



## BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Norm Laird

Organist: Karry Agnew

Choir Anthem:

Sermon

Hymn: 1 MV, Let Us Build a House

Offering: **Our wondrous, compassionate God, may we live as you are. May we see these gifts as extensions of ourselves, reaching into a world that is one in you. May we know that we are made strong by our giving. Amen**

Announcements and Prayer Time:

Prayer time will be a little longer and meditative. There will be opportunity to light candles and post prayer thoughts during this time.

Hymn: 647 VU, Travel On, Travel On

Benediction

Choral Closing: 145 MV, Draw the Circle Wide (Chorus repeated)

**March 29, 2009**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service**

Welcome

Introit: 7 MV, Gather Us In

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn: 20 MV, God of Still Waiting

Scripture:

Genesis 12:1-5 *p. 10*

Acts 16:1-10 *p. 135*

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.**

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## The Life and Work of the Congregation March 29, 2009

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**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:** Doug Winmill

**Ushers and Greeters:** Glen Baxter  
Kathy Bazin

**Greeter and Lift Operator:** Doug Winmill

**Reader:** Karen Winmill

Bethel Congregation welcomes Karry Agnew as organist at our worship service this morning.

You have likely noticed a reduction in the number of people at the doors for the service on Sundays. There will be one person at each entrance and a third person at the doorway of the sanctuary. The person at the gym entrance will be able to operate the lift. Two people will pass the offering plates from the centre aisle. When it reaches the outer end of the pew, please pass the plate to the row behind.

Let's see how you like this arrangement and please direct your comments to Gillian McDougald, Lynne Fowke or Marguerite Irvine.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**  
**will be held this Saturday, April 4, 2009**  
**starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.**  
**Joe Vandanelle, for many years was**  
**associated with the potash industry,**  
**will share experience and information.**  
**Men of the congregation are welcome.**

On the table to your left as you enter the sanctuary, are copies of a survey entitled "What do you think?" Bethel Outreach Committee would appreciate it if you would pick up a copy and complete the survey. This 4 page survey is designed to help us understand and track what is important to you as a member or adherent of the United Church of Canada. It is an independent undertaking of The Observer.

Throughout Lent, as usual, there will be a Wednesday morning prayer breakfast at 7:15 a.m. This year it is being hosted by Nutana Park Mennonite Church. Bethel is responsible for the April 8<sup>th</sup> breakfast.

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.

## **COOKIE SALE**

**Holliston Unit will sponsor a cookie sale this Sunday, March 29th following the church service. Proceeds will go toward the dishwasher hot water heater fund.**

**Getting to know you!** There are **"Who's Who in the Pew"** forms at the end of each pew. Please sign your name and pass the form on to the person next to you. The last person is asked to return it to the starting point. Note the people in your row who have signed and join them for coffee after church.

**Bethel Church** is having a **Patio Sale, Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale** on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m. – noon. We need your help and support. It's a great opportunity to spring clean your items right into the box inside the gym door! Also, should you decide to do some baking – better yet! Sign-up sheet is in the narthex if you would like to assist with the sale.

Please see Freda if you wish to help with the breakfast.

**Newsletter** – please pick up the newsletter from your mailbox and if it is possible to deliver one to a friend, relative or neighbour, that would help to save on postage and would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

**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).

The **Communications and Contact Committee** need people to deliver Easter flowers to the Shut-ins on Sunday, **April 5**, after Church. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

**Check out Bethel's website** for general information about our church, our service and news and events. The site address is: [www.bethelsaskatoon.com](http://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.

**Pam Barmantloo** will be graduating from the veterinary college this spring and is planning on serving for three months in Uganda along with two friends, sponsored by Vets Without Borders. Any support we can give will help in their work. Please speak with Pam for further info or to offer financial support.

**"WHOLiFE" - Wholeness and Wellness Journal of Saskatchewan honouring Earth Day** – copies of the issue for **March/April 2009** are available in the Narthex.

### **Other Church and Community events:**

Please support the **LutherCare Foundation's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraising Dinner** to be held on **Friday, April 24th** at the **Travelodge Hotel** – see poster by the church office for more information.

