

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

A NEWSLETTER OF WESTMINSTER UNITED CHURCH, 3025 13TH AVE., REGINA; 306-757-6444



Spring - A time of Resurrection

In the darkness of the ground a bulb sits, waiting for the right time to emerge. The sun and melted snow start bringing to life what is hidden in the ground. In the darkness life begins to emerge from the bulb and soon a beautiful green stem emerges. The stem pokes its head through the warmth of the dirt into the sunlight that brings much life. It extends itself upward reaching for the stars at night, wanting to kiss the face of the sun in the morning as it grows.

Out of the dark tomb of its nurture, come life.

After a long winter, we too, can emerge into the resurrection of the spring.

Darrell

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Outreach Projects

Outreach News

Westminster's Outreach efforts are making a difference in the lives we touch!

Saturday Soup - Thanks to a great team of volunteers under the leadership of Rosemary Lagimodiere we will be able to serve the indigent in our community throughout the summer months.



Lumsden Beach Camp- Our Outreach group has organized two fundraisers for LBC. The first was the hotdog sale at the Rummage Sale on April 12. Next is the Pancake Breakfast at the Cathedral Village Arts Festival on Saturday May 25.

Change for Change- Thanks to your generosity at coffee time, and some other donations, we have now raised almost \$1500 to equip apartments for two homeless persons transitioning to stable housing in Regina. Your contributions until the end of June will be designated to the United Church Healing Fund (see below). Through the summer months Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry will be the recipient. Tall oaks from little acorns grow!



Reconciliation and the Healing

Fund- The United Church Healing Fund supports healing initiatives for survivors of residential school and its ongoing intergenerational impacts. The Healing Fund, established in 1994, offers financial support to grassroots projects that focus on healing, language learning, and cultural restoration. \$500 from Westminster's Bessie Barker Trust Fund will be donated to the Equine Assisted Learning Programme for Aboriginal Youth of the Indigenous Ministries Circle of the United Church of Canada.

On June 16th, the Sunday closest to Friday, June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day, Elder Lorna Standingready will speak during worship.

Transition House- During May we are collecting feminine hygiene products and donations for the women at Transition House. To find out more about the work of Transition House in supporting women and children to live violence free in our city for over 40 years see <http://www.reginatransitionhouse.ca/>.

Newcomers World Market- Westminster hosted seven successful markets featuring people from every continent (except Antarctica!). Following consultation with a very helpful Public Health Inspector, our group decided that we could no longer proceed with our markets. Since the extensive media coverage during early May we have been approached by several other organizations interested in facilitating future markets. We will consult with them over the coming weeks.

Refugee Update - Following the closure of Whitmore Park United Church Westminster assumed their refugee sponsorships in progress. Three of the Whitmore Park sponsorships have now arrived in Regina, two families and one single man.

The Esak Family arrived in Regina on April 2 . Their cosponsors, the Ghebremichaels, who have lived in Regina for over 20 years, reported the following week – “Good morning all. We just want to express appreciation to you all for your tireless efforts in bringing our family from Israel. Just to keep you updated, we got them an apartment, registered them for ESL, gone for drivers license, SaskTel, utilities, bus routes etc. The oldest daughter Yostana will be going to kindergarten on Monday.

Again we say "thank you" to all involved. Tesfans Sebhatu arrived on December 26 and the Musgun family arrived on January 15. Their cosponsor, Ogbay Teclemariam, reports that they have their own apartments and are settling in very well. The sponsor application for the Berhane brothers (Alazar Wolde co-sponsor) has been submitted and is in its early stages of processing. Our Outreach Group thanks everyone in the congregation for your support and interest. We welcome new ideas. Please join us!



Darrell stepped in for the minister of St. Paul's Estevan in greeting new folks to Canada.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Dorothea (Dot) Langston

Our very own Dot Langston celebrated her 100th birthday on February 26, 2019!

Dorothea Bernice Wiseth was born in Saskatoon in 1919. She was the eldest of three children with brother, Jim, and sister, Helen. Her dad, Sam, was a prospector and worked and lived up north most of his life. Her mother, Beulah, died when Dot was only eight years old, at which time her brother and sister were sent to live on a farm with relatives. Dot moved in with her grandparents on Victoria Avenue in Regina and attended Wetmore Elementary School and then Balfour Technical School, where she honed her clerical skills. When she finished school, she was employed in a law office and then by the Saskatchewan Government Department of Finance.

