

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING? – Sunday, March 10, 2024 – Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Hello Westminster folks:

**FIRST**, let me remind one and all that Daylight Savings Time begins this coming Sunday, March 10, so be sure to turn your clocks one hour ahead before going to bed on Saturday night.

**SECOND**, this coming Sunday is a special one. We are not only observing the Fourth Sunday in Lent but also remembering International Women's Day, held annually on March 8. And, this coming Sunday, Westminster will be honouring and celebrating women and the important, yet often overlooked role, they have had throughout the history of Christianity.

The theme of our worship service that day will be "Honouring and Celebrating Women Here and Everywhere", and we'll focus on the life and ministry of Lydia Gruchy, the first woman ordained in the United Church of Canada. A number of Westminster women will be taking part in this important and insightful time of worship and celebration,

**THIRD, GOOD NEWS!** Westminster's membership is actually growing. Yes, in spite of the fact that we're now living in a non-Christian age, over the past couple of years we've had a number of people choose to make Westminster their new church home. Sometimes this is by way of transferring their membership from another congregation; sometimes because they live in the same neighbourhood as our church; sometimes by profession of faith and/or renewal of membership; and often enough, because people have grown weary of religious traditionalism (i.e. the dead religion of living people) and are looking for a re-vitalized, progressive Christianity that makes sense for their lives and the world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

By the way, the key word here is 'progressive'. Just last Sunday, a newcomer to Westminster pointed out to me that she choose to drive some distance from another community to attend Westminster because she Googled "progressive churches" and learned about our congregation. And as Jeanne Stocks pointed out to me this past Tuesday, when you Google "progressive churches in Windsor" Westminster's name is the first one to pop up. And that, my friends, is good news, indeed!

**FOURTH**, I'm pleased to report, "Progressive Spirit", Westminster's new BLOG is now up and running. If you haven't done so already, please take time to check it out on our website at [www.westminsterunited.org](http://www.westminsterunited.org).

And finally, whether you choose to worship God and celebrate life at Westminster United Church in-person, or via Zoom-church, or YouTube, I look forward to being with you again this coming Sunday.

Peace & Joy,

Rev. Del

**P.S. 'Announcements' for Sunday, March 10 are attached in both PDF & Word docx formats.**

## ***INSIGHTS***

For Christians, Lent is the traditional time of the year for self-examination, and today we'll focus on forgiveness. Please see the picture below or attached.



To forgive is to  
set a prisoner  
free and to  
discover the  
prisoner was  
you.

*Corrie Ten Boom*  
*\*Notes from a crazy soul\**