

**Belated Thank You
from Lil Tippin**

Our apologies to Lil Tippin. Somehow we missed including her thank you in the January issue! Lil wanted to thank everyone for their kind good wishes and phone calls during her recent recovery from surgery to implant a pacemaker.

Help the Women and Children of Anselma House, Mary's Place (YWCA) and St. Monica House get a fresh start in life!

The following items are needed: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorants, razors, new hair combs and brushes, Q-tips, cotton balls, new make-up, nail products, body lotion, face cloths, hand towels, and socks, slippers, T-shirts and underwear for women and children. For a list of baby items and other needed items for St. Monica House, please check the bulletin board. Items left at the church will be sorted and delivered at the end of February. Look for the boxes to receive your donated items in the church foyer!

Are you a "crafty" person?

If so, we need you for a couple of special projects for Kids' Church. This does not involve teaching. The work can be done at home or at the church. If interested, please call Judi Knetsch at 519-742-3913.

We got Dave Lemke's email address wrong in the last issue, in his appeal for drivers to bring people to the church. It should have been **dklemke2@rogers.com**

Join Us! For Lunch Bunch!

Thursday, January 24 at 12 noon

Please reserve your place by calling the office at 519-744-3481 no later than Friday, January 18.



Please note, however, that spaces are limited and fill up quickly. Phone early to be sure of a reservation!

If you wish to contact **Rev. Marian** or **Rev. Murray** by email, their Forest Hill email addresses are as follows:

Marian Gils-McLeod: .
mariangmcl@bellnet.ca

Murray McLeod:
murraymcl@bellnet.ca

PLEASE NOTE:

Deadline for the March Messenger will be Sunday, February 20 in order to have it in the boxes for pick up on Sunday, February 27. Please leave items in the envelope outside the church office or email Martha Leibbrandt: mcleibbrandt@rogers.com, or phone 519-568-7375.

THE MESSENGER

Celebrating God

Being in Community

Reaching Out to Others

FEBRUARY 2011

Forest Hill United Church, 121 Westmount Rd. E., Kitchener, ON N2M 4Y6

Tel: 519-744-3481 Fax: 519-744-7674

Email: foresthilluc@bellnet.ca Website: foresthillunited.org

Ministers: Rev. Marian Gils-McLeod and Rev. Murray McLeod

Director of Music: Peter de Sousa

Office Administrator: Wendy Irvin

*All beautiful the march of days,
as seasons come and go;
the hand that shaped the rose has wrought
the crystal of the snow,
has sent the silvery frost of heaven,
the flowing waters sealed,
and laid a silent loveliness
on hill and wood and field.*

**Text by Frances Whitmarsh Wile
as found at Voices United #530**

Stretching some five to nine hundred metres out into Lake Erie from the cavernous sculptured ice formations that follow the shoreline, there are a multitude of what look like miniature crystal cathedrals, all with spires peaked in an unending chorus of praise to the Creator. As the flowing water currents below and the invisible wind currents above continue in their own created momentums the cathedrals gently shift, dancing, shimmering, glistening, glittering, like a thousand twinkling stars as they simultaneously catch and reflect the glorious rays of the brightly shining sun. It is amazingly beautiful, this silvery, silent, crystal loveliness, and it is rich with the awesome realization of God's incredible power and presence in and through created wonder.

We've spent a good part of the past week on study leave in a Port Stanley beach front condo. Hour by hour, sometimes minute by minute, the sky over the lake changes dramatically, shifting from a midday deep, clear blue to dark, dull, overcast, to heavy grey to white with

light. As often as we look out the windows so does the scene change. Sometimes it seems you can see clear to the other side of the lake, and 20 minutes later you can barely make out the form of the lifeguard stand perched on the beach just 75 yards away. The ebb and flow of God's winds lift both sand and snow, sweeping them round snow fence and fir trees and depositing them into the most gently curving drifts and designs. These intermittent breezes disappear as quickly as they arrive leaving only a wake of peace to mark their path. How awesome is our God!

The week has passed quickly for us. A refreshing walk or two, chats with shop keepers, Sunday worship in the local United Church with former Forest Hill minister, Rev. Bill Vanderveeken, the revitalizing ministry of food and fellowship prepared and shared with friends, all interwoven with reading through what feels like half a ton of books and resources to guide us into worship and study for the upcoming Lenten Season.

