



First United eNews

February 2,
2012

The place where you'll find up-to-date information about what's happening, what's new and what to expect in the church community.

Dear First Family,

This February will be an exciting month for us as Christian disciples. We'll deepen our understanding and appreciating of Black Canadians in the Church through "African Heritage Month". We'll also signal the beginning of Lent with a Community "Mini-Mardi Gras" Celebration and Pancake Supper. The following day we'll worship God in the spirit of repentance and wholeness with a "Service of the Ashes." And in case you were wondering when the next "All Church Gathering" is scheduled - well that's happening in February also!

Here's the list of the focus events. All are welcome!

African Heritage Worship - Sunday Feb 12.

Mini Mardi-Gras and Pancake Supper - Tuesday, Feb 21 - 4pm

Service of the Ashes (Ash Wednesday) - Wed, Feb 22 - 7pm

All Church Gathering (formerly called a "congregational meeting")
- Sunday, Feb 26.

You are invited to participate in all these events. Invite a friend to "Come and See!" also.

Let's keep learning and growing together.

Today I'd like to share with you some history of "African Heritage Month" and why it's important for us to explore as Church!

[Click here to read more..](#)

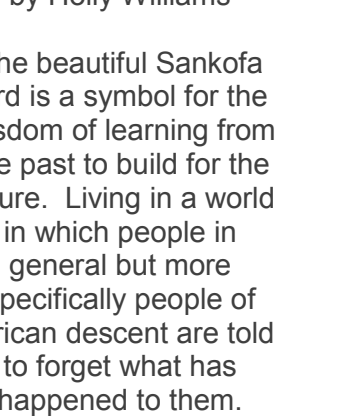
See you in worship,
Rev. Danielle

ONE CHURCH: MANY VOICES

At First United Church, we celebrate our diverse stories and experiences of faith. We strive to be an intercultural community where we learn about one another and practice listening to our varied perspectives. For today's column we welcome the voice of David Burroughs..

LOVING THOSE WHO DON'T DESERVE IT

Valentine Day is just around the corner and for many it will be a day to express in unambiguous terms, actions, or investments our limitless and unconditional affection for someone whom you find fairly easy to love. Ah yes, the hugs and the sounds of sweet nothings ringing in ears. The chocolates, the quality time, the flowers, and the bling. Again, all for that special person you find fairly easy to love and certainly deserves it.



But what about those who just don't deserve to be loved or those persons whom you find it difficult to love? ...

[Click here to read more..](#)



Left: 'Sankofa', painting by Holly Williams

The beautiful Sankofa bird is a symbol for the wisdom of learning from the past to build for the future. Living in a world in which people in general but more specifically people of African descent are told to forget what has happened to them. For more information about this image, [click here](#).

WORSHIP ON FEBRUARY 12

African Heritage

Worship:

God's Glory

Cannot

Be Hidden

WORSHIP ON FEBRUARY 5

⇒ Food Bank Sunday

⇒ Soup Sunday

UPCOMING EVENTS

GOING DEEPER-BOOK CLUB—Coffee and Discovery February 12 after worship. Book of discussion : **"Eternal Life: A New Vision"** by John Shelby Spong. All are welcome!



DR. TURNER LODGE EVENING WORSHIP—
Sunday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m.

MINI MARDI GRAS—Tuesday, February 21 at 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE OF THE ASHES AND OIL—Wednesday,
February 22 at 7:00 p.m.



STEWARDSHIP AND GENEROSITY TEAM MEETING—Monday,
February 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Please regularly check-out our website at fsunited.org to keep yourselves updated about our coming events, and to listen to our recorded sermons.

Celebrating 130 Years Together 1882-2012

We invite you to spread the news about what God is doing through First United by forwarding this email to someone.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at fspc@shaw.ca or call 780-998-4060.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Click [here](#) to download PDF versions of past issues of eNews.

