

Faith United

Welcome - Wellness - Worship



www.faithunited.ca

The Link

EDITOR: Larry Bignell

2009 April



10 Words Or Less

On Easter Sunday I invited the children to think about "New Life" whenever they took a bite of a chocolate egg. It's Easter, and with the temperatures warming and trees and flowers blooming we can't help but think about new life. Everything about new life sounds great, but we must keep in mind that new life is only possible if we're not holding on too tightly to our old life. If winter won't let go spring cannot blossom.

When we apply this kind of concept to our church life we begin

to get nervous because we're not sure what others are speaking of letting go. What if someone wants me to let go of the thing I treasure most? Why doesn't someone else let go of their "winter" and leave mine alone? But think about that for a second. When we talk about new life and letting go we don't want to let go of the life-giving stuff, we want to let go of the stuff that limits our ability to live God's Way in abundance.

The Faith Council has been considering the question of where we would like to be in 2 years and in 5 years. So far the responses have been affirming all the good things we're currently doing and thinking about ways to share our positive, uplifting, life-enhancing approach to faith. It's becoming clear that the biggest thing we need to let go of is our modesty! To let go of our tendency to keep our faith (and our Faith) so private that we inadvertently make our church a secret.

Perhaps the biggest learning for all of us is to come to terms with the fact that "church" is a dirty word for many people in society today. Our challenge is to change a culture.

That is a very tall task! But I think we're taking the right steps. We're currently visioning our future, and the next step is to try to put into words who and what we are. How should we describe ourselves to those who aren't here? How do we say what we are without focusing on what we're not? The false stereotypes are stacked against us, how do we break them down beyond saying "but we're different"?

So here's a challenge for you. You can do it while you're gardening, or doing yard work, or barbequing, or walking your dog, or relaxing on your deck, or even watching TV. Sum up Faith United in 10 words or less. It doesn't have to be a sentence. What words encapsulate who and what we are as a community of Faith? What makes us different? What are the first words that come to mind? What words might your non-church-going neighbours or family members be intrigued by? Faith United in 10 words or less. (Send your words to me before June.)

Happy Easter! Enjoy the new life the season brings! Hallelujah! New life is ours!



FAITH FINANCE

Faith United is sponsoring a presentation of **"Shady Business" - an action packed mad cap comedy.** Thursday, May 7, 2009, 5:45 pm. Tickets \$60 tax included, available at the Faith United Box Office. 905-448-1320. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Tickets are also available from Donna Bignell, 905-728-7749 or the church office.



Admission includes an award winning, 5 course buffet dinner and the Theatrical Show. Class Act will give 50% of the proceeds to Faith United Church to support its Community Use of Building Outreach Program. Class Act is at 104 Consumers Drive, Whitby, On.

www.faithunited.ca

Check us out online! Now better than ever!

FAITH BRIGHT IDEAS



On April 22 we will be catering snacks and lunch to the Pine Ridge School Board. Again this year we will cater lunch for the volunteers of Community Care on June 18. Don't forget to mark your calendars and purchase your ticket for the annual Strawberry Supper on Saturday, June 27 from 5 - 6:30

p.m. We continue to make and sell individual pies: meat & potato, chicken, broccoli & ham quiches and a variety of fruit pies at \$2.50 each.

While doing your Spring housecleaning set aside a box or boxes for the yard sale on Saturday, August 8 from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Table Rental is

\$20. Phone Roz at 905-436-2447 or Joan at 905-494-8142 to reserve a table.

So far this year your committee has raised \$4795.00 for the operation of the church

FAITH UCW



The Ecumenical annual pot luck dinner is at Solina Hall on Monday, May 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. All women of the congregation are welcome.

Betty Turcott will deliver the sermon at our UCW service on Sunday, May 24.

Some on going projects are: The necessary wiring has been completed in the Sun Room for the installation of a heater. The Prayer Room will be renovated in the near future to make is more user friendly for those who need a quiet and private place to pray.

CHURCH WORK IN DURHAM

Church Work in Durham Spring Shower

C.W.I.D. is having the annual spring shower from May 3rd to May 24th. Items of toiletries, school supplies, children's toys, games, puzzles, etc., women's items of make up, personal items, nylons, etc. as well as cleaning products and food are being collected for delivery to Bethesda House, Denise House, Gate 3:16 and AIDS Durham. A list of suggested items available in the foyer as well as baskets for the items. The response from the congregation has always been wonderful and we are hoping for the same this year as the need in our community has grown during these tough economic times. Please speak to any member of the C.W.I.D. committee if you have any questions or suggestions.

Faith United Food Bank

A small food bank has been established in the church to provide assistance for families in the area who have experienced an emergency situation and have no where else to turn. We are in the process of organizing shelves in a corner of the back room to keep an assortment of non perishable food items such as cereal, soups, pasta, etc. A C.W.I.D. member can provide more information. Thank you to our Faith family for the continuing support of our community members

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No Woodland Trail - no food, and pickings are thin out here!

Green Corner

Health Canada has issued a warning about making homemade pesticides. Recipes that require cooking, such as boiling rhubarb leaves or chrysanthemums to extract toxins, or recipes for extracting nicotine from cigarettes, are potentially dangerous. Recipes that include gasoline and kerosene as ingredients may pose health or serious environmental concerns if not handled or disposed of properly.

If you choose to use a pesticide, Health Canada encourages the use of products identified as being registered under the Pest Control Products Act (PCPA).

For more information call the Pest Management Information Service at 1-800-267-6315 or www.hc-sc.gc.gc/cps-spc/pest/protect-proteger/use-utiliser-home.maison/index-eng.php

Publisher: Faith United United Church
Editor: Larry Bignell

Faith United Church
1778 Nash Road
Courtice, ON,
L1E 2L9

Phone: 905-433-8953
Fax: 905-433-9642
E-mail: office@faithunited.ca

Minister: Rev. Larry Doyle
Music Facilitator: Brian Stevens
Administrative Assistant: Carol Laing
Custodian: Bruce Milliken

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs. 8.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.
Friday, 8.30a.m. - 12.30p.m.

Worship Services Sunday Mornings, 10.30a.m.
We celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of every month.

Mission & Service report

The Mission & Service committee meets regularly each month. Our most recent event was the Ham & Scalloped Potato dinner. It was our intention to raise \$1000.00 for the Canadian Landmine Foundation. Thanks to everyone who supported this dinner we were able to raise this amount plus \$147.00 more. This extra money will be added to our regular monthly cheque issued to the Mission & Service Fund, World Dev. & Relief division. Your support for this worthy cause was very much appreciated. Thanks again.

Mission & Service Committee.

Life at Faith

Sympathy to:

Gail and Alex Scott and family on the death of Gail's mother

Renate Belzing on the death of her father

Meals-on-wheels

Drivers are needed for Wednesday, May 20th and Friday, May 22nd. Please call Carolyn Boyd at 905-576-5816 if you can help. **Thank you**

The **church gardens** are awaiting your loving touch. Would you like to "**adopt a bed**" to maintain over the growing season? If so, talk with Diane Howarth or Linda Walsh.