

Tsawwassen United Church

16th Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2009, 10:00 AM

Pentecost Season. During this time we reflect on the gift of the Holy Spirit who prompts and guides the Christian community through a long season of growth in discipleship and service.

*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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP:

**Friends, we gather to worship God.
May we come with eyes to see, ears to hear,
and hands happy to share God’s love.**

*OPENING HYMN: Jesus Came, A Child Like Me

VU 583

PRAYER OF OPENING:

**Loving God, hold us close when we fear
or do not understand the way before us.
Open us to the ones who await your welcome through us.
May our own frailty make us more gracious —
and may we rejoice that in caring for others, we welcome you.
Amen.**

THE CHILDREN LEAVE FOR GODLY PLAY *(with Marilyn Merry)*

*CONNECTING TO OUR HEART’S LONGING:

Spirit, Open My Heart

MV 79

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

READINGS: *(Reader: Bob Tarlton)*

Proverbs 31: 10–31

pew Bible O.T. page 585

Mark 9: 30–37

pew Bible N.T. page 43

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

One: This is the witness of the early church.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON: "Servant Leadership"

*HYMN: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

VU 684

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE:

- The Offering is Collected
- Announcements of the Congregation's Life & Ministry
- Doxology: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
- Offering Prayer

VU 541

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

THE LAST WORD: James 3: 17-18

pew Bible N.T. page 214

*CLOSING HYMN: Sing Your Praise to God Eternal

VU 244

*BENEDICTION

**God of Jesus, help us to know and honour
what you have called us to be and do in Jesus' hopeful name.
Stir us into compassion and take us to real points of need.
Amen.**

*COMMISSIONING:

**Friends, go then in the peace
and gentle wisdom of God.
Be of humble courage,
looking toward the needs of others
with hearts full of mercy,
acting without favour or with guile.
Now and always.
Amen!**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT T.U.C.

- **MINISTRY FAIR, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH**

There will be a Ministry Fair in the hall after the worship service on Sunday, September 27th. The purpose of the Ministry Fair is to give you the opportunity to engage in ministry at TUC. Leaders of the congregation will be present to answer your questions and to share with you what engaging in ministry has meant to them. It is important that you understand that any interest expressed at the Ministry Fair in one of the areas is received as an opportunity to explore ways to serve God and our neighbour. It is not about sitting on a Committee. Discerning how God has shaped us and finding where God wants us is a process which requires the freedom to explore. In fact, the best way to explore one's spiritual calling is to try out a ministry. If it doesn't seem to fit, try another. Would you start thinking and praying now about where God might be leading you to be part of the wider ministry at TUC? Your gifts, skills, experience and passions are given to you by God for a purpose.



- **LUNCH BUNCH**

The Lunch Bunch will meet on **Monday, September 28th**, at 11:00 a.m. in the Lounge. The topic is "What You Did this Summer". All women of the congregation are welcome. Bring a friend. Tea will be served. Bring a bag lunch and a mug.

Harvest Potluck
Friday, October 2nd, 6:00 p.m.

Donations to cover the costs gratefully accepted at the door.

**Bring a neighbour or a friend!
Share food and fellowship!**

Please sign up for a main course or salad. Dessert will be supplied.

If cooking is tough pick up something at Thrifty's deli!

• **ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW SEMINAR, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 9AM to 12:30 PM**

Tsawwassen United Church and Hamilton Duncan Armstrong + Stewart Law Corporation are pleased to present a seminar on the topics of Estate Planning and Protecting the Elderly from Financial Abuse. All members of the public are invited to join us at this free and informative presentation. Space is limited, so please reserve your seat by September 25th. RSVP to Mary Almond at 604-943-2911 or malmond@tsawwassenunited.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **CONDOLENCES**

Condolences to the family and friends of Fred Bender who passed away on August 28th. A Celebration of Life is planned for **Saturday, September 26th** at 10:00 a.m. The congregation of TUC is invited to attend.

• **FALL FAIR**

The Fall Fair will be on **Saturday, October 17th**, this year. It's time to start cleaning out your storage space, cupboards and garages of all the valuable items that someone else might cherish! Please bring in your empty jam and relish jars now so they can be filled and sold at the Fair. **We have no storage space at the Church for anything else. Items cannot be dropped off at the Church before Tuesday, October 13.** If you have items that can't be stored until the fair week, please contact Agnes Jackson (604-943-1443) to make arrangements.



• **CALENDARS**

A limited number of 2010 Canadian Church Calendars will be ordered for purchase at the Fall Fair for \$8 each. If you would like one ordered for you please contact Melanie Williams at 604-948-0261.



• **THE F WORD 2009**

The F Word 2009 will be on September 25th and 26th. This event is for clergy, lay, youth Leaders, mission units development officers, and those interested in Faith Based Fundraising. There will be workshops on stewardship practice; planned giving; how to access grants and other funding sources; donor tracking and management; family stewardship, and more. All taking place at Korean United Church of Canada, Burnaby, BC (604-438-1383). Cost \$120.00, includes "Sundae" reception on Friday and refreshments and lunch on Saturday. Groups of 3 or more from a congregation pay only \$99 each. Co-Sponsors. United Church, Anglican Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Alma Van Dusen Fund, The Mission & Service Fund. Music Leadership by The Spirit Sisters, and Ecumenical worship team.

• **MOVING BEYOND HOMELESSNESS BENEFIT CONCERT AND CD LAUNCH**

At 8PM on **Wednesday, October 14**, at St. Andrew's – Wesley United Church (at Burrard and Nelson). Many of the locally and nationally renowned

musicians who brought their talent and commitment to the creation of this CD are coming together for this special event. Join host Bill Richardson for an evening of uplifting music to raise awareness and bring community together in support of the work of First United Church Mission in the Downtown Eastside. (Admission by donation. Tax receipts for donations of \$20 or more. Visa and Mastercard will be accepted for donations or CD purchase).

Minutes for Mission **M&S Keeps Us In Touch**

Here's today's brain-teaser: What's the oldest continuously published magazine in North America?

Here's a clue: It's also the second-oldest magazine in the English-speaking world.

It's The United Church Observer!

The United Church Observer has captured the attention of people of faith for a very long time: 181 years, to be exact. How does it do this? One answer is that this magazine provides pertinent information on ethics, justice, and contemporary living for Canadian Christians. The articles are timely and relevant to those in and outside our pews.

Another answer might be that Mission and Service gives The Observer an annual grant.

In this age of multitasking, radio provides background noise while you make dinner, you can watch TV and knit, and you can spend hours at a computer screen while talking on the telephone and doing office tasks. It is good to discover a quality magazine that informs, entertains, enlightens, and stirs the imagination. In a national church as large as ours, it's good to have a publication that can connect us in our common issues and values.

The publishers are deeply grateful for your faithful support and want to continue to produce a publication that is worthy of it. Your gifts to Mission and Service can help that happen.



Minutes for Mission 2009 is published by the Financial Stewardship Unit as a resource for the Mission and Service Fund.



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