

hello!

May 9, 2010

Welcome to Beach United Church. We're glad you're with us today joining our active congregation. Heartbeat keeps our congregation up to date on news & events. Worship services form the heart of our Christian identity. We have opportunities throughout the week for spiritual growth & community connection.

Congregation Announcements

Report on West Sale Process

At the congregational meeting on May 2, Ron Fitton reported to the congregation on the progress in the sale of the west property. The following is a brief summary:

"After the congregation approved the implementation of Alternative 3 (remove non-sanctuary portion, significantly redesign and rebuild sanctuary portion with a small addition if required) at a price limit of \$5.0m, a tendering-for-sale process was conducted. This attracted 2 offers of \$2.5m and \$1.25m for the east property, and 9 offers ranging from \$1.0m to \$5.15m for the west property. Last October the congregation approved acceptance of the \$5.15m offer for the west property.

Since then, the buyer requested several extensions in the conditional period while he continued to meet with the City and to investigate the soil and building structure to support his plans for mixed use commercial and low-density residential.

In March, he proposed an amended offer of \$4.3m and an extended closing date of July, 2011. Following intense negotiations, this amended offer was re-adjusted to \$5.0m, with a closing date of January 2011 with an immediate release of \$1.0m in order for BUC to move forward with its own renovation plans. Approval for this amended agreement has been provided by BUC Council and Trustees, and by Presbytery.

As part of our preparations to turn the west building over to the purchaser, we are arranging to remove stained glass for use in the renovated east building, and also for sharing within the congregation. A process for indicating one's interest in having a piece of this stained glass will be announced in the near future."

Baptism: Let's celebrate the baptisms of **Nevaeh Legacy Pethick-LaBatt**, with her parents Jasmine Pethick-LaBatt & Michael LaBatt, and **Ruth Kitchen**.

Blessing of the Vests! You will see hundreds of vests around the sanctuary today not just from our Knitting for Shivering Children group, but also from other Beach area groups, and groups beyond. After we bless them today, they will go to **Canadian Food for Children** where each day a container of food, clothing and other supplies are sent to the poorest of the poor in S. America and SE Asia.

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yV4XcAbLiWs> to find out more about this organization.

Confirmation Group and Karen Dale are on retreat this weekend at Crieff Hills.

"Where, O Where Has Mother's Day Gone?" In the United Church, Sunday, May 9 is celebrated as Christian Family Sunday rather than Mother's Day. One of the early calls to celebrate Mother's Day came from Julia Ward Howe in 1870, who as a pacifist, reacted to the carnage of the American Civil War. Howe had a feminist belief that women had a responsibility to shape their societies at the political level. In 1912, Anna Jarvis had Mother's Day declared a national celebration but she was later soured by the commercialization of the event and campaigned against it. Whatever the origins of this event, we do hear a biblical call to honour our mother and father. Let us always celebrate those we love. For a resource to celebrate your family go to:

http://www.united-church.ca/files/allages/families/seasonal/cfs06_home.pdf

Worship & Music

Food & Community: conversations on food, environmental sustainability, and healthy communities

Throughout the Easter Season we are building on our Lenten theme of Jesus' Table Ministry by looking at ways we can be "bread" to the world and express Jesus' table ministry in our own lives. Through guest speakers and member input, we are exploring environmental and food issues locally and globally.

May 16 Guest Speaker Greig Clark

Greig Clark: social entrepreneur and leader, 40 Oaks Project, a community hub in revitalized Regent Park will be speaking about his vision and commitment to affordable housing.

May 23 Pentecost: Birthday of our Church

"Feel the Spirit" – blow torch or gentle breeze? All ages will be celebrating the beginning of the church. Together we will listen to the Spirit --- and eat cake!.

May 30 Saying Goodbye: Celebrating Ann Morwood

Ann Morwood's time with us in a retired supply position offering pastoral care comes to an end on May 30. Ann will be preaching and we will celebrate her time with us with cake and coffee following the service.

Jazz Vespers Series: Last service until fall: **Saturday, June 5 at 4:30pm**, featuring David Occhipinti & Mike Murley.

Taize Community Vespers: Our last service for the season is Sunday, May 30, 4 pm.

Music-2gether: Families making music at BUC

Interested in being part of a singing community, one that welcomes all individuals and family groups?

Want to explore both multi-generational and inter-cultural music and lead some music during Sunday worship?
Even if you don't read music!!?

Join Karen and Douglas after church on May 16 (approximately 11:45-12:30) for a time of singing and learning (snacks provided). We will share our music in worship on PENTECOST Sunday, MAY 23.

"**beachestra summer oh-10**" : Can you play an instrument? Can you play from our hymn books: Voices United and More Voices? Over the summer months we will be exploring the instrumental gifts of BUC and inviting folks to join Douglas around the piano and lend another voice to our worship and music. Speak with Douglas and join in "beachestra summer oh-10".

