

Family Matters

We have many MCA folk who are limited in their ability to be out and about this Christmas season. Many will miss being able to worship together here with their long-time friends.

Would you consider taking time to show special acts of kindness to some of these dear people? Some ideas are: send a card, make a phone call, take time for a short visit, drop off some Christmas goodies, take someone out for coffee or lunch, have someone over for dinner and an evening of conversation or games, or ???....you fill in the blank! Most of their names and phone numbers are in our church directory.

Also, if you know of anyone who should be included in this list, please call and inform either Lorna or Pastor Jan at the church office.

At Home:

Tillie Brown Rose (& Earle) Pitchford, Lyle & Marietta Talbot, Russell (& Mary) Vasselín, Shig (& Miriam) Tamaki, Peter & Thelma Myers. Joy Smith and Ardis Hollands

Medical concerns:

Dan (&Lark) Willms, Susan Clark, Helen Shalagan, Fred & Anne Braun, Wilbert (& Marjorie) Senft, Esther Tjosvold

Independent Living and Care Home residents:

Brand Creek Mews – Lynn Mower, Agnes Miller
Okanagan Chateau – Pastor Henry Hiebert, Maude Runge, Allan & Mabel Muntean, Cecile Ferguson, Marjorie Ferguson, Kay Hawley, Frieda Weiss, Pauline Welwood, Lillian Trudeau, Mary Hayward, Erna Bohn

Cottonwoods – Isabel Jasper, Pauline Welwood
Fernbrae Manor – Tena Schellenberg, Margaret Imrie

Joseph Benjamin – Laura Stark

Mountainview Village – Pastor Ed McCarthy, Maude Stevenson, Heintz & Marion Kotsch, Tillie Martin, Aileen Kaushar

Spring Valley Care Centre – Muriel Makaroff

Sun Pointe Village – Margaret Burns, Don Sipe, Bob Sharp, Esther Tjosvold

Sutherland Hills – Rose Marie Mathers, Irene McCarthy

Village at Smith Creek – Albert & Gertrude Schock

Sermon CDs

Sermon CDs are available to borrow from our library, or they can be ordered at the Info Desk by donation. Sunday sermons are also available on our web site at www.missioncreekalliance.com

Facility Requests

Please make all facility requests to Lorna at the church office Monday-Thursday. All requests need to be made 2 weeks prior to your event.

Bulletin Submissions

The deadline for bulletin submissions is Thursdays by 12:00 noon. Emailed submissions are preferred. Please send to: office@missioncreekalliance.com

Facility Volunteers

Would you like to help care for our facility? Our custodian, Percy, has an ongoing list of jobs that he could use help completing. If you would like to volunteer on a one-time basis or regularly, volunteers meet each Wednesday at 8:30am by the church kitchen.

MCA Ministry Staff

Rev. Terry Dyck: Transition Team Leader

Rev. Dustin Drader: Pastor for Worship Arts

Jesse Criss: Pastor of Youth/Young Adults

Lynae Igel: Pastor of Children's Ministries

Kim Denis: Director of Early Childhood Ministries

Janet Kirby: Director of Finance

Jan Heppner: Pastor of Connections and Care Ministries

Barrie Irvine: Pastor of Men's and Missions Ministries

Linda Irvine: Pastor of Hospitality Ministry

Greg Baker: Intern

Emergency contact:

Pastor Terry Dyck: 250.717.8802

In case of facility emergency:

Contact Percy: 250.469.2445

MCA OFFICE HOURS

8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday

250.860.2427

office@missioncreekalliance.com

www.missioncreekalliance.com



December 13, 2009

Welcome to Christmas at the Creek! You will be blessed this morning by the pre-school presentation and the annual pictorial Nativity portrayal. Our series; The Ancient Story: Remixed continues. By the way – is there a particular character in the Christmas story that you identify with? See yourself in God's story, as He writes His story in your life...

This is Greg Baker's last Sunday with us at MCA. Greg has served as a pastoral intern at MCA for the last 6 months. He is a Seminary student from Ambrose University College in Calgary. We have appreciated his ministry and teachable spirit. Please take the opportunity to bless him and show your love and care for him. You will have an opportunity to give towards his love offering this morning. Yeah Greg!

Next Sunday we will celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent with communion. We will complete the series "The Ancient Story: Remixed". Make it a point to share the Christmas story, and how it has impacted your life, with someone this week!

