



BETHEL UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Norm Laird

September 20, 2009 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Musical Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: 7 MV, Gather Us In

Words of Gathering:

One: Welcome to this holy time, this holy space, this holy circle.

All: **We come to worship God who meets us in our open minds and spirits.**

One: Come then brothers and sisters of Jesus, the Christ
Let this, our Sabbath, be an oasis of renewal for us.

All praise be to God who blesses us with grace, mercy, and peace!

Lighting Candles of Joy and Concern

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hymn: 644 VU, I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

Ritual of Baptism:

Prologue:

In the beginning, the Spirit of God moved upon the waters and brought forth life.

Bring Forth life, O God, from this life-giving water.

In the desert, God gave thirsty people water from the rock.

God has give to all people² life-giving water.

When Jesus was hot and tired, he asked for water from a Samaritan woman.

Like her, we have received living water.

When Jesus was baptized by John, the water John poured was a sign that Jesus belonged to God.

Within us, O God, you have placed your Holy Spirit, and this water poured upon this little one in blessing, also is a sign that he belongs to you.

Prayer:

Spirit of the living God, once again you have taken the substance of earth in your gentle hands, fashioned it in your likeness, and given it the breath of life. We give you thanks for the life of Jeremy, whom you have entrusted to our care. Send your blessing and your peace upon his family, that their love for one another and for you may grow. Help us to see your image in this little one so that we may also learn from him what life is about. We pray as your children who have Christ as a brother. Amen

Pouring of the Baptismal Water:

We are people of the water.

We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Love, like a rain shower, awakens the sleeping seed within the soul, and lures it to bloom.

We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Love, like a wading pool, inspires the delight of children, jumping splashing, shivering with wet.

We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Love, like a hot shower after a long day's work, cleanses us, reawakens us.

We worship a God whose love flows through water.

Love, like little drops, drips from fingertips to forehead.

Through baptism, the family of faith makes room for one more.

Commitment from Parents
Commitment from Godparents
Commitment from Congregation

We the people of Bethel United Church have heard the will of these parents. We joyously welcome this little one into our family of faith. We commit to offering our prayers, wisdom and love to him as he grows in faith with us.

The Baptism

Welcome and Blessing: **Jeremy, we open our circle of love for you, so that you may be included in its sacred wholeness. You are one with us in our being and our love. We bless you, holy child, who has come to be among us.**

Readings: Mathew 5:43-48 *p. 5*
Excerpt from *The Lazy Man's Guide to Enlightenment* by Thaddeus Golas.

One: God speaks through human voices.

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

Musical Pause

Sermon:

Hymn: 150 MV, Spirit God, Be Our Breath

Offering Prayer and Dedication:

On this day our loving God, we dedicate anew our being and our gifts, to you, and to our sisters and brothers in need. Amen

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

Hymn: 145 MV, Draw the Circle Wide

Benediction and Blessing

Choral Amen 974 VU

Postlude

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The Life and Work of the Congregation September 20, 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 **Sarah Makins** for providing music for us today.

This morning:

Head Usher: Allan McDougald

Ushers and Greeters:

Greeter and Lift Operator: Allan McDougald

Reader: Gillian McDougald

Musical Accompanist: Sarah Makins

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Larry and Lynne Fowke in honour of Enid Fowler and in memory of Stan Fowler.

Jeremy Lawrence Tratch is being baptised today, his parents are Jason and Jocelyn Tratch. Godparents are Tim and Christine Salomon.

Bethel United Church
Welcome to our Fall BBQ
Come and see who we are
October 4, 2009
Church Service - 10:30 a.m.
followed by BBQ lunch

Thank you!

Following the church service today **Sunday, September 20th**, we will honour **Freda Crossman** to say thank you for all the "**hats**" she has worn over the years at Bethel and her untiring efforts each year for convening the Fall Turkey Supper. We invite everyone to meet in the gym after church.

Church Council Meeting will be on **Thursday, September 24th** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall.

Pastoral Care Committee will meet today, **Sun., Sept. 20th** following the worship service in the Trudy Doidge Room.

Property Committee will meet **Thursday, Sept. 24th** at **6:00 p.m.** in the Kitchen.

SHINING LIGHT ON THE PATH – An Exploration of Modern Mystical Spirituality. **Instructor Norm Laird** who wrote the book "**Just Another Creation Myth**" will be teaching this six-week course on the following dates: **Starting on Sept. 21, Oct. 5, Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Nov. 16 & Nov. 30/2009 at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Alice Turner Branch Library, 110 Nelson road.** Cost is \$5.00 per session or \$25.00 for all six sessions. Sponsored by **Bethel United Church** (343-6085).

