

South Winds

Windsor Park United Church

March, 2011

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From the study ...

I write this as we are completing our first week of Lent. It is traditionally a time of introspection upon our lives. We are encouraged to think about the ways that fail to live up to the standards Jesus set for us. The black mark of Ash Wednesday draws our focus to sin. Curiously, the weather has begun to warm just enough to melt the most recent snow. Underneath is revealed a whole winter's worth of dirt. The drifts along the street look like tiny grey mountains giving the whole neighbourhood an air of darkness and ugliness.



While I appreciate the rich traditions of our faith, I can't help but wonder if anyone's belief could be kindled in this atmosphere of doom? Criticism and doom are not usually the combination that inspires people to transform their lives. We all know that a child will respond to encouragement. Our attitude and perspective on life is transformed in sunshine. So the challenge is to consider if there is a place for encouragement and sunshine in Lent. The Worship Council worked through the readings set out for the season and concluded that the passages spoke of much hope and insight in the call to listen to God. It has been exciting to study the scripture and to explore what theology, psychology and education scholars have to say about listening.

Listening to God opens up great vistas in our lives. It allows us to reflect on who we are and how we live by way of a conversation with our Creator rather than in a solitary, silent monologue with self. Listening to God confronts us constantly with the assurance of God's strong presence. God does not abandon us---ever! Not only is God present, but an attentive listener discovers that God speaks comfort, love and hope as a constant refrain with us. For these reasons, and so many more, I hope we will be encouraged to journey through Lent with less gloom and more 'ah ha' moments of faith. If we arrive at Easter with a brighter, deeper insight into God's love and grace for us in Jesus then, like the snow melting to reveal blooming flowers, so we will cast off the shadows of our humanity and bask in the radiant warmth of our promised salvation.

The schedule of services through Lent and Easter can be found in this issue of SouthWinds and I hope you will come and invite your friends and neighbours to be a part of this time of worship and transformation.

From the Study continued

Spring means we are on our last seven sessions of our adult study program: Living the Questions 2. We meet on Wednesday evenings for dinner at 6 pm followed by a video-inspired conversation until 8 pm. Feel free to join us for one or all the sessions.

A lot is happening in our church as usual. Enjoy reading SouthWinds and plan to take part in the activities coming up! There is always room for more in our church family!

Sharon

Worship Council

On behalf of the Worship Council, I'd like to invite you to join us on the journey towards Easter. The Lenten theme this year is Listening: Listening to God and to each other.

We began Lent with the Ash Wednesday service on March 9th and it was very moving.

The dates for the other special services in Lent will be:

- Palm Sunday - April 17th
- Good Friday – April 21st
- Easter Sunday – April 24th.

We are also considering a Healing Service in the Taize or Iona tradition this spring, and will post the date for this when we have finalized the details.

Please join us Sunday mornings for this very important time in the Church year.

Shirley Shirliffe
Worship Council Chair

Congregational Involvement and Communications Council

CICC would like to welcome new members, Kurt Bell, Carol Breckman and Claude Grenier.

We will need their help for our

EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST to be held **APRIL 24th**



Food service is at 9:00 sharp so come early for the best seats!

Big thanks to Deanna Kernaghan and her team for the delivery of our new pictorial directory. Make sure to pick up your copy.

Thanks to Morris Deveson for another "clean sweep" curling event. Our sleigh ride was also a great success thanks to Tanya Montebruno.

A fond farewell to our outgoing members, Guy Jeanson, Carol Belsham and Susan Zinyk.

Any other church members wishing to join us at 7:15 on the 1st Tuesday of each month would be most welcome!

Your new chair,
Judi Olson Chiswell

Summer Worship Services

During the summer, we are joining with our friends at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for worship for the 11th year.

Worship will be at 10:00 am.

In July, the services will be at Prince of Peace.

In August, they will be at WPUC.

Pastor Stacy and Rev. Sharon will be leading worship in both churches throughout the summer.

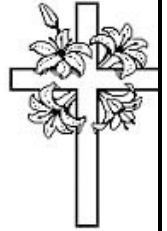
Please join us!

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Our Church Family

We extend our sympathy to

The Meyer Family on the passing of Eva
The Ballen Family on the passing of Kathleen
The Thom Family on the passing of Eileen
The Hill Family on the passing of Bruce
The Kozak Family on the passing of Anthony
The Turner Family on the passing of Stuart
The Thompson Family on the passing of Verna
The Gray Family on the passing of Irene



We welcome by baptism

Jayden Rheal Laramie (April 14/10), son of Rheal & Stephanie
Mason Ryan Reuther (Sept. 24/10), son of Ryan & Joanne
Pyper Brooklyn Burbank (April 26/10), daughter of Sean & Jaime
Stephanie Paige Wark (Sept. 17/10), daughter of Glenn & Kim



We congratulate on their marriage, the following

Bert Johnson & Joan Beveridge on December 31st, 2010



AOTS

Our WPUC AOTS (as one that serves) club have a supper meeting on March 28th, with Ron Robinson as our guest speaker. Ron, a broadcaster, book lover (did book reviews) and story teller will be an interesting speaker.