Dot and Harold met in 1939, and they were married on August 22, 1942 in Regina. When WWII broke out, Harold enlisted with the RCAF and was sent to Sea Island in British Columbia for training.

Dot moved to Vancouver to be close to him and found employment in the office of a ship builder in Vancouver. In 1943, Harold was posted to Europe, where he worked as an armorer in England.

Dot remained in Vancouver and they communicated by letter back and forth until Harold returned in 1945. Late that year, they moved back to Regina and were able to get on with their life together.

Dot and Harold have two children, Joellyn, born in 1947, and Ken, born in 1949. Joellyn and her husband Leroy, and Ken and his wife Pat, live in small communities close to Regina and the family is a close bunch! Dot's granddaughters, Sharlene, Laura, Danielle, Bonnie and Kim have expanded the family and they are so proud to call Dot their Grandma! They too have added branches to the family tree with great-grandchildren Kelsey, Jenna, Teegan, Kolbi, Morgan, Lucas, Maggie and Ben, who love to visit GG Dot!



Dot has attended Westminster United Church for 77 years, and has been a long-time member of the UCW Anniversary Unit. During her time at Westminster, Dot led a Messenger youth group and volunteered whenever needed for everything from teas, rummage sales, potlucks, fall dinners and more.

Everyone asks her to share the secret of her longevity. She certainly led an active lifestyle, including dancing with her favourite partner, Harold, every weekend at the Legion, as well as curling, golfing, gardening and family time. Together, they enjoyed their house on Edward Street for more than 60 years, hosting countless Sunday dinners (she is famous for roast beef, Yorkshire pudding and raisin pie!!), parties, barbeques, Boxing Day open house, and many other celebrations. Harold passed away in 2001, and Dot continued to live in the house for another 15 years.



In 2016, Dot sold her home and moved into Wintergreen Estates, where she enjoys all the pampering that is offered to their residents. Her family enjoys their frequent visits, but everyone knows that you always have to check first to make sure she'll be home. She still has an active social life, and we often joke that you have to make an appointment to see her!



We are looking for volunteers to help out with this day, so please sign-up or call Darrell 306-757-6444 or Kathy 306-527-8684

Pancake Breakfast (Church hall) 8:30-10:30 am (proceeds to an outreach project)

Saskatchewan Network of Art Collecting SNAC (GYM) Friday 5-9 & Saturday 10-5

Relax on the Lawn - we hope to have some tables and chairs on the west side of the church for people to sit, relax, eat their food and enjoy the sounds of the festival.

Events in the Sanctuary on Saturday (Doors open at 10:30) Enjoy the shade of the front steps for a rest and listening to the music or come in and relax and listen inside the 107 year old sanctuary.

11:00 am Wascana Voices

Founded in 2014, Wascana Voices is a 12-voice, self-directed group of dedicated singers who are focussed on crafting exceptional music. We are conductors, performers, and musicians drawing experience from the most celebrated choirs in Saskatchewan. To be informed of upcoming concerts email info@wascanavoices.ca

12:00 pm Clark Schaufele

Pianist, educator, and singer, Clark Schaufele has always been curious and passionate about folk music from across the world. With his double bass, he experiments with pop, blues, country, and bluegrass, amalgamated into his own personal style.

1:00 pm Living Sky Chorus

The Living Skies Chorus has been active in the Regina music scene since 1961. Its vision is to be the choral music group of choice for men in Regina and area who love to sing. Its mission is to enhance the lives of its members, and the people in our community by singing and performing four-part a cappella harmony in the Barbershop Style. The Living Skies Chorus believes that music plays a vital role in the development of healthy, creative, and responsible members of society, and that supporting vocal music arts for children, youth, men, and women, will enrich the lives of everyone in our community.

2:00 - 3:00 pm band set up and you never know what may happen!

3:00 pm One Young'n

One Young'n is a five piece 50's, 60's, and 70's rock & roll cover band from Regina. They cover the great old rock & roll that makes you want to get on your feet and dance.

