

Whitehorse United Church Weekly Newsletter



March 12, 2026



... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.



Whitehorse United Church

601 Main Street, Whitehorse
Yukon, Y1A 1M6

867-667-2989

Frances Kitson, Minister

867-393-5010

Minister.wuc@northwestel.net

Visit our website at:

www.whitehorseunitedchurch.ca

Church Office is open:

Monday-Friday, by appointment

Minister's Schedule

Rev. Frances' regular schedule is
Wednesdays to Sundays

Announcement

Please read Lenten thoughts from Frances on Page 4

Income tax receipts for donations to the church for the period March-December 2025 have now all been distributed by hand or by mail (this week). The amount on this receipt, together with the amount on the receipt you were issued last March for any givings in January and February 2025, should total your donations in all categories for 2025. If after review of the combined total you believe there to be a discrepancy, please send an email to the church office at wuc@klondiker.com and mark it "to the attention of the Treasurer" and I will review your file. Thanks everyone for your generosity in 2025.

Jan Mann, Treasurer

COMING EVENTS

UCC NEWS

Kitchen conversation with the Moderator:

The series debuts with a Shrove Tuesday pancake feast in the Moderator's home kitchen on February 17, with new episodes following each Sunday throughout Lent. Watch the series:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKb9qxHZxi4&t=103s>



Easter Cards signing

Pastoral care committee would like to invite you all for signing cards on Wednesday, March 18 @1pm in Upper room. We are also looking for extra Easter cards if you have any to donate.

Youth Group: 3:30-5pm, March 15

Games, a snack, some conversation, maybe a craft.
Kids in grades 4-7 welcome.

Upcoming: Biblical Telling 101
 March 7/26
 @10AM MST

See <https://www.nbscanada.org/mardi-gras-for-biblical-tellers> for details, Funding to attend may be available from WUC's [Wahl Fund](#). Non-affiliated photos in this newsletter are licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)- Creative Commons

WHITEHORSE WORSHIP ARTS FESTIVAL
 & Contemplative Retreat

Whitehorse will be hosting an exciting event the first week of July. **The Whitehorse Worship Arts Festival** will be happening July 2-5. Registrations are already coming in, and now we're asking if anyone is willing to billet participants, or if anyone has rooms for rent at that time. If so, please contact

we'll explore the theme "Stronger Together: Cooperative Ministry" with keynote sessions, workshops, worship and more. Come be encouraged, share ideas, and leave renewed for the ministry we share! Also includes two pre-events: **Indigenous Church leaders'** gathering April 17th, 10am – 6:30 pm, and **Toward 2035: Northern Cluster Strategy Conversation** to help shape a sustainable ministry in the Northern BC (Friday April 17, 1–6:30pm). The whole festival is free, registration required, bursaries available for travel/accommodation. More info and registration here:

<https://leadershiftuccan.org/festivaloffaithnorth>



Help Lead One of Our Biggest Community Fundraisers!

We're seeking a volunteer Talent Auction Coordinator to organize and oversee bi-annual event – one of our major fundraisers!

This event is usually an evening of auctioned talents, silent auction table items and desserts and coffee/tea. In the past, it has been mostly supported by our church community, but would be nice to open to a wider community. Details for consideration are:

- 6-8 weeks of prep time
- Ideally held towards the end of May (as many items may be warm weather dependent/inspired)
- Actual event on a week night
- Coordinate advertising
- Pulling a team of volunteers together (many of whom

Come to the Festival of Faith North! April 17-19, 2026, Trinity United Church (downtown) in Prince George. You're invited to gather with church members, volunteers and ministers for a weekend of learning, connection, and celebration! Together,

Ben Johnston-Urey

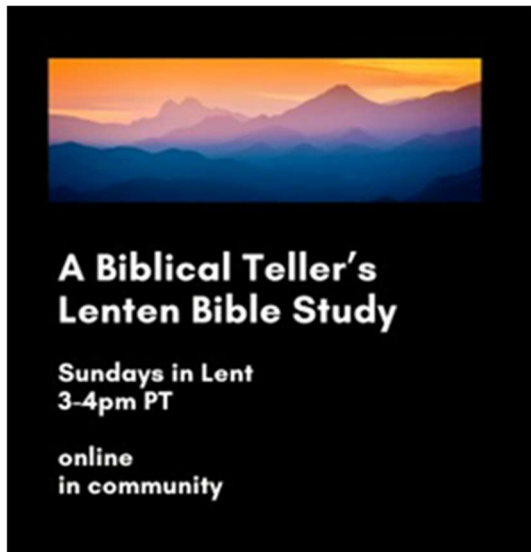
Johnstonureymusic@gmail.com

Upcoming Communion in WUC:

April 5 (Easter)

May 3

June 14



Biblical Teller's Lenten Bible Study

Lent Sundays: Feb 22 – Mar 29 at
4pm MST

<https://www.nbscanada.org/lenten-bible-study>

This Lenten practice will be led by three of your favourite biblical teller/teachers: Bev Brazier, Linnea Good and Jan Bihl



Camp Spirit is Back! – Please see the attached info sheet.

are already available)

- Coordinate item entries and work with technical support

If you are organized, enjoy event planning and want to make a meaningful impact, we'd love to hear from you!

