

First United Church

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First United eNews

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.

August 22, 2013



TO
HEAL
OR
NOT
TO
HEAL

Sunday Worship, August 22

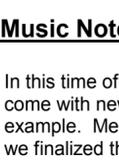
Join us this Sunday, at 10:00 a.m.

Worship Leadership:
Merlin Rosser (LLWL)

Sermon Title:
To Heal or Not to Heal

Children's Programme during the Sundays in August.

All families and children are welcome!



My name is Merlin Rosser. It will be my pleasure to provide pulpit supply for Sunday, August 25. I look forward to once again sharing service with Fort Saskatchewan. My wife and I live in St. Albert where I work as the Heritage Sites Manager with the responsibilities of developing conservation programs for the preservation of the various Historic sites in and around St. Albert. My wife works as a sales representative at Northern Reflections. Our three children are all home for the summer. Daniel, who is currently working full time at 7Eleven, has registered for the University of Alberta where he intends to study History and Anthropology. Gwen has returned from her first year at the University of Victoria where she continues to pursue political science and woman's studies. Gareth is enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program at Bellerose High School and works part time at Staples in their computer department. I am truly blessed with a wonderful family.

Music Notes

In this time of sabbatical, it is our time to work with other worship leaders who come with new and different ideas for us to try. This Sunday is a perfect example. Merlin Rosser will be leading us in worship. After various emails, we finalized the worship music. I suggested that we have the Lord's Prayer sung this week and that we sing the same offering response as last week. He suggested some other music that we are familiar with and that we also sing More Voices 150 *Spirit God, Be Our Breath (Embracing Change)*. I immediately read the words and then walked to the piano. I noted that it was by Bruce Harding (who has a total of 13 of his compositions included in More Voices) such as MV 14 *Where Two or Three Are Gathered*, MV 47 *Born in Human Likeness* and MV 122 *This is the Day*. I tried it out on the piano and wondered "Why haven't we sung this before?" The bracketing title seemed especially pertinent as we go through this time of change during sabbatical. Sabbatical is not a time to be complacent, but a time not only to reflect on what has been or what is, but a time to reflect on what could be. We can do great things when we work together and feel the Spirit God in our breath, in our voice and in our prayers.

Camille Ream
Music Coordinator

Spirit God, Be Our Breath (Embracing Change) MV 150

Verse 1:
Spirit God: be our breath,
be our song.
Blow through us,
bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward,
defensive, withdrawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Verse 2:
Patient God:
soothe our pride, calm our fear.
Comfort us.
When we know you are near
we grow more certain,
our vision is clear.
Patient God, calm our fear.

Verse 3:
Loving God: be our voice,
be our prayer.
Reaching out, joining hands
as we share,
we seek your guidance
through friendship and care.
Loving God, be our prayer.

Verse 4:
Spirit God: be our breath,
be our song.
Blow through us,
bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge,
we'll greet the new dawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Upcoming and Ongoing

Coffeehouse Planning Meeting Tuesday, August 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Last year's Harvest Moon Coffeehouse was such a success, we would like to do it again on Saturday, September 28. If you would like to be part of the planning team, please join us for our first planning meeting.



Grow a Row

Its back! The tasty part of "Grow a Row"... Starting this Sunday, August 25th and running for four consecutive Sundays. Bring in your garden's (vegetable, flower or herb) bounty to share with your God family! Bring what you can; take what you need and be thankful for the bounty God gives us daily. A "sharing table" will be set up in the narthex and remember to bring your own bags! Questions, please contact Karen Martin (780-998-3692) or email: khmartin@telus.net.



Music / AV Invitation to all

Are you interested in helping with Worship? The Music Ministry and AV Ministry are actively looking for volunteers to help with worship services. There are a variety of ways to help: **Singers, Ringers, Strummers, Instrumentalists, Powerpointers, and Sound and Recording Personnel**. For a detailed description click [here](#). If you are interested or know of someone who is, please contact Camille Ream at 780-997-0551 or through the church office.



Run for Body & Soul

September 14th, 2013
Meet some of our racers this Sunday during worship!

Ways that you can be involved: register to participate, sponsor someone, volunteer to help, or donate something for our participant goodie bags.

More details [here](#).
The *Run for Body & Soul* is a community 5km run/walk that begins and ends at First United. This fundraiser will support First United Church and the Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital Foundation.



Summer FUNdraiser

Our holiday bus had a great traveling weekend. We saw some great sights and are now on our way to check out Fort McMurray. Please keep us moving on our imaginary journey. We don't want to be stuck in the north, so with only one week left, PLEASE bring us home. Your donation of 25¢ per kilometer will keep us moving.



Paid Position Offered

Our custodian, Paul, is taking two weeks holiday and as in the past is offering to hire someone in the congregation to fill in for him while he is gone and he will pay you. The time is from September 2 with Paul returning on September 16th. You would have to be available to meet with Paul this week as he has a list of duties and to determine the pay. Please contact the [church office](#) no later than Wednesday August 28th at 780-998-4060 if interested.



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

We invite you to forward 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.

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