

# Tsawwassen United Church

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2009, 10:00 AM

*During the season of Advent we wait expectantly to celebrate the arrival of the Christ child and the coming of God's realm of peace.*

*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

OPENING PROCESSION: To the Light

~ Brian Tate

WELCOME

SCRIPTURE: *(Reader: Ada Kempton)*

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

Pew Bible N.T. Page 191

\*OPENING HYMN: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

VU 2

OPENING PRAYER:

**Gracious God**

**your vision of peace and wholeness  
comes to us in sweeping revelations  
and in tiny signs of hope.**

**Kindle our hearts that we may be a hopeful people.**

**Keep us from growing weary of waiting,  
lest we miss the glory of your appearing.**

**Even so, come quickly, O God. Amen.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE — HOPE:

Here is the stable. The stable was all the innkeeper could offer to Mary and Joseph. The stable welcomed them with sweet-smelling straw and jingling cowbells. The stable is where the miracle of Christmas would unfold.

\*HYMN: A Candle is Burning

VU 6, vs. 1

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

\*HYMN: Prepare the Way of the Lord

VU 10

PRAYER FOR RESTORING LIFE

INVITATION TO PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

## LISTENING FOR TRUTH

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

READINGS: *(Reader: Ada Kempton)*

Jeremiah 33:14–16

Pew Bible O.T. Page 699

Luke 21:25–36

Pew Bible N.T. Page 81

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

One: This is the witness of the early church.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CHORAL ANTHEM: When the Wind of Winter Blows ~ *Ruth Duck & Lori True*

SERMON: “A New Beginning”

\*HYMN: On Jordan’s Bank

VU 20

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE:

- The Offering is Collected
- Announcements of the Congregation’s Life & Ministry
- \*Doxology: A Candle is Burning
- \*Offering Prayer

VU 6, vs. 1

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

\*CLOSING HYMN: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

VU 31

THE LAST WORD: Psalm 25:1–10

Pew Bible O.T. Page 485

BENEDICTION

COMMISSIONING

POSTLUDE

# Welcome to Tsawwassen United Church

www.tsawwassenunited.org

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Office Hours: 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays  
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM on Wednesdays  
(closed for lunch on Wednesdays from 11:45 to 12:45 PM)

## Contacts

Minister:	Rose-Hannah Gaskin .....604-943-2911 ..... rose-hannah@tsawwassenunited.org
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## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### November 29, 2009

*The flowers on the communion table this morning have been placed by  
Mary Richardson in loving memory of her parents,  
Walter and Hilda Ward, and her brother, Bill Ward.*

### WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT T.U.C.

**TODAY**      **Worship Service (with Godly Play) – at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Advent 1 — Candle of Joy**



**Prayer Cycle for Vancouver South Presbytery and B.C. Conference** – Today we pray for the General Secretary of General Council Nora Sanders & the Church House Staff.

**MON.**      **Lunch Bunch** – meet in the Lounge at **11:00 a.m.** All women of the congregation are welcome. Bring a bag lunch and a mug.

**WED.**      **Teen Yoga** – meet at the church for a fruit snack any time between **2:45 and 3:15 p.m.** Yoga class will be from **3:15 to 4:15 p.m.**

**Christmas Youth Choir Practice – 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

**THURS.**      **Choir Practice – 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**SAT**      **Men's Breakfast** – at **8:00 a.m.** See details on next page.

**NEXT SUN.**      **Worship Service (with Godly Play) – at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Advent 2 — Candle of Peace**

The handbell choir will be playing during the service.  
Scripture readings: Malachi 3:1–4; Luke 1:68–79 (VU p. 900); Philippians 1:3–11; Luke 3:1–6.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT T.U.C.

### • MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club will be having a breakfast meeting in December 2009.

Date: Saturday, December 5, 2009

Place: Tsawwassen Golf Club

Speaker: Murray Swayze

Murray's topic will be "Metallurgical Failure Investigation". Murray is a metallurgical engineer and his presentation will be about interesting metallurgical problems that have occurred in his area of interest.

Coffee will be served at 8:00 a.m. and breakfast at 8:30 a.m. All men of the congregation are welcome. Any man who is not a member of the Men's Club, but who wishes to attend please contact one of the following by Tuesday, December 1st:

- Floyd Wartnow, 604-943-4630
- Kent Humphrey, 604-940-0112
- Bill Williams, 604-943-7262
- Albert Knudsen, 604-943-6748

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### • ADVENT CANDLES

Make this a holiday tradition. Light your advent candle during the time of anticipation and waiting for the Christ Child's birth. All proceeds will go to support the Sunday School foster child, Ablaye Mbaye, who lives in the community of Thiokhol, which is part of Dakar in Senegal. The candles will be available to purchase after worship today at a cost of \$4.00. Candles can also be purchased from Mary Sambell.



### • THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER

The November issue of *The United Church Observer* is available for borrowing from the black file box on the table under the bulletin board in the narthex. Of particular note is the article on page 18, *The Fence-Sitters: How Real is the Hope?*

### • CHRISTMAS YOUTH CHOIR

Are you an elementary or high school student? Do you like to sing? Well now's your chance! TUC is forming a Christmas Youth Choir to sing for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Practices will be on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23. On Christmas Eve there will be a 3:00 p.m.



practice prior to the 4:00 p.m. service. To register, or if you have any questions, please e-mail Sandra Dawn at [sandra@tsawwassenunited.org](mailto:sandra@tsawwassenunited.org). *If you register please be prepared to commit to attending all of the rehearsals and the Christmas Eve service.*

### • FIRST UNITED CHURCH MISSION GIVE-A-GIFT PROJECT

The importance of acknowledging each individual in a special way at Christmas continues at First United. As in the past the Give-a-Gift Project will be part of Christmas at First and this project relies totally on the support of the wider community and church. First United is hoping our congregation will help

by providing new socks and underwear as well as \$10.00 Safeway Cards or money donations made out to First United Church "Give-a-Gift" Project.

One day during the week of Christmas they hope to be able to give a new pair of socks and an orange to each of the men and women involved in that community. In February everyone will be given new underwear.

The Safeway cards are given out at Christmas and throughout the year to help singles and families. The cash donations will be used to purchase food items for the surprise hot breakfasts during the cold, wet months of Jan. and Feb. and to purchase the much needed extra socks and underwear.

First United would appreciate our congregation's support in providing any of the above items or funds designated "Give-a-Gift". The goal for receipt of these items is Dec. 1st, 2009. All packages should be clearly marked "Give-a-Gift Project". Safeway cards or money donations made can be placed in the collection plate. All other items can be placed on or under the Christmas tree in the narthex.



As always there is an ongoing need at First for toiletries (razors, deodorant, tooth paste and tooth brushes, shampoo and combs) as well.

- **LINNEA GOOD IN CONCERT**

Canadian singer-songwriter Linnea Good takes the stage in Ladner with her unique combination of song, humour and story on **Saturday, December 5, 2009**. Acclaimed as a prophetic and contemporary voice of faith, Linnea is a multi-award nominated artist for adults and children alike. Join Linnea and Good Company at 7:30 at All Saints Anglican Church, located at the corner of Arthur Drive and Ladner Trunk Road (4755 Arthur Drive). Children: come at 6pm and become the back-up vocalist choir. Tickets: Families \$20, \$10 Adults, \$5 Children, children under 6 are invited free. For tickets, call 604-946-8413.

- **BE AN ANGEL — DONATE A TOY FOR A CHILD IN NEED THIS CHRISTMAS**

Deltassist Family and Community Services is now accepting new, unwrapped toys for distribution to low income families on December 8, 9 and 10. Gifts for teens (13 – 16 years) are always needed. Please drop off your donations to Deltassist at 9097 120th Street in North Delta or 4891 Delta Street in Ladner

- **DELTA COMMUNITY CHOIR**

The Delta Community Choir and Tapestry invite you to celebrate their 25th season with *Christmas Through the Ages*. Hear Delta's premier choral organization as they take you on a musical journey through Christmas traditions old and new. You'll recognize favourites like "Winter Wonderland" and "I Saw Three Ships", be touched by the history behind "A Carol for to Sing" and inspired by the haunting beauty of "In the Bleak Midwinter". Join the Delta Community Choir and Tapestry under the leadership of their new Musical Director, Danielle Hamilton for a performance that's sure to put your heart and soul into the spirit of the season. Enjoy audience sing-a-longs, refreshments and door prizes! Where: Tsawwassen Alliance Church, 4951 12th Avenue. When: **Saturday, December 12th, 2009, 7:30 p.m.** and **Sunday, December 13th, 2009, 3:00 p.m.** Admission: Adult \$12.00; Student/Senior \$10.00; Child (12 & under) \$5.00.

## **MINUTES FOR MISSION 2009**

### ***Relief and Justice-seeking Go Together***

When disasters occur, world response is quick. When the media broadcasts news of earthquakes, cyclones, and floods, we see the pictures and open our hearts and chequebooks.

So it was when the tsunami hit Asia a few years ago. Money poured in from around the world, and the pressure was on to spend it quickly to alleviate suffering. You have often heard us say in the United Church that through partners we are interested in longer term development. Here is a post-tsunami story that helps explain what that means.

CASA is the acronym for Church's Auxiliary for Social Change. It is an organization in India that is as old as independent India itself. We work with CASA as they continue post-tsunami rebuilding and look for ways to create positive social outcomes from the crisis. Sushant Agrawal is the director, and he explains, "The needs of the fishing community were met quickly with new boats. That is an easy thing to do. Most of the tsunami relief efforts have concentrated on giving." He goes on: "CASA took a step back to see what was really needed. CASA stays with the community instead of just giving and leaving."

Here are some examples of the work that M&S gifts participate in through CASA. The lower castes in India were just as affected by the tsunami but are less likely to be helped. CASA went to the labourers who clean the boats and traditionally have few rights. CASA helped them develop 186 partnerships of four people each to purchase their own boats. This is a step forward in challenging an unjust social structure, allowing these people to have far better lives. CASA also focuses on women and widows, who tend to be more open to new ideas. CASA is helping them create new ways of earning a living that do not depend entirely on the ocean.

Your M&S gifts enable us to live up to our vision of being partners for real change and for the long term.



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