



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

Epiphany 4 **February 2, 2003**

Welcome!
 If you are new to our Community of Faith,
A Special Welcome!

TODAY:

- ★ Men's Breakfast Fellowship, 7:30 am
- ★ 10 am worship, Youth and Circle Groups, Baby-care
- ★ Annual General Meeting—following Worship
 Includes potluck lunch
 Child Care will be available.

THROUGH THE WEEK:

Monday:

- ★ Christopher Leadership Course, 7:00 pm
- ★ Healing Pathway, 7:00 pm

Tuesday:

- ★ Tuesday Connection, 9:15 am
- ★ Congregational Development Committee, 7:00 pm
- ★ Congregational Care Committee, 7:15 pm
- ★ Property Maintenance Committee, 7:15 pm

Wednesday:

- ★ Worship Committee, 7:15 pm
- ★ Sacred Circle Dance, 7:30 pm

Thursday:

- ★ Parents' Morning Out—9:15 am
- ★ Adult Choir, 7:15 pm

Friday:

- ★ Children's Choir: 6:00 pm
- ★ Drama Group, 7:00 pm
- ★ YOSS, 7:00 pm

Next SUNDAY, February 9, Epiphany 5

- ★ 10 am Worship, Youth, Circle Groups, Baby Care
- ★ LGBF Luncheon after Worship

SUNDAY, February 16, Epiphany 6

- ★ Intergenerational Worship Celebration, 10:00 am
- ★ Seniors' Luncheon, after Worship
- ★ Deadline for March Reminder Newsletter

Excerpt from A Letter from the Moderator and Acting General Secretary

In the General Council offices we are moving prayerfully and positively in light of the restructuring and in light of the Commission on Leadership report. In fact, a number of people have shared that there had been a positive change among the staff as far back as May. The restructuring had been stressful for a number of people. The positive change is evident in the work that is being done; it is of high quality and, in many cases, of exceptional creativity. The positive change is also evident in the numbers attending chapel each week, a new Bible study group, and the people working on making Church House more hospitable for those visiting and for those who work here.

Our prayer is that this letter will find you blessed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the many and varied ways you are human expressions of Christ's presence, where you live and play, and for the challenges you face as a church.

Right Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy
Rev. Dr. Jim Sinclair

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Immediately following Worship today
Lunch Break at 11:30 am
Meeting should conclude by 1:30 pm

HOW CAN WE BE OF SERVICE TO YOU?
Please drop this in the offering plate, hand it to a greeter or leave it in the Church Office.

- I would be interested in having more information about:
- this congregation and the United Church of Canada
 - membership in this congregation (confirmation/transfer)
 - current programmes at our church or Committee Membership
 - how this church and the people in it might help me on my Christian faith journey
 - how I could get help dealing with a current personal problem or crisis in my life
 - marriage/covenant, baptism
 - children's faith development and youth and young adult ministries
 - committee membership

My name is: _____

My phone number is: _____

The best time to call me is _____
 or
 I will call the Church Office

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 gay, lesbian, 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 **“LGBT and Friends Luncheon.”** All are welcome.

Outreach - Families' Needs

- Bedroom curtains
- Boys' clothes; sizes 4 - 6
- Girls' clothes; sizes 3—4
- Twin mattresses

Call Carol Allen - 434-1294

Duggan Health Clinic often has clients who are in need of the following:

- Cribs less than 10 years old
- Strollers with working brakes
- Infant clothing and Crib blankets
- Maternity clothes
- Car seats less than 10 years old and not involved in an accident
- Youth bicycle helmets - not involved in a fall

Outreach Committee has decided to accept donations of the above on behalf of the Clinic. Please call Lil McEwen at **434-9761** or Carol Allen at **434-1294**.

Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre is a non-profit organization whose goal is to work together with people of various faiths to promote mutual respect and harmony and to facilitate learning about our own faith and faiths of others in the community. The Board for the Centre consists of men and women from 13 faiths.

