

heartBeat

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weekly
news
from



March 6, 2011

Worship *This Saturday*

Jazz Vespers: March 5th, 4:30-5:15pm

Join us for a concert-like service of both secular and Christian music with "A Lazy Afternoon" with Lara Solnicki (vocals), Ted Quinlan (guitar) & Jon Maharaj (string bass).

Free-will offering ~ Fair trade coffee ~ Children welcome

Worship & Learning *This Sunday*

Worship: Celebrating Epiphany 9 at 10:30am

Our season of Epiphany comes to an end this week with **Transfiguration** Sunday.


What's "transfiguration" you say? Come check it out! Both *Genesis* and *Revelation* communities will explore transfiguration together. Want to do some prep? Check out Matthew's gospel, chapter 17, verses 1-9.

Worship & Learning *Next Sunday*

Preparing for Lent

Shivers of horror coursed up and down my spine when I heard her say, "I give up chocolate for lent." Morsels of dark chocolate are the only things that keep me going some days. Surely being a faithful Christian doesn't rest on giving up the one thing that makes life worth living?! What a relief when I saw the line-up for lent—nothing to give up but lots to learn. (*Name withheld to protect the innocent*☺)

Beginning Next Week, Sunday March 13th:

- 9:30 *Be the Change* Family Ministry (All Ages Learning)
engage in activities to show **compassion** to the earth in family groups of all shapes and sizes: moms, dads, kids, grandmas & grandpas
10:15 SNACKS
- 10:30 Worship
learn more about John's Gospel and God's call to live with **compassion**
11:15 SNACKS
- 11:30 *Cultivating Compassion* Conversations
reflect in small groups on how to live life with more **compassion**
during Lent we can do 1, 2, or all 3 activities
look for the  icon for more information

Highlights from Our Annual Congregational Meeting

February 27th, 2011

Annual Reports & Financial Report

- Pick up your copies of the Annual Report and Financial Report from the church office

Opening reflection

- Read vision-keeping reflection from Ron Fitton (past Chair of Council) at:
<http://www.beachunitedchurch.com/Content/10457/243022.pdf>

Resignation from Trustees

- With heartfelt thanks, Leigh Bowser (Chair of Trustees) moved acceptance of resignation of trustees: Mark Gardhouse, Jean Dempsey, and Mary Campbell

Council position adjustments

- Jane Dickson (present Chair of Council) requested additions of Environmental Stewardship and Revenue Development to Council portfolios. Environmental Stewardship will be led by Corey Helm, and Revenue Development leadership is yet to be filled.

Development of Wider Ministries

- 10% of the sale of Beach West (\$475,000) has been designated to widen ministry here at Beach United Church and beyond. Two initial ideas were suggested: solar panels as part of our building renovations and development of our food ministry beyond lunch twice a week. Ideas are welcome. Conversations are ongoing. Contact Jane Dickson with thoughts and suggestions.

Update from HOME

- Karen Watson (Project Manager, HOME Commission) updated us on two items. First, as we move into a more detailed design phase, we anticipate beginning construction next fall. Second, St Aidan's Anglican Church, at Silverbirch and Queen, graciously invited us to join them while construction takes place. We will hold worship in Memorial Hall and set up offices and meetings rooms: more details to come. Thanks to Margaret Betts (Chair of St Aidan's Board) for joining us and offering a welcome.

Financial planning update

- Lee Muirhead (Chair elect) reported on initial financial planning. More information and opportunities for detailed questions and discussions are being planned. Stay tuned for further information.

Service

Council Contacts: Rosalie Bradley & Corey Helm

Thanks to Beach United Church Genesis Group

On Sunday, our young people and interested adults gathered to BE the kingdom of God on earth by making tasty dishes for our Interfaith Lunch Program guests. We made hummus, tabbouleh salad, stuffed dates, and alien cookies. Josh Latella closed our time together with prayer.

Knitting for Shivering Children

Pneumonia vests were arriving by the bagful at our last meeting, bringing our total so far to about 175. They came from a number of sources, including Ida Gallant's satellite knitters in Quebec, busy hands at Avondale Retirement Residence and some generous, unknown knitters.