Contact Linda Talbot (lindatalbo@gmail.com /336-0069) for more details.

Help Organize Our Community Trunk Sale!

We're looking for a Volunteer coordinator to lead our upcoming Trunk Sale (garage sale fundraiser), held on a Saturday in May or June. How this work as a fundraiser for Whitehorse United Church? We use the parking lot, items are sold out of trunks of cars/trucks (tables are provided), whatever is not sold goes home and the proceeds are for the work of Church. The volunteer coordinator will do:



- Choose and confirm the Saturday date (May or June)
 - Advertise and organize vendors, oversee the vendors on the day of the event
 - Day-of volunteers available to help
- *This could be an excellent event to involve our Youth!*
- If you are organized and enjoy bringing community events together, we'd love to have you involved!
- For more information, contact Linda Talbot (lindatalbo@gmail.com / 336-0069)

Braeburn WUC Week 2026

Mark your calendar for this year's WUC Braeburn week: **Aug 3 – 9, 2026**. Come for the week, come for a night ,come for a day. Sunday service August 9 at Braeburn!

For more information contact Brook Hill @ brook.hill@me.com or Call 867 633 6313



Lenten thoughts from Frances:

We are on a journey this Lent: a journey through grief. We began on February 22 with Psalm 13; a psalm of lament in which the psalmist cries out to God,

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

From there we moved to an outpouring of collective grief in Lamentations 5, the final chapter of the very short and very powerful Book of Lamentations. Its final lines are some of the most devastating in all our scriptures:

Restore us to yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored;

renew our days as of old—

unless you have utterly rejected us

and are angry with us beyond measure.

One of the many gifts of our Old Testament is its ability to put language to depths of emotion and experience that feel unspeakable. The psalms, the books of Job and Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, the prophets: all these give us language for grief, terror, and rage in a way that our contemporary culture can't. They also give us language for joy, the proclamation of God's justice, gratitude, and beauty at heights that match the depth of suffering.

One of the perennial questions of Christianity is why we need the Old Testament when the stories of Jesus are all in the New Testament. This is one of the many reasons: it gives us language that the New Testament doesn't – and probably doesn't bother to attempt because the Old Testament does it so well. When we are in places of grief or pain, it helps to speak these words of our faith, knowing that we are not the first to suffer – but also that others have suffered and healed. It is a promise that we will also find healing.

Grief and pain, whether individual or collective, are never meant to last forever. Our scripture gives them language because naming them is the only way through. All of us will know suffering in our lives, and there are no shortcuts through it except to name it, face it, and keep going. And the promise of our scriptures, the promise of our story as an Easter people, the promise of the Old Testament in its stories of creation, psalms of thanksgiving, and central Exodus story of a liberating God who promises to be our God as we will be God's people; the promise is this: we are not forgotten. We will not be left alone in the dark. We are not abandoned, even though Lamentations howls that fear aloud. Suffering does end, the light does return, healing does come, and new life abounds.

This Sunday we will read Psalm 5, which gives voice to that promise. We have named sorrow and suffering aloud together; join us as we proclaim the promises of God and give voice to joy.



Camp Spirit will be in Whitehorse again for our fourth year from **August 10-14th**, 2026. This is a United Church children's day camp with experienced leaders from BC. At Camp Spirit we value listening to & experiencing Sacred Stories, enjoying times of Creativity & Science, moving to Music, Sharing Meals together, and fostering Community, Friendships & Leadership.



Camp Spirit Registration Opens Monday, March 2nd, 2026!

It might feel early to start dreaming about summer—especially while we're still scraping ice off our windshields—but the season of sunshine and community will be here before we know it. As plans begin to take shape, we'd love Camp Spirit 2026 to be one of the joyful things you pencil into your calendar.

This summer, Camp Spirit is delighted to partner with 22 Communities of Faith across the Pacific Mountain Region. Many of these sites have hosted Camp Spirit for years, building beautiful relationships with their surrounding communities. We're also excited to welcome 5

brand-new sites and celebrate 5 sites returning after hosting for the first time in 2025.

Do you know a child or teen who would thrive in a community that practices radical hospitality, playful and hope-filled faith exploration, child-centred activities, singing, creativity, shared meals, and moments of real belonging? If so, we'd be grateful if you shared this invitation with them.

To find the Camp Spirit location closest to you—and to register Campers or Level Up Youth—please visit our [Camp Spirit website](https://www.campspirit.ca) for full dates and details.

For info: Phone: +1-236-607-0353 / 1-800-934-0434

Feel free to contact Frances or Diane Emond if you have ideas or questions or would like to be involved.

Please help us spread the word about the camp.

Diane: 867-335-7009 emond.diane@gmail.com

