



BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Norm Laird
Music Director: Sarah Makins

December 6, 2009
2nd Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Musical Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of 2nd Advent Candle:

One: As we wait for Christmas, we last week lit the first candle in our wreath to hold our hope for the turning of the sunlight in just a few short weeks; to hold our hope that the stories of the star and newborn baby will once more bring a renewed light to our lives. We relight that candle now. (pause to light candle)

All: **Today we ponder anew the meaning of that one amazing star. We see in our minds all the stars that twinkle in the clear night sky, and marvel at the beauty and majesty above us. We are aware of the magnificent peace that touches us as we gaze into the brightly lit night sky. We feel that peace now. We light a second candle, a candle of peace.**

Carol Sing: Which are your favourite Advent and Christmas carols?

Lighting Candles of Joy and Concern

Passing the Peace of Christ ²

Readings:

Matthew 2:1-12 *p. 2 (in the New Testament)*

Born Under a Star

One: God speaks through human voices.

Response: **God's words are heard in human hearts and minds.**

Anthem: #29 VU, Hark the Glad Sound

Sermon: Star of Wonder

Hymn: 70 VU, There's a Star in the East

Offering: We consider those who are visiting with us this morning to be our guests. As a guest, when the offering plate is passed by you, please do not feel obligated to place anything on it.

Prayer of Dedication: **As we enter into the season of gift giving may we be more attuned to what it means to give and receive. May these gifts today be holy blessing as they are given and shared. Amen**

Minute for Mission: 'M&S and Microloans'

Prayers of and for the people and the prayer from Jesus (Paraphrase p. 916 or 906VU)

Hymn: 7 VU, Hope Is a Star

Benediction

Choral Closing: 37 VU, Gloria

Postlude

† † †

The Life and Work of the Congregation December 6, 2009

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**.

This morning:

Head Usher: Peggy Amy

Ushers and Greeters: Gladys Kemmer
Don Kemmer

Greeter and Lift Operator: Don Kemmer

Reader: Karen Baxter

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Jim Reid in loving memory of his wife, Jessie.

The Communication and Contact Committee will again be preparing Christmas Flowers for 18 to 20 shut-ins to be delivered on December 20. If you are able to help by making a delivery, please contact Barb Bourassa today or after the service on Dec. 20.

Special Coffee time: The Communications and Contact Committee will serve Christmas cake and hot apple cider on December 13th.

We are looking for **MUSICANS and SINGERS** who might like to participate in our **Sunday services**. If you are one of the musical, or know of someone who is, **please speak to Sarah**.

Our church is in the process of partnering with the International Women of Saskatoon. In order to welcome and get to know them we are having a potluck supper at 6:00 p.m. December 12th. They will bring dishes from their countries of origin and we, of course, will bring "Canadian dishes". We will have some music, a fashion show which they will do, and simply spend time getting to know one another. Everyone is invited.

Outreach Committee will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Trudy Doidge Room.

Choir practise will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 9, 16 & 23.

Donation envelopes for 2010 will be distributed in December. The options for donating are weekly, monthly or the pre-authorized remittance (par) program. If you wish to change the frequency or amount of your donation, are new and need envelopes for the first time, or wish to join the par program, please contact the church office at 343-6085 or Jan Lahti at 374-0903 (this week or as soon as possible).

EGADZ Christmas Party – The Saskatoon downtown Youth Centre at 301 – 1st Ave. North will be holding its Christmas party on Dec. 21, 2009. They estimate that they will need to provide gifts for 230 young people and 30 toddlers. Would you be able to help by donating gift items? Examples of gift items are: toiletries, mitts, socks, T-shirts, toques, art supplies, books, DVD/VHS, toys and stocking stuffers. For more details check out the posted green sheet by the main office door. **Note: donations must be received this week by Dec. 13.**

Other Church and Community events:

The Fall Concert of the Saskatoon Choral Society will be held today **Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009** at **2:30 pm** at **Grace-Westminster United Church** under the direction of Naomi Friesen and Janet Wilson as accompanist. The Choral Society shares a variety of choral music. Admission: Adults \$10.00, children \$5.00. For tickets please contact Elaine Wanhella at 477-2375 or Peggy Jakes at 374-2443.

The CGIT members at McClure United church invite you to attend a vesper candlelight service tonight, December 6 at 7:00 pm. A special invitation is extended to all former CGIT members to share in this traditional service at McClure United Church at 4025 Taylor Street East. Contact Church Office # 373-1753 for info.

Train the Trainers Workshop 2010. There is a need in our Presbyteries for the work of Interim Ministry. The Interim Ministry Committee of Saskatchewan Conference will hold this event and hope that Presbyteries will send representatives for the training. This will be at **St. Peter's Abbey** in Muenster, SK starting on **Thurs., March 16/2010** at **2:00 pm** until **Thurs., March 17/2010**. See bulletin board for more information and to obtain a registration form.

United Church Calls on CIDA to reconsider **Cuts to KAIROS**. The United Church of Canada expresses shock at the news of the Canadian Government's decision to cut funding to KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives. See posted info.

A message from Ursula Wiig: **Share the Christmas Spirit!** This Christmas consider opening your home to international students from the U of S for a few hours during your Christmas celebrations. Dec. 24, 25 or 26. Application deadline: Thurs., Dec. 10. For more info or to apply contact Rev. Paul Sartison at 966-8500 or luth.chap@usask.ca. Program is organized by the U of S International Students Office and the Multi-Faith Chaplains Assoc.

FAOC website:

<http://www.kabissa.org/civiorg/940>

Veterinarians Without Borders (VWB) website:

<http://www.vwb-vsfc.ca/>

Email address for Pamela Barmantloo:

pjs026@mail.usask.ca

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)
- Cubs, 7:00 pm (Social Hall)

Tuesday:

- Beavers, 6:30 pm (Social Hall)
- Choral Society, 7:00 pm (Sanctuary and Social Hall)
- Outreach, 7:00 (TDR)
- Venturers, 7:00 – 9:00 pm (Upper Room) 9:00 – 9:30 pm (Gym)

Wednesday:

- Bible Study, 10:00 am (Gym) - Last bible study for this year.
- Choir practise, 7:00 pm (Sanctuary)
- Scouts, 7:00 pm (Gym)

Thursday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)

Friday:

- Day Care Christmas Party, 1:00 – 5:00 pm (Gym)

Saturday:

- Outreach and Intern. Women of Saskatoon Potluck Supper, 6:00 pm (Gym)

Scripture readings for next Sunday, Dec. 13:

Luke 2:1-7

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - Dec. 6:

Now is the time to prepare the way of the Lord, with overflowing love for those around us.