Our next meeting is on Saturday March 12 at 10:30 am in the Spirit Space at BUC. The news of our work is spreading: a reporter from the Beach Riverdale Mirror will be there to see what we do and take some photos. And Don Gray will return to add some footage to his BUC video. Please join us to drink some coffee, eat some goodies, knit some rows and help tell others about our mission to keep children in hot countries warm when temperatures drop at night. We can also talk about our work with Streetknits to help the homeless stay warm in our cold Toronto winters. For more information contact Pat Davies 416-465-3081 patriciadavies@rogers.com. Erica Bundi, who will be leading the March 12 meeting, can be reached at 416-778-0737 tanimara@hotmail.com.

Reaching Beyond our Doors: Mission and Service Fund

Our gifts to the Mission and Service (M&S) Fund pay to support immediate regional, national, and global needs of our wider church and world. One such need is administrative costs at our national office, 3250 Bloor Street, at Islington. One such administrative plus is our ability to reach beyond our doors and our national borders to assist people around the world. Unlike most charities, we do not charge administrative fees to process financial support to those in need. When we give to special appeals like Haiti or send in directed gifts to projects we choose, 100% of that gift goes to help others. In 2010 people and congregations throughout Canada gave generously to M&S and the gifts totaled **\$29,760,784**. *At Beach United Church* we tithe 10% of our all our giving (envelopes and PAR) and rentals to M&S.

Learning & Growth

Council Contact: Wendy Johnston



Family Ministries

Every Sunday morning throughout Lent, starting Sunday, March 13th, you have an exciting possibility of becoming part of a **Be the Change** action circle. This will be an inter-active, fun and reflective process, designed to engage all ages. The values that will be explored will connect with our personal context and inspire us to act in our everyday lives and so **be the change!**

Beach United Church Lecture Series Tuesday, March 8th from 7pm–9pm in the Parlour

This week's topic is "From Vatican I to Vatican II and Vatican II to Ecumenical Prospects."

Did You Know?

What do ministers do besides hang out on Sunday mornings at church? This past week, Karen Dale engaged in a week of continuing education—ask her about what she learned. Also, Abigail Johnson attended a retreat day on Saturday for Presbytery Executive to reflect on "healthy & effective congregations"—ask her about how much she bragged about Beach United. Ministers have a wonderful opportunity for 3 weeks of continuing education time each year. And they represent BUC in wider church activities, like Toronto Southeast Presbytery committees & gatherings.

Congregational Development

Council Contact: Mary Anne Lemm

Beach United Church Speaker Series

Meet 2011 *Canada Reads* Winner Terry Fallis, author of *Best Laid Plans*, at Beach United Church on Wednesday, March 9th at 7:30 pm. Visit www.terryfallis.com.



Cultivating Compassion

How do we get to know each other? How can we learn more about living compassionately with one another? Join a "Cultivating Compassion Circle" directly following worship each Sunday in Lent. Join one circle or all five circles: March 13, 20, 27, April 3, & 10.

Royal Wedding

Rumours are flying around that a member of the royal family is getting married. If that's true, we need a party! If anyone can verify these rumours and join me in organizing a party, get in touch.

Five foot anarchist minister in need of a party ~ abigail@beachuc.com.

Upcoming Worship Schedule

Council Contact: Barry Truscott

Lent with theme of Compassion

March 8	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
✿ March 13	Lent 1
✿ March 20	Lent 2
✿ March 27	Lent 3
✿ April 3	Lent 4
✿ April 10	Lent 5
April 17	Palm/Passion Sunday

✿ Learn more about John's Gospel and God's call to live with **compassion**: worship with all ages and quiet activities for young people

Holy Week

April 21	<i>Maundy Thursday, 7pm</i> Disciples' supper together
April 22	<i>Good Friday, 7pm</i> Musical reflection on the crucifixion
April 23	<i>Holy Saturday, 7pm</i> Film & Faith
April 24	<i>Easter Sunrise, 6:20am</i>
April 24	<i>Easter Communion, 10:30am</i>

Green Choices for Faith Communities



Saturday, March 26 & Sunday, March 27, 2011

Eglinton St. George's United Church, 35 Lytton Blvd., Toronto

(West of Yonge St., between Eglinton Ave. & Lawrence Ave.)

- ✿ Practical workshops on greening our faith communities
- ✿ Network with others who are responding to the challenge of climate change
- ✿ Be inspired to promote change in your congregation

Registration Fee: \$40 includes workshops & luncheon

For program and registration details visit www.greenawakeningnetwork.ca

Phone: (905) 771-5124 x.25 **Email:** greenawakening@tucc.ca

Organized by the Green Awakening Network & Greening Sacred Spaces



We're making waves in the Beach

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