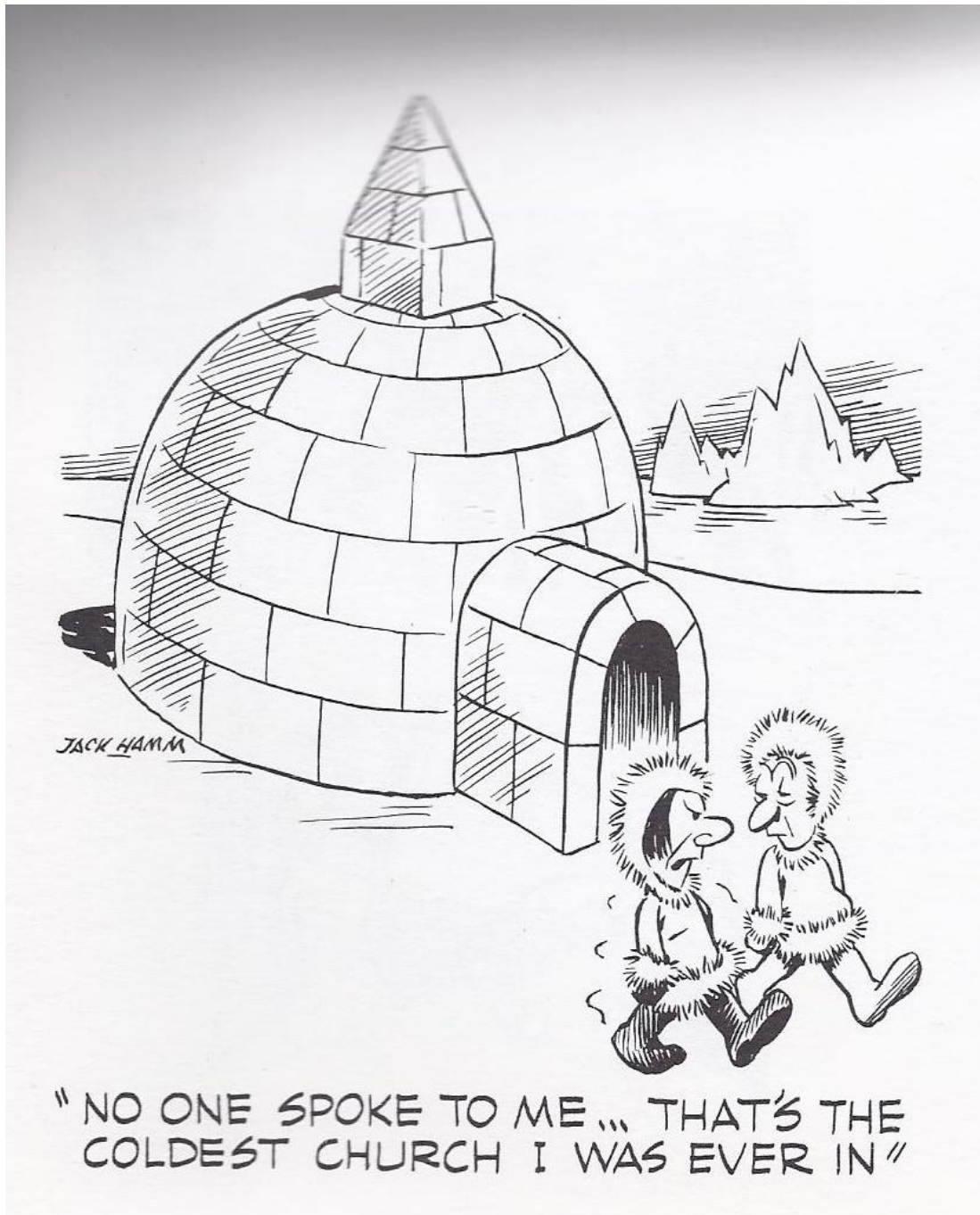


# Yellowknife United Church

## Fall 2011 Newsletter



There is an exciting year of activities planned by the United Church Women (UCW)! Mark these dates on your calendar. Don't miss out on a variety of events from making antipasto to joining in the fundraising done at the annual garage sale!

