

Newsletter, Week of March 15 2010

Hello this Monday Morning of Lent, my friends. A couple of notes from yesterday: first, we had great worship, and special thanks to Joanne Lewis for her ministry of music, and to the choir who once again did a beautiful a capella anthem.

Second, a huge and heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped out with the funeral of Iva Jackson yesterday. What a blessing for grieving families to have a place like this to come home to; where they will be fed in more than one way, and comforted with community. What you do as a community in this way cannot be overstated. It's a ministry of love.

A CHALLENGE FOR THIS WEEK – from now until Easter, would you consider the following: Either give up going out for coffee, putting what you would have spent on coffee in an envelope to be given on Easter Sunday to the Mission and Service fund, OR....alternatively, keep going out for coffee but each time you do, put an equal amount in an envelope for the Mission and Service fund? Just a thought. AND ANOTHER ONE TO ADD TO OR INSTEAD OF THE ABOVE: Let's fast from complaining - at least until Easter. No more complaining about the weather, or work, oranything. Let's feast on good thoughts. Positive thoughts. AND let's vow to not only think but *to say* positive things. Training our minds and tongues for a resurrection of the soul, through resurrection of the thought process and the spoken word.

JUNIOR CHOIR – WILL MEET AFTER CHURCH STARTING MARCH 21, AND EACH SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH AFTER THAT IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER

Included with this newsletter is separate document for your use if you wish. It is the text of the **Bible study we'll be doing through Lent**. Essentially it will be the Biblical text of each of the Gospel writers' versions of the passion narrative. Beginning with Mark, (who wrote first of the four gospels we have included in our Bible) we'll simply read through each version of the last week of Jesus' life. I have copied it from the New Revised Standard translation, and included, in CAPS, my own comments throughout. This week I am sending out **Luke's account of Holy Week**. Beginning with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and through to the end of the crucifixion. Scholars believe that Mark had written his gospel around the year 70, and that roughly 10 years later, with a copy of Mark in front of him, Luke wrote his own gospel, copying and editing Mark's version. There is a quiz to reinforce the factual details of the stories, that will be included on **the website** and you may want to check that out as well. www.whitehorseunited.org

BIBLE STUDY THROUGH LENT: MONDAYS AT 5:15 AND TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 7:15, WITH A LIGHT BREAKFAST OF COFFEE AND MUFFINS. AS WELL, THERE WILL BE WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AT NOON, (12:15-12:45) silence, readings and prayer.

FROM JOYFUL NOISE: Some kind young women from our church have volunteered to arrange a programme for the children during the services for the next week. Thank you so much!

Dessert Theatre: After church on April 11th all participants please plan to stay for a couple of hours and we'll have our first complete read through. Bring a bag lunch. If you haven't signed up for it but want in, that's ok, come along we can use everyone. **OUR PLAN IS TO PREPARE IT FOR PRESENTATION SEPTEMBER 11TH AND 18TH.**

Book club. Anyone is most welcome to join us, or simply to read along with us whether or not you attend meetings. The book is **Jade Peony by Wayson Choy** and we'll meet to discuss it on the last Wednesday of each month at 6:30. The first meeting will be **Wed, March 24th**. At the church, in the upper room. We'll take turns suggesting books, so that we get a broad range of material.

Mondays – **Bible Study**, 5:15 pm at the church in the upper room

Tuesdays – **Bible Study** 7:15 am in the upper room

Wednesday March 3 – **Lenten worship**, 12:15-12:45 in the sanctuary

COMING UP

(I will include special services in other churches as I'm made aware of them)

Cleaning the Soup Kitchen – can anyone help? The times are as follows: March 17th from 10-4 and March 19th from 10-3. Even an hour or two would be helpful. Thanks.

Movie Night : Thursday, March 18th, at 7 pm at the home of Karen Walker and Wayne Tuck. 42 Bell Crescent Riverdale. 633 5726 if you need directions. We'll be watching "One Week." It's a wonderful film that has been described as a "love letter to Canada." It's about a young man who responds to a diagnosis of terminal cancer by going on a road trip out west. Of course, it's a journey of self-discovery as much as anything else.

Another Movie: Monday, March 22, at 7 pm at the church probably the lower hall. Come, watch Jesus Christ, Super Star, and help us fold palm crosses for Palm Sunday.

Friday March 26th – 7 pm. The social justice committee at Sacred Heart Cathedral has invited us to participate in a social justice Stations of the Cross. 7 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 4th Avenue.

