



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

Music Director: Sarah Makins

November 15, 2009
24th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Musical Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

Words of Gathering:

One: Rejoice Good friends rejoice!

Celebrate God and the life that is yours.

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

One: Rest in God, be at peace.

You are loved more than you know.

All: **Tenderly, tenderly, God holds us and cares for us.
We give honour to our compassionate God.**

Hymn: 221 VU, Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped

Lighting Candles of Joy and Concern

Passing the Peace of Christ

A Question from the Fish Bowl

2

Readings:

Mark 10:17-22 *p.46*

Mark 12:41-44 *p.50*

One: God speaks through human voices.

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

Musical Pause

Sermon

Hymn: 510 VU, We Have This Ministry

Offering and Prayer of Dedication: **We are blessed, our God,
with so many riches, and yet we are hesitant to give.
Free us to be generous people, for the sake of this
church and all the people whom we serve. Amen**

Minute for Mission: "Hymn Vote-a-Thon for M& S"

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

Hymn: 575 VU, I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Benediction

Choral Amen 974 VU

Postlude

† † †

The Life and Work of the Congregation November 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: Jim Reid

Ushers and Greeters: Leonard Schwanke
Marguerite Schwanke
Doreen Froom

Greeter and Lift Operator: Leonard Schwanke

Reader: Marguerite Schwanke
Judy Killoh

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Jack Newman in memory of his sister, Doris.

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**.

There are **two tickets** available for the Rosthern Dinner and Play on Saturday, **Dec. 5**. These tickets include the bus ride. See Enid Smith or Jeanette Liberty-Duns if you are interested. There are **two more tickets** available that do not include the bus ride. Someone who is driving their car is willing to take another couple – for information regarding these tickets contact Jeanette Liberty-Duns or Norm Laird.

Adult Discussion Group – Nov. 15th to Nov. 22nd at 9:15 am - 10:00 am on Sunday mornings. Meet in the **Upper Room**. Have you ever wondered what the United Church believes about various issues? There will be a time for discussing what we believe and why. We will explore the following topics:

- 5) What do we mean by Social Justice? Why has the United Church been called a "justice" church? Is justice an integral part of Christianity?
- 6) What is M & S? What is Stewardship? You might be surprised at what you already know and what you might learn.

Worship Committee Meeting will be held today, Sunday, Nov. 15/2009. The meeting will follow **Worship in the Upper Room**.

Outreach Committee Meeting – Tues., Nov. 17/2009 at 7:00 pm in the Upper Room.

Property Committee Meeting – Thurs., Nov. 26/2009 at 6:00 pm in the Kitchen.

Church Council Meeting – Thurs., Nov. 26/2009 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall.

Lauretta Collison will be **103 years young** on November 19th. Please join us in wishing her a Happy Birthday.

The **deadline** for submissions to the **Advent Newsletter** is today, **November 15th**. Please contact Gladys Kemmer at 373-1205 or dgkemm@sasktel.net with your committee reports, event information, people news, etc.

SHINING LIGHT ON THE PATH – An Exploration of Modern Mystical Spirituality. Instructor **Norm Laird** who wrote the book **“Just Another Creation Myth”** is teaching this six-week course which continues on the following dates: **Nov. 16 & Nov. 30/2009 at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 pm** at the **Alice Turner Branch Library, 110 Nelson road**. The cost is \$5.00/session or \$25.00 for all six sessions. Sponsored by **Bethel United Church** (call 343-6085).

‘Hanging of the Greens’ – Sunday, November 29. Plan to stay after the service and help decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please bring a potluck lunch item: It is suggested that people with the last name starting A-M bring cookies and ones with last name starting N-Z bring sandwiches. We hope you will plan to stay as more help is needed with decorating.

Observer Subscription time – Our Congregation provides the Observer to any home that wishes to receive it. The cost of this outreach program to Bethel Church is \$15.00/year per subscription. Each year many people help support this local mission program by making a special financial contribution of \$15.00. A contribution of over \$15.00 will help those who are less able to donate. Special Observer donation envelopes are in the mailboxes or may be obtained from the literature table in the narthex. Please leave your donation on the offering plate or at the church office and indicate on your cheque that it is for the Observer. Thank you.

The **2010 Canadian Church Calendar** is a celebration of the **85th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada**. Buy a calendar to support the work of your congregation. Calendars will be for sale for **\$5.00** at the church office.

BULLETIN COVERS for 2010 - If you wish to **sponsor a bulletin the cost is \$30**. All contributions are tax deductible. Please contact the main office.

