

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 Meier, Joy Smith and Ardis Hollands, George Siebring, Betty Pearson

Medical concerns:

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

Independent Living and Care Home residents:

Brandt 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, Laura Stark

Fernbrae Manor – Tena Schellenberg, Margaret Imrie

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

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 Wednesday 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

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 20, 2009

Welcome to Christmas at the Creek! The kids are out of school, you are well into the "turkey circuit" and anticipation is building for the celebration of Christmas this week. It is timely for us to celebrate communion this morning along with the final Sunday of Advent. The candle lit today is the candle of joy; joy to the world when we find Jesus.

The Ancient Story: Remixed, our Christmas message series concludes this morning. How will the story of Christmas remix in your life? How will you encounter Emmanuel (God with us) today? And then how will you take this story and be the church this week?

Don't forget to be a part of our Christmas Eve services, on either Wednesday or Thursday evening. And then next Sunday we have one service at 9:30 am. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Tim Tjosvold, international worker in Niger. Plan to stay after the service for a cup of coffee and some Christmas snacks – that's a hint to bring some of your Christmas baking to share with the church family!

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

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Angel Candle – Peace

As we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of the angels, let us remember that just as the angels were God's messengers proclaiming Christ's birth to the shepherds, so we are God's messengers proclaiming the presence of Christ in our world.

Matthew 28:18-20

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

The fourth candle is to remind us that we are God's messengers to a needy world, here to tell that the Savior has the power to work miracles in people's lives.

We offer two services for worship:

Join us at 9:30 am for our Praise and Celebration Service, with a bent toward more recent worship music, or at 11:00 am for our Classic Service. Enter wholeheartedly into the style of your choice!

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

6:30 pm Women In Touch Evening Edition—
Christmas Hampers

Wednesday

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Thursday

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

The office will be closing at 12:00 noon on Christmas Eve and re-open again on December 29th.

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.

Devotional planners will be available next Sunday, with a read through the Bible schedule. Plan on picking up a copy next Sunday.

Just a Reminder!

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.

Help Needed

Tavita and Kathleen Faalele will be on a month break from ministry at the YWAM base near Medicine Hat, Alberta. 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.

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 \$15,180.00

Sympathy To

We extend our sympathy to the family of Esther Tjosvold, resident of Sun Pointe Village, and long-time member of MCA, who passed away on December 14th, 2009. A funeral service for Esther was held at the church yesterday, December 19th.

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.

Weekday Bible Study

Tom Koop's weekly Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, January 13th at 10:00 am.

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.

Children's Ministries

Nursery Ages 0-24 months – Nursery (main floor)

Preschool Ages 2–5 only – Room 118 (main floor)

Kindergarten-Grade 6 - Activity packets are available in the foyer for use in the adult service. There is also a PARENT SUPERVISED play space in the Mission Creek Room. To ensure your child's safety, please do not leave your children unattended – volunteers will not be staffing this room.

Christmas Break Programming

December 23rd and 24th

During the Christmas Eve services we will be offering childcare in the Nursery for ages 0-2years old.

There will also be a PARENT SUPERVISED play space open in the Mission Creek Room during the services. To ensure your child's safety, please do not leave your children unattended – volunteers will not be staffing this room.

December 27th

Nursery - Regular Nursery Care at 9:30am services

Preschoolers – Ages 2-5 - combined classes for 2-5 year olds in room 118.

Kindergarten—Grade 6 - Activity packets are available in the foyer for use in the adult service. There is also a PARENT SUPERVISED play space in the Mission Creek Room. To ensure your child's safety, please do not leave your children unattended – volunteers will not be staffing this room.

Christmas Eve Service Volunteers Needed!

Help wanted! We are still in need of 2 volunteers in the Nursery for both Christmas Eve services. Wednesday, December 23rd at 7:00 pm and Thursday, December 24th at 6:00 pm. Please contact Katherine Hewitt at the church office 250.860.2427 x234 to volunteer. katherine@missioncreekalliance.com

POPS

POPS will resume January 8th in the Church Gym.

Attention Preschool Parents.

You can view the 2009 Nativity Photo Shoot on the MCA Website. Thank you to Lee Johnson for making this available to our families.

Great Job Xplore kids in Christmas Shop Around the Corner.

Thank you for all your hard work! And to the many volunteers who gave their time and energy to make the production a success.

Youth News

The Youth Newsletter is now available at the Welcome Centre.

If you would like to contact Greg Baker his contact information is:
email: gregory.baker07@gmail.com
Ottawa Address:
130 Grenadier Way
Ottawa, ON K2J 4M1

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



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

Men's Prayer Breakfast resumes on Wednesday January 6th at 7:00 am

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** beginning January 13th 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 lifelong 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 on-going 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

The Intercessory Prayer group is taking a break until further notice.

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 "**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 Bible Study Beginning January 12th

A fresh new study: "Living Well" based on 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.

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 \$54,000 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 two Sundays left in 2009. Thank you 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.