

**TWO RIVERS PASTORAL CHARGE
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Bayswater-Summerville Long Reach Westfield**

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Two Rivers Pastoral Charge Church Services

January Worship

Jan 15	Summerville	9:30 am	Westfield 11:00 am
Jan 22	Long Reach	9:30 am	Westfield 11:00 am
Jan 29	Summerville	9:30 am	Westfield 11:00 am

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson

January 15, 2012

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Bayswater-Summerville 9: 30 am - Westfield 11:00 am

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
January 15 - January 22**

Prelude

* indicates "to stand a able"

Response printed in **bold**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

WE GATHER IN HOPE

Introit:

Music to help us shift from getting here to being here.

Gather Us In

More Voices 7

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, gather us in,

ground us, ground us in you.

Gathering:

We are called,

each and every one:

old, young,

woman, man.

We are called,

into God's future,

called to speak God's message,

called by the One whom we gather to worship today.

Let us pray:

Holy One, you have searched me out! You know me!

You know when I sit, when I stand;

from far away you discern my thoughts.

**You trace my journeys and my resting places, you are familiar
with all my ways.**

Indeed, there is not a word on my tongue but you, you know it completely.

Your embrace is all around me.

You lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so exalted that I cannot grasp it.**

Truly, you yourself created my inmost being;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you! Fearfully, wonderfully, you created me;

wonderful are your works; well do I know it.

My body was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes looked on me, still in the womb;

in your book all the shapes were recorded,

as day by day they were formed

formed where there had been nothing.

To me your thoughts are very precious, profound in their sweeping vastness, numberless as sand in the sea.

Even at my end I shall be with you. Amen

Opening Hymn: *I Have Called You by My Name* More Voices 161

Prayer of Confession: *(in unison)*

God, we know you call us into your future.

But sometimes, we do not recognize your voice - perhaps because we have not yet learned, or have forgotten to expect your call.

Sometimes, we do not hear you calling - perhaps because we get too busy, or distracted by other voices, like our inner voice of greed or self-satisfaction.

Sometimes, we hear your call, but we ignore it - perhaps

because to follow means making changes when we are comfortable, or we doubt that we are able to answer the call.

We are sorry for these times when we don't acknowledge your voice, don't hear your voice, don't respond to your voice. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

When we don't hear God's voice,

God will call us again.

When we don't recognize God's voice,

God will call us again.

When we don't respond to God's voice,

God will call us again.

The stories of God's people who came before us assure us that God will call us, and call us again and again,

calling us into the future of hope, calling us with the voice of

love, calling us as children of the light.

Thanks be to God. We are a forgiven people.

***Hymn:** *I Am The Light of The World* Voices United 87

Worship with the Children

WE LISTEN IN HOPE

Scripture: *1 Samuel 3: 1-11*

Reader: *This is the witness of God's people*

Anthem

Reflection

WE RESPOND IN HOPE

Pastoral Prayer

Voices United 411

O God we call, O God we call, from deep inside we yearn, from deep inside we yearn, from deep inside we yearn for you.

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Ane lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen

Stewardship Second

Offering Invitation

Offertory Hymn

Take These Gifts

Take these gifts and let them be used as blessings sent from thee.

Take our lives and use us all for your glory and your call.

WE SCATTER IN HOPE

* **Empowering Hymn:** *Go Forth for God*

Voices United 418

Sending Forth:

***Benediction:** *Go Now In Peace*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe,

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above,

Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen, Amen, Amen

Today we join the World Council of Prayer circle for **Cyprus, Greece and Turkey.**

Readers: (SV); *Mary Kennedy Fulton(W)*

Greeters/Offering: (SV); *Brian & Darlene Johnston(W)*

Today's Worship resources:

Gathering: Adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*. Used with permission

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Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon: Adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*. Used with permission

Sung Benediction: Words by Don Besig and Nancy Price. Music by Don Besig. Reproduced with permission under Licensing #C9979.

Lectionary Reading for Sunday, January 22nd

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10; Psalm 62: 5-12; 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31;

Mark 1: 14-20

“Laughter as an antidote to grief can be hazardous to depression”

LIFE AND WORK OF OUR CHURCH

This Week

Confirmation Classes - Anyone interested in learning more about what it means to become a member of the United Church of Canada please be in touch with Rev. Elizabeth. This year confirmation classes will take a fresh approach. If the interest is there we could offer two classes, one for youth, and one for adults.

Monday, January 16, *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

Wednesday, January 18, 7:30 pm *Session* at Westfield United.

Sunday, January 22, 4:30 pm *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Worship* will be held at Anglican Church of the Resurrection. Supper to follow at 5:30 pm.