A Message from Darrell

Spring has sprung and I am ready to be out in the yard! Have done some of the clean up but in my yard, it's never done. I love planting! I plant a fairly good sized garden, about 450 bedding plants, may bulbs and I have several dozen perennials. It provides time and place for me to reflect as I work. I often hum hymns as I work, and the neighbours are probably saying under their breath, "there goes that crazy minister again!" The joy of spring is a creative time for me.

We as a faith community also plant. We plant seeds of faith when we have a baptism. When new folks come to the church, we can see them as a gladiola bulb that needs to be nurtured and welcomed and help to find them a place in our garden. In our long time members we have strong roots that hold us to this place of faith in the United Church and give hope to the garden for an Easter Resurrection each spring.

Sometimes the garden needs some work, plants need to be moved, pruned or given a better location to thrive. This is all part of our job as gardeners. It's not just up to one of us or a few, the gardening job needs many hands to work the soil, to plant and to nurture the life within.

Can you imagine if we only planted the same flower every year and never changed? We need a mixture of flowers, giving some a rest and adding new ones. The **Westminster Garden** is in need of giving some a rest (just for awhile) and adding a few new colours and varieties. Perhaps, you could stretch yourself over the fence just a little to be chosen to do something that not all the plants in the garden can do. Think about it! Where could your hidden colours, petals, foliage or stature be used to make an impact on the **Westminster Garden**?

Items we collect for others:

- ✓ bread and cash donations on the first Sunday of the month for Carmichael Outreach
- ✓ for the month of May - feminine hygiene products
- ✓ plastic containers for Carmichael Outreach
- ✓ hotel toiletry items
- ✓ new tooth brushes
- ✓ Canadian Tire money for Lumsden Beach Camp
- ✓ fresh vegetables for soup once a month
- ✓ eye glasses
- ✓ wool for the prayer shawl group
- ✓ household items and baking for the rummage sale (Oct 19/20)
- ✓ food for the pantry
- ✓ occasionally furniture for newcomers to Canada (by request from Outreach)



Speaking About Volunteers - Volunteers at Lumsden Beach Camp

Who does the Work Behind the Scenes at Lumsden Beach Camp?

Many people work each year on the Board and a variety of committees to make Lumsden Beach Camp happen each summer. We are parents, grandparents, students, and professionals. Some of us have been to camp since we were children, and others are new to the LBC community. We share a passion for camping and know the value that camp brings to people of all ages. Committees may meet infrequently or regularly. We are looking for skills in finance, fundraising, property, promotions, food and human resources. Let us know about your interests and your time commitment.

Email us at volunteers@lumsdenbeachcamp.com for more information about available spots and what you can do to serve at LBC.



List of Summer Volunteer Positions at Lumsden Beach Camp

1. Medical Personnel: (Medical Doctor, Registered Nurse, Graduate Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, Emergency Medical Technician)

In cooperation with the Camp Director, the Medical Personnel is responsible for the

health and safety of the campers, staff and volunteers. In addition dispersing medication and attending to all health concerns, they promote positive health habits and practices.

2. Child Care: The Child Care Provider cares for the children of staff and volunteers. They are responsible for organizing and leading activities appropriate to the children's interests and maturity.

3. Kitchen: Our Kitchen volunteers are responsible for helping the cook prepare nutritious meals for the campers, volunteers and staff. Duties often include prepping food, doing dishes and keeping the kitchen clean.

4. Maintenance Assistant: Maintenance assistants provide help to our maintenance staff for the upkeep and improvement of our camping facilities. (e.g. Painting, mowing lawn, general repairs)

If you have any questions contact Vicki at (306) 539-7772 or email volunteers@lumsdenbeachcamp.com

Apply Today!

To ensure the safety of our campers, all volunteers are required to submit an application and a criminal record check. Once we review your application someone will be in touch. If you do not hear from an LBC representative or have any questions please email volunteers@lumsdenbeachcamp.com or (306)539-7772

Registration is now open for all Lumsden Beach Camp sessions! Please visit the camp address for directions on registering.

Lumsden Beach Camp ynotu@lumsdenbeachcamp.com



Lumsden Beach Camp's BIG SHRED
Saturday, June 8th from 9:00 - 12:00
Living Spirit Centre - 3018 Doan Drive (off
of Arcola Ave.)

