



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 22, 2009
Children's Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Musical Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

Words of Gathering:

One: The voice of Divinity calls, saying,
'Be still and know that I am God.'

All: **It is in our moments of solitude that we know God.**

One: When we reach to serve our brothers and sisters:
the impoverished, the lonely, the sick...

All: **Whatever we have done for the least of our neighbours we have done to God.**

One: As we gather on this morning...

All: **We are together as the body of Christ.**

One: In all aspects of our living,
no matter where we are or what we do...

All: **It is in God that we live and move and have being.**

Hymn: 30 MV, It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

Lighting Candles of Joy and Concern

Passing the Peace of Christ

2

A Question from the Fish Bowl

Readings:

Acts 17:16-29 *p.137-138*

The Ocean

One: God speaks through human voices.

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

Musical Pause

Sermon

Hymn: 278 VU, In the Quiet Curve of Evening

Offering and Prayer of Dedication: **We cannot always be at the places of need to serve our brothers and sisters. Our hearts go out to those whom we would offer a word of peace or a sip of water. May these gifts from our living and working also go where we cannot; taking our love to those in need. Amen**

Minute for Mission:

We are nourished at God's table.

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

Hymn: 172 MV, God Says

Benediction

Choral Amen 974 VU

Postlude

† † †

Prayer:

I am taking this time to create my day, and I am infusing it with love. I know that you, my God, are with me and watching me the whole time that I am doing this, and that we are actually creating this day together. God, show me a sign today that you paid attention to any one of these things that I have created and show me in a way that I won't expect, so that I am surprised by how this day unfolds. Please, make it so that I have no doubt that the surprise has come from you.

**The Life and Work of the Congregation
November 22, 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:** Larry Fowke**Ushers and Greeters:** Erwin Neudorf
Deanna Neudorf**Greeter and Lift Operator:** Larry Fowke**Reader:** Larry Fowke**Communion Servers:** Shirley McKay Bea Nicholson
Ivy Kim Larry Fowke
Marilyn Sagi Lynne Fowke**Today's bulletin** is sponsored by Jack Newman in memory of his sister, Judith.

Tanner and Pam will be giving a presentation about their trip to Africa during coffee time. They will show us what we helped them accomplish.

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**.

Lauretta Collison celebrated her 103 birthday on Nov. 19th – come and join us at coffee time to have birthday cake and to wish her a Happy Birthday.

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.

Reminder: UCW Potluck Dinner and Annual Meeting on Monday, Nov. 30 at 12:00 noon in the gym.

'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.

Hi everyone. Sarah here!! I would like to invite any and all in our happy congregation to take some Christmas carols that we will be singing together in the month of December in worship, out and about to share with others after our Sunday service. Each carol-sing would last about 20 minutes and we would chat a little with the residents after (approx. total time 45 minutes).

We are looking at two dates/locations:

Event #1

Date: Dec. 6th

Location: Luther Towers

Event #2

Date: Dec. 13th, 1:30 pm

Location: Stensrud Lodge

This is another way for us to give of ourselves and share with others without any financial cost.

After Sunday worship, we would simply hop in our cars (if anyone needs a ride let us know) and drive over to the site.

If you are interested, please come and see me at the piano after the service.

Advent Newsletters are in the mailboxes. Extra copies are on the literature table. Please remember to pick yours up. Any letters you could deliver to your neighbours would save mailing costs and would be appreciated. Thank you.

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: **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).

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.

Bulletin Covers for 2010 – Cost is **\$30.00** to sponsor a bulletin. **2010 Canadian Church Calendars** are **\$5.00**. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Other Church and Community events:

Covenanting Service for Rev. Bill Unger. It will take place **today, Nov. 22 at 1:00 pm** following the luncheon for Oliver Lodge at **St. David's Trinity United Church**.

Grosvenor Park United Church – Sunday, Dec. 6 at 3:00 pm. '**Kids of Note**' Christmas Concert led by Brenda Baker – pianist Ken Neitz. Senior Choir led by Diane Phillips. Followed by a party and carol sing-along (no admission). Info call 653-1201.

Zodiac Tapestry Handbells present '**Christmas Sparkle**' on Saturday, **December 12, 2009 at 7:30 pm** at **Grace-Westminster United Church**. Special guests Barrie and Linley Redford on the trumpet. Admission at the door \$10.00.

Leap of Faith – Gatherings to Celebrate, Explore, Create, Challenge and Grow in the Spirit – Take a "leap of faith" at **Meewasin Valley United Church (Upper Level) today, 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.

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.