**Monday October 17<sup>th</sup>** – Antipasto making, join UCW in the kitchen at 6:30pm

**Monday November 14<sup>th</sup>** – Pepper jelly making, find UCW in the kitchen at 6:30pm

**Monday December 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Annual Christmas Tea and Bake Sale, join in the set up at 10am in the auditorium or enjoy a cup of tea and sweets at 2pm

**Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> (tentative date)** – Annual kitchen clean up, remember many hands make light work!

**Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>** – Annual garage sale, shopping starts at 8:00am in the auditorium... volunteers can join in the set up Friday night

**Monday June 11<sup>th</sup>** – UCW pot luck and penny auction, year-end wind up, hosted by Kay Lewis

UCW welcomes all women at any or all of the events. Come join in the fun and laughter while providing service to others.

Monies raised from the fund-raising activities are donated to worthy local, national and international causes. To be successful we need the support of the whole congregation. Thanks!

For further information, contact:

Marg Henderson 873-4428

Jeannette Hall 873-3942

Sharon Chynoweth 873-3089

### **Dine, Discuss and Dash!**

The Affirm Study Group plans to hold another in the series of simple lunches D3 (dine, discuss, dash) some Sunday after worship. For those who haven't heard yet, the purpose of the study group is to invite the congregation on a journey to explore whether we want to officially become an affirming congregation. Basically it's about deciding whether Yellowknife United Church would officially and visibly welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation (gay, lesbian bisexual, straight) or gender identity (whether a person is transgendered or cisgendered, a term meaning essentially non-transgendered).

The group consists of Marg Henderson, Lorne Gushue, Janice Daly, Kathy Burns, Nancy Trotter, Sharon Chynoweth and Donna Allen. Please feel free to approach any of these people to ask questions and discuss the issues. We've also identified Karen and Gordon Hamre who are not part of the study group just in case you'd like to approach someone outside the group to ask and discuss.

This is a process, and the outcome is by no means predetermined. We welcome all input, and hope the discussions, events and reflections on these issues will be fun, faithful, and responsive to God's call to us. Also, keep a look out for a worship service led by the Affirm Study Group throughout the fall. For more info, we encourage you to check out the bulletin board display on the west wall of the auditorium, and go to [www.affirmunited.ca](http://www.affirmunited.ca).



**Affirm** / **S'affirmer**  
**UNITED** / **ENSEMBLE**

### *On Pastoral Care*

Last spring, people from the congregation of Yellowknife United Church were invited to participate in meetings that would help us follow a path into the future, as well as increase awareness of the importance of stewardship as part of our own faith commitment and journey. The findings from these meetings were compiled and distributed to the board and committees in our church. One of the topics that arose was pastoral care, which is part of the area or responsibility for the CLAM committee. As part of the response to this, I was invited to offer some thoughts on the topic.

When a minister is ordained in The United Church of Canada they are ordained to a ministry of word, sacrament and pastoral care. The first two of these facets of ministry are fairly well defined: preaching and leading worship and presiding at communion and baptism. The third facet, pastoral care, is not as well defined. There are many different expectations surrounding pastoral care, perhaps as many understandings as there are members and adherents in a congregation. Probably one of the areas of agreement, however, would be that pastoral care includes an expectation that the minister will visit members and adherents of the congregation (along with other people who are part of a wider circle of connection with the community of faith) when they are in the hospital.

It used to be, in a time when there was less concern for privacy, that ministers could walk into a hospital and have the freedom to visit patients in almost any room or be given a list of patients connected with their denomination. This is no longer the case. Privacy legislation requires that visiting in the hospital can only be done at the request or with the permission of the patient.

Procedures have been implemented at Stanton Hospital to ask patients if they would like a visit from the spiritual leader of their particular faith.

However, there can be a lack of understanding on the part of a patient about what that means. A person might assume that a minister will be informed regardless of whether they request a visit. This can result in an implicit expectation that the minister will visit – even though the minister has no way of knowing that the person is in the hospital.