In partnership with Crown Shred Recycling Management, Lumsden Beach Camp is inviting you to bring your paper recycling to us on June 8th. Whether you are Tidying Up with Marie Kondo, want to get rid of your tax documents, or work in an office that needs to confidently dispose of private information, this event is for you!

The experienced professionals of Crown Shred will be on-hand and donating their services to take and confidentially shred whatever you bring. A single bag or a vanload, we will deal with it for a donation (recommended \$5/bag or \$10/ box). Plus, you will be supporting Lumsden Beach Camp!

Message us at LivingSpiritCentre@lscregina with any questions. We look forward to seeing you on June 8th!

Rentals at Westminster



In recent years Westminster's rental income has been a significant part of our income and has helped to offset declining givings and allowed us to maintain our programs and building. A gymnastics club, the Life Long Learning Centre and Conservatory were our largest renters in recent years. In September 2018 the LLLC and Conservatory returned to their homes on College Avenue, and since then we have not had a major long term renter at Westminster. We have had many smaller 'one time' renters. These are good and provide revenue but they do not provide us with the amount of stable, ongoing rent money required to sustain what we do.

Council foresaw this and established a 'Rental Search Group' tasked to find and secure suitable, stable long term renters. We are pleased to let you know that we are in the final stages of negotiations with a daycare. If we are able to sign the deal with this renter approximately 2/3 of our projected rental income amount will be secured.

We see a number of pluses to this daycare renting space at Westminster:

- they are asking for mainly week days during the day to run a 'Before & After' school program. We believe this will cause minimal disruption to our programs and use of space, however there are certain to be times when both we and they will have to make some adjustments.
- it brings children and young families into the church - the joyful sounds of kids laughing and playing. There is potential for these families to become familiar with the other things we are doing and find reason to become more engaged with Westminster.

- they are asking for long term rental. This provides a good revenue stream and the opportunity to build upon that going forward.
- it is a good community fit and meshes with one of our stated goals of building and strengthening relationships with residents of the Cathedral neighbourhood.

All in all we see this daycare as a win - win. Look forward to more good news as we continue to work to secure long term, stable renters.



Join us every second Monday in the morning at 9:00 am for a time of fellowship with coffee or tea. We meet in the kitchen and share stories, news items and what is going on in the church. This is open to any of the men in the congregation.

It has been noted the same few groups are providing the fellowship time after church which we all enjoy! It is a great ministry and some folks are called to do this. But it would be good to expand the volunteers so the same few are not always feeling responsible when others don't sign up!.



Here is how you can do it! Find a few friends and sign up on the Volunteer List. On Sunday, you come early, make coffee and tea, put out some cookies from the cupboard and then come to worship. Leave during the last hymn to get ready for the sometimes 90 folks who come down for fellowship after church. Graham Bradley will most of the time bring in a generous donation of baking from one of his favourite bakeries. Some folks will bring something along too but it isn't required.

This is a great way to offer your gifts of time and talent to the church!

What's Happening

- May 11 - Mother's Day Tea
- May 12 - Christian Family Sunday & Mother's Day
- May 26 - Camp Sunday/Baptism
- June 2 - Gospel Sunday
- June 9 - Pentecost- David Jones (Pulpit Supply)
- June 16 - Recognition of National Indigenous Day with Elder Lorna Standingready speaking
- Jun 23 - Baptism
- June 30 - Bryan Tudor (Pulpit Supply)



Darrell is away on vacation from June 3-9 and July 29 - August 25.

