



ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH LENT/EASTER 2010



February, 2010

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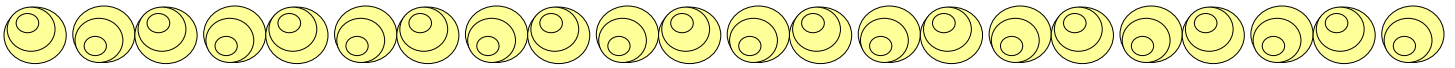
Lenten/Easter Events:

February 21	Introduction to Lenten theme
February 28	Worship and Communion
March 7	The journey continues—temptation abound
March 14	Silent times of reflection and meditation
March 21	New revelations may reveal themselves
March 28	Palm Sunday—Special guests: Corps Bara dance troupe Performance Pieces: "Via Delarosa"
April 1	Maundy Thursday Pot Luck Supper Followed by community communion meal and featuring St. David's very own Angel Voices' choir
April 2	Good Friday Service 10 am
April 4	EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION with orchestra and choirs

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AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR

On April 25, 2010 we are delighted to welcome to St. David's United the African Children's Choir. The choir of 28 children will arrive at St. David's around 1:30 p.m. in the afternoon and will stay on site until their concert that evening. These children will be staying in Calgary for a few days and we are eager to extend to them the use of our building, our open hearts and warm hospitality.

This is a wonderful opportunity for St. David's. The Africa Children's Choir visited Calgary a few years ago and stayed at St. David's. That year you offered your warm hospitality, wonderful generosity, and thoughtful assis-

tance and I know you and they were blessed by that visit. Let us open our hearts, homes, and church to this group once again.

Rev. Peggy McDonagh



STEWARDSHIP DINNER

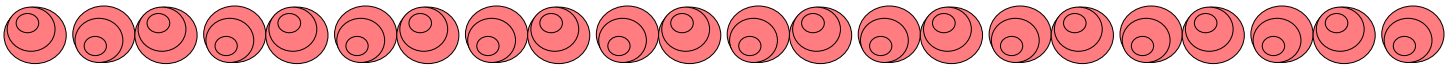
Looking for an evening out with a **fine meal**? How about an opportunity to hear an **interesting speaker** on a hot topic? What about BOTH a fine meal AND a great speaker together? If this sounds intriguing, you should plan to attend St. David's annual Stewardship Dinner on **Saturday, March 6th**, @ 6:30pm. Wendy Lowe, will share a presentation on "Intergenerational Communication." We hope to dis-

cover new ways to connect more effectively with our children, grandchildren, parents or grandparents. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for youth. We are also offering a supervised "Movie and Pizza Night" for children 12 and under in Robertson Hall. The cost is just \$5/child, so plan to make it a family night out! Tickets will be on sale after the service on Sunday, Feb. 21st and 28th. Come join us for a mul-



ticourse meal served to you at your table by our "professional" wait staff. We are looking forward to seeing all the generations represented!





PEGGY'S MESSAGE

Dear Companions on the Journey:

Every year the season of Lent begins with the reading of Jesus' sojourn into the wilderness. The story is told that while in the wilderness Jesus was tempted and later went to pray. There exists an ancient form of Christianity that embodies what is known as the 'desert tradition.' The desert is a dry and desolate place, barren yet beautiful. "In this tradition," writes Alan Jones, "the desert is a desert of the spirit: a place of silence, waiting, and temptation. It is also a place of revelation, conversion, and transformation. A true revelation is a very disturbing event because it demands a response, and to respond to it means some kind of inner revolution. It involves being 'made over,' being made new, being 'born again.' The desert is a place of revelation and revolution. In the desert we wait, we weep, we learn to live." Jesus went into the de-

sert, a place where he waited, he wept, he learned to live. While in the desert Jesus experienced a transformation as his spirit was refreshed and renewed.

Every year Lent beacons us to embark on our own spiritual/wilderness journey: to enter into an inner place that is at once frightening and holy, to stay in that place for 40 days, and to finally leave that place renewed and at peace with ourselves. As we enter the season of Lent do we have the courage and strength to journey into the wilderness place, that aloneness space, that place of silence? Will we allow ourselves to enter the wilderness and be taught by what is frightening and holy? The inward spiritual journey can be arduous but so deeply rewarding because such a journey leads to personal awareness, maturity, oneness, healing, and enlightenment. When we are deeply connected with our spirits--the deepest undercurrents of our lives--we are transformed because we connect with our

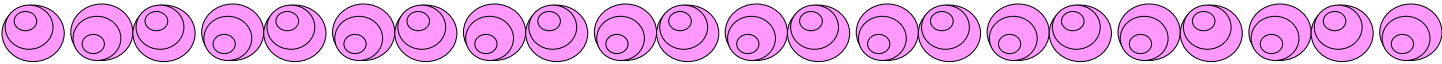
best selves. We become people who are compelled to act with dignity, to speak truthfully, and to live peaceably with ourselves and with others.

