

Pastoral Relations Report

The Pastoral Relations Committee is very pleased to report that our search process is nearly complete. We have thought, discussed, prayed, discerned and sought the guidance of the Holy Spirit and believe our recommendation will serve the needs of the congregation and the building up of the kingdom of God here in the North Island.

We have an agreement in principle with the Rev. Christine Muise to fill our full-time ministerial position.

Christine is an Anglican priest who we believe will provide us with guidance and leadership in all areas of our ministry.

- Christine has a heart for liturgy and a deep appreciation of the Diocese of British Columbia's Liturgy for The Island and Inlets. She has also served in rural areas in the Kootenays where she not only was an Anglican priest but she provided pulpit supply to the local United Church
- Christine has been instrumental in setting up an organization in Parksville to provide a homeless shelter during the pandemic. Her own background living in foster care has given her a compassionate love for the marginalized members of our society.
- Christine has a passion for reconciliation with First Nations and has brought her congregation in Parksville into a recognition of the work needed to be done on our journey towards truth and reconciliation
- Christine is highly recommended by her Rector's warden who describes her as: sensitive to the needs of others, confident, compassionate, creative, and humorous
- Christine deals with conflict by listening carefully to understand all points of view while guiding her own response from a strong basis in faith
- Christine has the skills to get programs up and running by clear communication, creative thinking and the ability to work within the guidelines of the Diocese/Region and Province

We are seeking guidance from PMRC and the Diocese of BC to set up an orientation to the United Church. We await the input of the Diocese for a compensation package but it should be similar to what we paid Alastair. A start date this summer is expected but not finalized.

We highly recommend that the council and congregation approve the call of the Rev. Christine Muise to fill our permanent position at St. Columba and St. John.