Baptisms, Weddings & Deaths

In recent months, we have, through baptism, formally welcomed into the Christian family:

- Gunnerson Lyle Reich
- Lauren Ottilia Wiebe
- Averie Noele
- Adrianna Beryln Komodowski - Dyck
- Zoey Mae Martin
- Leo Matthew Britton

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**Wedding Congratulations go out to:**

- Jamie Callfas & Victoria Dauncy - Oct 13
- Joseph Loch & Staci Stillborn - Oct 13
- Jay Mason & Breanna McNaught - Nov 10
- Matthew McCartney & Amy Poole - Nov 16
- Hubert Taypotat & Glenda Pardy - Nov 24
- Christopher McCulloch & Jordan Wood - Feb 22
- Jonathon Schwark & Magdalena Popek - April 12

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We hold in prayer these families for whom we have conducted the funerals of their loved ones:

- Marilyn Hadwin Ivis Young
- Hugh Mackenzie Alice Siekawitch
- Florence Paull

Flo Pinches

I was born in Abernethy and grew up on the farm in that area. We moved to Regina in 1941, when I was fourteen years old, and that was when we started attending Westminster United Church. I think the reason we started attending this church was because Rev. Motherwell was the assistant minister here, and he had been our minister at Abernethy.



I attended Connaught School until I finished grade 8, then continued on to High School at Scott Collegiate. At that time, Scott was the designated high school for students who lived in the Cathedral area, but it was a long walk! When I finished High School, I went on to Reliance Business School to learn how to operate a comptometer. This led to my employment at the Wheat Pool. At that time, married women were not employed, so after I was married, I was at home until our girls were older, but then I did go back to work at the Wheat Pool, retiring in 1989. I remain in touch with friends I made while working there.

I lived on Princess Street and my husband to be lived on Queen; we met when we both attended Connaught School. Bob and I were married in 1949, at Westminster, with Rev. Burley as the minister. Bob passed away in 2006 and was buried from this church. We bought a cottage at Katepwa in 1975 and enjoyed it as a family; I still enjoy spending my summers there.

We have five daughters, who all attended Sunday School here, as well as CGIT. I helped in the nursery and with the kindergarten group when my girls were involved. Later, I joined the UCW, and the Anniversary Unit, and have enjoyed working at the bake table at our teas and rummage sales.

We lost two of our members last summer, Ev. Hay and Marilyn Sandercock. Marilyn often picked me up for church, which was very much appreciated as I don't drive. Now I am happy to have Elaine Andreas pick me up.

Darrell has been a great leader and I hope he stays at Westminster forever!



from the front
of the choir

June 2, is Gospel Sunday! Join us in a service filled with exciting music! We look forward to hearing solos/duets from members of our congregation during the summer months!



“Volunteers don’t necessarily have the time, but they have the heart.” ~ Elizabeth Andrew

- V Valuable is the work you do.
- O Outstanding is how you always come through.
- L Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer.
- U Untiring in your efforts throughout the year.
- N Notable are the contributions you make.
- T Trustworthy in every project you take.
- E Eager to reach your every goal.
- E Effective in the way you fulfill your role.
- R Ready with a smile like a shining star.
- S Special and wonderful - that’s what u are.

The activities and programs at Westminster cannot be successful without our Volunteers. We often see the many people who volunteer in the center of the action for events, but we also need to remember the many folk who are working behind the scenes to keep things flowing – preparing the food, keeping tea pots filled, set up for an event, clean up after an event, planning for an event, buying supplies, doing decorations, getting the advertising made and delivered, serving the food.....The list is long! We are most grateful for all who are able to volunteer for the events that we enjoy at Westminster!

We should also thank our Council members who all do their committee work as volunteers and keep our church governance in order.

THANK YOU to all VOLUNTEERS at WESTMINSTER!

Rev. Cindy M. Bourgeois to be honoured at UTC's 2019 Convocation

The Senate of the United Theological College / Le Séminaire Uni in Montreal is pleased to announce that Rev. Cindy M. Bourgeois of Regina, SK will receive the Craig Chaplin Award for outstanding contributions made by a person from the LGBTQ2 community at our Convocation, taking place at Cedar Park United Church in Pointe Claire at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 8, 2019.



The Craig Chaplin Award was established in 2001 by Craig Chaplin to recognize the particular ministries of people from the LGBTQ2 community both within and beyond the structures of the Christian Church. His wish was to honour "those whose life's work has been particularly distinguished in its clear embodiment of such central Gospel values as personal courage and integrity, life-affirming faith and spirituality, an unswerving commitment to social justice and a sustainable environment, and solidarity with those who are poor or marginalized."

