

Jan Richardson's blessing from Matthew 15 the Canaanite woman

*A Canaanite woman from that region
came out and started shouting,
"Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David;
my daughter is tormented by a demon."
– Matthew 15:22*

Clearly Jesus didn't realize who he was messing with that day. Or did he? Perhaps Jesus knew precisely what he was doing and chose to use this encounter as a teaching moment for his hearers. Or perhaps he was simply in a stubborn mood and found himself facing someone who could match him easily, stubborn for stubborn. Either way, the story shows us that when it comes to saving what needs saving, being merely nice and pliant won't win the day, or the life. Sometimes we need to dig in our heels and do some hollering.

Stubborn Blessing

Don't tell me no.
I have seen you feed the thousands,
seen miracles spill from your hands like water, like wine,
seen you with circles and circles of crowds
pressed around you and not one soul turned away.

Don't start with me.
I am saying you can close the door but I will keep knocking.
You can go silent but I will keep shouting.
You can tighten the circle but I will trace a bigger one around you,
around the life of my child who will tell you
no one surpasses a mother for stubbornness.

I am saying I know what you can do with crumbs and I am claiming mine,
every morsel and scrap you have up your sleeve.
Unclench your hand, your heart.
Let the scraps fall like manna, like mercy for the life of my child,
the life of the world.

Don't you tell me no.

Help Mission & Service partners respond to the tragic explosion in Beirut.

Donate Now

Your donation to the people affected by the explosion in Lebanon can be doubled by the Canadian government. Canada has announced that it will match donations made from August 4 to 24, 2020 (up to \$5 million).



A woman carries a child through the streets of Beirut, Lebanon after the explosion.

Credit:

World Vision/Reuters

On August 4, 2020 a massive explosion rocked the city of Beirut, Lebanon. The explosion caused immense destruction and the death toll continues to rise.

The United Church of Canada has been in direct contact with Mission & Service partners in the region. Samer Laham of the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) tells the United Church:

“Thank God that MECC[‘s] team is safe but the situation in Beirut is beyond imagination. You cannot believe the level of destruction in many historical areas in Beirut [...] Beirut needs billions of dollars to rebuild what it lost in one minute [...] and maybe it will take some years to be recovered from this disastrous event.”

Make a gift today to help those affected by this tragedy in Beirut.

Donate Now

Online via the [secure donation page](#).

Phone 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque, money order, or Visa or MasterCard information with donation amount to:

The United Church of Canada

Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response

3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200

Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Please be sure to note "Emergency Response—Lebanon" on the face of your cheque.

Secret sisters

Secret Sister Garden Party! Sunday, August 30 at 3:00pm - 9 Williams Road

Secret Sisters is an awesome ministry in our church family. Women of our congregation meet once a year, share a meal, find out who was our Secret Sister last year and draw a new Secret Sister profile for the coming year. For the next year you will be a Secret Sister and remember your secret sister through prayer, cards, little gifts (if you want) all of which adds up to making someone else's day a little brighter.

It's a garden party! So, wear your "tea dress", a hat or fascinator and bring a lawn chair and a snack for yourself. Tea and coffee provided. We will respect social distancing and keep everyone safe!

If you simply want to join us for the Garden Party and fellowship that is absolutely fine. You are welcome to join us **Sunday, August 30 at 3:00pm; 9 Williams Road (backyard).**

For more info: Beth 633-2710, Sharon 633-3775, Jennifer 333-0228

When Sprinkles Save Lives



In North Korea, Baby Bok-Ryan (pictured above) was hungry and malnourished. She was severely underweight, and her growth was delayed. Desperate to see her baby's health improve, her mother, O Mi-Yang, signed up to receive a nutritional supplement called "Sprinkles", sachets filled with life-saving micronutrients in powder form that can be added to food. The sachets are distributed by First Steps, a Vancouver-based partner supported by Mission & Service. It helped transform both of their lives.

[Read the full story](#), and learn how your gifts through Mission & Service help save and transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose and help build a better world.

