



**Morning Messenger**  
**Southminster-Steinhauer United Church**  
*an Affirming Congregation within the United Church of Canada*  
**10740-19 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6J 6W9**  
**Phone: 435-2028 Fax: 435-2058**  
**email: info@smsuc.com website: www.smsuc.com**

## Lent 1

**March 5, 2006**

### Welcome One and All!

#### TODAY:

#### Sunday, March 5, Lent 1

- Men's Breakfast Fellowship, 7:30 am, Small Hall
- Worship: 'Get on Board'  
Musical Offering by Children's Choir, Baby Care
- Connector Meeting (Congregational Care),  
11:30 am, Large Hall
- Lenten Stone Soup, 'Water Issues In Canada', 11:30 am,  
Small Hall
- Film Series, 'Reel Faith', 6:00 pm, Small Hall
- Grief Group #3, 7 p.m., Lounge

#### THROUGH THE WEEK:

#### Monday (Family Day)

- Parents' Morning Out, 9:30a.m. in the Lounge
- Children's Choir practice in the Small Hall

#### Tuesday

- Tuesday Connection, 9:15 am, Small Hall
- Affirm Committee Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Lounge
- Board Meeting, 7:15 p.m. Large Hall

#### Wednesday

- Worship Committee, 1p.m. Board Room
- Congregational Care Committee, 1 p.m., Lounge
- TBA 7 p.m., Lounge

#### Thursday

- Edmonton Calligraphy, 6 p.m., Small Hall
- Adult Choir, 7:15 pm, Large Hall

#### Saturday

- Men's Choir Practice 10 a.m.-12 noon Large Hall
- Wedding and Reception, 2 p.m.

#### Sunday, March 12, Lent 2

- Worship Service with Communion, Learning Circles,  
& Baby Care, 10.a.m., Large Hall
- Combined 2nd Sunday Brunch and Lenten Stone Soup Lunch  
theme: "Water of Life", 11:30
- Film Series 6p.m., in the Small Hall
- Grief Group #1, 7p.m. in the Lounge

### Special Congregational Meeting

A special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 19th immediately following worship to receive the report of the Joint Search and Selection Committee (JSSR) regarding our search for a minister To fill our .5 FTE ministry position. **EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

**"Stone Soup Sunday's Series"**  
**Sunday, March 5 – Water Issues in Canada**  
**Sunday, March 12 – Aboriginal Peoples' Water Rights**  
**Sunday, March 26 – Water Issues**  
**in the Global Context**  
**Sunday, April 2 – What We Can Do:**  
**Strategies for Action**

Please sign up for donations of soup, bread, or cheese on the sheet in the foyer.

### Morning Messenger Deadline?

The deadline for announcements in the Morning Messenger is now set for Wednesday at noon. We are requesting that all submissions be written, dated, and indicating how long you wish the announcement to appear. Thank you for your help.

### Outreach

The Bissell Centre is a non-profit inner-city agency supported by the Southminster-Steinhauer congregation. The Centre's newsletter is available in the rack in the foyer. Food donations are collected on the first Sunday of the month, however they will be accepted at the church any time. Tannis Eaker usually delivers them on Monday. The following is an up-dated list of suggested donations of fresh, commercially canned and packaged foods. Generally, smaller packages are more useful: Baby cereal / food / formula, baked beans, lentils; bread, breakfast cereal, margarine, chili, chunky soups, stews, coffee, herbal tea, hot chocolate, oatmeal-type cookies, plain crackers, canola oil, fresh or canned fruits, evaporated or powdered milk, muffin / pancake mixes, noodles, pasta, tomato sauces, brown / wild rice, sugar, fresh and canned vegetables, soups ( chicken noodle, minestrone, vegetable, tomato), salt, soya-based sauces, herbs, spices, fruit and vegetable juices. The Bissell Thrift Store (9232-34th Avenue accepts wearable clothing, furniture, and any household effects. Arrangements to pick up bulky items can be made by calling 471-6644

### Family Needs

We have contact with a family that is in urgent need of kitchen chairs, a double bed, and girl's clothing size 5—6. If you can help them by donating these items, please call Carol Allen or the church office for more information.

### Door Keys

Whenever keys are mentioned during announcements, a "titter" goes through the congregation! Please note that there are 25 GM and 22 M1 keys that allow access to the main entrance and much of the church. Currently, approximately 30 of those keys are in circulation.

We are not only concerned about access to the church but also that all key holders keep the security information confidential and know the protocol to follow if the alarm should sound.

### **Calling Connectors and Contacts Care Group Connections Program Sunday, Mar. 5, 11:30 am, Large Hall**

The Congregational Care Committee requests all Connectors and Contacts to attend a short information session after church on Sunday, Mar. 5 at the front of the large hall. We will highlight changes to the Connectors' Network, review expectations for phone contacts and distribute Care Group lists. If you cannot attend, please phone Winnie King.

### **"REEL FAITH"** **Sunday, March 5, Compassion** **Sunday, March 12, Crisis/Conflict** **Sunday, March 19, Community** **6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

On the first three Sunday evenings in Lent, we will explore the theme: **"JOURNEY TO THE SACRED"**.

Each evening will start with a film and be followed by a facilitated discussion (popcorn included!).

**Facilitators: Lori Stewart and Jack Jervis** are long-time movie buffs, who for the past decade, have led film courses in various venues including Naramata Centre. Both Lori and Jack are active members of Knox-Met United Church.