The Senate of UTC / Le Séminaire Uni has selected Rev. Cindy M. Bourgeois to receive the award at this year's convocation. Rev. Bourgeois is the first openly transgender person to be ordained in the United Church of Canada, and the second in any mainstream denomination of North America. She is the minister at Wesley United Church in Regina, Saskatchewan, and serves as the Secretary on the Executive of Affirm United. Bourgeois draws on her lived experience to mentor trans theological students and to speak to wider audiences about the trans community.

A recent article in The United Church Observer describes how her ministry is informed by the understanding of what it is to be an outcast and is shaped by the idea of Jesus's ministry as "ministry on the margins."

In selecting Rev. Bourgeois for this honour, the Senate cited not only her courage and integrity, not only her solidarity with those who are poor and marginalized, but also and especially her importance as a role model to our students who are learning to minister with authenticity and compassion.



Do you know.....about the changes for the United Church of Canada? by Linda Dodd

As of January 1, 2019 the structure of the United Church of Canada has changed. The proposal for change was presented at the 42nd General Council in 2015. Here are some of the changes:

Governance structure (excerpts from the United Church of Canada website, with notes in blue.)

For the first 92 years of the UCC existence, administration was shared among 4 courts, or levels:

- **pastoral charges**, the primary ministry unit of the United Church, were composed of one or more congregations or preaching points. ([Westminster United Church](#))
- pastoral charges were members of local area **presbyteries** or **districts**, of which there were 88. ([We belonged to Wascana Presbytery, one of 7 presbyteries in Saskatchewan.](#))
- presbyteries were gathered into regional **conferences**, of which there were 13. ([We were in the Saskatchewan Conference.](#))
- **General Council**, the church's highest legislative court, was elected and met every three years.

At the 42nd General Council in 2015, delegates proposed a new three-council model:

- **communities of faith**, which will include all pastoral charges, congregations, and other groups who gather regularly for worship. ([Westminster](#))
- **regional councils**, of which there will be 16. ([We are in Region 4, which includes all of Saskatchewan.](#))
- **denominational council**, which will continue to be referred to as the *General Council*.

This change, including an associated **Office of Vocation**, was approved by the wider church in 2017,^[13] and ratified by the 43rd General Council in July 2018.^[14] This new model of governance came into effect on January 1st, 2019.

The Process of Moving Ahead as the United Church in Saskatchewan

The Commission – Interim Executive: (excerpts from a letter of Sept. 2018)

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up... (Isaiah 43:19 NIV)

Greetings to you all in the name of the One who is always creating and re-creating! We are the Commission – or Interim Executive – for Region 4 of The United Church of Canada, and we would like to introduce ourselves. ([The region for Saskatchewan was initially called Region 4. It is now called the Living Skies Region.](#))

The Commission consists of representatives from the areas currently known as Plains Presbytery of the All Native Circle Conference, and Saskatchewan Conference.

...This is a time of both sadness and excitement, with a whole lot of unknowns thrown in, as we transition from one model of governance to another. Whatever structure our governance might take, we are still called to be the church and to share in God’s mission.

Our group has met to look at preliminary budget information. We have hired some staff for our Region, with other staffing decisions still ongoing. We have reviewed some information from the General Council about shared service possibilities; we are committed to working with other Regions around shared resources where possible. The Region will be the primary way of ensuring that the work of both Presbyteries and Conference continue into 2019.

The inaugural meeting of Region 4 ([now known as the Living Skies Region](#)) is set to take place May 30th to June 2nd in Swift Current. Each congregation will be entitled to send representatives to this gathering. ([Darrell Reine and Linda Dodd will be attending.](#))

We will continue to be in touch with congregations in various ways. (Some of this information may be shared on the Westminster webpage and/or Facebook page, and perhaps by email.)

... We invite you to join us on this journey of sharing and meeting new neighbours so that the very important work of our church continues.

If you have further questions, we invite you to be in contact with any one of us, and particularly with your Presbytery representative (Linda Dodd).

Blessings to you all..... Members of the Commission

What's next?

In the newyear meetings began around Saskatchewan with former presbyteries, and other interest groups, to have conversations about what they want to work on and to begin to think about changes and how changes might happen. These groups are called Clusters and Networks. Darrell and Linda attended the initial session of the Regina Area Cluster, which included the urban United churches of the former Wascana Presbytery. Another meeting will be held on May 9th for a wider group of United church members formerly of Wascana Presbytery. It will be interesting to hear the conversations that will be shared at this time. There are still a lot of questions that need decisions and actions!! We will try to keep you updated as we move ahead with dealing with the new realities of the United Church in Canada.