Memorial Donations Received

A donation has been made to Whitehorse United Church in memory of the following people:

Jean and Gerald Talbot

by Linda Talbot

Val Boorse

by the Boorse family

Anonymous

Anonymous

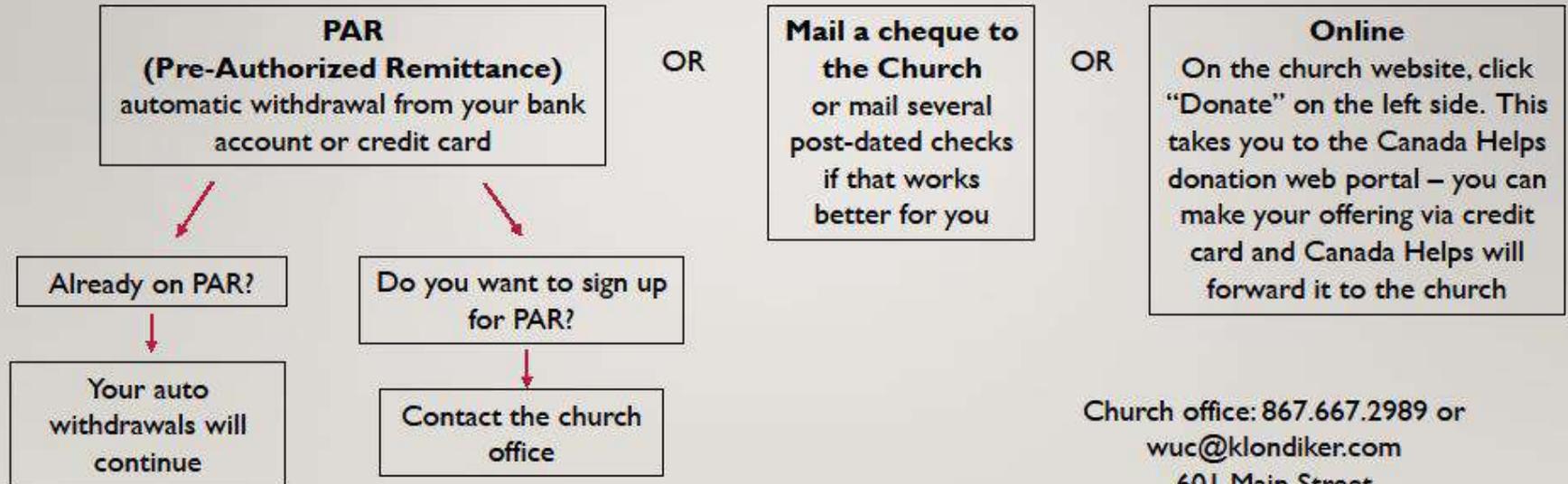
Stewart Breithaupt



Rev. Fred & Nellie Lane

by Jan Mann

How do I financially support Whitehorse United Church during this time of COVID restrictions?



Church office: 867.667.2989 or
wuc@klondiker.com
601 Main Street
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1M6

Questions about PAR? Or would like to increase your PAR?
Call the church office and someone will get back to you asap.

April 2020

Need to talk with someone? Struggling to cope?

Here are some low/no cost Mental Health resources within the territory:

In-Person free- to low-cost resources

Counseling

In Whitehorse:

Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services Sarah Steele Building – 609 Steele St.,
Whitehorse: 1-866-456-3838

Canadian Mental Health Association – 209-1114 Front St, 668 6429

All Genders Yukon through *Ignite Counselling* - 3089 3rd Ave #1. Call 668-5498 for more information.

Hospice Yukon Society is a community-based not-for-profit organization that has been providing a range of *bereavement support* services to Yukoners. You can learn more about the programs and services that Hospice Yukon offers by visiting the website at www.hospiceyukon.net, dropping by the office at 409 Jarvis Street Monday- Friday 11:30 am - 3:00 pm, or calling 867-667-7429. Confidential support is provided free of charge.

In the communities:

Dawson City: Dawson City Community Hospital: 501 – 6th Avenue, Dawson City: 867-993-4300

There are also Mental Wellness hubs in Carmacks, Haines Junction, and Watson Lake. Please call 867-456-3838 or 1-866-456-3838 for more information.

(Gov)Employee Benefits (free to employees/ their families)

YG Employees can access the Employee and Family Assistance Program at 1 867 668-EFAP (3327) or 1-800-667-0993. Included in the YG Employee and Family Assistance Program is an online resource centre with additional supports related to health and wellbeing, family and relationships, career and work. **Access these resources at:** www.fseap.ca/resources.

City of Whitehorse Employees can access their Employee Assistance Program at www.homewoodhealth.com, and by calling 1-800-663-1142 (English), 1 866-398-9505 (en français).

