

Sunday, May 14, 2017
Christian Family Sunday
Worship at 10:30 a.m.

West Plains United Church

549 Plains Road West, Burlington, Ontario, L7T 1H1
905-529-4871

Email: info@westplains.ca Website: www.westplains.ca

Minister: The Rev. Martha Reynolds
Guest Minister: The Rev. Karen Inkster
Music Director: Lianne Tan
Office Administrator: Donna Slaviero
Caretaker: Jim Oliver

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are an active faith community, seeking to deepen our relationship with God through thoughtful worship, prayer, uplifting music, outreach, friendship and study, inspired by a setting overlooking nature. We are a growing church family, welcoming people of all ages to follow Jesus' teachings in their lives.

** indicates an invitation to stand, as you are able*
VU indicates Voices United, the red hymn book
MV indicates our More Voices hymn book

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GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We prepare for worship with a time of silence.

Prelude

Opening Words:

*Come, enter this sanctuary,
this home of West Plains church family.
Bring your joys and be thankful.
Bring your troubles and be trusting.*

Bring your hearts to share in God's love.

Call to Worship:

ONE: As we worship God this morning we celebrate family:

ALL: families of all shapes and sizes

ONE: large families and small ones

ALL: families living near to us and those far away

ONE: We also celebrate those who are like family to us even if we are not related.

ALL: We celebrate knowing that our relationships are not perfect

ONE: and so we worship seeking God's love, forgiveness and peace to strengthen our relationships.

ALL: Let us worship God who invites us into God's family.

* Processional Hymn: **VU 395** *Come In, Come In and Sit Down*

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer:

Loving God, we gather to worship you. In this time of worship, help us to grow in the knowledge of your unconditional love for each one of us and for all within the human family. Heal us, encourage us, and empower us as we worship that we may grow in our love for you and for one another. Amen.

*Hymn: **VU 289** *It Only Takes A Spark* (verses 1 and 2)

Youth and Sunday School Gather

Hymn: **VU 289** *It Only Takes A Spark* (verse 3)

(Children and Youth leave for their classes)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Responsive Psalm: **Psalm 31** **VU p. 758**

Gospel Readings: **Matthew 7: 24-27**

A house built on rock & a house built on sand.

John 13: 34-35

Jesus' new commandment.

ONE: God's love is ever present!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Choral Refrain:

VU 376, v. 1

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Reflection: "More Than Stick Figures"

Silent Meditation

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Choir Anthem:

Invitation to the Offering

Hymn of Dedication: **VU 372** *Though I May Speak*

*Presentation and Dedication of the Offering with Doxology: VU 541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures high and low;

give thanks to God in love made known:

Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Prayer Choral Refrain:

VU 400 *Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Concern

VU 400 *Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying*

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

- * Closing Hymn: **VU 556** *Would You Bless Our Homes And Families*
- * Commissioning and Blessing
- * Threefold Amen
- * Sung Benediction: **VU 424** *May The God Of Hope Go With You*

Postlude

(You are invited to remain seated until the Postlude is concluded to enjoy a time of meditation as we conclude our worship service)

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To all who are worshipping with us today, we extend a warm welcome. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the front foyer. Members of the **Worship Committee** are hosting refreshments today.

Today: greeters are Debbie Burford and Lois Ford; the ushers are Duncan Hart and Mavis Hart; counting team is Darlene Groves, Jenny Hatch and Bert Posedowski. The welcoming person is Lois Lennon. Sunday School teacher is Darlene Groves.

Next week – May 14th: greeters are Ethel Ballantyne and Madge Kitching; the ushers are Yvonne Rolland and Marj Wilson; counting team is Darlene Groves, Jenny Hatch and Bert Posedowski and lay reader is Jenny Hatch. Sunday School teacher is Kenzie Curran.

Prayer List: Please keep in your prayers this week Keith Buxton, Jim Elliott, Leonard Hopkins – Lois Ford's brother, the Joint Search Committee and Joe Turner – Martha's father-in-law. Len Rantell is now off the prayer list; he would welcome visits from long-time West Plains friends. We remember everyone who is in need of our prayer energy.

We will welcome new members on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th. If you would like to transfer your membership from another church to West Plains UC, please speak with Martha.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN It's that time of year again! We will be planting the Children's Garden on Sunday, May 21st. If you would like to donate any flowers or plants, either annuals or perennials, please bring them to church on that morning. Monetary donations are welcome ahead of time and we will do the shopping for you! Please see either Darlene Groves or Pat Mifflin. All Sunday School children, remember to wear clothes to garden in and bring along any tools and gloves for our fun time outside!

Purezza Skin Care Line products will be available for the month of May as a UCW fundraiser. A display has been set up in the hallway outside the Parlour.

Debbs' Homeless Outreach Project, "DD Kits": Debbs continues to collect personal care items for the kits which she distributes to homeless people in Hamilton and Toronto. There is a list of needed items in the marked basket in the Narthex. Thank you for your support!

West Plains this week:

Rev. Martha is on Study Leave from May 14 – 20th. During this time, **Rev. Barbara Morrison** is covering urgent pastoral care needs and can be reached at **905-912-2938**.

Monday May 8th

5:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m. – Joint Search Committee Meeting

Tuesday – May 9th

9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Darlene Groves Counseling

Wednesday – May 10th

Meat Pie Day

7:00 p.m. – Unified Board Meeting

Thursday – May 11th

7:15 – 9:00 p.m. – Choir Practice

Friday – May 12th

9:00 a.m. – Noon – Bake Sale Drop Off

Saturday – May 13th

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – UCW Trunk and Bake Sale