

Big thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the “Bacon, Faith and Friends” this morning! Your time and generosity are appreciated.

Thank you Monday SGG for donating these lovely poinsettias in the Worship Center.

There will be a **blessing of the quilts today**. These are quilts created by the Peacemakers Quilt Group. The Group meets at SPUC twice a month in the Hall under the leadership of Marg Norum.

There will be a **Congregational Meeting following the worship service today** to receive the proposed budget for 2019. **We require a quorum at this meeting. Please consider attending.** Everyone is welcome.

Please Join us with your friends and family for **Community Soup Lunch Wednesdays @ noon**. Everyone is welcome. **Volunteers** are welcome to serve in the Soup Lunch Program.

SPUC Bargain Store is moved to **St Georges Anglican Church, Ave I South**. SPUC will continue to be a **drop off location** for good quality second hand clothing. SPUC is pleased to be liberating this ministry into the world, so that other good folks may take it on. Stay tuned for what new opportunities may exist in this place.

RELIEF CARETAKER WANTED - St. Thomas Wesley United Church is accepting applications for a relief caretaker to fill in during vacation and sick days. Interested people can contact Jackie (306-373-5791).

Lions Clubs of Saskatoon and POW City Kinsmen Club present the 1st Annual Sutherland Christmas concert for Sutherland School – Sunday December 16, 2018. Doors open 6:00pm, show 7:00pm. Advance tickets \$25, at the door \$30. Sutherland Hall, 1112 Central Ave. **Tickets available at SPUC church office.**

Advent has arrived, and so has the **SGG** resource **Underdogs and Outsiders**. The book is available to purchase at church office, \$15/each. It’s not too late to become part of a small group as we explore Jesus lineage. Groups meet Monday and Wednesday evenings as well as Wednesday afternoons Contact SGGs’ Leader **Cheryl Wilken** 306 371-1422 for more information.

Candle light service of remembrance – Wednesday, December 5 @7pm at Knox United Church(838 Spandina Cres. East). This service is a candle light service where everyone will be given the opportunity to light a “Memorial Candle” and also to place a forget-me-not angel on the “Tree of Remembrance” in memory of your loved ones. No charge. For info, contact at 306-244-5577.

Furnished 1 bedroom & private bath in Evergreen. Linens can be provided on second floor with big windows. Share Kitchen and Laundry. \$650/month. Wifi, Netflix, cable. No Smokers, pets and parties. If you are interested or you know someone is looking for a place to rent, please contact Ruth Bruce at travellingruth2004@yahoo.ca, 306-244-5080or text 306-250-2405.

Luther College is once again hosting it’s annual **Advent Lessons and Carols** service on Dec 2, 2018 @2 p.m. at Luther Chapel (2nd floor of Luther College at the U of R campus). Presidents reception to follow.

SPUC Worship Design Director, Mark Zielke is taking his vacation time and he will be back on December 9, 2018.

LEAD MINISTER: Rev. Deb Walker deborahjillwalker@gmail.com

WORSHIP ARTS DIRECTOR: Mark Zielke SPUCworship@gmail.com

ADMIN ASSISTANT: Zixia Gong stpauls.uc@sasktel.net

306.955.3766 www.spuconline.com

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 3:00pm

We inhabit the land of TREATY 6. May we live in respect.

Be Hopeful

December 2, 2018 @ 10:30 A.M.

The lesser known Habakkuk is preaching and sharing the Word of God for people on the brink of absolute collapse. He is watching the Babylonian exile unfold, while people struggle to believe that this is happening, the prophet begs God to help.

Just like today, Christ has no hands but ours. What are we doing to encourage that hope in the darkness? How can we be the ones who speak of God’s strength and unconditional love and faithfulness to a world of violence and disappointment?

We can start, with one conversation. We can pay attention to the grace and healing we know exists in community. We can continue to teach others the stories of our faith, so that EVEN the darkness cannot overcome the light. Habakkuk’s confession and lament is that the believer can still say, “I believe in a God that gives me strength.” Amidst the violence. Amidst the depravity. This knowledge is what causes the believer to not only go on, but to be assured that our hope is not in vain.

Scripture of today: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:2-4, 3:17-19 various verses

Bedrock Belief: Faith in God gives Hope

Seed of Learning: What time of darkness did you experience Hope?

Prayer: On this first Sunday of Advent, we discover the joy that exists in being people of Hope. Hope is not the absence of pain and suffering, but it is living in the presence of God. May it be so for all. Amen.