

# Tsawwassen United Church

3rd Sunday After Epiphany

Jan. 25, 2009, 10:00 AM

*Jan. 6, which follows on the twelve days of Christmas, is known as Epiphany when we read of the visit of the magi to the infant Jesus and his family.*

*During the season of Epiphany we celebrate the various ways in which Jesus is shown forth to the world.*

*Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.*

*At the points marked “\*”, those who are able are invited to stand.*

## THE PEOPLE GATHER

PRE-SERVICE: Handbells

PRELUDE: Only Trust Him

~ Todd Kendall

PROCESSING THE BIBLE AND CHRIST CANDLE

WELCOME

\*OPENING HYMN: Come and Find the Quiet Centre

VU 374

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 111

VU 833

OPENING PRAYER (*see back of bulletin*)

HANDBELLS: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

~ arr. by Susan Geschke

STORYTIME WITH THE CHILDREN (*with Brenda Miller*)

HYMN: Simon, Simon

VU 597

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us  
a consuming fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace to grow more and more  
in your likeness and image.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

## LISTENING FOR TRUTH

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

SCRIPTURE: *(Reader: Doris Wasylyk)*

Deuteronomy 18: 15–20

pew Bible O.T. page 172

Mark 1: 21–28

pew Bible N. T. page 33

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

One: This is the witness of God's people.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON: "God's Word Has Power"

### SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\*HYMN: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

VU 563

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CHOIR'S ANTHEM: Just a Closer Walk

~ Nancy Price & Don Besig

### CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE:

- The Offering is Collected
- Announcements of the Congregation's Life & Ministry
- \*Doxology: Now Thank We All Our God VU 236, vs. 3
- Offering Prayer

### PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

THE LORD'S PRAYER

VU 914 (right side)

\*CLOSING HYMN: Jesus Calls Us

VU 562

THE LAST WORD: 1 Corinthians 8:1–13

pew Bible N.T. page 161

### \*BENEDICTION AND COMMISSIONING

POSTLUDE: Hymn to Joy (Handbells)

~ arr. by Don Story



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT T.U.C.

- **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was decided at the January 13th Council meeting that the date for the Annual General Meeting of Tsawwassen United Church will be on **Sunday, March 29th**, following the 10AM service.

- **GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER**

The "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" event will be happening between February 21st and March 21st. Please let the coordinator, Bonnie Tarlton, know if you can host a small group of 5 or 6 for lunch or dinner.

- **LENTEN STUDY GROUP**

Lent is coming. You can give up chocolate . . . or this year you could refresh your Heart, Mind and Spirit by:

- 1) Meeting with a small group of friends for fellowship once a week
- 2) Reading *Where the Spirit Dwells*, by Glenys Huws
- 3) Reflecting with others on what you have read
- 4) Praying together



We will be meeting starting the last week of February until Easter. The meeting time will be determined by the group. The book cost is \$10.95 and we will be ordering them soon. Please contact Mary Sambell at 604-943-4349 or [msambell@telus.net](mailto:msambell@telus.net) if you are interested.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **TREASURER NEEDED**

TUC really needs someone to fill the new Treasurer's position. No accounting experience required! We've completely redesigned the position to make it supervisory only. Our accountant and Mary Almond do all the time-consuming work. The Treasurer reviews cheque requisitions, signs cheques, and reviews the monthly reports — all of which takes only 3 to 4 hours per month.

- **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR TSAWWASSEN YOUTH!**

If you, or someone you know, are 13 years or older and are interested in exploring your faith and who we are as the United Church of Canada, please see Brenda Miller! We are planning a Faith Exploration/Confirmation group beginning mid February, with a Celebration of Faith tentatively planned for Sunday, May 17th. Contact Brenda at 604 274-2864 or [brendammiller1@gmail.com](mailto:brendammiller1@gmail.com).

- **MUSIC MINISTRY**

A Music Ministry Assessment Team has been formed. The members are Janice Wasik, John Glover, Marianne Robertson, and Jan McLaurin. The first meeting will be scheduled for January. Stay tuned for further updates.

- **OBSERVER MAGAZINE**

The January Observer, the magazine of the United Church of Canada, is available in the narthex in the box marked OBSERVER under the bulletin boards.

