



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

February 15, 2009

6th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Awareness Meditation

Words of Gathering:

Blessing and grace, power and love
are ours through God who inhabits our being.

**Praise to the God of love and life
within whom we live and move and have our being.**

Rejoice in the truth of Emmanuel –God with us!

**We rejoice and sing with the Spirit of light
that upon us and through us!**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn: Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet, VU 245

2

Prayer of Humility: **We stand in awe of your wonder, O God. We are blessed that you choose to be in relationship with us and that you call us by name to be with you. Open our ears to hear your voice speak afresh to us this day, calling us to see the goodness with which you surround us. Open our hearts to embrace all of life, and all in life. Guide us always in your way of peace...**
(continue to pray as you choose...)

Assurance of Love

Hymn: God of the Sparrow, VU 229

Children's Time

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture:

2 Kings 5:1-14 *p. 336*

Elisha heals Naaman of leprosy.

Mark 1: 40-45 *p. 35*

A leper begs to be healed and tells the news.

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: Come Touch Our Hearts - Gordon Light
(Anthem is #12 in More Voices)

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
From failing embers build a blazing fire,
Love strong enough to overturn injustice,
To seek a world more gracious,
Come touch and bless our hearts.

Sermon

THE RESPONSE

Hymn: Come and Find the Quiet Centre, VU 374

Offering and Prayer of Dedication: **Our ever faithful God, we know you as the One who is eternally giving; in love, in grace. May we live out of the same generous spirit. Bless these gifts, bless us in our giving. Amen**

Minute for Mission: Church Leaders

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of and for the people and the prayer from Jesus

Hymn: We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection, VU 586

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen:

Postlude

† † †

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 p.m. and Thursday mornings 9:00 – noon. Again, feel free to drop in or call during these times.

**The Life and Work of the Congregation
February 15, 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: Vern Larson

Ushers and Greeters: Lilah Brehon
Ivy Gunderson
Wally and Joan Taylor

Greeter and Lift Operator:

Reader: Jim Reid

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Takako Watanabe-Travis in memory of her husband Jim Travis.

Beginning with **Ash Wednesday, February 25th**, and on each Wednesday in Lent, the church will be open during the noon hour for personal quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome to come and 'waste time' with God in the sacred space of our sanctuary.

During the five Sundays of Lent our worship service will have a different format than usual. The services will be a little less formal and will allow for more active participation. This announcement is to allow you some time to prepare for the alternate format.

'Finding Stillness in a Hectic Life'

We all have the same 24 hours each day which often does not seem to be enough. But what can we give up? How do we make room for stillness? Where is the balance in life? This four-session seminar helps us to answer these questions and reduce the stress of everyday living through an examination of life values and priorities, and by introducing the practice of Centring Prayer. **Discussion on this topic will be held Tuesdays, February 3rd – 24th, 7:15 p.m. at Bethel in the Upper Room. No charge.**

U.C.W. Soup n' Sandwich Lunch

will be held on Sunday, March 1, 2009,
in the gym following the Church service.

This is a fund-raiser to buy a new
water heater for the dishwasher.

Scout-Guide Sunday is February 22, 2009 – attending the service will be the 22nd Bethel Scouts.

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. Dates available are March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 10 (Good Friday), 12 (Easter Sunday), May 24, 31, June 14, 21, July 26, August 23, 30, September 6, October 11 (Thanksgiving), 25, November 1, 15, 22, December 27.

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).

Greeter and Lift Operator: Please see the sign-up sheet on the coffee table.

'Dessert & Discussion': 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m., at Tastebuds, 1624 Lorne Avenue.

Used Stamps are needed for the Canadian Bible Society – See poster on bulletin board.

Grosvenor Park United Church is having a Valentine's Day Ham Supper on Sunday, February 15th at 5:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$10.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children age 10 and under. For tickets phone **374-7766** – there is limited seating.

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.

Creating Spirit Gallery Art Show and Sale - Photography by Sharon Ferguson-Hood will be offered for sale and will include images recorded from Sharon's travels and pilgrimages to Nepal and Tibet. Regular gallery hours Tuesday – Friday, 9 – 12 noon & 1 – 4 p.m. Different feature artist every 2 months.

Looking for PIANISTS!

Oliver Lodge is recruiting pianists to play for Sunday morning interdenominational worship services from 10:30-11:00. The goal is to recruit 6 volunteers and schedule everyone on a 6 week rotation. Please contact Kristen Smith, Director of Recreation and Volunteer Services, at 382-4111 ext. 33 for more information.