In this season of Lent as we enter into sacred inward places may we embrace the wise words of Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus (26 April 121 - 17 March 180) who said, "Waste no more time talking about the great souls and how they should be. Become one yourself. Honor the highest thing in the Universe; it is the power on which all things depend; it is the light by which all of life is guided. Honor the highest within yourself; for it is the power on which all things depend, and the light by which all life is guided. Dig within. Within is the wellspring of Good; and it is always ready to bubble up, if you just dig."

Rev. Peggy McDonagh



Every year Lent beacons us
to embark on our own
spiritual/wilderness journey.
Will you enter the
wilderness?



MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL CHAIR

Notes from Dave,

Here we are well into 2010 - already. It's hard to believe two months have passed.

This year promises to be filled with memorable moments. A few of the upcoming events are listed below.

Our annual Stewardship Dinner on March 6 will include a guest speaker and great food.

The youth present 'Aladdin and his Magic Lamp' on March 16.

Alison Demeter continues with her interesting and engaging children's projects and teachings.

This year is the 50th Anniversary of St. David's United Church. I know we still have members that were present when the congregation started.

There are several dates that I've heard and some discussion about what the 'actual' date was but I suggest we embrace this special occasion and all enjoy the events. Book the weekend of September 23, 24 and 25 2010 and plan to attend the party!

In keeping with this special event the Committees are selecting a special project they will lead. These projects are designed to highlight our anniversary by greening or improving the Church in a memorable way. Some of the ideas include:

· Property - install eco-friendly toilets in all the bathrooms, low flow shower heads in the downstairs shower

· Worship - build a storage room at the back of the sanctuary to store banners and worship materials

· Finance - vestments for the communion table, lecturn and pulpit

· ACTS (formerly ASDM) - Pictorial directory

· Complete the upgrading of the Tatangamani Room

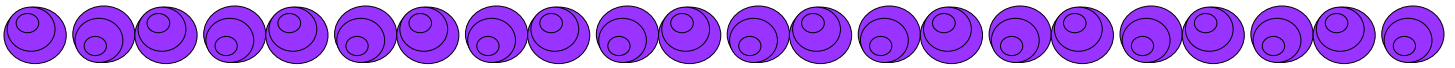
· Other ideas include: improved lighting in some areas, dressing up the columns supporting the balcony, a sustainable recycle program, updating the Ministers' photo gallery to name a few.

How can we make this celebration a success? There are many opportunities to be involved and it will not be memorable unless everyone helps. Karen White-man and Deb Charnuski have volunteered to spearhead the celebration planning but they cannot do it alone. Support is needed for an archivist, someone to document stories from when the church was started, food planning, decorations, logistics for people from out of town who would like to attend the celebration etc. etc.

To help out, contact the office at 403-284-2276 and leave your name, phone number and what you are interested in helping with.

*Dave Rider
Council Chair*





WORSHIP

Communion is an integral sacrament within the Christian church. Since September 2009, St. David's has offered Communion on a monthly basis, with the exception of July and August. A worship petal group of Coordinators has been created to organize Communion servers. It would be ideal if this group could have a few more Coordinators. Serving as a Coordinator provides an opportunity for you to utilize your skills and gifts for a short volunteer time and to meet other people. If you are interested please contact Peggy. It is hoped that many more congregants will take the opportunity to serve Communion. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the church office.

Worship Committee 50th anniversary Project - For their project the Committee has chosen to support the building of a new storage cupboard to hold banners and worship accessories. The cupboard will be placed at the back of the sanctuary under the balcony (right side) and will free up much needed storage space at the front. It will also be more easily accessible.



AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER

Banners - The banners that hang in the sanctuary are changed throughout the year to match the different seasons of the church calendar. The Worship committee is in need of volunteers to help with the changing of the banners. This can be done anytime during the week. If you could serve in this area, please contact the church office. Your assistance is much appreciated.

