



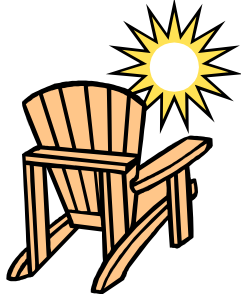
SUNSET UNITED CHURCH

SUMMER 2010

177 Sunset Drive, S4S 6Y7; Tel. (306)586-3613; Fax. (306)586-3099

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Ministry Team: Russell Mitchell-Walker & Kathy Platt



SUMMER SCRIPT

Summer Reflection From Kathy Platt

I read this quote in a book I have called *Soul Weavings – A gathering of women's prayers*:

*I remember running over the hills just at dawn one summer's morning and,
Pausing to rest in the silent woods, saw, through an arch in the trees,
The sun rise over river, hill, and wide green meadows
As I never saw it before.*

*Something born of the lovely hour, a happy mood,
And the unfolding aspirations of a child's soul
Seemed to bring me very near to God...*

(Louise May Alcott, 1832 – 1888)

As I sit here at my desk contemplating the approach of summer, that is a lovely thought – to see the sun rise over the water, or the mountain, or the prairie grass, and to allow such a sight to bring us ever closer to our Creator. This past Sunday we had our first outdoor service in several years. One of the pictures I will hold in my heart is right near the end of that service when the kids came dancing into the circle with the wind-socks they had made. We were celebrating Pentecost, which is when the early church felt the rush of the Spirit, and realized that it was the Spirit within them that would enable them to be the church that God was calling them to be – there was no need to be afraid because they had been filled with the Spirit which would enable them to be much more than they could ever have imagined on their own. We can get lost in either the hectic pace, or the hum-drum of our daily living, and we lose sight of what it means to be Spirit-filled. And so it becomes even more important to open ourselves to those moments that bring us even closer to God – to the glimpse of a sun-rise that touches our hearts; to the giggles of little girls as they dance with their wind-socks; to the smile of a stranger passing by on the street; to the brilliance of the blue prairie sky; to the singing of the robins as they greet the new day (a little earlier than some of us would want to greet the day!!). Another book I have been spending time with is *Radical Gratitude*, by Mary Jo Leddy. She invites us into an attitude of gratitude and suggests that we need to remember the old maxim: “The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Faith is like a lantern on a dark path; it shines only far enough to illuminate the next step. Only when the next step is

taken does the light move on. Our beginning steps in gratitude do not have to be great and grand. They need only be real.”(p. 145 – in *Radical Gratitude*). So my wish for all of us this summer is that we will look at the world around us and be startled into seeing those holy moments – some moments might make us speechless; other moments might make us want to dance in the Spirit. Our lives are lived moment by moment – may we live each moment with integrity, with Spirit, and with gratitude.

Worship Schedule: June, July, August 2010

Please note: Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

June:

Sunday, 6th: Pamela Olson will be speaking about her upcoming trip to Africa

Sunday 13th: Celebrating the 85th birthday of the United Church of Canada
-sacrament of communion
-cake served after the service
-Special Music – John By

Sunday 20th: Baptism of Petra Stubbings
-celebrating with those who are graduating, both 2009 & 2010 grads
-special music: Scott Thompson & Andrew Quackenbush

Sunday 27th: Regular worship service – last one in our building until August
- Special Music: David Gerhard

**July: We will be joining in worship at Whitmore Park United Church
-336 Durham Drive, Regina – Rev. Doug Ponto – 586-3977**

August: Whitmore Park United Congregation will be joining us

Sunday, 1st: Regular Worship

Sunday, 8th: Regular Worship

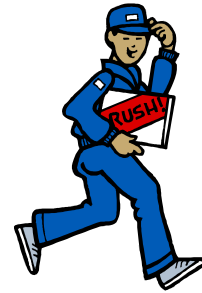
Sunday, 15th: Regular Worship

Sunday, 22nd: Regular Worship

Sunday, 29th: Baptism of Mason Williams



News from the Sunset Mail Delivery Folk "Neither rain, nor sleet, nor hail.....and so on"



Your Script, and other communications from Sunset arrive at your door thanks to our faithful delivery team. This system has been in place for about 30 years, and has saved our church a lot of money in postage over the years. It was originally set up and operated by Bill and Mary Logan. Mary won't even guess how many years they did this, but I think that it was about 15 years. For about the last 15 years Al Gray has been Sunset's "Letter Carrier in Chief". Al recently retired from this position, and I want to thank him, on behalf of all of us at Sunset, for his many years on the job!

