



# Morning Messenger

## Southminster-Steinhauer United Church

an Affirming Congregation within the United Church of Canada

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### May 23, 2010

#### WELCOME TO SOUTHMINSTER-STEINHAUER



As you enter into this gathering, you are welcome regardless of who you are. Please feel at home here.

- Washrooms are available in the hallway off the front lobby.
- Infants to 3 years of age are welcome in the baby care room (adjacent the main lobby just outside the large hall doors). Nursing mothers will find comfortable space here.
- Preschool children and parents are welcome in the "jungle room" at any time. This room is adjacent the small hall (down the hallway off the lobby).
- School age children (6-11 years) and youth (12-17 years) are invited to attend Learning Circles in the small hall which begins after the "Time for All Ages" partway through the gathering. Of course, children are welcome to stay with their parents throughout.

A greeter will help direct you at any time if you need assistance. May you find food for your soul this morning and companions on the way!

#### TODAY, Sunday May 23:

- Spiritual Gathering, Learning Circles & Baby Care, 10:00 am "Pentecost"
- Anniversary Choir Rehearsal, 11:30 am, Small Hall

#### THROUGH THE WEEK:

##### Tuesday, May 25

- Food Bank Program, 5:00 pm, Main Foyer

##### Wednesday, May 26

- Conversational English, 9:15 am, Lounge

##### Thursday, May 27

- Adult Choir, 7:15 pm, Large Hall

#### Sunday, May 30:

- Spiritual Gathering, Learning Circles & Baby Care, 10:00 am "The Power of 3"
- Anniversary Choir Rehearsal, 11:30 am, Small Hall

#### Sunday, June 6:

- Spiritual Gathering, Learning Circles & Baby Care, 10:00 am "85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church" - lay speakers

#### A "Scent-Free" Area

As some people are 'deathly allergic' to strong scents, we respectfully ask folks NOT to wear strong scents (powders, scented oils, perfumes, after-shave, etc.) when they attend service or meetings at the church. Thank you!

#### Learning Circles for Children & Youth

This morning we will join in the small hall to celebrate our year of living with respect. Join us as we experience the awe of God's creation.

#### Offering Envelopes

We are about to order 2011 offering envelopes. Monthly envelopes will be a new option next year. Please leave a note in my mailbox, if you wish to move to monthly envelopes from weekly envelopes. Thanks. *Envelope Steward*



#### Sabbatical News



Nancy is away on sabbatical until July 26. Christopher New is covering Nancy's ministry position until June 30. Please look for Nancy's sabbatical newsletter on the main foyer table and the bulletin board.

#### Found

Last weekend following the garage sale a wedding band was found and turned into the office. Please call the church office if it belongs to you.

#### Thank You!

A big 'thanks' to all who helped with many aspects of a most successful garage sale! The proceeds exceeded \$7500 for our operational funds. Well done!



#### Silvertones News

We welcome any new members who wish to be a part of this fun group. We are having our closing **BBQ on May 29** and new members are welcome to join us. Contact the church office for information or to join our BBQ and our choir!

#### Anniversary Choir

On June 6, our congregation is celebrating the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church. To help with that celebration, I am inviting all interested singers to join the anniversary choir. We will meet on **Sunday May 23** and **Sunday May 30** after church to rehearse in the **small hall**.



#### Mark Your Calendars

##### Church Picnic at SSUC



**Sunday, June 13** following regular (outdoor) worship, bring your Earth Charter picnic lunch.

Ice cream & beverages will be provided. Your help is needed to run the games!

#### A Summer Peace Camp for Kids

**August 9 – 13, 9:00 am-12:00 pm**

**Southminster-Steinhauer United Church**

**Peacemaking Stories and Activities**

Children entering Grades 1-6

Sharing Time & Wrap-Up (Parents Welcome) Friday at 11:30 am

Music Stories Snacks Games Crafts

**Cost:** \$40 per child or \$60 Maximum per family

*Financial support may be available.*

Contact the church office (780-435-2028) for more details.

Are you someone who is passionate about and/or interested in helping children learn and explore a world that's more peaceful and just? We have an amazing curriculum, but this cannot happen without support of some time and loving energy from the congregation. Volunteers in areas of snack providers, craft helpers, "peace pals", and musicians are all required. Please sign the interest sheet in the main foyer.



#### Labyrinth Keepers Wanted

We invite you to join us in caring for our outdoor labyrinth. At any time, you can pull grass from the path, weed the surrounding gardens and add perennials to them. Contact the church office for more information.

#### Graduating this Year? Other Achievements?

We'd like to acknowledge all those who are graduating from High School, College, University or who have other achievements to announce. Please call Fran in the office (780-435-2028).

#### Request for Volunteers

The Finance Committee requires a number of volunteers with a general familiarity with financial records to participate in an independent review of the financial records of the Church. The review is conducted annually and is required by the United Church of Canada. The purpose is to determine the accuracy of the financial statements, whether the transactions have been properly recorded and to identify potential weaknesses in the system. It is expected that the task will take perhaps half a day. If interested and can assist please contact 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 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, their families and friends.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, a special opportunity for fellowship is offered, referred to as the **"Second Sunday Brunch."**

All are welcome. For more **information**, please call **the church office at 780-435-2028**.

### Y.O.S.S. News

**Sunday, May 9-Saturday May 22, Construction** at Southgate (Stage area); drop in to see the 14 competing sculptures created entirely from cans of food for donation to the Food Bank, including our Oscar the Grouch (2550 cans of food weighing 650 kg)!