Chorus sheets and children's bulletins are available from the ushers.

Mission Creek Alliance Church

2091 Springfield Road, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7X1

Phone: 250.860.2427 Fax: 250.860.4551

www.missioncreekalliance.com

Third Sunday of Advent

Shepherd's Candle – Joy

As we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of the shepherds, we notice that it differs in color from the other three. It is pink to represent joy and celebration! As the shepherds shared the joy of Christ's birth, let us share with others the joy of His presence in our lives.

Luke 2:8-20

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

The third candle is to remind us that we also have a responsibility to tell the Good News of Christ to our neighbors and friends.

Let's Connect!

Welcome to Mission Creek Alliance!

If you are a guest today, visiting from out of town, or perhaps looking for a church home, OR if you simply want to meet people or make new friends, we would love to connect with you.

Why not take a few minutes to drop by the Solid Grounds Coffee Bar in the foyer. A fresh cup of Tim Horton's coffee is waiting for you and, of course, some great conversation.

This Week at The Creek

Sunday

7:30 pm Men's Floor Hockey

Monday

7:00 pm Women In Touch Evening Edition

Wednesday

7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 am Bible Study with Tom Koop

6:30 pm Final 5/6 of 2009

7:00 pm Men's Fraternity

Thursday

9:30 am Intercessory Prayer

Friday

9:30 am POPS at the church

Christmas Hampers

Please drop off nonperishable items for the MCA Christmas Hampers at the church between now and December 20th.

Sunday Services at Christmas

Please make note that on December 27th and January 3rd there will be one service each Sunday at 9:30 am.

Love is in the Details

Today at Mission Creek Alliance we are saying goodbye to Greg Baker, the Ambrose intern who has been with us and faithfully served Mission Creek this past six months.

During the service we will all have an opportunity to demonstrate our love and appreciation in a tangible way with a "love offering". All these monies will be for the sole benefit of Greg to help with funding his secondary education and related costs.

As we bless him, please be reminded this special offering is truly a "love offering". The church is not able, because of specific income tax rules, to issue charitable donation receipts for any portion of this special offering.

Love truly is in the details!

God bless Greg and his future ministry.



"Christmas greetings to you, our home church family, from here in Costa Rica. We are thankful for your love, support, and prayers. We want to thank you again for loving on us so

much last year when we were home with you. May our Lord bless you by giving you the desires of your heart this Christmas season."

Murray and Michelle,
Mikaela and Mattea Derksen

Weekday Bible Study

Tom Koop's weekly Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the Mission Creek Room with a look at the Book of Revelation.

Community Bulletin Board

New Hope: We offer monthly grief support meetings for widows and widowers, as well as a bi-monthly newsletter and an annual retreat. More information is available from Lorna at 250.860.6376 or the NH website: www.newhope-grief.org

Church Serve: We help those in need with cleaning, laundry, food prep or Food Bank hamper delivery. To volunteer, call 250.861.5465 or check out www.churchservecanada.org

For more information about Church Serve contact us at churchserveinfo@shaw.ca or call 250-861-5465.

Now Available:

- 2010 Calendars from Springfield Funeral Home located at the table by the elevators
- Our Daily Bread, large-print edition, January to March, 2010 edition located at the Ushers station

Care Group Connections

Are you looking for a place to get connected? Why not become part of a small group? We have openings for people of all ages and life-stages.

Are you parents of a young family? We are opening a new small group especially with you in mind.

For more info, please fill out a Connection Card or call Pastor Jan 250.860.2427 #223.

Donations needed for the Kitchen:

Electric can opener, Small pots with lids
Frying pans, Tea Towels, Dish cloths
Please contact Lenora at 250.762.7906 or Evlyn at 250.860.8338.

Tavita and Kathleen Faalele will be on a month break from ministry at the YWAM base near Medicine Hat AB. They are in need of a vehicle for 5 weeks starting January 15. if you could help please contact Pastor Terry in the church office.

Children's Ministries

9:30am service

Nursery Age 0-24 months: Nursery (main floor)

Preschool Ages 2 & 3: Room 118 (main floor)

Preschool Ages 4 & 5: Room 221

Kindergarten – Grade 1: Room 222

Grades 2-4: Room 224

Grades 5 & 6: Room 219

Today for Kindergarten to Grade 6 this is the last regular teaching Sunday until January 3rd. On December 20th and 27th Activity packets will be made available in the foyer for use in the adult service. We will also have a PARENT SUPERVISED play space open in the Mission Creek Room.

