

JUNE 14, 2011
KOOTENAY PRESBYTERY NEWSLETTER

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Website: www.bc.united-church.ca/Kootenay/

Please share this information with your presbyters who do not have access to the internet and with your congregations as you see fit.

News from around Kootenay Presbytery

- **From the Support to Congregations Team:** Feedback regarding God-centered conversations led by Christina Baldwin and Ann Linnea and hosted by Communities in Faith pastoral charge and held at Trail United Church in early April shows a very positive response to the introduction of the circle process as a way of being together in church meetings. Here at CIFpc, the circle process has been used and well received at Council and worship committee meetings. For further information regarding the follow up session scheduled for October 21-23rd, contact Christine Dudley or Barbara Langton. Alternatively, if you are eager to deepen your skills for this process before then, a week long course is available August 17-21st on Whitby Island. Go to www.peerspirit.com for more information.
- **The Rev. Shona Boardman**, a Canadian Anglican priest currently serving the Parish of St. John in Edinburgh, Scotland as the assistant curate, will be the next minister for Windermere Valley Shared Ministry effective October 16, 2011. Shona looks forward to being involved in the community and will bring many gifts to WVSM life and ministry. Welcome, Shona!
- **The Rev. Christine Dudley** will be starting a new ministry with the Kimberley United Church as of August 1, 2011. She brings 11 years of experience working with the Nelson Church across the mountains. The congregation at Kimberley was delighted that she has accepted this position. The skills and experience that she brings to Kimberley will no doubt be well used by the congregation as we continue our faith journey together. The fact that Christine and Jody will still be in the Kootenay presbytery will no doubt be appreciated by all those who have known and worked with this special couple in the past.

Milestones and Passages:

- Congratulations and hurrah for the Reverend Doctor Therese Descamp who was admitted to the order of ministry as a United Church clergy person at our Conference AGM!
- Hilary Bitten continues to recover at home after surgery.
- We welcome Michelle Sylvest to our presbytery as a presbyter and the incoming newsletter editor. Michelle is working on her youth ministry certificate through B.C. Conference and Naramata Centre and is taking part in the JNAC at Nelson United among other things! Welcome, Michelle!

A word from Christine Dudley, as she completes 11 years of service as a minister for the Nelson United Church as of July, 2011:

- It is with great fondness and gratitude for the Nelson congregation that she begins a time of transition in preparation for her move to Kimberley United Church. As much as she will miss the wonderful people of Nelson, Christine is looking forward to embracing a new community of faith and immersing herself in the joys and challenges of serving in Kimberley.

A word of farewell from Jeff Seaton and Liz Bowyer whose gifts for ministry call them away from Kootenay Presbytery:

- From Jeff Seaton: Thank you for your friendship as we have journeyed together these past four years. Kootenay Presbytery is richly blessed with natural beauty, caring communities, and gifted individuals. Don and I will always treasure our time among you, and look forward to your continued friendship in the years ahead. We will keep you in our prayers, and ask for your prayers as we continue our journey with the people of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery. Blessings, Jeff.
- From Liz Bowyer: This is the day that God has made, let us be glad and rejoice in it! These are the words that pop into my head as I consider the welcome I received and the on-going embodied hospitality and unconditional care I have experienced as a member of Kootenay Presbytery these last four years. I carry with me a deep sense of being blessed at having been settled, nurtured, and strengthened in our shared vocation of being the church in the world as it is uniquely lived out in all parts of the diverse geography and demographics of Kootenay Presbytery. Looking forward to staying in touch on a regular basis. Liz
- We also bid fond farewell to Rhonda Pigott as she takes her leave from Cranbrook United and is re-united with her fiancé in Red Deer. Blessings, Rhonda!

B.C. Conference Office News

Update on Conference Annual General Meeting in Penticton

It was good to gather with other presbyters from Kootenay Presbytery at Conference at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre on Friday, May 27th and for those of us leaving Kootenay Presbytery, to be blessed on our way, and gifted with gift certificates from KOPRC. Thank you and God bless everyone! Liz Bowyer

From Doris Kizinna, at B.C. Conference office: The youth at Conference raised \$8100.00 of the needed \$20,000.00 their dream to rent a bus to take them to Rendez-Vous in Toronto in August. Donations continue to be welcome and can be sent by cheque marked The Imagine Fund-Bus to Rendez-Vous and sent to B.C. Conference office at 4383 Rumble St. Burnaby, B.C. V5J 2A2. For more information contact Doris directly or go to the B.C. Conference office website.

