

# Serving All Unconditionally in our Community

*JANUARY, 2010*

Tel: 604-277-4020 Website: [www.southarmunitedchurch.ca](http://www.southarmunitedchurch.ca)

Email: [sauc@telus.net](mailto:sauc@telus.net)

Minister: Rev. Dr. Gary Gaudin

Children and Youth Ministry: Jenni Chung

Director of Music: Ron Stevenson

Worship Services 10:00 a.m. each Sunday

## HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUNDRAISING CONCERT – Saturday, February 13

Current plans include building on the incredible gifts already present in our church community, as well as tapping the musical resources of other faith communities. More details will follow, but please mark this date in your calendars now: February 13<sup>th</sup> in the evening – (time to be announced).

DISASTER RELIEF IN HAITI: The funds from our 2<sup>nd</sup> offering for February (7<sup>th</sup>) is for disaster relief in Haiti which will be directed to the United Church's "Haiti Appeal" - no administrative charges will be deducted and donations will become almost immediately available for the relief effort through United Church partners in Haiti and through Action by Churches Together (ACT) who are already in place in Haiti. The Church's partners in the region are The Methodist Church of Haiti and The Karl Leveque Cultural Institute. For further information please contact SAUC.

## EXPERIENCE ECOLOGICAL CHRISTIANITY – A SAUC LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

These nine sessions will be held after worship on Sundays from noon to 1:30 p.m. in three groups of three. We'll be brown-bagging it for these sessions, i.e. each participant is asked to arrive at the sessions with a light lunch which we'll eat together as we watch a DVD presentation. Participants will need to purchase or borrow (three are available for loan from Gary) a copy of Bruce Sanguin's *Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos: An Ecological Christianity*. It is widely available in paperback format. Bruce is, as you may know, an ordained minister of the United Church of Canada on staff at Canadian Memorial United Church in Vancouver, and a leading proponent of ecological Christian spirituality and theology. Our sessions will begin in February (14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>) then continue in March (14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>) before concluding in April (11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>). Please begin reading and reflecting on the book in the near future.

MUSIC: Contact: Music Director Ron Stevenson

Can you sing? Would you like to join with others who have a love of music and singing? The Chancel Choir practices every Thursday night from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Gospel Choir practices the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.

## HOSPITALITY: Pot-Luck Lunches – next one February 7th

To promote hospitality and community in our congregation, Membership Committee along with Parish Life Committee feels that the breaking of bread with one another is an important element of our Christian Community of Faith. Therefore, usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month (excepting the summer months) following the Worship Service a Pot-luck Lunch will take place to which all are invited to partake whether they brought food or not. February 7<sup>th</sup> will have a Valentine theme. This is a great opportunity to talk to people you know and get to know newcomers in our midst. If you bring food please bring it down to the church kitchen prior to the Worship Service.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY – Jenni Chung

In November the highly anticipated **Evolve** took place. I was encouraged that many of the SAUC's "church geeks" were going as well as some from Gilmore Park. At the Monk's dinner for Sr. Youth I was informed by a youth that the conference was going to give participants ecologically sound water bottles that were designed to be 'wicked cool'. I received a water bottle at **Evolve** and noticed that they were designed for just those reasons. But my cup was not just half full: it was overflowing with the energy of young people, youth workers, and the Holy Spirit. We sang songs of imagination and passion, blew bubbles, lit candles during a story presented around a worship table. We enjoyed our various "Streams Workshops" fellowshiping with other Christians from all walks of life and stages of experience throughout BC. I was in the Youth Leader streams where the author, Sarah Arthur, spoke about her book 'The God-Hungry Imagination. We had a candid discussion about youth ministry. **Evolve**, for me, was a time of quiet reflection and inspiration. I felt renewed and refreshed.

## WATOTO AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT – Wednesday Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

This concert is free although donations are gratefully accepted. African merchandise will also be available for sale. All youth interested in helping host this event by welcoming and planning a dinner please contact Jenni or the church office. Spread the word and come and enjoy this concert.