Following is a list of members of the Sunset Mail Delivery Team - Ed Borisinkoff, Jason Vogelsang, Maurice Filson, Mary and Cal Newman, Doug and Catherine Billett, Judy Falwell, John Lynch, Nancy Jacoby, Jane Wilmott, Susan and Howard Yea, Diane and Bob Brown, Nancy McBean, Joe Scarfe, Vikki May, Diether Peschken, Larry and Wynne Edwards, Terry McKague, Myrna and Gordon Townsend, Lynn and Tim Osborne, Myrna and Tracy Leader, Pat Warsaba, Mildred Morrison, Mary Logan and Bev Hui. THANK YOU SO MUCH to all of you!

Script Delivery by E-mail

If you would like to receive your copy of the Script by e-mail, instead of at your door, would you please let Nora at the church office know. The Script is also available on the Sunset website. This would save some trees and some shoe leather. Of course, if you prefer receiving a hard copy in your mail box we are very happy to deliver it to you, and will continue to do so.

Jean Cameron- Mail Delivery Coordinator

Some information from the M&P (Ministry and Personnel) Committee

- 1) Sometimes we hear discussion around the amount of time that Russell and Kathy spend on the wider church. (Presbytery & Conference committees, etc.) We have asked them to track this, and they both fall within the recommended time (10%) as set by Presbytery.
- 2) Please remember that if you would like a visit from Kathy or Russell, at home or in hospital, you need to phone the church office to let them know. Hospitals used to call with such requests, but that is no longer the case, and privacy issues make it impossible for our ministers to get information from hospitals.
- 3) We hope that our congregation is enjoying going on the Sunset website, and that you find it useful and interesting. We would like to remind you that a lot of the information found there is aimed at the general public, who might be looking for a church home or just want to learn about us.

PRIDE PARADE – JUNE 19/2010

There was a time when I thought that Church and Gay Pride did not go together: *Pride* was about glittery costumes, loud thumping music that had a great bass line and soaring female melody “Everybody dance Now!”, shiny beads that sparkled in the sun, getting squirted with water as different floats passed by....Church, on the other hand, was about long flowing choir gowns, soaring soprano notes, multi-coloured reflective stained glass, getting squirted with water as one gets baptized...hey, wait a minute....There is something magical when different parts of your identity not only come together, gay life and church life, but come together in a very spiritual and serene way—when one part includes/constitutes/forms an/other part. Walking with Sunset United Church last year in the Pride Parade was one such moment for me: may we all find such blessings. Pride in peace; peace in pride.



Please consider walking with us in the Pride Parade in Regina on Saturday, June 19, 2010. We will be meeting beforehand to decorate banners, etc. and will go to the Parade together. Details will be forthcoming on our website. www.sunsetunited.ca

-Scott A Thompson

THE BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP

Summer finds us having prayer meetings the third Thursday morning of each month. We had one in May at Dorene Mentiplay's and in June we will meet at Susie Ross's home guided by her. We look forward to September to a new study. We thank God for hearing and answering our prayers.

Blessings,

The Bible Study & Prayer Group

2010-11 Sunday School Teaching Recruitment

We have a great group of children who we want to nurture and provide opportunities for exploring our faith. We all lead busy lives and even with a group of about 9 teachers this year, we have still had trouble finding enough help for each Sunday. So this fall we are trying something different. We are asking each parent to offer their time to support their children on Sunday by committing to helping at least two or three Sundays in the year.



We run one of two SS programs each week (other than the days listed below). One is the **Seasons of the Spirit** curriculum and the other is the **Godly Play** program.

Seasons of the Spirit curriculum

The Seasons of the Spirit format includes a group introduction session with all the kids together (age 3-grade 3) at the beginning of the Sunday school session. The kids love being together for the initial fellowship and with our wonderful round quilt to gather on, it has made for an amazing and cozy environment in which to offer the spiritual gift of learning to our children.

