



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

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God of Grace, we come to you knowing we do not always practice your call for us to live in that Grace.

God of peace and understanding, we come to you knowing we do not always follow the paths that lead to peace and understanding.

God, our God, help us learn to improve our lives so that we may be more loving and compassionate, to be samples of the Grace you call us to be, and to seek ways of promoting peace and understanding in your world.

Be our guide and our support. AMEN

January 25th, 2009

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

"Follow me", Jesus said (Matthew 4:19)

Come and follow the one who calls us to new life.

Prayer (together)

**We come, O God, with our doubts and our fears.
We come with our failures and our lost dreams. But,
we come also bringing the gifts that you have placed
in each of us. We come and we offer ourselves to you,
just as we are. Accept us and help us. AMEN**

Hymn: Just as I Am, VU 508

Prayer of Humility (together)

**God of love and compassion, we come to you
knowing our weaknesses and shortcomings.**

Assurance of Love

Children's Time

Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky, VU 509

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture:

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10 *p.860*

Jonah calls Nineveh to repent.

Psalms 62: 5-12, VU p. 779

Be still, my soul, and wait for God.

Mark 1: 14-20 *p. 35*

Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James and John.

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.**

Anthem: Song of Fellowship *-Don Besig and Nancy Price*

*We are here this day to share God's love;
We have come with burdens and cares,
For within this place we are bound as one
In this fellowship we share.*

Message *-Joyce Picklyk*

THE RESPONSE

Hymn: Jesus Calls Us, VU 562

Minute for Mission: "Stuffing and Sewing for M&S"
-Marguerite Irvine and Gillian McDougald

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of and for the People
The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee, VU 560

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen

Postlude

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The Life and Work of the Congregation January 25th, 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**.

Thank you to Joyce Picklyk for taking the service this morning while Norm is attending a meeting of the national Faith and Theology Committee. Norm will be in the office as usual on Tuesday the 27th.

As today is the 250th anniversary of Robert Burns' Birthday, all of the following participants are of Scottish extraction:
Head Usher: Peggy (Fraser) Amy
Ushers and Greeters: Gillian and Allan McDougald,
Jim Reid and Bill Young
Scripture Reader: Marguerite (McLeod) Irvine.

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Gladys and Don Kemmer.

Church Office Secretary: Bernice Braaten has been engaged as secretary for Bethel and will be joining Bev. in the office on January 27th.

Hearing Assist Headsets: All batteries for the two types of headsets have been refurbished. People are welcome, and are encouraged, to use them. If you use a headset and you do not receive good, quality sound from it, please inform the Head Usher.

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 the tables and chairs. Thank you.

The 'January Book Discussion' – Awareness by Anthony DeMello, **9:15-10:15, began this morning and will continue until February 15th**. Books (\$20) will be available for those planning to participate. (3 books left) You are welcome to join in. Please speak to Norm or to Barb. Martin.

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.

The Christmas Tree by the Lectern has become a 'mitten tree'. Any donations you wish to make of hats, scarves, mitts and socks are welcome. If you purchase mitts, the waterproof ones are best. **After February 1st, the items will be taken to the Inner City Ministry.**

'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. No charge.**

Copies of the statement received from the national church, entitled "United Church Moderator Calls for a Ceasefire in Gaza" are available from the literature rack at the back of the church.

Bethel United Church Council wishes to recognize Bev Andres for her 19 years of loyal, dedicated service as the church's secretary. A luncheon in her honour will be held after church **on February 1st**. Please plan to attend to give her your best wishes.

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.

"Interesting/Educational Things To Do" – (Described on pages 3 and 4 of the Advent 2008 Newsletter):

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

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 1, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 10 (Good Friday), 12 (Easter Sunday), 19, May 24, 31, June 14, 21, July 26, August 23, 30, September 6, October 11 (Thanksgiving), 25, November 1, 15, 22, December 27.

Congregational Annual General Meeting Sunday, February 8th, 2009.

Immediately following the morning worship service.

Everyone is invited to join in a potluck sandwich lunch,
followed by the meeting.

The meeting is expected to last from about noon to 2:00.

At the meeting, officers will be elected and a budget set for the
coming year.

Please plan to attend this important meeting.

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.

Knox United Church is currently seeking a Christian Education Coordinator. This position would be part-time (.4) and will be available July 1, 2009. For more information, contact the chair of the Knox Search Committee, Wendell Owen, wowen@shaw.ca, 374-2160.

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

- **Awakening/Deepening Our Sacred Relationship with the Living Earth** will be the topic of the next **Friends of Sophia**

presentation by Sr. Judy Schachtel, **Thursday, January 29, at 7:30 pm, Room 231, St. Thomas More College**. Sr. Schachtel, an educator with a passion for eco-spirituality has a MA in Culture and Spirituality and spent four years at the Centre for Earth and Spirit on Vancouver Island. More info: Ursula at 966-8500, or www.usask.ca/mfca/friendsofsophia/

- **A Call to Awe and Wonder**: Unfolding the Sacred Mystery of the Universe. **Meewasin Valley United Church** invites you to take time away from the city and the pace of life to renew your mind and spirit ... an intentional time to learn, celebrate and reflect upon the mystery of creation. **MVUC** is hosting a congregational winter retreat at Ancient Spirals Retreat Centre **February 6-8, 2009**. A workshop-only option is available to folks who would prefer this. Workshop facilitation is offered by Judy Schachtel. Judy has her masters in Culture and Spirituality. She is a gifted leader and speaker who shares her passion, wisdom and life learnings in a gentle manner. Retreat opportunities will include listening and learning, music, dance, artistic representation, videos, conversation, prayer and meditative walking. Call 931-4006 for more details.

- **The St. Andrew's College Alumni Association** will present 'An Evening of Song', **Tuesday, February 10, 7:30 p.m.** at Grace Westminster United Church. All proceeds go to St. Andrew's College. (see poster)

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)

Mayfair United Church is looking for a musician to direct their choir. Applicants for the position will have experience with SATB choirs and be able to encourage and direct music readers and non-readers alike. Please send in applications and resumes to: Music Search Team, Mayfair United Church, 902 – 33 St. W., Saskatoon, SK S7L 0W6

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

-Bethel Art Group, 9:30 (Upper Room)

-Cubs, 7:00

Tuesday:

-Staff Meeting, 9:30

-Beavers, 6:30

Wednesday:

-Bible Study, 10:00 (Gym) (Come at 9:30 for coffee, if you wish).

-Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m.

-Scouts, 7:00

Friday:

-Scouts sleep over, 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 a.m. Saturday.

Scripture readings for next Sunday, February 1st:

Deuteronomy 18:15-22 Mark 1:21-28

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - January 25th:

Proclaim the good news! Believe in the good news!

Let us be good stewards of God's good news.

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.

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