Our last meeting before the summer break will be a supper meeting on Monday, April 25th followed by our wrap-up BBQ on May 30th.

AOTS are sponsoring the Winnipeg Pops Orchestra on Thursday, May 12th at 7:30 pm. The orchestra will play for one and a half hours with a fifteen minute intermission. Tickets are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for ages 7-16. Tickets are available from the church office or AOTS members. The proceeds will go to the lift/parking lot fund and other AOTS projects.

All men of our congregation are welcome to

attend our meetings and enjoy good food and Christian Fellowship.

In Faith and Service,
Charlie Klein and Gordon Whyte

Pictorial Directory

The Pictorial Directory is now here! If you participated in the photos, you may pick up your directory from Lucy in the church office OR on Sundays from CICC members in the Narthex. Thank you to everyone who participated and all to those who helped make this directory happen.

Co-ordinators,
Deanna Kernaghan & Carol Belsham

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Outreach Council

We welcome this opportunity to bring you up-to date on the latest developments with your Outreach Council.

MITTEN TREE

Early in January, the knit items from the mitten tree were delivered to Frontenac School, Archwood School and Marion School. The administration from each school looked after making sure the mittens, hats, etc. were given to families that really need the help. All three schools were delighted with this initiative and they asked to pass on their thanks to all those who made donations to the mitten tree.



WEST BROADWAY

Our support of West Broadway with collection of food items for their lunch program and emergency food pantry continues every second month. Thanks for bringing in your food items.

We are continuing with our contributions to the hot lunch program at West Broadway. Our goal is to prepare and serve two hot lunches per month in June, July, August and September and one lunch per month before and after the summer months. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to treat the residents of the West Broadway area to a hot lunch. For those of you who have baked cookies or muffins in the past, I want you to know our West Broadway guests give you rave reviews. Thanks to all who have helped with the lunches in the past. If you haven't been involved with our West Broadway initiatives and would like to be included, please contact Diena Rodd who is coordinating the volunteers for the lunches or Gwen Polak who is purchasing the food.

While we are on the subject of West Broadway, I thought it might be appropriate to share some information that Reverend Bob Gilbert sent to me concerning the make-up of the area. I hope the following helps to give you some sense of why it is so important that we continue our support.

"West Broadway continues to be one of the most impoverished neighborhoods in Winnipeg. Poor folks are attracted to the area by the lower rents, services available in the area (West Broadway Community Ministry, Agape Table for example), and the number of apartments and rooming houses available. About 60% of the population is

made up of single people: older folks on small pensions, individuals making low wages or existing on welfare rates. Many of the families in West Broadway are single parent families (mostly female headed).

People are poor for a variety of reasons. Most of the people who frequent WBCM are poor because they are unemployed. Many have mental or emotional illnesses that make them unemployable. Others have made poor life choices (addictions, criminal activity) and while most are reformed or trying hard to reform, they may be damaged by their past or their 'track record' makes it very difficult to put a resume together that any employer would be interested in. Some are single moms who can't afford or can't find subsidized day care and need to stay home until their children are older."

"A single person (deemed employable) typically receives \$285 a month for 'shelter' and \$190 a month for all other living expenses including food. (\$5,700 per year). A single person (deemed disabled) would receive approximately \$2,000 more a year or about \$170 more per month. Rental accommodation in West Broadway, unless a rooming house, is well over \$285 a month necessitating that people take out of their meager living allowance for rent. Therefore they supplement their budget by going to food banks, soup kitchens and places like West Broadway Community Ministry."



SPRING HAMPERS

Once again this spring, we are going to prepare and deliver hampers to needy families in our area. This year we are going to prepare 12 hampers. The hampers will go out on Saturday, April 16th. We fund these hampers with funds left

over from your monetary donations for the Christmas Hamper program. **Please note the sign-up sheet at church for volunteer drivers to deliver the hampers.** You can be secure in the knowledge that the generosity of the congregation of Windsor Park United Church will help to make the Easter season just a bit more pleasant for some families who are struggling to make ends meet.