Once this is complete, the kids break into their respective age groups where their teachers lead the children in a craft, singing session, game or whatever is based around the initial discussion. At the end of either session, we gather the children back together for a final few moments of fellowship together.

The curriculum for this program is quite user friendly and easy to follow. All the info is provided for you and you may use it as is given or adapt it to fit your ideas, following the theme or story of the week. Most craft materials are available in the classrooms.

For each week of Seasons of the Spirit program, we need the following:

Introduction – Introduction of the story to the 3yr olds – gr. 3 (one person required)

Craft for age 3-5 (one person required)

Craft for grades 1-3 (one person required)

Grades 4-8 – teacher for the session (one person required)

Godly Play program

In Godly Play children discover who God is through a definitive storyteller presentation as well as a creative time afterwards. The door person assists the storyteller in welcoming the kids, making sure they are 'ready' to sit quiet and listen to the story and during the creative time. Craft trays are set up for the creative time.

Each week of Godly Play, we need the following:

Story teller (one person required)

Door person (one person required)

At the end of either session, we gather the children back together for a final few moments of fellowship together.

We would also encourage others in the congregation to try teaching Sunday school as well. We want to make sure that *everyone* understands that you do not need to be a biblical scholar to teach or assist with Sunday school nor do you need to make a weekly commitment to it. Many of our teachers teach once a month or less. We also need you to understand that the time commitment to a weekly session is not, by any means, large. We encourage people to provide whatever commitment they feel comfortable offering. Any gift of your time would be appreciated.

The season will start September 12. These are the Sundays *which will not have Sunday School* because of a Multigenerational worship or long weekend holidays:

Oct 10 - Thanksgiving
Nov 21 - Children's Sunday
Dec 5? - White Gift
Dec 26 - Whisper table
Jan 2 - Whisper table
Feb. 13? - CE Celebration
Feb 20 - Long weekend
Whisper table
May 22 until Sept. Whisper table

March 13 - School Break
Whisper table
April 17 - Palm Sunday
April 24? - Easter Sunday
May 1 - Easter Holidays
Whisper table
May 15 ? - Outdoor service
last day of SS

Godly Play Sessions will be:

September 11 – Circle of the Church Year
October 3 – The Good Shepherd and Worldwide Communion
October 24 – The Creation
November 14 – The Flood and the Ark
November 28 – The Holy Family
January 23 – The Parable of the Sower
February 27 – The Parable of the Mustard Seed
March 20 – The Parable of the Great Pearl

The rest of the Sundays will be the **Seasons of the Spirit** program.

We will be offering another training/orientation session in the fall for both programs so anyone interested will get a chance to see and fully understand the commitment at that time, if they are interested.

Please help us to nurture and provide opportunities for exploring our faith to our children in the Sunset United Church Sunday School program.

Jayne Strinholm, Sunset Sunday School

Summer Reading

Be sure to stop by our church library to choose some of our many books to sooth your soul or quench your questions . Our categories include worship, faith/spirituality, family/parenting, the church, theology, social justice, first nations, women and the church, arts education, Christian education, bible/bible study.



The borrowing time is flexible. Just fill in the borrow card with your name and phone number so that we can reach you if you forget to return the material after a reasonable length of time.

Several new selections include Burden of Truth, Walking in your Own Shoes, The Fog is Lifting, Touching the Holy, Go Forward with Pride(History of Ranch Ehrlo), The Ladybird New Testament Storybook, Only in God, All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir, Volunteer of the Year, There's Something I've been Meaning to Tell You, Outing Yourself, May I Walk You Home?, Reaching for Rainbows, West Nile Diary.

Sunset United Church Garage Sale 177 Sunset Drive



Thursday, July 8th – 10 am – 8 pm

Friday, July 9th – 10 am – 5 pm

Saturday, July 10th – 10 am – 1 pm

(Items may be dropped off at the church (Love Room) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Friday mornings for the remainder of May and all of June. We want only small items and no clothes. For more information call Merle McLachlan – 585-1970.)