I can tell you from personal experience that on more than one occasion I've only found out that a member of our church community has been in the hospital *after* they have gone home. They may have wanted me to visit, or expected me to visit, but nothing was done to make that happen, and hospital staff are required by law not to share information that a person is even in the hospital unless permission is given.

A couple of years ago I was surfing the web when I happened on a worship service at which a new interim minister was being welcomed to a congregation to serve while the regular minister was on parental leave. During the worship service several symbols were presented to the new minister in recognition of her new role. The incumbent minister presented the new minister with a crystal ball – which would tell her when members of the congregation were in the hospital. This presentation was of course done “tongue in cheek” to make a point to the members of the congregation that there is no crystal ball or as Sharon puts it - “a message under my pillow” each night, to tell me when someone would like a visit at the hospital.

The processes implemented at Stanton Hospital can only work if you, as a patient, agree when a hospital staff person asks you, or if you tell a hospital staff person that you would like a visit from your minister. Of

course you can also tell a family member or friend that you would like a visit from the minister. Similarly, a family member or friend who knows you are in the hospital and would like a visit can share that information with the minister. This can be done without the same concern for privacy laws that govern staff at the hospital. Of course, privacy is still important and it is therefore important that we honour a person's wishes, regardless of whether it is covered by legislation.

We are part of a community of faith and like the oft-repeated African adage that it takes a whole village to raise a child, it is also true to say that it takes a whole community of faith to offer pastoral care with everyone who is part of the circle of a congregation. There is a great deal of pastoral care that happens among and between people in this congregation. Sometimes we miss recognizing that aspect of pastoral care as being in and of the pastoral care role of the church. It is something to be celebrated.

Naturally, there must be a certain amount of care exercised in taking this responsibility and applying it to the hospital setting. There is absolutely nothing wrong with visiting friends and fellow members of the congregation on an individual basis, however we all need to be aware that there are also some requirements from the hospital with respect to lay people visiting on behalf of a particular community of faith.

So, I look forward to hearing from you! Until we can get the process worked out for notes under my pillow, that's the best and surest way for me to find out that someone would like a visit.

Peter Chynoweth  
Ministry of Word, Sacrament and  
Pastoral Care

## Delicious Desserts for Everyone!!!!

The annual Fall Supper was held on Saturday September 17, 2011. It was a wonderful evening of sharing stories, laughter, and a potluck meal together with friends and neighbours as we all get back in to the 'fall' routine of life.

Coupled with the Fall Supper is something that is becoming an annual tradition too, the Dessert Auction Fundraiser. Thirteen luscious desserts plus homegrown Yellowknife garden produce were up for grabs! A total of \$708 was raised to support the work of the Church...well done! A dessert of note was a scrumptious chocolate cake shaped and decorated as the United Church of Canada crest. Quickly referred to the 'crest cake', this wonderful creation was handmade by one of the members of our very own youth group! The generous bidder not only bought the cake but shared it with the congregation on Sunday morning following worship.

The evening's success was in thanks to all those who joined us on that Saturday night. Thanks to our bakers for the tasty treats and to those in attendance who kept the bidding lively.



Lorne Gushue and his godson Sage Acorn enjoyed the meal at the Fall Supper.



Youth Group members Julian, Martha and Seamus create works of art on the table.



The crest cake made by Martha Hamre.



Some of the wonderful desserts up for auction.

## Property and Maintenance

Another summer and construction season has almost come and gone, this one has been busy for Property and Maintenance.

This year we have undertaken our biggest project to date with the complete insulation and siding upgrade on the manse. Over the past couple of years, the siding has been an issue and a nuisance for both Peter and Sharon and their neighbours, with pieces blowing off each time there would be any amount of wind. It seems as if we have been having a lot of that recently!

These upgrades will increase the energy efficiency, thus lowering the church's operating costs and making the home more comfortable for its residents.

We introduced this project at our annual congregational meeting in the spring and all summer a thermometer has been slowly rising to reach our financial goal of \$30,000. A huge thank you goes to all those who have supported the project thus far and a reminder to think of the capital fund in your weekly givings. The thermometer is now inside the auditorium for fall worship, check it out next Sunday. We are still a little shy of our goal, but are confident that with your support we will reach and exceed it.

