

United Church of Canada Marks World Interfaith Harmony

Week – Canada is not immune to the poisonous influence of religious bigotry, persecution, and hatred, says The United Church of Canada's Moderator, Mardi Tindal.

"Incidents of vandalism that target places of worship or other religious sites are reminders that work still needs to be done to build bridges of understanding here at home as well as internationally," says Tindal. Tindal made her comments in conjunction with the start of World Interfaith Harmony Week on February 1.

In October 2010, the United Nations declared the first week of February World Interfaith Harmony Week. The UN resolution encourages all states to voluntarily support the spread of the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world's churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, and other places of worship. When the resolution was first introduced to the United Nations General Assembly, it was acknowledged that

"Our world is rife with religious tension and, sadly, mistrust, dislike and hatred. These religious tensions can easily erupt into communal violence. They also facilitate the demonizing of the other which in turn predisposes public opinion to support war against peoples of other religions.... The misuse or abuse of religions can thus be a cause of world strife, whereas religions should be a great foundation for facilitating world peace. The remedy for this problem can only come from the world's religions themselves. Religions must be part of the solution, not part of the problem."

Tindal says that the UN resolution reaffirms that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of a culture of peace. She adds, however, that World Interfaith Harmony Week is not just about finding common ground among people of faith, or dialogue among religious leaders. She says it's important to include all people of goodwill in the conversation—those of other faiths, and those with no faith.

"World Interfaith Harmony Week provides the opportunity for all of us to recognize that the common values we hold far outweigh the differences we may have," says Tindal. "It is also a good time to consider how we bring our common values to our shared societal challenges."

The United Church of Canada participates in interfaith dialogue and action through local, national, and global organizations. Significant resources, including group study guides, are available on whole world ecumenism, United Church-Jewish relations, and United Church-Muslim relations.

WELCOME TO CLOVERDALE PASTORAL CHARGE

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Telephone: 604-574-5813 / Fax: 604-574-5816

Website: www.cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

Office E-mail: cloverdalehazelmereuc@telus.net

CLOVERDALE

17575 - 58 A Ave. Surrey

Worship & Sunday School - 10:30 am

HAZELMERE

1614 - 184 St. Surrey

Worship - 9:00 am

Minister: Rev. Lori Megley-Best

Cloverdale Music Director: Sharon Lauzé

Hazelmere Music Coordinator: Jo-anne Seip-Rattray

Office Coordinator: Janet Cliff

Office Hours: Monday (10-2) Wednesday & Friday (10-4)

Following Worship, please join us for conversation and refreshments.



February 5, 2012

This week at Cloverdale Pastoral Charge:

Today: 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Food Bank Sunday at Hazelmere

CUC – AGM Please bring finger food to share.

Monday: Please Note: Janet is away from the office today

Tuesday: Friendship Unit – 1:30pm at Thelma Smidt's

Thursday: CUC Choir Rehearsal – 7:30pm

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Baptism Sunday

Mission Statements

Hazelmere:

To praise God together, celebrate our heritage,
grow in faith and reach out to others.

Cloverdale:

To celebrate God's presence, grow in faith
and reach out in love to the world.

Annual General Meetings

Cloverdale – Sunday, February 5th

Please bring finger food to share.

Hazelmere – Sunday, February 19th

Starting with a potluck dinner at 5pm.

Meeting will begin at 6:30pm

SENIOR'S CORNER

Please remember our seniors in your thoughts and prayers:

Senior's Residences:

Bethshan Gardens: *Barbara Atchison, Florence Attoe,
Margaret Henderson, Cliff Hull, Dora Rogers, Linda Thomas*
Elim Village: *Mary Mazur*
The Harrison (Elim Village): *Mary Aniuk*
Kinsmen Place Lodge: *Anna McGowan*
Morgan Place: *Grace Fuller*
Newton Regency Care Home: *Edith Dahl*
Royal City Manor: *Colleen McGowan*
Magnolia Gardens: *Evelyn Allen*
Jackman Manor: *Anne Kelly*
Zion Park Manor: *Megan Atkinson, Mima Evans, Doris Ferry, Kay Salter*



Friendship Unit meeting is Tuesday, February 7th at 1:30 pm at Thelma Smidt's home, 5073 223B St. Langley. Phone May, 604-576-6100 if you need a ride.

Help! Linda Thomas has almost completed a beautiful afghan. We are looking for someone to complete it. It would make an excellent prize for a raffle or some other worthy cause. If you are interested or know anyone who would be, please call May, 604-576-6100.

Legacy Gifts in a congregation can be the future vision of ministry, mission and sustainability! Cloverdale and Hazelmere congregations are gathering a team together to look at policies and communication around creating a Legacy Gifts Program. We warmly welcome you to offer your gifts of time, expertise and energy to this project. This commitment involves a few discussion based meetings followed by an enabling motion for the congregation. The next step is around communication. It is not a "forever" commitment but a very important one. A meeting will be called in March. Please let Jane Harding know if you would like more information or are interested in serving. She promises it will not be boring! Jane Harding 604-576-0423 jane@janeharding.ca

Scripture Readings for February 12, 2012 ~ 6th after Epiphany

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalms 30

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS? The bulletin announcements are emailed out every Friday. That way you are kept informed about Church activities and events even if you can't be here. Please call the office 604.574.5813 (or email cloverdalehazelmereuc@telus.net) with your email address.

Remember:

Order forms, Church calendar, News & Announcements can all be found on our website at: www.cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca
We now have our Volunteer Schedule on the "News & Events" page of our website! If you need to see when and what you are signed up to do please, utilize this listing

Stewardship Events:

"Money & More" with sequel Stewardship event to "Stewardship for a New time" with Brenda Watt. We have added it to the Treasurers and Trustees Workshop. This is a very well attended workshop so check the BC Conference Website www.bc.united-church.ca and sign up soon. It will be held at Eagle Ridge United Church in Coquitlam. The dates are April 26-28, 2012. More information will be along soon.

"Connecting the Dots" with Chad Myers in Kananaskis, Alberta. This is an amazing Stewardship Event put on by the Alberta Northwest Conference of the United Church. I have attached the registration form to this message for your information. The dates are April 12 - 14, 2012. I will be flying to attend on April 12 and will probably have a car if you want to connect and share! There are funds available through BC Conference to help with attendance at this event.

Vespers in the Valley on Sunday, February 12th at 4pm at Northwood United Church, corner of 88th Ave & 156th St. Featuring Jennifer Scott, renowned International jazz singer & pianist. Come, relax and take a breath; listen to Lower Mainland's finest jazz: vibrant, joyful, soulful, reflective. Free parking; volunteer offering. More info at www.northwood-united.org

At Cloverdale this morning:

Coffee Makers / Servers: Sharon McBain, Roger & Marjorie Saunders
Greeters / Ushers: Peter Connal & Rick Hutchings
Sunday School Leader: Thelma Smidt