November 22, Pam and Tanner will be visiting in the city and here at **Bethel**. They will do a presentation about their trip to **Africa** during coffee time. See what we were able to help them do.

Other Church and Community events:

Saskatoon Children’s Choir (SCC) Annual Christmas Concert – The award winning Saskatoon Children’s Choir under the direction of Phoebe Voigts and pianist Michelle Aalders will be joined by a number of professional string and brass players from Saskatoon for it’s annual Christmas concert “Sing Choirs of Angels” on Nov. 27 & 28/2009 at 7:30 pm at Third Avenue United Church. More info regarding this performance is posted.

Grace-Westminster United Church (505 – 10th St. E.) **Tranquility Tea** will be held on **Nov. 21, 2009 at 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Bazaar & Bake Sale. Admission by donation – there is a door prize.

Knox United Church – Caring, Sharing, Remembering – A Community Service for the Bereaved. You, your family and friends are invited to join others in the community for this Candlelight Service. Everyone attending will be given the opportunity to place a ribbon on the Tree of Remembrance and light a candle in memory of their loved ones- **Nov. 25 at 7:30**. Musical prelude at 7:00 pm, also featured is a string quartet.

Leap of Faith – Gatherings to Celebrate, Explore, Create, Challenge and Grow in the Spirit – Take a “leap of faith” through celebrating music, exploring new ideas, creative reflections, challenging discussions, and spiritual growth at **Meewasin Valley United Church** (Upper Level) on Nov. 22 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Dec. 13 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information check bulletin board by main office.

Mayfair United Church – Dinner Theatre ‘Jerry Finnegan’s Sister’ a comedy by Jack Neary on **Dec. 3, 4 & 5 at 6:00 p.m.** Dinner and show - \$25.00. Show only at 7:30 - \$10.00. Sunday, **Dec. 6 - Dessert & show** for \$15.00 or show only for \$10.00. For tickets call 382-6446. See poster.

Meetings and events this week:

Sunday, Nov. 15:

- Worship Comm. meeting, following the service today (Upper Rm)

Monday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)
- Cubs, 7:00 (Social Hall)
- Shining Light on the Path, 7:00-9:00 pm (Alice Turner Library Branch)

Tuesday:

- Beavers, 6:30 (Social Hall)
- Choral Society, 7:00 pm (Sanctuary and Social Hall)
- Outreach Comm. Meeting, 7:00 pm (Upper Room)

Wednesday:

- Bible Study, 10:00 am (Gym)
- CHEP Good Food Boxes arrive, 2:00 pm
- Meeting with Ray Purdie (River Bend Presbytery), 4:00 pm (Upper Room)
- Scouts, 7:00 pm (Gym)

Thursday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)
- M & P General Meeting, 1:00 pm (Upper Room)

Sunday, Nov. 22:

- Adult Discussion, 9:15 am (UR) prior to Sunday service.

Scripture readings for next Sunday, Nov. 22:

Acts 17:16-29

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - Nov. 15:

Telling our stories helps shape a culture of generosity.

Last Sunday’s discussion of the peace policy of the United Church included some of the history of our church. The churches became nuclear weapons free zones in 1982. Our policies have generally extended to petitioning our government to increase spending on peacekeeping and to requesting congregations to seek alternatives to war in various situations.

We would generally think of ourselves as a Pacifist church; however this past year the General Council Executive accepted the UN document, the *Responsibility to Protect*. This document states that in extreme circumstances and only after all other measures have been undertaken there may be times when military intervention is necessary to protect vulnerable peoples. In 2000, the Secretary General of the UN challenged the international community to try to reach consensus on when and how intervention should occur – whether there is ever a time when military intervention is required to protect vulnerable people. The Canadian Government, in response to the challenge, established the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty under the leadership of Lloyd Axworthy. The responsibility to protect, R2P, document was developed and then adopted by the UN in 2001. The World Council of Churches, of which the United Church is a member, asked its member churches to study this document and respond to it. A Task group was struck to study the document in consultation with United Church congregations. The R2P consists of 3 main components.

The International Community under the United Nations has the responsibility to:

1. Prevent. Prevention is the most important aspect of R2P. It is necessary to address underlying problems that may result in atrocities taking place.
2. React. In situations of compelling human need when the government and military of a particular country is no longer protecting its citizens it is necessary for the United Nations to use military intervention to protect vulnerable people.
3. Rebuild. If military intervention has been undertaken by the international community, this should be followed by strong support to build lasting peace.

The United Church agreed in principle with the R2P document only after all other means had been exhausted and only after consultation with our partners in the areas of conflict.