



Seeds of Faith

Nov / Dec, 2010

Squamish United Church 38014 Fourth Avenue, Squamish, BC

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Minister's Memo – Preparing the Way

Attentiveness has been the theme of my journey for the last months. And so as I began to prepare for the seasons of Advent and Christmas I was drawn into a desire to share the gift of paying attention with you. Barbara Brown Taylor wrote in her book An Altar in the World "Earth is so thick with divine possibility that it is a wonder we can walk anywhere without cracking our shins on altars."

This Advent season I want to invite you to join me on an intentional spiritual practice journey to help recognize that divine possibility which surrounds us every day of our lives. "The practice of paying attention really does take time. Most of us move so quickly that our surroundings become no more than the blurred scenery we fly past on our way to somewhere else...Reverence requires a certain pace. It requires a willingness to take detours, even side trips, which are not part of the original plan." Still "paying attention requires no equipment, no special clothes, no green fees or personal trainers. You do not even have to be in particularly good shape. All you need is a body on this earth, willing to notice where it is, trusting that even something as small as a hazelnut can become an altar in this world."

As a worship committee we will be putting together an advent spiritual practice calendar. It will be available at the church and on our website. From Sunday November 28th-December 25th we will invite you to join us each day in a time of paying attention to God within and around us. Most days we will invite you to do so on your own or with others you choose to practice with however on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Wednesday afternoons will have opportunities to come and practice together. (see the calendar for more details).

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Renaissance and Hilltop Services

In the past several months people have assisted with offering worship services for both Hilltop and the Renaissance. I especially thank Christine Tribe who has offered leadership faithfully at Hilltop. I would like to invite others to join us either by offering their gifts of a brief reflection, musical accompaniment or being present. **Please let Karen know if you are able to assist or lead at the Renaissance on November 28th at 2pm. Or Hilltop on December 5th at 2pm.**



Christmas Services

November 28th	Advent 1 Worship and Workshop
December 5th	Advent 2
December 12th	White Gift Sunday
December 19th	Advent 4
December 19th 7:00pm	Quiet Christmas - A contemplative service in the midst of the season
December 24th – 7:00pm	Family Candlelight Service
9:00pm	Carols by Candlelight service

Advent Workshop



On Sunday November 28th we will have our second annual Advent kick-off with the “Let’s Talk Turkey” lunch (Proceeds going towards Turkey’s for First United) followed by a time of advent wreath and luminary making. This is an opportunity for us as a community to join together in preparation for the coming season. Fun for all ages!

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the sanctuary if you would like to make a wreath so that we can ensure we have enough supplies. Please bring small glass jars in the next few weeks and/or on that day to make beautiful luminaries to light the way for our Christmas services (like we had last year).

Men’s Breakfast

November 20th - 8:30am at the church

The Men’s Breakfast Group meets together usually once a month at 8:30am on a Saturday. Members take turns with the cooking and clean up. Members can also, if they wish, take a turn presenting a topic for the morning discussion. The topics are on a variety of themes and whenever the opportunity arises we invite a guest speaker. This helps to bring us ideas from other perspectives. The fellowship and good humor shared over breakfast is fun and also give the men an opportunity to get together at a time other than Sunday mornings. It also allows us to invite friends to our church.



Fall Dinner

November 21st - 6:00pm at the church

The men are planning to whip-up the traditional roast beef Fall dinner with all the trimmings at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday November 21st. We have also arranged to have a number of entertainers lead you in a sing-a-long after the meal. In lieu of selling tickets we have a sign up sheet on the bulletin board to indicate the level of attendance. Show up for the dinner and enjoy the fellowship, even if you didn't get a chance to sign up. There will be an opportunity to make a donation to the church as you are able.

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Public Open House Meeting

Our Squamish United congregation and the Sea to Sky community Services Society are hosting a downtown neighbourhood **OPEN HOUSE** Wednesday November 24 at 6:00pm to 8:00pm. This is the 3rd in a series of meetings to keep our neighbours informed of our new development plans and to seek their input. Our architect, Don Nicolson will be on hand to provide an overview of the preliminary plans. Sea to Sky Community Services will be providing pizza and cold drinks for everyone.