We've discovered some great resources and with God and you in mind we've dreamed up some exciting possibilities for worship and study at Forest Hill in the season ahead. Watch for details on that in the next Messenger. Until then, make snow angels, catch a snow flake on your tongue, find God's blessings in the beautiful march of days.

m&m

Blended (One Service) Sundays

Here is the list of blended, one-service Sundays at 10 a.m., for the rest of the year. The single service will incorporate both traditional and contemporary aspects of worship. There will be two services on all other Sundays: at 9:15 a.m and 11 a.m.

- *February 6: 2011 Annual Meeting and Chili Lunch following the Service
 - *March 6: Transfiguration Sunday
 - *April 17: Easter Sunday
 - *May 8: Mothers' Day
 - *June 12: Pentecost
 - *September 11: Rally Sunday
 - *October 16: Outreach Sunday
 - *November 20: Anniversary Sunday, Reign of Christ Sunday
 - *December 25: Christmas Day
- (All services in July and August to Rally Sunday are at 10 a.m. only.)

**Many hands make for success!
Volunteers needed!**

Forest Hill United Church's Stewardship Committee is planning an all household visitation during the month of April, 2011. A letter outlining the process was sent out to all families in early January. The Stewardship Committee is inviting all individuals interested in helping with the visits to come and take part in training workshops in late February and early March. Please consider volunteering your time for this worthwhile undertaking!

For more information, contact Brock Greenhalgh, brock_greenhalgh@wrdsb.on.ca or phone 519-569-7350.

**UCW
Tuesday, February 8
12 noon, McIntyre Hall
POTLUCK!**

We're treating ourselves to an early Valentine Day party! Bring a dish made from a recipe in the Forest Hill United Church cookbook, or one of your own. If it's from the FHUC cookbook, make out a card with the name and the page number to go with it.



For a event with heart, fun, fellowship...and good eating, join us on February 8 at noon!


Questions? Concerns? Suggestions?

Contact: Elizabeth Cresswell, Chair, Communications Committee, lizzcress@sympatico.ca
or
Ken Carter, Chair of the Forest Hill United Church Board, cari@golden.net

We still need a coordinator for one or two serving teams for Communion!

If you are interested in this role, which is open to all members of the congregation, and begins with Lent, in early March, please contact Joyce Arndt at 519-578-7624. Having internet experience is important to receive directions on serving and liturgy by email from Rev. Murray's office.

WEEKLY EVENTS

- Sundays: 6, 13, 20, 27**
Morning Services: See schedule, page 2.
- Mondays: 7, 14, 21, 28**
Maycourt: 1 p.m.
CGIT (Canadian Girls in Training), 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Cubs: 7 p.m.
- Tuesdays: , 1, 8, 15, 22**
Quilters: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mmuffin Mmoments: 10-11 a.m. 
Beavers: 6:45 p.m.
- Wednesdays: 2, 9, 16, 23**
Scouts; Guides: 7 p.m.
- Thursdays: 3, 10, 17, 24**
Explorers: 6:30-8 p.m.
Choir: 7:30 p.m.

MONTHLY EVENTS

- Tuesday: 1**
Congregational Life: 7 p.m.
Property Committee: 7 p.m.
- Wednesday: 2**
Communications Committee: 6:30 p.m.
Worship and Music: 7 p.m.
- Thursdays: 3 & 17**
Prayer Shawls: 10 a.m.
- Sunday: 6**
Men's Breakfast: 8 a.m.
- Tuesday: 8**
UCW Potluck, 12 noon, McIntyre Hall.
Stewardship Committee, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9**
Christian Development: 7 p.m.
- Wednesday: 16**
Prayer Group: 6:15 p.m.
Board Meeting: 7 p.m.
- Thursday: 24**
Lunch Bunch: 12 noon.
- Saturday: 26**
Saturday Night Club: Pool Night, 7 p.m.

SPECIALS

- Saturday: 5 & 12**
Congregational Visioning Workshops, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch provided. A third workshop is scheduled for Sunday, March 13, from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday: 6**
Forest Hill United Church Congregational Annual Fiscal Meeting, following the 10 a.m. service. Chili Lunch to follow.
- Monday: 21**
Family Day and "Bring on the Sun shine!", 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., an African-themed event for all ages, at the church.
- Friday: 25**
New Members' Potluck Supper, for the whole congregation, 5:30 p.m. Bring along a dish and enjoy meeting our newest members.