**AN AFFIRMING CONGREGATION**

*Southminster-Steinhauer is an Affirming Congregation, a designation that signals our commitment to be a Christian community that is inclusive of all people, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, their families and friends.*

*For more information, please call Charles Bidwell, 436-8774, or Mieke Wharton, 435-1219.*

*On the second Sunday of the month, a special opportunity for fellowship is offered, referred to as the "Second Sunday Brunch." All are welcome.*

**Social Justice Institute 2006**

**Friday, Mar. 31, 7:30 pm, Kings University College**

**Topic: "Let Justice Flow Like Water"**

**& Saturday, Apr. 1, 9:00 am, Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Topic: "Let Water Flow With Justice"**

Conference cost \$15 or \$5 for Friday, Mar. 31 evening only/\$10 for Saturday, Apr. 1 (includes lunch)

Pre-registration is not required, but is appreciated so that we may accommodate everyone for lunch. To pre-register, or for more information, contact Joyce at 467-2833 or jzutter@telus.net.

**YOSS News**

Friday, Mar. 10-12, Junior High Rally, Cochrane United Church

**Outside Bookings**

**Set-up Teams**

Mar. 12th Jo Nicholas & Ann Didluck ( Team 7)

Mar. 19th Jim and Wendy Spiers (Team 5)

**Advance Notice of  
Spring "Garage Sale"  
Saturday, May 6**

It's not too soon to save your good recyclables for our spring fund raiser! Items can be brought for storage to the lower level of the church any weekday morning.

Contacts: Anne McCracken and Cliff Cunningham

**Restless Churches ... Restless People  
Reginald W. Bibby Workshop  
Friday, Mar. 31, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Saturday, Apr. 1 - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
McDougall United Church, 10025 - 101 Street**

Reginald W. Bibby, Ph.D is with the Department of Sociology, University of Lethbridge. Bibby shows that increasing numbers of Canadian adults and youth not only are in touch with God, but also are open to greater involvement in the churches. Bibby presents key findings about recent religious developments in Canada, reflects on what these findings mean, acknowledges a number of significant hurdles that have to be cleared, and offers concrete thoughts and tangible responses on how religious groups can reach Canadians reconnecting with their very own people. Deadline for advance registrations is March 25.

Cost: \$35 Individual (advance), \$30 per person for group of three or more (advance) or \$40 at the door per person.

For more information please call 428-1818.

**Furnace Fans and Close-Down Procedure**

Our mechanical contractors recommend the following use of furnace fans:

- When an area is occupied, the furnace fan should be "on" to keep the temperature more uniform.
- When leaving the area, the fan should be turned to "auto" to save power.
- Lift the thermostat cover to locate the fan "key". Depress the key to show "on" or "auto".

**A Golden Opportunity**

To steal Cliff Cunningham's approach, an opportunity has opened up that you won't want to pass up! Property Management Committee has an opening for a chair-elect who will take over as chair in 2007. You need not submit a resume, and you will not have to undergo an interview. But you will get to be part of a great team, and you will make a real contribution to your church. So let your intention be known immediately before someone else snatches this plum of a job. You are needed! Contact Jim Robertson at 434-6054.

**After The Service**

There has been a question from set-up teams as to whether the chairs should be taken up after the Sunday service. Property Management Committee recommends that normal practice should be to take the chairs up so the floor can be cleaned by the Moppets or Janitorial service.. If there is a need for the chairs between Sunday and 'cleaning day', please inform the set-up team of the day, Ross Campbell or Jim Robertson.

**A Possible Alarming Incident**

While picking up garbage on Saturday, Feb.4, two empty small boxes of matches were found under the natural gas meter. One box had been ignited and was charred; and there were burned matches as well as one live one in the immediate vicinity. It seems doubtful that smokers would have left these items in this location and manner. The incident has been reported to City Police and they asked us to be watchful and to report to them immediately if we observe anything suspicious. Please keep your eyes open for unusual activities and items on our property. We need more eyes covering more area and more time.

**Recommended Reading  
Available In Our Own Library!**

**Books of Blessing & how to write them** by Ruth Burgess  
**Hide and Seek With God** [ for children] by Mary Ann Moore  
**Rabbi Jesus: An Intimate Biography** by Bruce Chilton  
**Culture of Peace: God's Vision for the Church**  
by Kreider & Widjaja

**Missing Tape**

The tape of the February 12th service is missing. If you have borrowed it, could you please let Iris Stanley know. She needs to copy it for those who cannot attend church.

**Wanted/Needed!**

We need an additional bookcase for our library. We have been given a large number of books causing us to run out of shelf space. We are seeking a brown bookcase to compliment the existing cases that are in the lounge. Please contact the office at 435-2028.

**Imagine: Weekend Retreat  
For Gays And Lesbians  
May 19 - 22, Naramata Centre**

Join us on this long weekend retreat, a time for gay, lesbian, transgendered and bi-sexual men and women to come together in community. Imagine time for rest, relaxation and celebrating our diversity and common stories! We are planning a gentle weekend with a variety of optional workshops, good conversation, singing and dancing, engaging worship, great food, country walks, winery and garden tours. Let us know if you would like to bring your children and we will arrange for care. Further details are available at <http://tinyurl.com/alw35>. If anyone is interested in sharing travel please contact Betty Kellner .

**Silvertones Practice**

Sunday, March 19th—following luncheon  
Saturday, April 1st—10—12 noon