Come and join us as we welcome our neighbours.



The McKenzie Unit UCW has just received their cookbooks and these are now on sale. Don't miss getting one, these make a great Christmas gift.

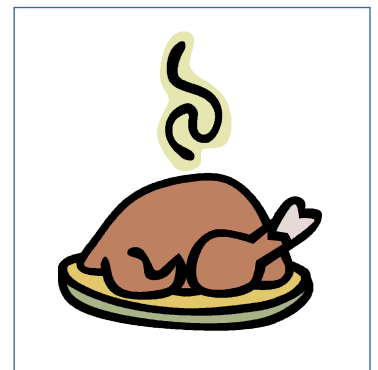
Cookbooks

Let's Talk Turkey

November 28th after the service

The Bethany Unit of the UCW (and regular friends) has been sponsoring the Let's Talk Turkey Luncheon for close to 10 years. The idea was sparked by an article in the First United newsletter where they asked for 8 turkeys. (They actually need a whole lot more) for the series of dinners they hold. We decided to hold a luncheon to raise \$\$ to purchase the turkeys. This is exactly what we have done over the years. We have chosen this mission as a way of serving God's purpose through outreach to the community of the downtown east side. Over the years, we have also shared the proceeds with M/S, and the greater UCW. We've stuck to the 8 turkeys. Various members of the congregation have delivered them over the years.

A real Team Approach!



*Soup and Sandwich Luncheon
by donation.*

Community Christmas Care



Donations are being accepted
in the sanctuary.

Go Grocery Shopping, buy what is on this
list and place it in the box labeled
"Community Christmas Care".
It's that easy!

Nov 14th – Canned Meat, Fish & Stews
Nov 21st – Canned Fruits & Vegetables
Nov 28th – Canned Soups & Pastas
Dec 5th – Dried Pasta & Sauces
Dec 12th – Cereal, Hams, Treats &
Beverages

Carol's Carols



23rd Annual Christmas Programme and Carol
Sing-Along will be held
Sunday, Dec. 5th at 6:30pm

Admission is by a non-perishable food item or
cash gift to the Community Christmas Care.

Coffee with Karen



I loved our one coffee time together in September and I would like to make this a monthly connection time. "Coffee with Karen" has two purposes. The first is to spend time with you talking about the things that are important to you. During our coffee times we may discuss what moved us in worship on Sunday, or what is happening with our church family and friends. We may invite someone to bring a topic that has been on their hearts recently - the subjects are endless. The second purpose is to spend time together as people of Squamish United Church in the wider community of Squamish. Every piece of church research I read says - get outside your church doors. Spend time together with people in the community. So come - have a cuppa and enjoy one another's company. I am looking forward this time with all of you.

Tuesday November 23rd - 2pm
Starbucks downtown
Tuesday December 21st - 2pm
Starbucks downtown
Tuesday January 25th - 2pm
Starbucks downtown

Knitters

Knitters are meeting weekly (Friday afternoon) to knit, pray, and bless Prayer Shawls. Five shawls have recently been donated to Howe Sound Women's Centre, to be given to women at the transition house. New knitters are always welcome, with yarn, needles and lessons available. Completed Shawls are available to be given to anyone in need of comfort and prayers. For more info contact Sue 604-898-9372



Sewing Group

The sewing and quilting group meets in the sanctuary each **Wednesday from 11:00am – 2:00pm**. If you would be interested in joining these ladies or just would like more information contact Arlene at 604-898-1251

Sea to Sky Singers

Squamish's own beloved choir will be singing at St. John's Anglican Church on **Friday, Dec. 10th at 7:30pm with a matinee on Saturday, Dec. 11th at 2:00pm**.

The Sea to Sky Singers is a non-profit, adult community choir dedicated to learning and performing a challenging variety of music in a fun and social environment.

Website



The church website is the perfect place to check on upcoming events and activities, as well as to review past sermons. Karen now has her Blog up and running so have a look at that.

www.squamishunitedchurch.org