**Sunday, May 23, 8:00 am-noon, Construction:** we need 4 volunteers and an adult to deconstruct and load Oscar into the Food Bank trucks at Southgate (*Jim and Mike are not available*); call the church office to help!



**Saturday, May 29, 7:00 pm, YOSS Golf Tournament & Hot Dog Roast** meet at Kinsmen Pitch & Putt (\$10 as able); bring clubs or rentals are available; running shoes OK; 9 holes then a campfire. Grade 6's and family members welcome. REPLY to Jim by May 28 midnight!

**Sunday, June 6, 10:00 am, Bogani's Café** (next to Heritage Sobey's); treats and a round of "The Ungame"; Grade 6's invited.

**July 23-25, YOSS Mountain Adventure 2010,** depart 5:00 pm Friday for a 2 night stay at Castle Mountain Hostel. On Saturday we'll hike from the



shores of Moraine Lake up 723 metres over Sentinel Pass (the highest point reached by a maintained trail in the Rockies) then through Paradise Valley to the trailhead, for a total hike of 17 km. Participate in Rundle United's Sunday service, then free time, then home! **Cost** is \$70 if driving + \$30 if car pooling. REPLY to Jim.

### GANG - Help Us In Supporting Bill C-393

Grandmother Groups connected to the Stephen Lewis Foundation are once again urging the Canadian Government to support Bill C-393. This would enable drug companies to send affordable drugs (such as those needed in the treatment of HIV/AIDS) to developing countries. Please join GANG members in the foyer after Sunday's service **May 23**. They have post cards available for signing. Let's help to get affordable generic drugs to people who need them.

### Outreach Needs



Anyone wanting someone to do odd jobs (yard work, etc.) in the evenings or weekends. Please leave your name and number at the church office (780-435-2028).

Campbell Soup labels for Steinhauer School continue to be collected.

### Camperships

(Financial aid for kids and/or families to attend a summer camp).

As in past years this is an opportunity to help someone attend camp. Costs range from \$200 - \$500 (family). Any amount is helpful. Please note 'Camperships' on your cheque that is made out to Southminster-Steinhauer United Church. Call the church office for more information or to refer a child or family.



### Lower Hall Development Fundraising

**Come one, come all - put your dollars to the Lower Hall!**

**Every donation counts!**

Our goal is to raise \$65,000 by Sunday, June 13 to support the development of the Lower Hall. We know we can do it with your support!!

Over the next few weeks, we are doing a **"COIN DRIVE"**. Bring your **LOOSE CHANGE** – pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies in a shopping bag, a jar or whatever!!! Your coins will be counted by the Fundraising Committee and added to our growing total.

Donations through regular offerings that are designated to the Lower Hall Development will continue to be welcomed.

Watch the **"THERMOMETER"** at the church entrance climb every week! *Revised Sweat Equity Pledge forms are available.*

### SSUC Women's Weekend "Great Escape"

**October 22-24, 2010, Star of the North Retreat Centre, St. Albert** Plan ahead! Reserve your spot by leaving a deposit cheque of \$50 payable to *Southminster-Steinhauer United Church* with Fran in the church office (*memo Great Escape*). The balance of \$105 will be required by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The program offers laughter, song, deepened friendships, theme related discussion along with some time for relaxing as you choose. The facility offers good food, your own room with ground floor access. Register now due to limited space. Contact the church office for information.

### Southminster-Steinhauer Food Bank

Sign-up sheets are available in the foyer to indicate your commitment to help with the Food Bank. Thank you for your support. For more information, call the church office (780-435-2028).

### Conversational English

This program occurs on Wednesday mornings until June 9<sup>th</sup>; it is for Mexican women who live in southwest Edmonton. The Outreach Committee is sponsoring this group with help from Sandra Lockhart, Carol Allen, Lois Evans and Anne McCracken. An outreach worker from the Temporary Foreign Worker Program at Catholic Social Services is our contact. In the fall we hope to have more structure and more volunteers.

### Outside Bookings at Southminster-Steinhauer

#### Wednesday, May 26

Edmonton/Leduc Federal NDP, 6:30 pm, Small Hall

#### Thursday, May 27

Bearspaw Manor, 6:30 pm, Small Hall

#### Friday, May 28

AA, 8:00 pm, Small Hall

### "Catch the Vision – Celebrating the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Canada – as an Earth Charter Church"

On June 10, 2010, Edmonton Presbytery and the Alberta and Northwest Conference will be celebrating in Churchill Square from 12:00-9:00 pm in the spirit of Chataqua. Historically, the Chataqua was in part a travelling amusement park and in part an educational venue. SMSUC has been invited to introduce people to the Earth Charter in a workshop tent from 5:00-6:00 pm. If you are interested in participating, please the church office. In addition, the day will be filled with: music, activities for all ages, displays, local food vendors, labyrinth and more! For more information, please visit: <http://www.united-church.ca/85th> and [http://www.uccedm.org/Events.htm#Catch\\_the\\_Vision:\\_An\\_Emerging\\_Spirit](http://www.uccedm.org/Events.htm#Catch_the_Vision:_An_Emerging_Spirit)

### St. Stephen's College

Evening Presentations & Dialogue

Thursday, June 10, 7:00 pm

Southminster-Steinhauer United Church, Large Hall

Music and the Spirited Life, with Barb Myers

You are invited to an evening of spirited conversation and music.

### Family Camp at Camp Wohelo, August 20-22



This camp is organized and run by those who attend! We look forward to team sports, games, vespers, meals together, skits, reflective, and quiet times too.

This inclusive Family Camp experience will allow you the freedom to create friendships, develop skills and make memories in a safe, supportive environment. MARK your Calendar!