Government of Canada Employees can access the Federal Government Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) available 24/7, free and confidential, 1-800-268-7708

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/occupational-health-safety/employee-assistance-services.html>

Online and Other Resources

Crisis Services Canada • 24-hour, confidential and anonymous suicide prevention and support line. • 1-833-456-4566 • www.crisisservicescanada.ca

Canadian Virtual Hospice • Information and support on palliative and end-of-life care, loss and grief. • www.mygrief.ca or www.kidsgrief.ca

Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention • <https://suicideprevention.ca/> • <https://suicideprevention.ca/About-Suicide-and-Life-Promotion>

Tao Tel Aide • Nos lignes d'écoutes sont ouvertes 24 h sur 24 365 jours par année. Un service de confiance | 1-800-567-9699

First Nations Hope for Wellness Help Line: This is a specific resource for First Nations and Inuit to provide immediate, culturally competent telephone counselling, 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is available in English, French and upon request in Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut • Call the toll-free Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or connect to the online chat at hopeforwellness.ca.

Road to Mental Readiness App (look for it in the App store or on Google Play) is a free mobile app developed by Department of National Defense to improve short-term performance and long-term mental health outcomes. <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/r2mr/id1148743063>

Sorry, but not yet...Summer Worship **Online Only** at WUC

You may have heard that places of worship are now able to re-open in Yukon. However there are many requirements that must be met and many limitations which impact our ability to be the welcoming place we want to be.

Dr. Hanley, bless him, recently hosted a Zoom meeting specifically with leaders of faith communities to discuss the necessary safety restrictions. Sheila Maissan, chair of our Worship Committee, Joan Stanton, chair of Council, and Bev attended, and both committees have discussed his advice.

After much prayerful consideration and consultation, Whitehorse United will not reopen immediately. We will continue offering online Sunday worship from the sanctuary with only the worship leaders present.

First and foremost this is about loving our neighbours and serving our people in the most faithful way we can. How do we love our neighbours right now? Most of our regular attenders are considered vulnerable and we wish to lovingly protect them.

The current restrictions mean we could not offer worship anything like what we had. The things that we are missing the most would be missing still.

For example:

- No singing or spoken participation
- No hugs or handshakes
- No socializing
- No coffee time
- No children's programs
- Assigned, well separated seating
- Six foot distance maintained at all times
- Maximum 26 people attending
- Attendance lists kept

And how could we “enforce” these restrictions? How could we stop people from touching, from singing along, stop children from running around? We try hard to be an inclusive congregation. How do we select who can attend? How do we refuse people who show up?

The goal of a safe, open and welcoming space seems unattainable right now. These restrictions apply to outdoor as well as indoor gatherings.

We are reaching many people the way we're doing it now. We are investing in better equipment and expect the quality of our broadcasting to continue to improve, many thanks to Ernie Prokopchuk and many others! We will re-evaluate the situation in fall.

If you want to discuss this further, please contact Bev (633-3777, bcsbrazier@live.ca), Sheila (668-7774, maissan@northwestel.net), or Joan (332-4073) (stanish@northwestel.net)

Bless you.

Upcoming Activities & Events (Also, check out the website [Church Calendar](#))

Date	Time / Location	Details
<p>All meetings and activities at the church have been cancelled due to COVID-19. Please stay tuned for information about the resumption of in-person meetings and activities.</p>		
<p>Please see the Facebook page for information about interactive Facebook daily 7 pm story time for the little ones and Sunday 10:30 virtual worship.</p>		

COVID-19 Related Information

“Virtual” health appointments are now available. Thanks to COVID-19, Yukoners now can have a “virtual health appointment” with a doctor or optometrist using a computer with a “tele-medicine” program called Doxy. Anecdotal reports from seniors who have used the service have all been positive – perhaps this option will continue after self-isolation is no longer required? It will make life easier for people in the communities or with transportation challenges in town. You still need to make an appointment with your physician in the usual way. Don’t forget the 811 phone service is also available if you have a health question or concern.

Reminder: COVID-19 information online

The one-stop-shop for information about COVID-19 in the Yukon – including government financial assistance programs – is at yukon.ca/covid-19. For a handy table comparing the symptoms for COVID-19, influenza and a cold, click [HERE](#).

If you can, support our local restaurants

Don't feel like cooking one night and want to support a local restaurant? What's Up Yukon has done a great job at keeping us up to date with all the restaurants that are still open and offering take-out/delivery services. If you have a favourite restaurant, now is the time to support them so they'll be around after the COVID restrictions are lifted. Click [HERE](#) for the list.

Let's Chat Yukon now operating

Stuck at home and wishing you had someone to speak with? April 15th marked the launch of Let's Chat Yukon, a toll-free line you can call for enjoyable conversation with a fellow Yukoner. Just because you're self-isolating doesn't mean you're alone. This is a free service run by volunteers. 1-877-321-1001