Canticle of Peace Through June, we will hold quiet, reverent services of prayer, scripture reading, and reflection on Sunday mornings, 9 to 9:45 am. Let's gather in the Sanctuary Sunday mornings June 6, 13, 20 & 27. Contact Abigail.

Flowers in the sanctuary this morning are in loving memory of Elizabeth (Betty) Stone from loving daughters Donna Hall, Geri White and Versa Dean.

Service

Yellow Fish Road Program Sunday, May 16 After worship, join in a special creation care activity. We will be participating in Trout Unlimited's *Yellow Fish Road* program, which educates residents about the impacts of pollution entering urban storm drains. After light snacks, we will head out in teams to paint yellow fish near the storm drains on streets around BUC East and to hang info flyers on our neighbours' doors. **Remember to wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty and painty!** All ages welcome! We need individuals to help with painting and distributing flyers. Contact Corey cp.helm@bell.net 416-694-6512. Organized by the Green Team and BUCKY.

85th Anniversary: Making Connections On June 6, our United Church is celebrating 85 years of ministry in Canada. Leading up to that celebration, all congregations are being partnered with another congregation somewhere in the country. We have been partnered with Scot's Bay Pastoral Charge. Gwen Huntley is our contact person: "We are a union church, with all kinds of ministers, and all kinds of people." As a small community, Scot's Bay meet spiritual needs of United Church, Anglican, Baptist, Salvation Army, and more. With creativity they are offering shared worship. If you are travelling in Nova Scotia this summer, drop by and say hello to our church partner.

Visit: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scot's_Bay,_Nova_Scotia & <http://maps.google.ca/maps?hl=en&tab=wl>.

General Council Office's 85th Anniversary Open House on Thursday, June 10. The day begins at 8:30 am with morning prayers led by the Moderator, Mardi Tindal.

For more information go to http://www.united-church.ca/files85th/open-house_bulletin.pdf

Observer subscriptions expire in June. BUC is on a Group Plan and each person pays for their own subscription at a price of \$20. To renew or begin a new subscriptions please make cheques payable to "Beach United Church" and give to Margaret Burley or place on the Offering Plate before May 15th. Contact Margaret 416-699-1368.

Many thanks to Jerry Reitsma and Henny Delange for assisting experienced and novice gardeners in finding new homes for Beach West plants. Identifying plants, digging them up, and even delivering them, were all part of their service. We will have another opportunity in the fall to re-house plants when the main growing season is over. Stay tuned for further announcements.

Community Care

Prayer Circle Please join us on Saturday, May 15 from 11am-1pm to experience a variety of prayer experiences: Body Prayer, Breath Prayer, and Discernment Prayer. Contact Ann Morwood through the Church Office (416-691-8082) if you are interested in joining.

THANK YOU! Your monthly pennies and loose change realized \$112.64 for the Fellowship of the Least Coin Project. Worldwide, this supports literacy, leadership training, advocacy and self-help projects to name just a few.

Rhubarb to Spare? The UCW will freeze any donations for Bazaar baking. Contact Jean 416-694-5969.

Congregational Development

Cooking with Soul May 29 at 9am-noon Meet the new chef of Amuse Bistro (1975A Queen Street East) and discover the challenges a restaurant experiences when they commit to sourcing locally and preparing foods in season. Find out if they've found a home for their bees! Under the watchful guidance of the chef, participants will prepare lunch and make enough food to share with the Interfaith lunch program later in the week. Reserve your spot; cost will be based on supplies and number who sign up. Contact Mary Anne maryanne.alton@sympatico.ca 416-469-5877.

BUC Women's Fall Pot Luck Monday, October 4 at 6pm The speaker will be congregation member Deborah Sinclair, whom the YWCA is honoring on May 12 with the Women of Distinction Award. As a social worker, community organizer and counselor, she will help us to understand domestic violence and homelessness. All women are invited.

Learning & Growth

Strawberry Jam Session: Saturday June 12th come pick strawberries and make jam back at the church. Take home a jar and share with others. Interested? Contact Karen Dale: karen@beachuc.com

Do the Math

What would *you* need to make ends meet if your situation changed and you had to rely on social assistance? As preparation for our upcoming guest speakers in worship, check out "The Stop" website:

<http://dothemath.thestop.org/index.php> and take a 6 minute survey to find out what you would need to live on.

Community Announcements

Green Café Film Night Tuesday, May 11 from 7pm-8:30pm at Upper Beach Café (1917 Gerrard St. E.) FREE screening of "The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil". Join in a discussion on creating a more local, low-energy society and addressing the challenges of peak oil and climate change. Contact Mary Margaret spargy@rogers.com 416-693-9276.

St. John's Norway will present a Choral Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) for the feast of Ascensiontide on Sunday, May 16th at 7 pm. Evening canticles by C.V. Stanford, anthems by Schutz, Croft, and Mathias, as well as congregational hymns. Come and enjoy a great choral celebration of Christ's ascension into heaven at 470 Woodbine Ave at Kingston road.

Contact Us

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Ann Morwood ann@beachuc.com **Director of Music:** Douglas Brownlee music@beachuc.com
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