Friday, March 26th – **YOUTH GROUP**

Communion Servers' training Saturday March 27th at 10:30-NOON in the Sanctuary.
There will be a signup sheet for this or contact Bev please.

April 9th – SPAGHETTI SUPPER – by the Men's Breakfast group as a fundraiser for Braeburn Camp from 5-7 at the CYO hall (at the Roman Catholic church) – We are asked to provide salads and desserts – there is a sign up sheet in the usual place in the narthex

LIST OF GREETERS APRIL-JUNE 2010

March 28 – Takhini Acres Troop
April 4 (Easter Sunday) Fred and Mary Lou Smith
April 11 – Gail Chester/Faye and Jack Cable
April 18 – Farr Furlong family (there is a 2 toonie lunch after church this day)
May 2 – Fred and Mary Lou Smith
May 9 – (run for Mom – come in your running gear or wear pink that day – I PROMISE to let you out in time to run!)
May 16 – Faye and Jack Cable
May 23 (long weekend and PENTECOST) – Joy Wickett
May 30 – Fred and Mary Lou Smith – AGM Sunday
June 6 – Church picnic – Dawn Dimond and Gail Chester
June 13 – Farr Furlong family
June 20 – Vanessa Thorson/Beth Roberts
June 27 Takhini Acres Troop

IN THE COMMUNITY:

- 1) a fundraiser March 27 at the Westmark from 6-12 with music by Yukon Women in Music...it's for leukemia and lymphoma (all types of blood cancer)

Appetizers, Cash Bar, Silent Auction, Quilt draw, decadent desserts and more. For more info – 456 6134

- 2) Eco Chic Fashion Show and tea 3-5 pm CYO Hall, for Grandmothers to Grandmothers. Audrey- 668 3321

HOLY WEEK EVENTS AND SERVICES AS WE KNOW THEM

Monday March 29th – bible study, 5:15
Tuesday March 30 – 7:15 am – Bible Study
Tuesday March 30th, 7 pm A PRACTICE FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
Wednesday March 31 – 12:15 – 12:45 – a service of readings and silence in the sanctuary

Thursday April 1 – 6 pm here at the church, A Maundy Thursday service in the form of a Seder meal. More details to follow.

Friday April 2 – 11 am – Good Friday service here in the sanctuary.

2 pm French Roman Catholic service at Long Lake.

3 pm Sacred Heart Roman Catholic service at the cathedral here in Whitehorse

Sunday April 4th - Easter breakfast (no sunrise service this year) at the Lutheran church, 8:30

Worship with communion and special music – Here at WUC at the regular time, 10:30 am

IN THIS MONTH'S OBSERVER:

The Observer is the national magazine of the United Church of Canada. There is always a Bible study, as well as reviews of books and DVDs. This month, some of the featured articles include: highlighting what's happening in Haiti from the UCC perspective, the reality of immigrant students who have no legal status in Canada, an article about overpopulation, one about how some United Church folk are moving toward Unitarian Universalism, and an invitation from the magazine to speak up about practices of ministry. It's a survey, due my March 31, and it would be a very interesting exercise. You can access this survey at www.ucobserver.org

GET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES GOING – We'll be hosting Presbytery in September. Among the things to think about (including billets, food and so on) – please think about how we'll welcome them and how to use the gold rush as a theme for our weekend with them. "Gold" has been suggested by someone and I really like that idea: God's love more precious than gold, the gold brought to Jesus at his birth, each of us as a priceless nugget, the Gospel as a pearl of great price.....what comes to mind? Banners? Songs? If you have thoughts please talk to me or to the worship committee. Thanks – it's so much fun to develop a theme together.

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT OUR STRUCTURAL LIFE HERE AT WUC

I'm quoting from the WUC Constitution as it presently stands.

4.7 MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Goal: To be an effective channel for members of the congregation to express their feelings on matters relating to Whitehorse United Church staff. To be a caring model employer in working with Whitehorse United Church staff.

DUTIES :

1. oversee the relationship among and between different church staff members with respect to their responsibilities and authority :

2. consult with all staff members about their plans for continuing education and ensure that those eligible avail themselves of the provisions for continuing education, and that time and money are made available :
3. act as liaison between staff members and the congregation on general administrative matters and relationships :
4. consult with staff regarding salaries, travel allowances, working conditions and all other employment practices, and makes recommendations to Council :
5. review annually the effectiveness of the church's staff as it relates to the program defined by the Council, and :
6. maintain a close liaison with the Pastoral Relations Committee of Presbytery :
7. report at regular meetings of the Council.

Ministry & Personnel Ctte.	Ralph Shopland (Chair)	633 2259
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