A large green field with trees in the background

Description automatically generated

Hello friends,

I hope you are all well, safe, and staying cool in the summer heat. I hope the nectarines are ripening nicely – they are my favourite!

What’s in this email:

·     The scripture passage for this Sunday

·     Info on a new experiment: Today’s Takeaway!

·     A reminder about school kits

·     A couple of links on Biblical humour

·      The link to this Sunday’s service

SCRIPTURE FOR AUGUST 16

·      Our scripture reading for this Sunday is Joshua 8:1-2, 21-29. We will use the CEB translation (Common English Bible).

NEW: TODAY’S TAKEAWAY

·      This Sunday we will try something new!

·      After the service, people will be welcome to join chat rooms as usual, to visit with neighbours.

·      I will remain in the main room, and invite people to ponder what they are taking from the service: what is today’s takeaway?

·      This is not about getting it right! This is a chance to reflect together on what message you heard.

·      Some questions to think about:

o   Were there any ideas that were new to you?

o   Were there any ideas that were challenging?

o   Were there any ideas that were comforting?

o   The giving of land will be a theme. What land is special to you? Why?

SCHOOL KITS

·      The 2020 Summerland United School Kits Campaign has begun, and Westbank folk are very welcome to participate!

·      Please see the page on this web site for details.

·      Questions can be emailed to Joan Gasior at [joanlgasior@gmail.com](mailto:joanlgasior@gmail.com)

BIBLICAL HUMOUR

·     Last Sunday I created and shared a skit to highlight the humour in the story of the Israelite spies in Joshua 2.

·     Here is a link describing some more instances of Biblical humour: <https://www.christiantoday.com/article/is.the.bible.funny.seven.comedy.moments.you.might.have.missed/61564.htm>

·     And just for fun: cartoons! <https://www.joe-ks.com/archives_jul2010/BiblicalHumour.htm?z=100709>

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION

Summerland United Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Worship with Westbank and Summerland United Churches

Time: Aug 16, 2020 09:45 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

Email Frances: <ok.online.minister@gmail.com>

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**August 16, 2020**

**A Sunday Service for Summerland and Westbank United Churches**

**Frances Kitson**

**Power Point:  Judi Ritcey (SUC)**



**GATHERING TIME: 9:45AM**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**Kathryn McLaughlin [SUC]

**TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Frances

**INSTRUCTIONS:**Larry Harder [SUC]

**BELL RINGING:  10AM**

**WORDS OF WELCOME:**Lois Schultz [WUC]

*A warm welcome to our friends from Summerland and Westbank United Churches who are with us today and to all those joining us from other locations. If there are any visitors joining us today from other congregations or other places, we would love to know your names. The host will now unmute everyone, and if you are comfortable, we invite visitors to introduce themselves.*

**MOMENT OF SILENCE TO VIEW THE CONGREGATION –**Frances

*Friends, we gather apart but together. I invite you now to switch to gallery view or scroll through your screen to witness the children of God gathered with us today, and to know that we are not alone.*

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE**Frances

**GATHERING PRAYER**Frances

**WE SING TOGETHER**It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker (MV 30)

**OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**Frances

**WE SING TOGETHER:**For the Fruit of All Creation (VU 227)

**INTRO TO THE SCRIPTURE:**Kevin Ritcey [SUC]

**SCRIPTURE READING**Joshua 8:1-2, 21-29 - (Common English Bible) - Kevin Ritcey [SUC]

**REFLECTION:**Frances

**ANTHEM:**Hosanna (Soweto Gospel Choir – South Africa)

**WE SING TOGETHER:**My Soul Cries Out (MV 120)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**Judi Ritcey [SUC]

**LORD’S PRAYER ADAPTATION:**Frances

**WE SING TOGETHER:**Soil of God, You and I (MV 174)

**BLESSING:**Frances

**BREAK INTO CHAT ROOMS/TODAY’S TAKE AWAY**

**Joshua 8: 1-2; 21-29  - Common English Bible Translation [CEB}**

**8**The Lord said to Joshua, “Don’t be afraid or terrified. Take the entire army with you. Start to go up to Ai. Look! I have given the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land into your power. **2**Do to Ai and its king what you did to Jericho and its king. But you may take its booty and cattle as plunder. Set your ambush behind the city.”

**21**Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city and that the smoke of the city was rising. So they turned and struck down the men of Ai. **22**When other Israelites came out of the city to confront them, the men of Ai were caught in the middle. Some Israelites were on one side of them and some on the other. The Israelites struck them down until there was no one left to escape. **23**But they seized the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.

**24**Israel finished killing the entire population of Ai that had chased them out into the open wasteland. All of them were finished off without mercy. Then all Israel went back to Ai and struck it down without mercy. **25**Twelve thousand men and women died that day, all the people of Ai. **26**Joshua didn’t pull back the hand that was stretched out holding a dagger until he had wiped out the whole population of Ai as something reserved for God. **27**However, Israel did take the cattle and other booty of that city as plunder for themselves, in agreement with the command that the Lord had given Joshua. **28**Then Joshua burned Ai. He made it a permanently deserted mound. That is still the case today. **29**He hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening. At sundown, Joshua gave an order, and they took his body down from the tree. They threw it down at the opening of the city gate. Then they raised over it a great pile of stones that is still there today.

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**The 2020 SCHOOL KITS CAMPAIGN Has Begun!**

Each year Summerland United Church puts together school kits that are shipped by the Mennonite Central Committee to disadvantaged children around the world.

Each School Kit Bag includes:

• 7 spiral or perforated-page notebooks (80 page) OR 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks totalling 500–600 pages • 8 new unsharpened Pencils

• 1 Ruler (Flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm)

• 12 Coloured Pencils (in packaging)

• 1 large Eraser

• 2 new black or blue Ballpoint Pens

• 1 small metal Pencil Sharpener (one or two holes)

We especially need Notebooks, Rulers & Coloured Pencils, but could also use more pens & pencils. Because of the cost of the metal pencil sharpeners, we are planning to purchase them in bulk.

Walmart & Staples often put these on for a good price in August, so if you are able to get them, any donations of school supplies would be appreciated! If you want to be reimbursed for any school kit supplies shopping you do for us, you can submit your receipts to Summerland United.

**Monetary Donations Welcome:**Every donation of $16 will provide supplies for one school bag. If you make a donation to Summerland United Church, marked for “School Kit Project”, you will receive a charitable receipt for Income Tax purposes.

Want to Help Make School Bags?

We have school bags ready to have the ties inserted, pre-cut material ready to be sewn according to written instructions, and material to be

Want to Help Make School Bags? We have school bags ready to have the ties inserted, pre-cut material ready to be sewn according to written instructions, and material to be cut and sewn. You can pick up the materials at the Church from 10:00 am to 2 pm Tuesday to Thursday.