2012 Annual Meetings:

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 7:30 pm

Official Board

Sunday, Jan. 29, 9:30-10:30 am

Long Reach Congregational

Sunday, Jan. 29, 11:00 am

Westfield Congregational

Sunday, Feb. 5, 9:00-10:30 am

Bayswater-Summerville

Please submit your Annual Report by January 15

Westfield United Church

Snapshot of financial position as at December 31, 2011

(twelve months)

Receipts

(includes \$5,000 accessibility grant)

(includes \$2,000 refund from charge-Sep re Bayswater/Summerville)

Receipts:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last year</u>
	\$96,577.13	\$87,134.00	\$86,072.95

Disbursements:	<u>89,301.40</u>	<u>85,057.00</u>	<u>89,101.05</u>
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(incl \$5,000 grant transferred to project)

Excess receipts over disbts.	7,275.73	2,077.00	-3,028.10
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Balance January 1, 2011	<u>662.42</u>	<u>662.42</u>	<u>3,690.52</u>
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Balance December 31, 2011	7,938.15	2,739.42	662.42
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Other Stats:		(total target)	
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Warm Hearts - Dec 31/11	4,807.50	10,000.00	
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(included in receipts)

Individuals on PAR program - 30

Average amount of individual PAR contribution monthly \$103.00

COME TO THE TABLE

Mental illness and homelessness are serious problems that the United Church addresses through the Mission and Service. Here is one example from Manitoba

Ed had been homeless for about seven years. His life as a husband, father and truck driver fell apart because of depression, alcohol, childhood trauma, and a marriage breakup.

In the midst of this turmoil, Ed discovered Oak Table Community Ministry in Augustine United Church, Winnipeg, and started to visit regularly. He became a “street dad” to the kids who showed up homeless, looking out for them, and pointing them toward supports like Oak Table.

Oak Table referred Ed to a research project focused on mental health issues and homelessness. After completing the program, Ed moved into his own, furnished apartment and is looking into becoming an Oak Table volunteer. Ed is absolutely thrilled, transformed and grateful.

Oak Table serves between 40 and 60 people daily, many of whom are homeless. Some struggle with mental illness; some are kids with addictions fleeing abusive or unhealthy homes. Oak Table offers food, pastoral care, telephone and Internet access, and special activities and events. With a local health unit, the ministry also offers workshops on nutrition and healthy living.

The need is great. Oak Table is the only community ministry in its part of Winnipeg. Oak Table counts on Mission and Service to sustain its ministry of hospitality. Your gifts helped Ed regain control of his life, and your continuing gifts to Mission and Service will help many others.

Bulletin #3

Church in Action of the Two Rivers Pastoral Charge - Jan. 2012

Happy New Year! This bulletin is to tell each of you wonderful news: we

can send two more children to school in Rabinal Guatemala! From the sale of our Fair Trade Coffee, tea and chocolate and the socials after church with your free will offerings. I have sent \$594.43 to Tatamagouche Centre who will forward the funds to the school in Guatemala. Thank you to all who support this.

The rest of the good news - you - our church family - really spread Joy and Love this Christmas. I wish you could have seen all the gifts David and I and Bette Ashley delivered to Aids Saint John, Coverdale, Hestia House, United Church Clothing Depot and the Community Chaplaincy just before Christmas. You gave generously and such a wonderful assortment. Aids Saint John told me that not one thing would go to waste. Coverdale told Bette when she delivered four bags "We are so low on things you'll never know how needed this is!" Bette certainly said it was a highlight of her Christmas.

In looking ahead to the rest of this winter and next year I wish to pass along the following suggestions:

- remember as the winter continues with cold and storms there is always the need for warm clothing especially for men at Aids Saint John, the United Church Clothing Depot or the Community Chaplaincy.
- as you put away your Christmas presents and organize your closets especially after the January sales, maybe there would be something old that you probably won't wear again. How many coats do we really need?
- anyone can drop things off at any of the above locations and if you need directions please call me at 763-2412 or ask Rev. Elizabeth.
- we would like to share the feelings we get of sharing during our deliveries and perhaps during December 2012 we can have one or two people share the deliveries from the Westfield area. This year we brought them to Summerville and divided the whole amount between the five places.

I cannot emphasize enough the amazement I felt when I saw the beautiful things donated, so many hand made as well. I will close by sending you the thank you note from Hestia House. But from myself and all of us on your Church in Action Committee may I say may God bless each of you.

Ida MacPherson
Church in Action Committee

Dear Friends of Hestia House,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and residents of Hestia House Inc., a shelter for abused women and their children, we would like to take this opportunity to extend to you our sincere thanks for your generous contributions.

Leaving an abusive situation is extremely difficult for the women we provide services for. It is even more difficult during the Christmas season. As a non-profit organization we depend greatly on the support of our community. Organizations and individuals such as you are the ones who provide Christmas for the women and children who are with us on Christmas morning. We could not do this without you.

We are very fortunate to have the level of community support that we do each year. It is your thoughtfulness and caring that make Christmas morning what it is here at Hestia House. Please know the smiles on the faces of each child and mother on Christmas morning is there because of you. Your kind gesture is indeed in the true spirit of Christmas.

Christmas morning here at Hestia House is happy, peaceful and calm. For many, it will indeed be the best Christmas they have ever had. Thank you so much for being a part of their Christmas.

May this Christmas season bring to you and yours our very best for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Elaine Northrup
Executive Director