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Outreach Council continued

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

The Outreach Council is interested in starting the process of gaining approval for sponsorship of a new refugee family. However, prior to beginning the approval process, we feel it is necessary to recruit two volunteers to be actively involved in helping the family through settlement issues. This would typically involve things like getting health cards, grocery shopping, setting up banking facilities and probably the most important task which is finding affordable housing. Anyone interested in taking on this challenge would not have to be a member of the Outreach Council, but we would provide direction and assistance as needed. **If you are interested in finding out more about what could be involved, please contact the undersigned or present/past members of the Outreach Council.**

THANK YOU

I wish to acknowledge with thanks Glenn & Kim Wark, Margo Baldwin, Nancy Sulkers and Betty Ann Orr who are retiring from the Outreach Council. We welcome Diena Rodd and Joanne Stiver who are the new members to the Outreach Council. Thanks to everyone for volunteering your time and talents.

On behalf of the Outreach Council, thank you to the congregation of WPUC for your generous assistance with our various programs.

Respectfully submitted

Derek Read,, Chair

255-2105

dread@mts.net

Want to Help?

- Rossbrook House is looking for: art/craft supplies (new), children's books and basketball shoes
- East Elmwood Community Centre is looking for: baseball/softball equipment -- because of the fire that destroyed their building and all their equipment this month.

Donations can be left at the church.

Thank you for caring!

Sunday School

Grade 6-9 took on a project after Christmas painting murals on the South wall of the basement. The walls were dedicated on March 13 and the children served soup and a bun after church. The proceeds of \$136.00 will go to the preschool in Africa as their Lent project this year.

The children are busy planning their "Walk through Holy Week" and learning all the stories leading up to Easter.

We are pleased to report that all teaching positions are filled for the 2011-2012 year. Spring Sunday school will begin on Sunday May 15 and run until the end of June.

Every child is welcome.

Respectfully submitted:

Sunday School Co-ordinating Committee

*Robin Ethier, Shannon Surgeoner, Maria Will,
Linda Will and Gloria Saindon*

United Church Women

The new year started cold and dark weather wise, but the spirits of the women of WPUC are warm and uplifting.

We held World Day of Prayer on Friday March 4 with the country Chile. The service was wonderful and enjoyed by all, and was followed by food and friendships shared in the lower level of the church.

This year the UCW are supporting Habit for Humanity and will be looking for volunteers to help serve lunch on Wednesday July 13. Watch the bulletin for more information.

We have 3 units that currently meet at the church:
Unit 5- 3rd Monday of the Month @ 1:00pm
Unit 2- 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7:30pm
YAH'S- 2nd Friday of the month @ 7:30pm

We are always welcoming new ladies to come out and see what we do and meet new friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Saindon, Chairperson, UCW Executive

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Moms 'n Tots

During the months of January through March, several of the Moms returned to work. This left us with 14 Moms, 16 children downstairs and 6 babies upstairs. This year, a number of the babies graduated to the play area downstairs.

Many of our caregivers like to travel to warmer climates during January and February and we are very grateful to all those people who come out to care for the children during this time. They include Carol Belshem, Ginny Lindberg, Margo Baldwin, Isabelle Foster, George and Bev. Baker, Joyce Good, Mary Kellner and Anne Derkson. Thank you so much for all the help you provided.

A special thanks to Carol Belshem who helped so often and did much of the set up for Wednesday mornings. We do want to also thank all of our regular caregivers as we so appreciate the love and time you give to each child that comes into the Moms 'n Tots group.

Our regular caregivers downstairs are, Lillian Aird, who prepares all of the crafts for the children. Chris Smith, Alison Drysdale, Dorothy Martin, Gary Nichol, Bill McOuat, and Cal Pattle.

Caregivers for the babies are Carol Nichol, Ann Christianson, Joyce Deveson, Deanna Kernagham, Kal Kneeshaw, Glenna Miller, Betty Ann Noakes, Dorothy Read, Darlene Scott, Jan Shiaro, Susan Zinyk, Wilma Pankiw, and Debbie Ashdown. Special thanks to Carol Nichol for arranging the caregiving for the babies.

We wish Grandpa Bill McOuat all the best as he recovers from surgery. The children



really miss him. Thank you to Bill for being our cheerful Santa at Christmas time.



During the last two weeks of March, the Moms will be making a sock monkey with Lillian Aird and will go out for breakfast at the Southdale Family Restaurant.

There will be no Moms 'n Tots on March 30th as it is Spring Break.

- Moms 'n Tots resumes on April 6th with a discussion about hair care etc. with Pam Hunt.
- April 13th will be a recipe exchange.
- April 20th Faralee Wilson will lead the group in fitness and relaxation.
- April 27th will be a potluck brunch that will be shared with the volunteers.

Thank you to Heather Karavas and Faralee Wilson for the great job that they have done in providing leadership within the Mom's group.