5/6 Club

December 16th Final 5/6 of 2009 – Christmas Party – Bring a wrapped wacky present under \$3

POPS –

December 18th – Church Gym
POPS will stop after December 18th and resume January 8th in the Church Gym

Christmas Eve Service Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers in the Nursery for Age 0—2 years. Wednesday, December 23rd at 7:00 pm and Thursday, December 24th at 6:00 pm. Please contact Katherine Hewitt at the church office x234 to volunteer. katherine@missioncreekalliance.com

Christmas Break Programming

December 20th and 27th

Nursery– Regular Nursery Care at 9:30am services

Preschoolers – Ages 2-5—There will be combined classes for 2-5 year olds in room 118.

Kindergarten—Grade 6

Activity packets will be made available in the foyer for use in the adult service. We will also have a PARENT SUPERVISED play space open in the Mission Creek Room.

December 23rd and 24th

Christmas Eve services we will be offering childcare in the Nursery for age 0—2 years old. There will also be a PARENT SUPERVISED play space open in the Mission Creek Room.

New this year

Our Xplore kids and families are partnering with Now Canada to give HOPE this Christmas to homeless women and children. Please consider bringing a donation for our “Angel Tree”. 100% of donations will be going to the Now Canada Alexander Gardner Renovation House Project. Check out our Angel Tree in the foyer and see how you and your family can give this Christmas.

Donations that we are looking for:

- Bedding in a bag
- Sets of towels
- Toiletries for mom, boy, or girl
- Socks for mom, boy, or girl
- Underwear for mom, boy, or girl
- Cash

2009 Projects

The following have been designated as 2009 Projects:

1. New gym floor
2. A shower on the 2nd floor
3. Re-carpet the Mission Creek Room
4. Seal the parking lot

We are offering an opportunity for those who want to give toward a worthwhile project. As our ministries grow, the stress on our building increases. Our 2009 Projects opportunity is to remove obstacles toward growth and effective ministry. Our desire is to properly plan for the facility needs and at the same time continue to make our facility a functional tool for our church family as well as community ministries.

Please designate “2009 Projects” on your offering envelopes.

Money received to date \$12,775.97

At Mission Creek Alliance we have been blessed with two post-secondary school endowment funds. The first is the Hawley Education fund and it is intended for those students enrolled at a Christian & Missionary Alliance school and who are entering at least the second year of their program. The second is the Adley Education fund and it is intended for those students entering any year at any bible college or university or seminary.

Congratulations to Kyle Dyck (Ambrose University College – 4th year) and Brianna Erhardt (Ambrose University College – 2nd year), the bursary recipients for 2009.

Reminder to individuals and groups using the church; turn off the lights behind you, ensure all exterior doors are closed as this helps with security and utility costs during the winter months.

7:00 pm Saturday, January 23, 2010

Mission Creek Alliance Church



MARK DAVID WILLIAMS
JASON CATRON
SHANE WIEBE

Featuring choirs
from KSS
under the direction
of Sheila French

The
3 Christian
Tenors

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at door. You can purchase tickets at the church office. Limited seating available.

The Three Christian Tenors
Featuring lush accompaniments and the high powered vocals of Shane Wiebe - Canadian Idol Top 5 finalist, Jason Catron and Mark David Williams - featured tenors on Crystal Cathedral's Hour of Power and the Ruth Graham Gospel tours, the show is a tribute to the great hymns of our Christian faith: How Great Thou Art, Blessed Assurance, Great is Thy Faithfulness, It Is Well With My Soul, My Jesus I Love Thee, and many more. They will also perform some of their favourite songs: You'll Never Walk Alone, In The Sweet By And By, His Eye Is On The Sparrow, and many more!

Opportunities for Men

Men's Floor Hockey

Floor hockey in the gym Sundays at 7:30 pm. For more information contact Tim Goward at 250.861.6376.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday at 7:00 am in the Connections Café. Men, do you have a heart for prayer? Join us for Bible study and prayer, followed by breakfast at a nearby restaurant. Contact Neil Toews 250.862.3566 for information.

Men's Fraternity

December Update

We are at a transition point in our program where we are **welcoming interested men to join us in the New Year** for the second half of the term. The program, "The Quest for Authentic Manhood" is focused on helping men to understand their masculine identity and to make the pursuit of authentic manhood a life-long priority that is incorporated into the fabric of their everyday lives.