Cultus Lake Church Camp needs a head cook and an assistant head cook for this summer. For more information or to apply send a cover letter, resume, and references to kathievh@shaw.ca or mail to 1420 Lindell Beach, B.C. V2R 4W6

Naramata Centre News

- Don't forget to check out summer programming offered at Naramata Centre this year by going to www.naramata.centre.net

Youth and Young Adult Ministry News

- Guatemala Awareness Education Tour: From young adults to elders, Doris Kizinna, Trip Coordinator says: *All are welcome!* Dates: **July 17th-30th, 2011**. For more information contact Doris at 604-341-2724 or e-mail her at ellenkiz@hotmail.com
- Youth, Grades 9-12 interested in attending Rendez Vous 2011, **Toronto, August 4-10th** travelling from the Lower Mainland by bus, contact Doris Kizinna at dkizzina@bc.united-church.ca For other opportunities available for youth in our conference, go to www.yayaen.org

Upcoming Education Opportunities

- **STARTING WELL: FIRST YEARS IN MINISTRY**, An ecumenical program to support and encourage professionals in their first years of ministry, will take place from Monday, **June 20th-Thursday, June 23rd** in two locations: in Toronto through the Toronto School of Theology or in Vancouver at the Vancouver School of Theology. For more information, go to www.caringforclergy.ca or e-mail clergy.care@utoronto.ca or phone 416-978-7799
- Online Registration for the upcoming Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Day long Resource Fair set for **Saturday, October 1, 2011, 9:30am-4pm** at Penticton United Church, *Big Questions-Worthy Dreams* can be accessed at www.bc.united-church.ca. For more information on the workshops offered, download the brochure or contact Micki Andrews, Registrar by phone at 250-672-9333 or by e-mail at granm@mercuryspeed.com or her alternate, Wayne Atkinson at 250-768-7159 or rwa51@shaw.ca. *Why not consider getting a carpool organized for Kootenay presbytery folk to attend?*
- **Basic Skills for Interim Ministry training** offered through Manitou Conference at St. Joseph Motherhouse, North Bay, Ontario; Phase One, is set for **October 23-28th**; Phase Two will take place between October, 2011 and March, 2012 at local ministry sites; and **Phase Three is offered April 22-27, 2012 in North Bay**. For more information, contact Catherine Somerville at 705-474-3350 or at Catherine@manitouconference.ca
- Update on **Clergy Educational Sabbatical Program and Funding** at Queen's School of Religion. The Flora Jane Baker Fellowship can be accessed by contacting,

Pam Holmes, Program Coordinator at holmesp@queensu.ca or 613-533-2110 or go to the School of Religion Website: www.queensu.ca

National Church News

There is always news and other pertinent information ranging from topics as diverse as the Residential Schools update to General Council's office lease coming due. All this and more is accessible on line from the national church website at www.united-church.ca. Below are a few snippets:

- KAIROS: Roll with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples initiative and the Banner Train as it rolls across the country gathering banners of support from churches and communities **to be presented on Parliament Hill on June 20th**. For more information go to: www.kairoscanada.org or contact Anne Herteis at connect@kairoscanada.org or phone her at 1-877-403-8933 ext. 243.
- For those interested in participating in an enhanced Mission Trip Leaders Seminar in Cuba this fall, contact Heather Spares, Partners in Mission Unit, UCC. Regarding applications, Heather can be reached by e: mail at pip@united-church.ca or by phone at 1-800-268-3781. Deadline for applications is June 24, 2011.
- To stay up to speed with Moderator, Mardi Tindal's Green Initiative and travels on the Spirit Express, go to www.wonder.cafe.com or www.united-church.ca and click on **Print and Media**.

DIACONAL NEWS AND CONFERENCES

- The National Gathering For Diakonia of the United Church is set for **June 21-24th in Winnipeg**. The Theme this year is Courageous Engagement, Forging New Relationships With Aboriginal peoples.
- Diakonia of the Americas and Caribbean (DOTAC) meeting will take place at **Oklahoma City University, July 10-14th**. The purpose of this event purpose is to explore international issues with international diaconal ministry people, This year's theme is: Chairs at the Feet of God. For more information or to register, contact Sharilynn Upsdell, DUCC Rep to DOTAC. A conference related video is also available at www.dotac.diakonia-world.org
- Summer Leadership Development modules are being offered in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia, August 8-20th this year. For more information go to www.csonline.ca