The Caregivers will enjoy lunch at the "Bistro in The Park" on April 20th

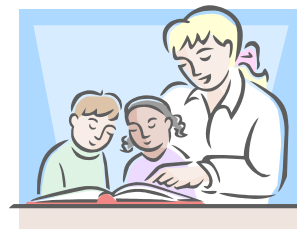
A special thanks to Maxine Pattle for looking after everything during the time that I am away and for the many hours that she and Chris Smith put into setting up and looking after all of the kitchen duties.

The Moms 'n Tots program will begin again on Wednesday, October 12, 2011. Anyone wishing to participate in this group please call Ruth Klein at 256-6390 or Windsor Park United Church at 256-7892.

Have a great summer and we look forward to being back together in October.

Ruth Klein

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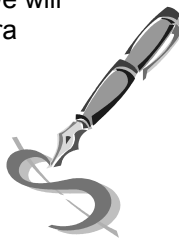
WPUC Stewardship for 2011 – Time, Talent and Treasure

As you may already be aware, WPUC had a surplus in 2010 almost equal to the deficit from 2009, which allowed us to balance the books over 2 years.

We have repaid close to \$60,000 of our \$150,000 loan from United Church of Canada. UCC is also allowing us to repay the loan as fast as we can but it still has to be done within the next 5 years. We are inviting everybody to pledge towards this year's portion of the loan repayment. We have budgeted \$24,000 to meet our promise to UCC. Our guideline is \$120 (\$10/month) be pledged towards loan repayment. This pledge is over and above your pledge towards the ongoing life of WPUC.

The 2011 budget for the ongoing life of WPUC is a story of commitment and caring. All the Councils showed a commitment to keeping our congregation safe, happy and cared for as well as caring for the community we live in. They also showed a commitment to keeping the costs reasonable. This January we had enough revenue to meet expenses. I can't remember the last time we balanced in January. As noted in the budget, once we hire another staff person later this Spring, we will require further revenue to meet the extra expense.

The Finance Council will be diligent in its duty of reporting our financial health. All that we ask in return is for you to complete and return the 2011 pledge form.



As noted in the title, Stewardship is about Time and Talent as well as Treasure. As you probably noticed, almost every Council is seeking new members to round out their contingent and bring new ideas and energy to fulfill their mandate. The Finance Council is always looking for offering counters as well as 2 new members. A financial background is not required but we could use somebody who understands insurance. In the next column, you will find a listing of the Councils and other groups that may use your ideas, energy, time and talent.

Please give prayerful consideration to the form and return to Lucy at the Church on or before April 10th. Email address: officewpuc@mymts.net

Doug Waldron

2011 Stewardship Chair

I pledge \$ _____ this year towards the ongoing life of WPUC.

I pledge \$ _____ this year towards the Barrier Free capital project

I pledge \$ _____ this year towards the United Church's M&S fund

I'm on PAR - please change my monthly contribution to: _____ to match my pledge

I would like to be on PAR, please call me _____

I would like more information about United Church's Planned Giving program _____

Envelope # _____ Name: _____

E-mail _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone _____

Property Council -Wayne and Bill are always looking for a few good painters etc.

I can help

Congregational Involvement aka Party Council, need I say more

I can help

Christian Development

I can help with Sunday School

I can help with Youth Group

I can help with the Library

I can help with Moms & Tots

I can help

Outreach- Hampers and West Broadway

I can help

Ministry & Personnel - Our HR department

I can help

Worship Council - Without Worship we wouldn't be a church

I can help as an Usher, Greeter, Liturgy, and/or Communion

I can help in the Choir

I can help

Membership and Pastoral Care - Membership Roll, Thinking of you baskets, visiting

I can help

Finance and Stewardship

Offering Counters, Treasurer, Stewardship, Insurance and Investments

I can help

A.O.T.S. – Men's group

I can help

UCW – Women's group

I can help

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The Windsor Park United Church AOTS Men's Club

proudly presents a concert featuring



The Winnipeg Pops Orchestra

Thursday, May 12th, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Call the office at 256-8792
or email officewpuc@mymts.net for Tickets:
Adults \$20 -- Ages 7–16 \$10

**Windsor Park United Church
1062 Autumnwood Drive**



DISASTER ASSISTANCE

**Would you like to help with the disaster assistance in Japan?
You can make your donation through the United Church of Canada
via your offering envelope**

**State the amount, what it's for and make your cheque payable to
Windsor Park United Church.**

85% of each dollar will go to Japan.

The other 15% goes to disasters that don't get much publicity.

If you have any questions, call Lucy at 256-8792.

For more information visit the United Church website

www.windsorparkunitedchurch.com

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