Anyone interested in attending **Shining Light on the Path** on **September 21st** and would like a ride, rather than drive, please let Bernice know by Friday at 343-6085, she will compile a list of names. We can then make **transportation arrangements** for you.

Men's Breakfast – **Saturday, October 3 at 9:00 a.m.**
in the Social Hall. We will hear the account of
our church's ministry in the core neighbourhood
of our city.

All men are welcome.

Keeping in Touch – "**A Phoning Tree**" has been organized by the **Communication & Contact Committee** to keep in touch with the congregation. We hope to have this in operation this fall.

Sunday Morning Adult Discussion Group will be held at 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. during the months of October & November in the Sanctuary.

The Saskatoon Sai Centre meets every Friday at Sri LakshmiNarayan Temple, 107, La Ronge Road, between 7:30pm and 8:30pm for prayers and spiritual discussions. The first Friday is devoted for the Study Circles and we have started a new series on "**SELF TRANSFORMATION - TO HIGHER LEVELS OF SPIRITUALITY**" from different religious perspectives. We had Tibetan Buddhism in September, will have Islam in October and Christianity in November and hopefully Judaism in December, followed by Hinduism in January 2010. **Norm has been asked to do the Christian presentation.**

Meals on Wheels: Bethel requires volunteers to continue delivering meals. The sign-up calendar is on the literature table. Contact coordinator - **Shirley McKay** at **374-4883**.

We encourage everyone to use hand sanitizer that is provide on the table in the narthex and on the table at coffee time.

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.

Other Church and Community events:

Garage Sale – Saturday, Oct. 3 at 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Wesley United Church, Ave. H & 20th St. West. Bake table with homemade pies, preserves, etc.

Third Avenue United Church is hosting a Book Club on the book THE SHACK. We will meet on Wednesday, September, 16, 23 and 30, at 1 to 3 p.m. and another group at 7 to 9 p.m. The group will be lead by Rev. Doc. Eugene Tate a Methodist minister and a retired educator in communications. All are welcome to come and hjoin in stimulating conversation on this amazing and controversial book.

United Church Banff Men's Conference 2009 – October 16, 17 & 18 at Banff Centre. Registration info posted.

The Spiritual Care Education Department of St. Paul's is offering "**Foundations of Spiritual Care Giving**" on Sat., Oct. 17 and on Tues. Evenings – Oct. 20, 27, Nov.3, 10, 17 and Sat., Nov. 21. Everyone is welcome. **Deadline for application is Sept. 25/09.** Call **665-5827** for more information.

Harvest Turkey Supper at **Third Avenue United Church** on Saturday, **Oct. 24**, sittings at 4:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Call church office at **652-6812** or **244-5158** for tickets.

Life Lines Book Room Sale – Summer sale is extended to the end of September – 50% to 75% off.

Sherbrooke Community Centre – Opportunity for Lay Visitor Ministry. We are seeking volunteers to be participants in our Lay Companionship Program of Spiritual Care Visitation. Training is available – call 655-3697 or 665-3748.

Paul Rumbolt (SongSmith) is planning a tour and he will be in Saskatchewan from **Oct. 23 to October 27** and **Nov. 4 to Nov. 8**. You could host him in an evening of singing and song, a workshop or Sunday morning worship. Contact info: **ericandbrenda@paulrumbolt.com** or Ph:(604)886-5989 or eric@bandeservices.ca or fax (866) 657-7911.

Meetings and events this week:

Monday:

- Ladies Fitness, 9:15 am (Gym)
- Cubs, 7:00-8:30 pm - Social Hall
- Shining Light on the Path, 7:00-9:00 pm at the Alice Turner Branch Library

Tuesday:

- Beavers. 6:30-7:30 pm – Social Hall

Wednesday:

- Bible Study, 10:00 am (come at 9:30 for coffee, if you wish).
- CHEP Good Food Boxes arrive, 2:00 pm
- Scouts, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Thursday:

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

Saturday:

- 22nd Bethel Scouts Bottle Drive

Scripture readings for next Sunday, September 27:

Genesis 1:24-31

Stewardship Seconds 2009 - September 20:

Each time we welcome any of God's children, we welcome Christ in our midst.