Coming Next Month!

**The Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tuesday, March 8
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Soper Hall**



Come and enjoy pancakes with all the fixing's courtesy of the 32nd Scouts. Just bring your appetite and something for the goodwill offering basket.

**Another Item for Your Calendar!
*Vacation Bible School: August 8-12!***

Stuffed Stockings...

To the Women of Forest Hill United Church, thank you for once again responding very generously to the UCW Christmas stocking project. Our 24th year, in 2010, was very successful.

Ruth Falconer,
Christmas Stocking Project Chair

A Floral Tribute

If you would like to place flowers at the front of the sanctuary in memory of someone or in celebration, please call Bette Clemens at 519-513-2035. You may purchase your



own arrangement and deliver it to the church or Bette will make one for you at cost. Please contact Bette by Tuesday so the announcement can be in the next Sunday's Bulletin.

FundScrip Update

We were off to a good start with our single December order which generated over \$150 of rebates for Forest Hill United Church. Moreover, the January orders exceeded \$8,000, and that should create another \$265 in rebates!

Our February order dates are February 7 and 21. **Please consider joining this fundraising group! Just see how effective it is!**

For more information, please contact Glenna Murray, JoAnne Willison or Bob Elliott or visit the website www.fundscrip.com. (If you wish to join us at the website, the invitation code for Forest Hill is SPL3QM.)

KIDS' NEWS

The January PA Day program to be held at the church on January 14 had to be cancelled because we didn't have a second adult volunteer. We had 14 kids signed up for the day, and it was disappointing to have to cancel. There has been a lot of positive feedback about the new kids' programs and it would be a shame to have to stop them. If you can volunteer, even for an hour or two, on PA days your help would be greatly appreciated. The next PA Day is February 2. Contact Judi Knetsch for more information at 519-742-3913 or email her at jknettsch@yahoo.ca.

Parents please note that you should come down to Dennis Square to pick up your children after the service. Not only would we like you to join us for the closing circle, we need to know that the kids are safely delivered to you.

On February 6, the kids and youth will be having a cooking day. We will discuss how nutrition affects our emotions as part of our Anger Management Unit. Each group will be making something different. The program will be extended to coincide with the end of the Congregational Annual Fiscal Meeting. We need a few extra volunteers and hope some of the senior youth can help out. Contact Judi.

The Junior youth group will meet February 13 and 27. Details will be emailed to the youth by February 1. If you don't get an email, let Judi know.

We still need registration forms filled out for some of the children. If you didn't get one or fill one out, please come down to Dennis Square after any service to fill one out.

If you need Kids' Church envelopes, please see Karen Pieters.

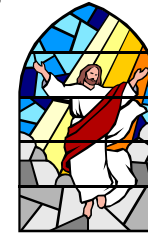
Judi Knetsch

Congregational Visioning Workshops

As we open our hearts and minds to wonder at God's presence in our past at Forest Hill, it is time to come dream together about God's future for Forest Hill. You are invited to attend one of three Congregational Visioning Workshops: on Saturday, February 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, February 12, from 9:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, March 13, from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided at all three workshops.



The workshop model will have you working throughout the workshop in a table group with three other people of your choosing. Space is limited to just 24 participants (6 small table groups) per workshop. More workshops will be scheduled later, providing the opportunity for every member of the congregation to attend.



Forest Hill's Board members attended the inaugural Visioning Workshop on January 8, 2011 and called it a "spirited, energizing and uplifting day," a "huge success resulting in positive visions for the future of Forest Hill and our community."



As a community of faith it is important that each one of us works to identify God's call for our church. Come, find a time and a place to listen and contribute.

To join, you *must reserve your place at a table*. Please sign up on the reservation sheet posted on the bulletin board opposite the church office. If none of the current dates fits your schedule, please add your name to the list under the heading "I'm waiting for another date".

COMING SOON!

A workshop designed just for our junior and senior youth groups!