## **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL MESSAGE**

It is with regret that SAUC has received and accepted the resignation of our Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministry, Jennie Chung. We will honor her probationary extension period ending February 28, and Jenni is planning to leave on Sunday, January 31. We sincerely thank her for her service to our children and youth and we wish her every success in whatever she chooses next which may include teaching English in Korea in the Fall. Your M&P Committee is working hard to explore future options and we ask you to pray for this most important ministry, our future leaders in the United church. Ruth-Anne Sabourin, Co-Chair

## **OUTREACH**

### **SAUC Community Garden**

At the January 13 Council meeting, a proposal for a Community Garden on South Arm Property was presented and unanimously supported. A dedicated committee of 12 individuals will meet this month to discuss the 'next steps' in this worthwhile outreach project. One of the first steps is to organize an **information gathering** for the congregation to share plans and respond to questions. We welcome gardening experiences and suggestions at anytime.

**Phase 1** is the plan for this year with up to 10 plots (each 27ft. by 9ft.) located to the north and west of the Pioneer Church.

We'll live this gardening adventure often reflecting on SAUC Community Garden Mission Statement: **"Strengthening community through stewardship of God's earth at South Arm United Church".**

**SHAWL MINISTRY** – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

"You created every part of me, knitting me in my Mother's womb. For such handiwork, I praise you. Awesome this great wonder!" Psalm 139:13-14. Are you a knitter? This ministry knits shawls for anyone in need of comfort. The shawls are started with prayers for the recipient and many blessings continue to be knitted into the garment. For information call Dawna English 604-946-1045 or Ruth-Anne Sabourin 604-952-4135. For further information view the website: [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

## **CHURCH GROUPS**

**Quilting** – Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 – 12 noon

You don't have to quilt to be part of this friendly group – bring knitting, crochet, or other hand-work. However, if you want to learn the art of quilting this is the place to be! Coffee and goodies are served.

**Friday Friends** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of the month at 12:00 noon. Contact: Genevieve McEwen (604-277-0841). All seniors welcome – come and enjoy fellowship and a pot-luck lunch.

**Men's Group** – Meetings take place at the church on the second Wednesday of each month between October and June, usually starting at 7:00 p.m. Coffee, tea, and desserts are served at each meeting for a nominal charge of \$2 to cover the costs. Currently we have 15 – 20 members.

The program for the remainder of the 2009/2010 season is:

February 10	- No meeting because of the Olympics	May 12	- Comedy Movie Night
March 10	- Bowling at The Zone	June 16	- Year End BBQ and Bocce
April 14	- Rob Allan Naval Architect		Tournament

Small groups have attended a B.C. Lions game as well as a Vancouver Giants hockey game.

Notices and sign-up sheets are available for each meeting on the bulletin board in the Church Hall. New members are always welcome. Come out and give us a try!

For more information, contact either Lorne Halabisky (604-271-9190) or Jack Leaney (604-277-6377).

### **Trustees- Sanctuary Roof Replacement** –

As promised in the November 2009 Newsletter a request went out to the SAUC congregation requesting help in replacing the money borrowed from our Memorial Fund to pay for the Sanctuary roof replacement. The response has been good so far with over 20 donations being received. Further donations are anticipated and we encourage you to consider adding an amount to your weekly/monthly donations (either Envelopes or PAR) which is a fairly painless way to pad the Roof Fund. These would of course be included in you Income Tax Receipts. Approximately \$4,500 has been received so far which is about half of the money estimated to be necessary from a new Donation Fund (the remaining monies to be provided from rental fees.)

**MAILING** – in order to keep our mailing costs to a minimum, if you have an e-mail address and the church office doesn't have it already, please email it to Laurie at: [sauc@telus.net](mailto:sauc@telus.net). Thank you

**We welcome all to SAUC – there are NO preconditions.  
We are ALL seekers and pilgrims on our journey.**

*The congregation of South Arm United Church is advised  
that it is likely that the usual date of our Annual Congregational  
Meeting  
may be changed from February 28<sup>th</sup>.*

*Details will be announced as soon as they are available.*