The United Church's 40th General Council declared that this **Sunday, Nov. 22,** would focus on the thousands of Canadian children who are currently in the care of child protection agencies. **Foster children** are an invisible population whose challenges are not widely understood. It is an opportunity to draw the church's attention not only to the needs of the children but also the caregivers – foster parents, social workers, etc. who work to provide a more secure and stable life for children whose family situations often leave them severely traumatized. Mardi Tindal says **"My hope is that as a result of this focus on children in care, many United Church congregations will hear and respond to the cry for justice from children in their own communities"**.

Education session with Dr. Phil Carverhill today, Nov. 22 from **1:30 pm – 3:00 pm,** at **333- 4th Ave. North.** He will be talking about emotional support for caregivers and tips for challenges that caregivers face. You can phone and register or just come. This session is complimentary and is joint programming by the Caregiver Information Centre and the W.A. Edwards Family.

Oliver Lodge Christmas puddings for sale – Large \$12.00, Small \$7.00 and Mini - \$5.00. Please contact the Recreation Dept. to place your order Phone #382-4111 Ext. 34. Leave your name, phone number and size of pudding. Your purchase helps us raise funds to offer quality programming for our residents.

Saskatoon Children's Choir (SCC) Annual Christmas Concert – 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.

Angels of Care Fundraiser – Please note that the last Cookie Dough and Place & Bake orders, until the New Year will be place on **Nov. 26.** They will be delivered to Oliver Lodge on Dec. 3. Please call Kristen Smith at phone #382-4111 Ext. 33 to place your order.

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.

H1N1 virus – What about its impact on congregations and public worship? Local public health units are the best source for local facts and information. They can provide guidance on what you should do in the event of a serious outbreak and may issue public warnings about gatherings of large groups. They are also an excellent source for educating others on precautions to take to reduce the spread of the virus. Information posted.

Saskatoon Health Region – Call for Volunteers. We are asking for your assistance in finding volunteers to assist during the **H1N1 pandemic planning.** There are opportunities to assist with the immunization clinics and to help out at St. Paul's Hospital. We would be most grateful for your assistance. Anyone who has questions call **655-5823.** See posted info.

Epiphany Explorations 2010 is a major conference that offers 5 days of great programs – **Jan. 21 to 25 in Victoria, BC.** Check out website <http://firstmetvictoria.com/1609>
An early bird discount deadline is Nov. 30.

The Cecilian Singers, directed by Michelle Hupaelo and present **Christmas Frost, Christmas Joy on Sat., Dec. 12th at 7:30 pm in Grosvenor Park United Church.** Tickets: \$12 in advance from McNally Robinson Booksellers, John King of Grace-Westminster or any member of the Singers. \$15.00 at the door, children under 12 are free.

Blue Christmas Service at Grosvenor Park United Church on Mon., Dec. 7 at 7:30 pm. Followed by hot cider and cookies.

Christmas Tea and Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 5th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at St. Martin's United Church. Home made mincemeat for sale. Free will offering. Phone: 343-7101 or stmartinsunitedchurch@shaw.ca

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

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

Tuesday:

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

Wednesday:

- Bible Study, 10:00 am (Gym)
- Scouts, 7:00 pm (Gym)

Thursday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)
- Property Comm. Meeting, 6:00 pm (Kitchen)
- Church Council Meeting, 7:00 pm (Social Hall)

Scripture readings for next Sunday, Nov. 29:

Isaiah 11:1-4, Luke 1:26-38

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - Nov. 22:

God is the beginning and the end of all that we have, are, and do.

The topic for last Sunday's discussion time was Social Justice. We began with the statement from the United Church website that states "the founders of this church believed that ours is a living faith, a faith that is expressed not only in ministry, but also in mission and in the world."

We discussed some of the many social justice issues the United Church has been involved in over the years including:

Worldwide water issues

Numerous issues related to African countries

The well in Mozambique

Anti racism

The ordination of gay and lesbian ministers

Gay marriages

Empire and how what we do here affects people around the world

Nursing Homes and hospitals in remote areas

Starting community centers and shelters in inner cities.

We also discussed the fact that because we do not have the money or staff to do all that is necessary we partner with many organizations such as Kairos, Project, Ploughshares, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and many more.

We recognized that one of the essential differences between our church and many others is that we take the time to do the analysis before we decide whether we will get involved in projects.

We recognized that a number of "feel good" projects are not necessarily good for the people on the receiving end.

We also recognize that social justice is not just working with people "out there" but that we have a responsibility to people in our own congregation whose needs may not be monetary but who need other kinds of assistance and our caring.