Work at the manse continues on an ongoing basis, and thank you to everyone who has put their time and talents to good use. Look for bulletin announcements over the coming months to find out what our next projects will be!

Terrilyn Hayden

Property and Maintenance Coordinator



The manse before the new siding.

The manse after the new siding.



## FOR SALE

As a result of some late changes to the renovation plans, the Property and Maintenance Committee has a window for sale.

The window measures 24 ¼" x 37" and is triple paned, low e, energy efficient.

There is still some time left in the renovation season if you were hoping to replace a window before winter! Don't wait for a special order; pick up this window for only \$500, no GST or shipping and handling charges. Property and Maintenance is solely hoping to recover the cost of the window.

If you would like to take a look at the window to ensure this one's for you, please contact Peter Chynoweth to arrange a time to drop by the Manse.



## More Eating and Auctioning.... mark Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> on your calendar!

Fundraising or “fun-raising” as we at Yellowknife United Church like to call it is a fact of life for most charitable organizations. As a congregation we value and need the money raised through our fun-raising efforts and more than that, we value and appreciate coming together to laugh, to work for a common goal and to get to know each other better.

The fundraising goal in the 2011 budget is \$7,000. We have already raised \$3,762 and hope to meet and exceed our goal with our upcoming “Talent Auction and Dessert Buffet” being held on November 5th.

A talent auction provides the opportunity for us to consider ‘sharing’ a talent or gift with others in our church family. Think about hobbies, baking, musical or cooking talents that you can share with others. A few popular items that have been very successful in past auctions include dinners, sailboat rides, home-made perogies, and artwork. Items can be available at the time of the auction or may be redeemed by the purchaser at a later date.

Please share your talents and gifts to make this a successful event!

If you would like more information or if you wish to put your “gift” on the auction block, please contact Marg Henderson at 873-4428 or [margh@theedge.ca](mailto:margh@theedge.ca).



The Youth Group planted and tended flowers around Northern United Place this summer.

## Yellowknife United Church



Wayne and Mary Bryant, now living in Ontario, were back for a visit.



A lively church service on the beach at Long Lake in June.



The Friesen-Pankratz kids (and their Mom and Dad) dropped by for a visit enroute from Mexico to their new home in southern Manitoba.



The Augustana University choir performed at a joint United/Lutheran service in the spring.

### A Family Returned

You may have noticed some familiar faces back at church this fall. The Catlin/Sabourin family has returned after four years in Ontario. Here, Susan gives an update on where they've been and what they've been up to:

Hello. We are happy to be back in Yellowknife and are settling in to our house on 57th Street after our summer move across Canada. We spent four years in Kingston, Ontario where I completed a PhD in Education. I did my research on writing pedagogy with teachers from the Northwest Territories and for that reason, and others, we were back several times during our four years away. While in Kingston, John exhibited his art in Ontario galleries and festivals and led workshops in schools in the area and at Queen's University. Emily and Julian attended school and participated in community arts and sports activities and made many good friends. Our family spent many weekends with my sisters Carrie and Jennifer and their families as the 2½ hour drive to Toronto from Kingston is no drive at all for northerners! For the four years we lived in Kingston, we were very welcomed by the community of Edith Rankin Memorial United Church. In grade 8, Julian participated in confirmation classes; the Minister who works with the youth, Micheline Montreuil, has a Yellowknife connection as her sister lives here. It was extra special that he was confirmed by someone who has visited Yellowknife several times!



## Meet the Clammers

The Community Life and Membership (CLAM) committee's role is to co-ordinate events that help to build community. To do this there is a small but mighty group of volunteers that make up the 2011/12 CLAM Committee. You have probably seen many of these faces around the church but always wondered who they were.... meet the CLAM committee.....

