**Summerland United Church letter: Sept 20/20**

Hello friends!

Greetings from Saskatchewan! I led last Sunday’s worship service from Saskatoon; this Sunday I will be leading from Regina. It is mildly discombobulating but quite exciting to discover the possibilities of church on the road.

This Sunday we will continue with our theme of God’s absence. Last Sunday we heard words from Jesus’ Farewell Discourse in the Gospel of John; this week we will hear the paradoxical good news of the Resurrection, from the Gospel of Mark. There is an empty tomb, and there is someone to tell the women that Jesus is risen, but the risen Christ himself does not appear. Where is the good news in that? I’m looking forward to finding out.

A few weeks ago I announced an experiment - but then forgot to carry it out! We would like to offer people the opportunity to type prayer requests into the Chat feature of Zoom prior the beginning of the service. This is much like the prayer requests that you filled out in church upon arriving in the sanctuary. Please do NOT feel obliged! This is an option for those who feel comfortable doing so; not a requirement. I will announce this on Sunday as we gather.

Finally, we have only two Sundays left together: the 27th will be my final service with you. Now that I am back at school, juggling a school week and a worship week together is challenging, and I do not want to shortchange you or my school - or myself! I know that leadership teams in both churches are hard at work to hear the call of Spirit in the next steps for you all.

The link for this Sunday is below. I look forward to seeing you.

Blessings,

Frances

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**September 20, 2020**

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

**Frances Kitson presiding**

**Powerpoint: Judi Ritcey (SUC)**

GATHERING TIME: 9:45AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Frances

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT Frances

BELL RINGING: 10AM

WORDS OF WELCOME: Carol Bubb – Summerland United

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 you. If you feel comfortable, you are now invited to unmute yourself and introduce yourself.

MOMENT OF SILENCE TO VIEW THE CONGREGATION – Frances

LIGHTING THE CANDLE Frances

GATHERING PRAYER Frances

WE SING TOGETHER: Hey now! Singing Hallelujah! (MV 121)

OFFERING &

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Frances

WE SING TOGETHER: Behold, Behold I Make All Things New (MV 115)

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 16:1-8 (RSV) Kathy Post, Westbank United

REFLECTION: Frances

ANTHEM: Hosanna (Soweto Gospel Choir)

WE SING TOGETHER: My Love Colours Outside the Lines (MV 138)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: John Bubb, Summerland United

LORD’S PRAYER ADAPTATION: F rances

WE SING TOGETHER: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (VU 626)

BLESSING: Frances

BREAK INTO CHAT ROOMS

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Mark 16:1-8 - Revised Standard Version

The Resurrection of Jesus

16 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Mag′dalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salo′me, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. 6 And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.” 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.