(Clusters: local clusters of communities of faith that would provide community and support for communities of faith and their leaders, and focus on worship, mission, learning, collegiality, and strategic planning.

Networks: linking people working on specific issues (e.g., supportive housing, intercultural ministry, youth ministry) or for project work (e.g., event planning) that function through the whole church, depending on the issue.)



- ✓ Transfer your membership to Westminster
- ✓ Take a confirmation class
- ✓ Give permission to put you on our email and phone list
- ✓ Sign-up for the weekly announcements

- ✓ Come for Fellowship after church and meet people
- ✓ Join a Core Team, Task Group, the Anniversary Unit, Hosting group and come to one of the Faith study events!

Report from the Chair of Council

A couple of months back we celebrated the Lunar New Year, or as we often call it, Chinese New Year. In the Chinese zodiac 2019 is the year of the pig and according to the mythology if you are born in the year of the pig you:

- ❖ think logically;
- ❖ are able to fix whatever problem you find yourself in;
- ❖ are a good communicator;
- ❖ are kind;
- ❖ are a good provider;
- ❖ probably are, or will be, wealthy;

That's an A+ list of qualities, and if you were born in any year of the pig you have the bragging rights to them. Those who were born in 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007 and this year were all born in a year of the pig and with those fine qualities I want you on my side. With outstanding qualities like those there is a position on Council with your name on it!

However, don't allow your egos to get too over-inflated you year of the pig people. There is the other side of the coin and for you - now don't get mad at me, I'm just the messenger - your biggest fault is that you lose your temper very easily.

Another part of the mythology around the Chinese zodiac is that the repeating year of your animal is a year of very bad luck. So if you were born in one of those years - 1935, 1947, 1959 and so on, all those years of the pig that I mentioned, 2019 might not be your best year. However, if you wear red underwear you can ward off this bad luck.

Oh, did I mention, you have to wear that red underwear all year so maybe stock up.



Westminster was built in 1912 and that was a Year of the Rat. Qualities of year of the rat are a love of collecting and saving things - the boxes piled on the stage recently seem to attest to the truth of this. However, even with their passion for collecting and saving, year of the rat people live organized lives and never seem to have hard times. They do not look for praise or recognition and are sensitive and know when there is trouble, when year of the rat people take a risk they are usually successful.

These also seem like A+ qualities to me, and if organizations have personalities - and I believe that

they do – then these are stellar organizational qualities that we can all take collective pride in. Elsewhere in this newsletter there is more information on: steps that have been taken to forestall potential trouble; actions that have been taken with much thought and input; successes we have had in fulfilling our mission 'to make a difference in the lives we touch'.

Last but not least!

Notes from the Anniversary Unit

We have had a very successful year thus far, (and this is without counting the proceeds from the Mother's Day Tea), so we should be able to make a sizeable donation to the church before the summer. Our success is due, in large part to the wonderful support that we receive from the members of the congregation. For this we say, THANK YOU!



As a wind-up, following our busy spring, the Anniversary Unit is planning to go out for lunch at the Royal Regina Golf Club on Monday, June 10th at 12:00 noon. This a "no host" event open to all ladies of the congregation, but we do ask that you call Elaine Andreas (306-584-5526) no later than Wednesday, June 5th so that we can confirm our numbers with the Golf Club.

Our first fall meeting will be held on September 16th, all ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Other dates to remember are:

Fall Rummage and Bake Sale
– October 18th and 19th and

Mistletoe Tea and Bake Sale
– November 16th

A new venture that we are *considering* is a used clothing sale, to take place possibly sometime in September. If this is something you have had experience with or would be interested in helping with, please call Marg Reine (306-543-8504).



A Photo Contest!

Guess where these pictures are located and enter to win a prize! Use this sheet to identify where the photos were taken and put in the photo box in the Narthex or email it back to Darrell at da.reine@sasktel.net. Don't forget to include your name and phone number! Contest end June 9!

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