Other Church and Community events:

- **Queen's House Retreat & Renewal Centre**, 601 Taylor Street West, (telephone 242-1916) is offering the following events:

- Women in Ministry: Lives Taken, Blessed, Broken & Shared**, Sunday, February 15 to Tuesday, February 17th.
- Lenten Retreat: Encountering Jesus Christ'**,
March 27-29;
- 'Hope for the Future of Humanity'** April 13-16;
- Women's Retreat, Meet the "Mother of the Canadian Church"**, May 29-31. website: www.queenshouse.org

- **McClure United Church Dinner Theatre** Proudly Presents It's A Scream!! A HORRORbly Funny Comedy By David De Boy **March 4-7**, 4025 Taylor St. E. Saskatoon Telephone 373-1753 Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Effective Co-Parenting: Putting Kids First. Professional Facilitation Seminar to be held on Friday, March 6, 2009 at St. Paul's United Church located at 454 Egbert Avenue, Saskatoon. Cost is \$100.00. Facilitators are Elaine Bucknum and Sandy Shuler, phone 244-0127 (see poster on bulletin board in the gym for more details and agenda).

Is Renewable Do-Able? Can renewable energy meet our needs? A panel discussion will be held **Tuesday, February 24th**: (two times) **2:00 p.m.**, Room 241, (Neatby-Timlin Theatre), Arts Building, U. of S., and at **7:00 p.m.**, Frances Morrison Library Auditorium, 311 – 23rd St. E. (see poster)

See posters on bulletin board next to the Church Office.

Men's Breakfast – At the next Men's breakfast on March 7, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. we will be welcoming Geselle Doel, Director of Friendship Inn. Geselle will be telling the story of the Inn and of the service that it seeks to provide to a special segment of our society. Also, we are issuing a special invitation to the wives of the "Breakfast Club" and to the ladies of the congregation as well. If you are able to accept this invitation, you can expect "a friendly welcome, good coffee, and interesting conversation".

Meetings and events this week:

Tuesday:

- Church Office closed in lieu of Family Day on Monday
- "Finding Stillness in a Hectic Life", 7:15 p.m.-see announcement.

Wednesday:

- Staff Meeting, 9:15
- Bible Study, 10:00 (Gym) (Come at 9:30 for coffee, if you wish).
- Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.

Scripture readings for next Sunday, February 22:

2 Kings 2:1-13

Mark 9:2-9

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - February 15th:

Stewards proclaim the gospel freely, spreading the Word to all who will hear.

LIVING THE HOPE
Learning Event for Congregations

Friday, March 13, 2009: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. and
Saturday, March 14, 2009: 9:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. (lunch
provided)

St. Martin's United Church
2617 Clarence Avenue S.
Saskatoon

Living the Hope is an Emerging Spirit learning opportunity for congregational teams to probe deeply into the generational issues facing the church today. **Living the Hope** will also focus on three areas which have emerged as critical to the work of nurturing welcoming congregations which are faithful, relevant, and vital: Re-imagining Sunday Morning, Building Connections in Community, and The Practice of Leadership.

Living the Hope events are designed for congregational teams, which include a paid, accountable staff person plus other key lay leaders.

Cost: \$300 for a team of 6, additional team members \$40; individuals \$75.

Please speak to Norm if you are interested in attending with him. Bethel will pay the registration cost for any who wish to go. Any donations toward the registration cost would also be appreciated.

To register and for more information see www.emergingspirit.ca or phone 1-800-268-3781, ext.4035.

LIVING THE HOPE
Learning Event for Congregations

Friday, March 13, 2009: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. and
Saturday, March 14, 2009: 9:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. (lunch
provided)

St. Martin's United Church
2617 Clarence Avenue S.
Saskatoon

Living the Hope is an Emerging Spirit learning opportunity for congregational teams to probe deeply into the generational issues facing the church today. **Living the Hope** will also focus on three areas which have emerged as critical to the work of nurturing welcoming congregations which are faithful, relevant, and vital: Re-imagining Sunday Morning, Building Connections in Community, and The Practice of Leadership.

Living the Hope events are designed for congregational teams, which include a paid, accountable staff person plus other key lay leaders.

Cost: \$300 for a team of 6, additional team members \$40; individuals \$75.

Please speak to Norm if you are interested in attending with him. Bethel will pay the registration cost for any who wish to go. Any donations toward the registration cost would also be appreciated.

To register and for more information see www.emergingspirit.ca or phone 1-800-268-3781, ext.4035.