- **ITS TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT BIRTHDAY BAGS.**

For those few who might not know, for several years our church has provided bags filled with everything a parent needs to host a child's birthday party. The bags are distributed to needy families by the Ladner Food Bank and The Hub in

Whalley focusing on the working poor. Thanks to everyone who contributed cake mixes already. A full list of what goes into each bag is available at the Outreach notice board. The least contributed items in past years are icings and fruit crystals. Each bag also contains candles, invitations, balloons, goody bags, [and candy and novelties to go in them], a table cloth, napkins, paper cups, and paper plates. Candies should be hard and individually wrapped or small packages. We try to provide a one year supply for our partners in this project and chocolate doesn't last a year. You do not have to donate a whole bag. Shop for what is fun for you to get. Some people prefer to donate cash and have Outreach shop. Just mark your envelopes or cheques "Birthday bags". Dollar stores are perfect for lots of these items at good prices. Take a look at some of the thank you notes we have received from last year. They are pinned on the Outreach bulletin board just outside the lounge. Our goal is 50 bags to be completed by the end of February. If you have any questions see or call Jean Stuart or Archie Mullan.

- **EPIPHANY EXPLORATIONS 2009: A SYMPOSIUM OFFERING RICH RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY AND LAY LEADERSHIP**

**January 22nd to 26th, 2009**, First Metropolitan United Church, 932 Balmoral Rd., Victoria, BC. Cost: \$265. Five days of spiritual nurture, continuing education and music with internationally recognized speakers. For more information or to register, visit the First Metropolitan United Church website: [www.frstmetvictoria.com/epiphany](http://www.frstmetvictoria.com/epiphany).

- **GLOBAL AWARENESS THROUGH EXPERIENCE TOUR TO GUATEMALA**  
St. Andrew's Wesley United Church is organizing a tour to Guatemala in July. For more information please see the notice on the bulletin board in the narthex.

- **NARAMATA CENTRE**

The 2009 programs and retreats guides have arrived. Please pick one up in the narthex.

- **INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER**

Beginning on **Saturday, January 24th**, Contemplative Outreach of Greater Vancouver ([www.cogv.org](http://www.cogv.org)) is offering a program called Introduction to Centering Prayer.

The Introduction to Centering Prayer Program is instructional and experiential. It consists of a Saturday workshop, and the opportunity to participate in six weekly sessions of approximately 1 1/2 hours each. These sessions are an integrated part of the introduction and support participants with further instruction and encouragement as they establish a Centering Prayer practice. Contemplative Outreach of Greater Vancouver will provide instruction by commissioned presenters and the continuing sessions by experienced facilitators. Please see the notice on the bulletin board for further details.

- **CHILDREN'S RETREAT 2009 — ROADTRIP!**

**February 20-22, 2009**. This event is hosted by Children and Youth Leaders from the Lower Mainland Presbyteries. Last year, over 80 children participated in this event. It was a great time – connecting with other children and their leaders within the United Church of Canada. Please register early to avoid disappointment as we expect that this event will fill up quickly. A registration form and more information is available online at <http://www.bc.united-church.ca/office/RoadTrip2009.pdf>. For more information, please contact Pamela Jeffery at [pamelaj@shuc.ca](mailto:pamelaj@shuc.ca) or Jen Cunnings at [jen.staw@telus.net](mailto:jen.staw@telus.net).

TSAWWASSEN UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

Reaching in, we strive to grow in Christ.

Reaching out, we nurture God's world.

- Newcomers:** If you are a newcomer, please sign our guest book in the narthex. Feel free to take home a "Welcome to this Place" brochure available on the table in the narthex. Our website contains more detailed information and a listing of upcoming events.
- Nursery Room:** Parents of infants and toddlers are invited to use the nursery room. The service can be heard there. Please ask an usher for directions.
- Fragrance Free Policy:** Tsawwassen United Church is a "fragrance free" building with regards to the scents that people wear.
- Sign-Up Sheets:** The sign-up sheets for counting and scripture reading are posted on the bulletin board to the left of the name tags board in the narthex for referral and further signing-up.
- Large Print Bulletins:** There are large print bulletins available on the table in the narthex for the vision impaired.
- Assisted Listening:** There are assisted listening devices available on the table in the narthex for the hearing impaired. Please ask an usher for directions on where to sit so it can be plugged in.
- Bulletin Deadline:** Please note that the deadline for the bulletin is Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Announcements can be e-mailed to [malmond@tsawwassenunited.org](mailto:malmond@tsawwassenunited.org).
- E-Letters:** The minister sends weekly letters via e-mail to members of the congregation. Please make sure the minister has your e-mail address. The e-letters are also posted on the church website at [www.tsawwassenunited.org/ministersletter.htm](http://www.tsawwassenunited.org/ministersletter.htm). For those without internet access a printed copy of the e-mail can be found on the table in the narthex.
- Minister's Hours:** The minister's work days are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Days off are Monday and Friday. If you have pastoral concerns or would like a visit from the minister, Rose-Hannah, please notify the church office.



*We recycle our bulletins. If you are not taking your bulletin home, please leave it in the basket on the narthex table.*