

(5415a)

WEST POINT GREY UNITED CHURCH
224-4388

Douglas Bacon - Minister
Sharon Lowe - Christian Education Director
Leonard Lythgoe - Director of Music
Dorothy Martin - Organist
Gwen Lego - Secretary - Office Hours 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1987.

Welcome to Rev. Dr. M. Jack V. Shaver who presides in our worship service today. Among numerous positions during his ministry, he has served as Chaplain to U.B.C., and as Superintendent of First United Church, Vancouver. Now retired, Jack and his wife, Dorothy, are active members of this congregation.

Dr. Bacon is attending the Annual Meeting of the British Columbia United Church Conference in Naramata this weekend. He will return late Monday night.

Prelude
Short Announcements and Welcome to Visitors
Silent Meditation

Shutting out the world isn't necessarily the way to God. If we do come to a genuine meeting with God, that experience will let the world in with a rush. We may need to forgo OUR worldliness in order to be filled with GOD'S Worldiness.

✓ Call to Worship (Congregation rises)

Hymn: "The Strife is O'er" #468
(Tune, Vulpius)

The Opening Prayer (Congregation seated)

✓ Leader: Living God, with whom all creation has to do, turn our faces to each other - so that we can meet you afresh.

PEOPLE KYRIE ELEISON (sung)

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Meetings this week - (4)

Monday, May 4th, The U.C.W. Executive will meet at the home of Dorothy Shaver, 4073 West 19th Ave. at 10:00 a.m. Further plans will be made for the "Celebration Luncheon" on Tuesday, June 2nd.

Wednesday, May 6th,
7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast.

Thursday, May 7th,
7:30 p.m. Choir practice

The Sale of the Manse

Last week the Board of Trustees sold the manse for \$385,000. As required, the sale price was approved by Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery. The new owners are a West Point Grey doctor and his family who will take possession of the house at the end of June, at which time the terms of the sale will be completed. As explained in earlier reports, proceeds of the sale will be placed in a Manse Reserve Fund to be invested by the Finance Committee of the Official Board, in consultation with the Board of Trustees. Two-thirds of the minister's housing allowance will be paid from the interest from the Fund.

Day Care: The discussions reported earlier in the bulletin between representatives of our congregation and the Alma YMCA concerning the establishment of a Day Care Centre in the Basement Hall of our Christian Education Building are progressing. A tentative five-year lease has been drawn up and may be examined in the church office. At the next meeting of the Official Board, May 13 at 8:00 p.m., the day care proposal will be the first item on the agenda.

All members of the congregation who wish to hear more about the proposal before a decision is made are cordially invited to participate in this meeting. In the meantime, if you want further information, please speak to Ralph Hardern, (263-0507) or Joyce Brown (224-5430).

QUEST - Friday, May 8th, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Pot Luck Supper at the home of Ilse Drent, 1505 Tolmie Street. Decisions about a Fall Program to be made. All are welcome. Further information, Joyce Brown, 224-5430.

A Note from Eve Neufeld (week-end custodian)

I appreciated the warm spirit of community I experienced during my time at West Point Grey United Church. Fond regards to all. (Eve has left to take a position in California. Our new custodian is Peter Shaver).

(54156) West Point Grey United Church: - May 3 1987 (1)

All three readings for this second Sunday in Easter
have a single theme running through them.

Whatever is going on here

this new thing
new state of affairs,

GOD'S IDEA.

Whatever is being claimed here

New Gospel

Not some frail thing
FIRMLY ROOTED

However scary it might seem

awful - scary

Rediculous -

its rock solid stuff,

Nothing can shake it.

1. Record in ACTS of early apostolic preaching

GOD has made this Jesus whom you crucified
both Lord and Christ.

2. Record in LUKE of one of the resurrection stories

2 disciples are convinced of the Resurrection
by a stranger opening to them the Holy Scriptures.

3. EPISTLE → writer's reminder.

"You have been borne away - not by perishable
seed - but by imperishable,
through the living and abiding word of God."

* lets reflect on a few of the claims of this
Gospel preaching and writing.

I GOD HAS WORKED A REMEDY FOR SIN.

That news is somewhat astounding
when you think of the Depth & the predeciment the
world is in.

All life is in peril.
much of it already glorified & depraved
strident powers in mortal conflict.
much of it in the maw of every the world's ill
where much mightier intent is deep part of
the problem.
no blameless contribution to be made.
eg. Housing for the poor.

energy + organizing + lobbying to promote
subsidized Housing -
+ identifying and agitating
against land speculators
who gain wealth by the market
forces that deprive the poor.

Do we ever neglect the sick
Do both do with well.

GOD has worked a remedy for sin.

Remedy - to bear it -
to take up the burden of it.
get contaminated -

another
statement

Perseverant human questions -

re-recognized & re-stated ~~and~~ often
called to SOFTEN THE QUESTIONS

Gospel Claim there is a remedy for sin

That's it - getting under its burden
= softening the questions.

How is anyone going to believe that
through this & this -

LIVING & ABIDING WORD OF GOD conveys that
of that ->

Blessing
THEME

This is no froil opinion - any wind of adversity can
blow away - LIVING & ABIDING WORD OF GOD

II Another Claim: GOD HAS MADE THIS ONE IS LORD + CHRIST

Rather appears that the Fate of This world is
governed by Principality Powers. do not
have it Blessing in mind.
Beyond all our Back —

Powers the Market has Land Prices —
What is afforded value.

FOOD PRODUCTION
FOOD PRODUCERS

Third word
Not a cash crop
OUR WORLD —
won't pay expenses

ARMEMENTS & WAR

PACIFIC — BEFORE TRADING

ARMS RACE — HUMAN NEED

Need for employment }
" for energy } Polution worsening air
" fossil fuels

NO QUESTION —

We Contend with Principality & Powers
for the future of Life on the earth.

who can believe the Claim that God has
disarmed the principality & Powers
triumphing over them in Christ.

What would it take to get you to believe that?
and to hang into that —

you've been borne over — not with punishment sep
but with irresistibility.

this word does not come from a willow of the wisp
but living and abiding word of God.

However frail your hold is on that claim
its hold on you abides.

If you find neither of these claims heavy
any reference to your life.

Let's TRY The Gospel claim

GOD IS LOVE. →

GOT LOVE Lack Nothing.

Deprived of all kinds of things ~ lots of opportunity to love

{ no job no family No car can't afford a house of your own Dull unfulfilling job Isolated conditions }	{ not too much deprivation lightly → → justice you may have coming to you →
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NOT much can happen to you in life
including a lot of things which
can necessarily deprive you from loving.
if GOD IS LOVE — got the best there is.

alcoholic woman → Gift of sobriety gave her life back
Broken in many ways

LOVE ~
fact - When I am on the verge of believing that
I panic.

Indeed → lots goes wrong with our loving
Our loving is constantly being shattered
or ^{other constructive} -

How Do you Keep Believing God is Love?

What's For this panic when you are on
the edge of believing it.

You are born aware not from reasonable need
but ^{irresistible} -
through the living & abiding word of God