Easter Flowers - Low scented spring flowers will be placed in the sanctuary on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. This is an opportunity for the congregation to donate to the Flower Fund in honour or memory of a special person. We will be taking donations on March 7, 14 and 21 or you can contact the church office. Names will be listed in the March 28 and April 4 worship folders.



Visit us at
www.sduc.ca





FROM THE PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY - Rev. Janice Aicken

I am enjoying the role of Minister of Pastoral Care at St. David's. Good things are happening as we continue to care about each other: The Petal Groups are responsive to the various concerns that arise and in January the Commune-I-Care Coordinators sponsored a Thank You Tea for all who had been callers over the years. During the Tea, as we did some re-visioning of a Telephone Ministry, we established some helpful ideas for new directions in our pastoral care ministry.

A compassionate pastoral care ministry is functioning when our community is aware of those in our midst who are experiencing some pastoral care need. Please continue to bring forward names of those who could use a telephone call or a pastoral visit.

We all need to remember that, we have a policy in this church of getting permission from any person that might be added to the prayer chain, placed in the worship folder or brought either to Peggy or to me for pastoral care.

Thank you for your support in this ministry.

Janice Aicken

CorpsBara Performance: "Via Delarosa"



March 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Worship Experience

(Corps: n. Latin for body' and Bara: v. Hebrew for 'I create') = Creative Body Corps Bara

We believe in the power of creativity to enlighten, as well as entertain. This guiding principal gives Corps Bara its character, energy and soul. Our goal is to inspire and engage audiences of all ages with innovative and excellent art.

Mission

Corps Bara is a contemporary dance company that explores the human story and our search for spiritual connection.

History

Founded in 2000, Corps Bara is known for merging spirit and energy in its dynamic Professional Company and through its talented Youth Company. The two companies offer dancers the opportunity to work with local and international choreographers and to perform in a broad spectrum of venues. Each season the focus is on the creation of new contemporary dance productions committed to exploring the limits of dance while creating work that is a celebration of life.





MUSIC NOTE

A Note From Brent

How exciting it is to be celebrating 50 years! A milestone number that gives just cause for celebrations and festivities. A lot can occur in 5 decades. While change is inevitable something I have learned about St David's United Church that throughout our years, music has always remained a staple component in our parish.

From the time of its inception, St David's parish has held music as a key component of worship and has provided quality music ministry. Many accomplished musicians have held positions in our church, including John Vandebeld, Jamie Syer, Douglas Hales, and Ron Klusmeier. While

many churches in our country are home to one or two choirs, we have always maintained several choral groups and instrumental ensembles, both large and small comprised of all ages, here in our parish. Numerous accomplished musicians have been and continue to be a part of these groups that provide an encompassing scope of musical genres.

Why do we have music? Music has been dubbed the "universal language" and it has been said that to sing is to have prayed twice. It is a communication form that all, regardless of race, gender, and age, can connect with. Music moves beyond the spoken word. What we play

and sing stretches into our core, our souls, and unites us; it can nurture and challenges our spirits, thus drawing us closer to God.

Where are we going to be in 50 years? The answer, of course, is unknown to us. The music makers and listeners will have changed, as well as the music itself that they play and sing. One thing, however, will not have changed: the very essence and capability of music. It will continue to speak to us, unite us, and reveal God to us. It is a privilege and blessing to be able to make this step in the St. David's journey along with you. Let us continue to make music!

Blessings, Brent Tucker

GENESIS

Plan to come to St. David's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". This lively musical about Joseph and his brothers will be held at St. David's April 22-24, 2010 at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Tickets will be available for \$10 at the door. Looking forward to sharing this wonderful story through song, dance, and laughter!



PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

Mini-Workshop: **Building Momentum toward Zero Nuclear Weapons**
Saturday March 13th 8:45am-1pm
Refreshments and lunch included.
Parkdale United Church 2919 8Ave NW
Good news. Nuclear weapon disarmament is now moving forward! You are still needed to reinforce this momentum. Presentation, discussion, videos. Presenter: Bev Delong, lawyer, has spent 27 years working on this issue at a national level. Come and be re-inspired. Workshop Fee: \$15 Low Income: \$8 Contact the Project Ploughshares office to register: 403-270 7366.



