join us for a time of interesting and informative discussion. There is no cost for this workshop and all are welcome. Rev. Jeanette Liberty-Duns will be the facilitator.

A Caregiver Forum will be held **Tuesday, October 14th**, 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at McClure United Church. Cost \$15.00 (includes lunch). Registration deadline is October 10th. Contact the Caregiver Information Centre at 652-4411 for more information and to register.

St. Martin’s U.C. is currently searching for a caregiver for the Sunday nursery, a Bible Adventures Coordinator, and a Caretaker (30 hours per week). Please call the office at 343-7101 for more info.

A DVD of the “Just Jammin” Aug. 23 Concert held at St. Martin’s United Church is on sale as an additional fundraiser for the Refugee Fund. The cost is \$25 and orders will be taken until October 12. To pre-order this double disc set call St. Martin’s office, 343-7101.

Nursery Care Provider Needed: Beginning immediately, Grosvenor Park United Church is looking for a Nursery Caregiver (age 15 or older) for Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. This is a paid position. Please contact Sam Robinson at 374-8572 for more information and a complete job description.

Queen’s House Retreat & Renewal Centre, 601 Taylor Street West, events:

-‘Spirituality for Extroverts’, Saturday, October 18, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., with Dr. Nancy Reeves, psychologist, spiritual director and author.

-‘Nurturing the Spirituality Within’, October 23-26, with Cara Driscoll and Marilyn Scheske.
(Pamphlets for these events are in the narthex.)

St. Andrew’s College Presents

Nellie McClung: A “One” Person Play

By Kathy Morrell

Starring Wendy Stricker

“Never retract, never explain, never apologize – just get the job done and let them howl.”

Nellie McClung

This play celebrates the role of Nellie McClung in obtaining rights for women: the franchise (the right to vote), the recognition of women as persons in law, and the right of women to ordination in the United Church. Nellie McClung drew on her spiritual roots as a committed member of the United Church of Canada for much of her activism. Not a history alone, it weaves the interplay between a very public life and the private life of husband and children. It is in that interplay, that the play finds its drama.

When: **Saturday, October 18 -- 8 pm**
Pie Social before the play -- 7 pm
(good will donation)
& Sunday, October 19 -- 2 pm

Where: Grace Westminster United Church
505 10th Street East

Tickets: \$15 – Adults, \$10 Students

Available: Bethel Office

Proceeds to St. Andrew’s College

UCW Packing Day is Thursday, October 23rd.

1. We’re asking for donations of good used clothing and bedding to be left at the church. Our main shipment is sent to Big River Thrift Shop – monies earned help defray their church maintenance costs. We also deliver to Saskatoon Interval House Thrift Shop.

2. Articles can also be brought in for the Spring Patio Sale.
(Please pack clothing/bedding separately from patio sale items.)

3. We will also be packing for our Outreach Committee. The AIDS Saskatoon drop-in centre is in need of winter coats, scarves, touques and mitts for young families, men, women and children. Thank you for your donations!

Other Church and Community Events:

-Turkey Supper at Mayfair United Church, today. Sittings at 4:00, 5:15 and 6:00 pm. Adults - \$12.00, Children (6-11 yrs.) - \$5.00. Preschoolers free. Call 382-6446 or 244-4884 for tickets.

The **Christian Education Committee of St. Martin's United Church** will present a showing of the documentary "**For the Bible Tells Me So.**" Does God really condemn loving gay relationships?? Is the chasm separating Christianity from gays and lesbians too wide to cross? Is the Bible an excuse to hate? These questions and more are addressed in this award winning film which brilliantly reconciles homosexuality and Biblical scripture revealing that religious anti gay bias is based almost solely upon misinterpretation of the Bible. Through the experiences of five very normal families we discover how people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child or family member. **The film will be presented in the Sanctuary at St. Martin's United Church this evening (Sunday, October 5th), beginning at 7:00 pm.** Refreshments and a discussion facilitated by Sheila Lavender from Conference Resource Pool will follow. Everyone is welcome.

-Art Group-Group sessions are being organized for those interested in enjoying an uninterrupted block of time in which to work at their art. The group would welcome anyone with a basic working knowledge of their chosen medium regardless of their level of expertise. **Thursdays, Oct. 9 – Dec. 11,** 10 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (bag lunch) Grosvenor Park United Church; Fee:\$50.00 (for 10 weeks) Registration: Lila Sirois at 382-6147 or Phyllis Baker at 374-7410.

-Meewasin Valley United Church's Third Annual "**Grand Slam**" **Dessert Bridge,** Friday, October 17, 1 pm Come and enjoy! Bring your own foursome – \$10/person RSVP: 975-1231 or 933-2792.

-Mount Royal Emmanuel United Church, 29th Street & Vancouver Ave., **Fall Supper, November 2.** Sittings at 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. Adults \$10.00; Children 4-10 \$4.00; Children 3 & under free. Tickets: Joan at 382-7617. Wheelchair Accessible. UCW Bake Table ** Book Sale

-St. Martin's United Church 47th Annual Turkey Dinner **Saturday, Nov. 8th** Sitting Times: 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30 pm Adults \$10, High School Students \$6, Elementary School Students \$4, Preschoolers Free but must have a ticket, Takeout Meal \$10 Tickets go on sale Oct. 12 – Call 343-7101 for more info.

Meetings this week:

Monday

-UCW Executive, 10:00 (Church Kitchen)
-Cubs, 7:00 p.m. (Social Hall)

Tuesday

-Staff Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
-Beavers, 6:30 p.m. (Social Hall)
-Fall Fashion Show, 7:00 p.m. (Gym)

Wednesday:

-Bible Study, 10:00 a.m. (Gym)
-Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.
-Shining a Light on the Path, 7:00 p.m. (Social Hall)
-Scouts, 7:00 p.m. (Gym)

Advance Notice:

-Happy Unit, Tuesday, October 14th, 10:30
-Naomi Unit, Tuesday, October 14th, 2:00
-Property Committee Thursday, October 16, 6:15 p.m.
-Church Council Thursday, October 16, 7:15 p.m.

Scripture readings for next Sunday, October 12th:

Psalm 148 p 871 Philippians 4:1-9 Luke 17:11-19

Stewardship Seconds 2008 - October 5th:

Stewardship asks us to share God's love with all God's people, not just a select few.