Forest Hill United Church's Annual Congregational Fiscal Meeting Sunday, February 6, 2011

Please put a circle around the date of Sunday, February 6, the date that the congregation will meet to receive the **2010 Annual Fiscal Report** and the **2011 Budget Presentation**. The meeting will immediately follow the single, blended church worship service at 10 a.m.

We shall be setting the budget for 2011-12, so please plan to attend. Copies of the Fiscal Report are on the table in the foyer. *A chili lunch will follow the meeting.*

Time to Celebrate!

Our new members, that is!

The whole congregation is invited to
a

NEW MEMBERS' POTLUCK SUPPER

On Friday, February 25 at 5:30 p.m.

at Forest Hill United Church

Come, bring your favourite dish
and enjoy the company!

More details to follow in upcoming
church bulletins

**Report from the Board
January 19, 2011**

1. Ted Bleaney, a member of the Independent Review Committee made their report to the Board. The report states: "Based on our review, we can state that there is no reason to believe significant problems or inaccuracies exist in the financial reporting of Forest Hill United Church for 2010."

The Report made several recommendations that were referred to the appropriate committees. The Report is available at the Church in the Congregational Meeting Report.

2. Jacqui Terry, the coordinator for the "Bring on the Sunshine" Family Day program on February 21 from 10:00am to 4:00pm, explained enthusiastically the purpose and the scope of our first Africa Day at Forest Hill. (See page opposite in this issue for more details.)

3. Brian Clemens presented the 2011 budget to the Board. After a detailed presentation and question period, the Board accepted the new budget unanimously. For details see the Congregational Meeting Report.

4. The Stewardship Committee is planning our every family visitation in April. Volunteers are

needed. Please sign up to help with this important task. Training sessions will be available in February. A letter will be sent out in March.

5. Congregational Visioning Workshops will be held on February 5 from 9:30- 3:00; February 12 from 9:30 to 3:00; and March 13 from 1:00 to 6:00. There is a maximum of 24 participants at each workshop. More workshops will be scheduled if required. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up in groups of four. Let your voice be heard.

6. The Fiscal Congregational Meeting is February 6. There is one service at 10:00 followed immediately by the meeting. A chili lunch will be available after the meeting. Child care will be available.

The next Church Board meeting is on February 16 at 7:00 The prayer group meets at 6:15. All are welcome to attend.

**Ken Carter
Chair of the Board**

Out of the Cold Program

Trinity United Church's Out of the Cold program needs a volunteer to pick up food bank orders on Thursday mornings from January to March and at other times while the program is operational. This volunteer needs to have his or her own car and the ability to lift 20 to 30 pounds, climb stairs, etc. The volunteer will receive email communications from the kitchen coordinator and attend the Food Bank depot weekly and bring the food to Trinity United Church at 74 Frederick Street, Kitchener. If you are interested and can help, please contact Trinity United at office@tuckitchener.org or phone 519-742-3578, Ext. 0.

**Some Upcoming Dates
to Keep in Mind
in 2011**

Shrove Tuesday, March 8
Ash Wednesday and beginning of Lent, March 9
Palm Sunday, April 10
Easter Sunday, April 17
Mothers' Day, May 8
Pentecost, June 12
Summer single services at 10, begin July 3 and go to...
Rally Sunday, September 11

BRING ON THE SUNSHINE!
Celebrating Africa, Family, Community and Culture

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, February 21, Family Day, 2011
at
Forest Hill United Church



"Bring on the Sunshine" is an African-themed event that is interactive, hands-on and a great event for the whole family. Join us to

celebrate and share the riches of African cultures. Enjoy African dance and singing groups, drumming, ethnic groups, artists and artisans, clothing and fashion, including games and workshops for children. Partner or participate in the market place, as



artist groups or in hosting workshops. **Volunteers are need to make this a success.**

Sign up on the Forest Hill Bulletin Board. Visit the website at www.bringonthesunshine.ca for more details.

Cheers! Sala kuhle (stay well!)

**Jacqui Terry,
Coordinator**



**The Saturday Night
Club**

**Saturday, February 26
7 p.m.**

A great evening for all adults—singles and couples—is in store. We're off to the pool hall to try our hands at pool. Is that a cue for you? Do hope so! Don't worry if you've never played before. It will

be fun and you may surprise yourself!



Call the church to register and for more details!