Barb Paquin

Barb grew up in a United Church family in Alberta and has been very involved with the local church during most of the thirty-one years she has lived in Yellowknife. Having served on most committees and as chair of the Board, she is currently the chairperson of the Community Life and Membership Committee. Barb works for the territorial government and does volunteer work in the community. She is married to Emery and they have two adult sons, Jeremy and Corey. Barb and Emery enjoy trips to the family cabin on Prelude Lake whenever possible.



Gillian Moir



Gillian arrived in the NWT in 1991. She has been attending YKUC on and off since but regularly for the past five. Gillian joined the CLAM Committee three years ago and is pleased to be part of a group that does so many things for others including sending the student packages. Gillian is a member of the YKUC choir. Singing is an activity that Gillian enjoys and has found a 'home' for her voice participating in services each Sunday. Gillian has a brother, sister-in-law, niece and nephew in town as well.

Joyce Caines

Joyce has lived in Yellowknife since 2001. She lived in Cape Dorset in Nunavut before moving to the western arctic. Outside of her working life, she enjoys the company of friends-getting together for dinner or a movie, going for walks or playing cards. She enjoys writing poetry and finding inspiration in the people she meets, the situations she witnesses and from the land. She loves being in Yellowknife in the summer when she can kayak and go boating and fishing on the Great Slave Lake.



Peter Chynoweth



Peter is a member of the CLAM committee by virtue of his position as the minister of Yellowknife United Church. Peter and Sharon moved to Yellowknife from Jasper, Alberta in October 2005. Peter served as the minister of Jasper United Church for twelve years. He was ordained by Alberta and Northwest Conference in 1990 and was settled in the Bonnyville-Ardmore Pastoral Charge, which he served for three years. Prior to pastoral ministry Peter worked as a systems programmer for a Calgary oil company. He still has an abiding passion for computers and can usually be found looking for ways to integrate this fascination with his other passion: ministry in The United Church of Canada. The dance of these two passions is usually manifested in his interest and use of open source software – from both an intellectual and practical perspective. Of course, as can be discerned from most people who serve in ministry, he also has an interest in just about everything else. He has been especially thankful that due to a conference responsibility over the past two years, he has been able to watch granddaughter Tekerra change and grow from birth to the present!



Melanie Dumont

Melanie has lived in the north since 1979 when her family moved north from Nova Scotia. She has lived in Frobisher Bay, Fort Smith and Yellowknife. Melanie is kept very busy with her two children, Tanner & Fraser. Melanie enjoys reading and doing anything that involves crafts.



Jan Stirling



Jan has lived in Yellowknife since 1971 and has been active in Yellowknife United Church ever since. She was nurse-in-charge of the Public Health Centre until her retirement in 1997. Jan was such an integral part of the health system that the Jan Stirling Building in downtown Yellowknife that houses Public Health was named after her. An active community volunteer, she has four children, two of whom still live in Yellowknife, and six grandchildren.

Sharon Chynoweth

Sharon was born and raised in Calgary and graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree in Early Childhood Education from U of C. She taught privately out of her home while raising her children, Steve and Heather. After moving to Jasper, AB with her partner Peter, Sharon retired from teaching and enjoyed work at the Public Health Unit and hospital. Sharon and Peter moved to Yellowknife in the Fall of 2005 and Sharon now works for the GNWT in the Dept. of Justice. She still shares her love of music with the Fireweed Children's Chorus and as the Sunday worship music person with YKUC. In her spare time, Sharon enjoys volunteering at church and in the community, reading, "cards and supper" evenings with friends and being a Nana to her granddaughter, Tekerra, who lives in Edmonton.



Sean Daly



Sean is new again (renewed) on the CLAM committee, having served when the Committee was first created. He is keen to be involved in this role at Yellowknife United, having been a member of the church for twenty-two years since arriving with his wife Janice to work in the public schools in 1989. Sean has been on a number of committees including stewardship and the Christian Education Committee. Sean enjoys photography and singing and is a member of the choir as well. With their daughter Kieran off at second year university and Seamus in grade 11, life is always changing.

**Membership Transfer**

There are certain voting privileges that go with being a formal member of the church. If you would like to transfer your membership from another church to Yellowknife United, please speak with Rev. Peter Chynoweth.