For more information contact Cam Stutters at 250.801.7237 or Pastor Barrie at 250.260.8626

THREADS

~ No Strings Attached ~ Deposit Box

We are receiving **used clothing, bedding and toys in clean and in excellent condition** to help meet some of the many needs in our community. Since "THREADS" is an ongoing ministry, these items are always needed. Please continue to place your donations in the **"THREADS" deposit box** in the south foyer under the coat rack. Thank you for your generosity!



Why not consider **being** the church by volunteering in our community?

If you have a story to tell about your Be The Church involvement, you can email Pastor Terry at terry@missioncreekalliance.com

The We Are Artists exhibition at the Kelowna Art Gallery is on from November 28, 2009 to March 21, 2010, featuring art by our very own Annaliis Autio. People who are interested and would like more information on Cool Arts the website is www.coolarts.ca If any one is interested in volunteering Cool Art is always looking for more people to volunteer mainly on Saturdays.

Prayer Ministries

Emergency Prayer Chain:

Contact Shirley at 250.765.0489.

Prayerline

Prayerline will resume again in the New Year.

Intercessory Prayer

Come join us Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Meeting Room upstairs to claim our city in prayer and uphold our church family.

deep dish girl's night

For young adult women on the second Thursday evening of each month. You can also find us on Facebook under the group "Deep Dish" if you want to be kept informed via the internet. Call Lindsay at 250.826.8122 or Leigh at 250.801.7237 for more information.

Women In Touch

~Evening Edition~

Monday, December 21st 6:30p.m. – Join us to help pack MCA food hampers

Monday, January 11th 6:30 p.m. – Start up of our second semester of the Beth Moore DVD study: "Esther, It's Tough Being a Woman"..... including a **"Queen Esther's Banquet" – with simple fare fit for ancient Persian royalty!** Cost: 8 pieces of bronze (equivalent to 8 loonies) at the door. Please call Karen at 250.764.3247 by January 5th if you plan to attend.

Winter semester: Mondays 7:00 -9:00 pm. January 11th to March 1st, 2010

~Morning Edition~

Tuesdays 9:00—11:00 am

Winter semester: Tuesdays January 12th to April 13th (excluding Spring Break) Beth Moore's DVD study: "Esther, It's Tough being a Woman" continues with lesson 7.

NEW! NEW!! NEW!!! Beginning January 12thA fresh new study: "The Beatitudes" Matthew 5, taught by our own Dr. Sarah Brears

We will be using Matthew 5 to guide our discussion of what it means to live well as a Christian today by drawing from the Living Well Himself.

If you are looking for an interactive Bible study with lots of personal application, this could be your answer!

Women of all ages and stages welcome! Registration of \$15 for newcomers will apply.

Thank you to all who helped make our Morning Edition Christmas Brunch memorable. Special thanks to those who contributed door prizes, our home-based business contributors, Brunch Leadership Team and our wonderful friend, WIT.

Stewardship Corner

What another year this has been for our church; so many changes and still so many blessings. Thank you for your prayers **and service** and for your financial faithfulness.

As is the case every year, many of us wait until nearer to the end of the calendar year to make the larger lump sum gifts. As you can appreciate, this giving pattern creates significant **financial planning** challenges for the ministries of Mission Creek. In the range of \$67,000 more needs to come in over the next several weeks in order to finish the year on track. To finish on track means that giving for the year needs to be at least equal to the costs of doing ministry here at MCA, in the community and around the world.

First, can we ask that you each be in prayer about this matter? Second, can we ask that if you have been planning to make a lump sum gift to MCA's general ministries or if you have been planning to increase your regular monthly giving amounts that you take action now? And remember too, that 10% of all general donations to Mission Creek are in turn donated foreign missions.

Including today, there are **three** Sundays left in 2009. Thank for continuing to give faithfully and sacrificially. And remember, your donation to MCA entitles you to a charitable donation tax credit worth up to 43.70% of the donation. For example if you donate \$1,000 to MCA, taking into account the potential tax savings of \$437, your after-tax cost of the donation is only \$563.

As you plan for the end of the year, you may want to keep in mind that all donations must be received here at MCA on or before December 31st if you would like the donations to be included on your 2009 charitable donation receipt.