Wednesday Feb 12, 7:30 p.m.
Interfaith Centre Meeting

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Basilica,
113 St and Jasper Ave.

Program: Visit the Worship Place
Speaker: Archbishop Thomas Collins
Meet inside the church; please enter the front doors on 113 St.

**THANKS
from the BISSELL CENTRE**

Thank you, Southminster-Steinhauer congregation, for the gifts you sent in December. Christmas is a very difficult time for people, especially families who live in poverty. Single people feel more alone and more left out of the 'normal' way of life than during the rest of the year. It is so wonderful to be able to provide a way for people to be able to celebrate the season with a party and receive gifts. This Christmas we gave out gifts to nearly 500 singles and 450 families.

Ele Gibson

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Today we celebrate your generosity during 2002, with total givings of **\$271,851.28, exceeding the budget by 12%, and leaving us at year end with a surplus for the first time in a few years!**

- ☺ to request offering envelopes, to inquire about PAR (pre-authorized remittance) or to verify contribution status, please contact Ann Didluck, Envelope Steward, 435-2288.
- ☺ There are boxes of offering envelopes for 2003 in the foyer.
- ☺ Thank you for your faithful stewardship during 2002, and for your commitments for 2003.

DID YOU KNOW?

The south side Bissell Centre Thrift Shoppe , located at 9232—34 Avenue, will gladly accept gently used items of clothing, furniture, appliances and other household goods. All proceeds from sales are used to carry out programming at this inner city agency.

For items to be picked up, call the store at 440-1883. Donations can be taken to the store on 34th Avenue (rear entrance).

Many thanks from the Bissell Centre.

SENIORS' NEWS

Pasta Luncheon—Sun. Feb. 16, following Church. Cost \$4 per person. For more information, Call Jacky Boruk **434-4309**

LGBTF and FRIENDS LUNCHEON

February 9th, Small Hall.
M&M casseroles provided by Affirm:
\$4.00 per person.

GIFTS IN KIND

Details of the Board's Gift in Kind Policy are posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen. The policy ensures that our procedure is within Canada Customs and Revenue Guidelines.

**ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY
To WALK FOR PEACE
Saturday, February 15th
Watch media for details**

Set-up Team

February 2nd & 9th:
Cliff and Rosemarie Cunningham

**CONCORDIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CONCERT SEASON**

Sunday, February 2, at 3:00 pm
Robert Tegler Student Centre

LINNEA GOOD CONCERT

Friday, February 14th, @ 7:30 p.m.
St. Paul's United Church
Adults \$10.00
Youth & Children \$6.00
Children under 6 free
Proceeds to The Heartwood Bursary Fund at Naramata Centre.

Diversity Conferences of Alberta Society presents

COMING TO VOICE: a celebration of diversity

CHORAL WORKSHOP

Guest conductors Karen Mills, Gordon Ritchie & Paula Roberts
Saturday, February 22, 2003,
9:00 am-4:00 pm
Unitarian Church of Edmonton
12530-110 Avenue
Registration Fee: Adults \$10,
Youths/Students Free
Bring a bag lunch. Beverages provided.

Participants are invited to sing at the Sunday morning services.

Contact: Evelyn & Bert Frey
433-5034

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Practice resumes on Feb 7th at 6 p.m. in the Large Hall. New members are very welcome, ages K-6 years. For more information:

**Contact: Donna McGonigle
438-0043**

SEARCH GROUP

The Search Group appointed for the **Church Office Administrator** position is: Marilyn Darwish, Elisebeth Checkel and Louise Adams (Chair)

IN THE OFFICE THIS WEEK

Half-time Minister:
Marg Archibald will be in the office on Wednesday and Friday.

Front Office:
Mon:-Tues Beth Brown
Wed: Rosemarie Cunningham
Thu: Louise. Adams
Fri: Rosemarie Cunningham