THOMAS G. BANDY WORKSHOP – Grace-Westminster United Church (505 – 10<sup>th</sup> Street East) will be hosting a workshop on May 8th & 9th, 2009, sponsored by River Bend Presbytery. The workshop is on moving your church from a declining church to a thriving church model. The deadline for registration is May 5, 2009 and the cost is \$50.00 which includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, contact Kate Albert at 653-1766.

**Queen's House Retreat & Renewal Centre** (Ph.#242-1916) 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Oblate Scramble Golf Tournament to be held on Saturday, June 13, 2009, information posted. See bulletin board for dates of other events - Website: [www.queenshouse.org](http://www.queenshouse.org)

**St. Andrew's College** will be holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Alive and Well" fund-raising dinner on Monday, April 20, 2009 at McClure United Church. Tickets are \$100.00 to obtain them you must contact the college at 966-8973 – limited tickets.

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Scrabble Tournament a HUGE Success! Ethyl Mongovius, Scrabble representative for St. Thomas Wesley, won the City-Wide United Churches Playoff held at Oliver Lodge on March 15, 2009. We had a great response to the event and the participants brought in a total of **\$6,914.00** in donations for the expansion of Oliver Lodge. Thank-you for your support and we look forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scrabble Tournament for the Angels of Care Campaign next year.

**Can you help? The Canadian Cancer Society is in need of volunteers to help with the Door-to-Door Residential Campaign held on April 19, 2009. If you can spare an hour of your time to help fight cancer, please call Odette Lloyd at 244-2557 or 244-4389 for more information.**

St. Martin's United Church Easter Ham Supper, Sat., April 4, 2009 starting at 4:30 p.m. – see bulletin board.

St. David's Trinity United Church HAM SUPPER on April 5, at 5:00 p.m. Advanced tickets, please call Gerri at 382-8480.

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Gathering** - Retreat to be held at Minto United Church in Moose Jaw on April 24 – 26/09. Registration forms on bulletin board (copies can be made).

Saskatoon Adlerian Society is sponsoring 'A Day For Parents' – Saturday, April 25th at Mayfair United Church. Details are posted on the bulletin board.

**Camp Christopher** – Applications and information on counter by the Church office.

**PAPER REDUCTION:** 'Reduce – Reuse – Recycle'. The greatest of these is Reduce. "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it (Psalm 24:1)". Angie Bugg has a list of many ideas that we can practice regarding reduction and recycling of paper and that will help save trees. To Live with Respect in Creation is an article she has written; it is posted on the bulletin board by the office.

**Meetings and events this week:****Monday:**

- Bethel Art Group, 9:30
- Cubs, 7:00

**Tuesday:**

- Staff Meeting, 9:30
- Beavers, 6:30

**Wednesday:**

- Bible Study, 10:00 (Come at 9:30 for coffee, if you wish).
- Sanctuary will be open during the noon hour for meditation/prayer
- Scouts, 7:00

**Thursday:**

- UCW General/Unit Meetings, 1:30

**Saturday:**

- Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 9:00 (Social Hall)

**Dates to remember:**

Saturday, April 25 – Scout's Bottle Drive

Sunday, April 26 – Soup and Biscuits Lunch after Church

Tuesday, May 5 – Quilt Show

Saturday, May 9 – Ham Supper

Please note: Cubs will not meet on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and Beavers will not meet on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Scripture readings for next Sunday, April 5:**

Mark 11:1-11      Psalm 118; 1-4, 19-29

**Stewardship Seconds 2009 - March 29:**

Stewards pray for a new and right spirit within and serve by following Jesus.

**The Important Differences between Yesterday's God and Tomorrow's God.**

1. Tomorrow's God does not require anyone to believe in God.
2. Tomorrow's God is without gender, size, shape, colour, or any of the characteristics of an individual living being.
3. Tomorrow's God talks with everyone, all the time.
4. Tomorrow's God is separate from nothing, but is Everywhere Present, the All in All, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Sum Total of Everything that ever was, is now, and ever shall be.
5. Tomorrow's God is not a singular Super Being, but the extraordinary process called Life.
6. Tomorrow's God is ever changing.
7. Tomorrow's God is needless.
8. Tomorrow's God does not ask to be served, but is the Servant of all of Life.
9. Tomorrow's God is unconditionally loving, nonjudgmental, noncondemning and nonpunishing.

Neale Donald Walsch