ST. DAVID'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT SERIES

Presents: SuperSonic Men's Choir

Paul Grindlay, Artistic Director

Psalms & Psongs—Sunday, February 28th, 2010 at 3pm

Tickets: Adults: \$15, Students \$8, Children 6 and under free, Family \$30.00

A free-will offering in support of ongoing Haiti disaster relief may be collected

This concert presents a wonderful program of male choral music, from sacred Renaissance polyphony by Tomkins and Da Viadana, through rich Romantic works by Schubert and Schumann, to exciting rhythmic works by the likes of Ernani Aguiar and Bruce Sled. Larry Nickel's settings of Canadian folk-songs and "My Heavenly Father watches over Me" are bound to please, the latter featuring a fabulous bass solo by Dylan Wright. I bet we can make you laugh during Giles Bryant's Anglican Chant setting of a real 1967 letter to the famous newspaper advice columnist, Abigail Van Buren, which begins "Dear Abby, I love my wife and she loves me. However, after thirty years of married life..." We may even have a bibulous encore or two up our sleeves!



Presents Peter Dent, pianist and composer

On Sunday, March 21st, at 2 pm, Peter Dent will present the second concert in St. David's 50th Anniversary Concert Series. His abilities and experience as a jazz pianist, gospel clinician, and classical choral conductor ensures that the concert will be extremely entertaining and uplifting.

The concert itself will feature numerous gospel songs and spirituals, performed by the gospel workshop choir. As well, Peter will perform several pieces from his own repertoire of jazz piano arrangements of well-known gospel music. Peter Dent has led gospel workshops in Calgary, Toronto, Jamaica, Cuba, and classical workshops in Prague, CZ. His gospel workshops feature an eclectic blend of gospel styles, and result in a great weekend of singing, and in consistently high-quality vocal performances.

PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

Workshop on Disarming Gun Violence Project Ploughshares is proud to present:

Friday May 14, 7pm Film: Devil's Bargain: A Journey into the Small Arms Trade. Location TBA

Saturday May 15 Three national Ploughshares and two local experts present international, national and local impacts of gun proliferation, agreements and initiatives, and development of local action. At Bow Cliff Senior Centre, 608 Poplar Rd SW, 9 to 4pm.





CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND WORSHIP

Here is a quick glance of what is happening in the Children's and Young Families Ministry through Lent. You may also want to check out "The Sunday Server" on the web site.

Faith Quest

Faith Quest is our Sunday morning program for children. All the children follow the same themes, including the 2/3 year old children who have a structured program adapted to their age. The grade 5/6 class continue to take on a number of special projects and to assist the younger children.

Holy Week

This four-week unit offers the children an opportunity to explore the different concepts/rituals and to become familiar with the story of Holy Week from the perspective of "bullying."

Sundays, February 28 – March 21, 2010

"**Puppets for Peace**" are confirmed for a puppet presentation during Faith Quest! "Lisasaurus Rex" is a "unique presentation to educate...about friendship, bullying and both bullying and citizenship." **Sunday, March 7th Robertson Hall**

You Are My Family

Many of our young families have been unable to attend church on Sunday mornings due to other activities and yet still want to connect within our church community. As a result, we have decided to revamp "You Are My Family (YAMF)." YAMF will now be held on the third Sunday of the month and will welcome any and all members of the family to share lunch and engage in an activity.

Spa Day & Dessert (Please Note: This is not just for the ladies!)

The ladies have requested another spa and we didn't think the guys would want to participate, so.... We will come together to share lunch and then break off into groups. The ladies will indulge in their spa day while **the guys have fun creating a decadent dessert** that we will enjoy when we come back together to!
Sunday, March 21 11:30 – 2:00 in Robertson Hall/Tatanga Mani Room

Looking ahead to the long weekend in May.... St. David's Goes to Camp Kasota!

We have booked Camp Kasota West for St. David's to come together for a weekend. Sleep in heated cabins, eat amazing food, and join in all kinds of activities! This is one weekend you will not want to miss!
Please note: *Members of Knox, Woodcliff, Balzac and Hillhurst United Churches have requested to join us at camp so register early as priority registration for St. David's ends on May 2nd.*
Friday, May 21 – Sunday, May 23, 2010

Always Welcome!

Registration for our Sunday morning program is on going throughout the year. For any families who are new to or thinking about joining us at St. David's, I invite you to e-mail, phone, or introduce yourself to me and I will be thrilled to help you in any way I am able. May your journey through lent be enlightening and transformational!

Warmest regards,
Alison Demeter,
Children's Worship & Education Minister

