

# **The Emmaus Community: A History to Date (-2021)**

**Compiled by Meagan Crosby-Shearer, EC**

The Emmaus Community is at its heart a community of companions on the Way; co-strugglers trying to find a way to follow Jesus and the Gospel of love in our own time and place. Sometimes we do that with faltering steps and broken hopes and other times we do that in joy, running with hearts aflame to share that we have seen God enfleshed in broken-open stories, bread given and received and in this resurrection illuminated creation.

The roots of this particular community are dug into the soil of the stories of three friends and their desire to create ways of deepening discipleship as well as addressing systems of injustice, economic inequality and isolation through lives shared deeply together.

In 2006, around tables of prayer and conversation, feasting and dreaming, Meagan Crosby, Ernest Morrow and Rob Shearer drafted a 'rule of life' for a possible Intentional Christian Community. This was focused around the revelation story of the reconciliation of all things; that God will dwell with us and there will be deep healing and renewal.

Out of these initial visions, Ernest went to Berkeley Divinity and during his time there began The Community of the Reconciliation. Rob and Meagan wound up in Toronto where they started the Jeremiah Community (with Lance Dixon). As Ernest finished at Berkeley, he returned to Victoria and launched Community of the Reconciliation and in an act of Synod, the community was made a ministry of the Diocese.

In 2012, Meagan and Rob returned to Victoria and, as Ernest was then moving on to other things, they were appointed co-directors of The Community of the Reconciliation (CoTR) by Anglican Bishop James Cowan.

In February 2014, after a time of prayer and discernment, it was decided to 're- boot' CoTR with a renewed emphasis on the vision of being a residential New Monastic community within a geographic neighbourhood and having a shared Rule or Rhythm of Life. The community was re-named The Emmaus Community – a name drawn from the post-Resurrection story in Luke 24. The focus on walking together with the Resurrected Christ, sharing meals, offering hospitality and opening scripture together seemed appropriate for this incarnation of the community's life.

In March of 2014, Emmaus Community leaders were invited to the consultation of traditional and new monastic communities by the standing committee on religious communities. Bishop's Linda Nicholls, Bishop Philip Poole and Bishop Michael Bird were present and Archbishop Fred Hiltz opened the event.

In April 2014, Margot Spence joined the leadership of the community and, along with Meagan and Rob, purchased "Belmont House" in Fernwood. This became a community hub and housed both living spaces as well the Emmaus Community Chapel and later the Priory, our space of hospitality.

Over the years, the community has held several retreats and visioning days with ecumenical mentors to continue to deepen the common life of the community and learn from the wisdom of those who have walked part of this path before us.

## **Prayer**

*“As a community, before all else, we are called to root ourselves in a life of prayer... Our hope is that our times of prayer will cause our hearts to burn as we encounter Christ in the breaking open of scripture, in prayer, and in the breaking of bread and we trust that these times of prayer will guide us in seeking reconciliation with God, each other, the neighbourhood, the stranger, and all of creation.” (From the Emmaus Community Rule of Life)*

Beginning after the Feast of Pentecost 2014, a number of people interested in the community began to set a rhythm of prayer - praying either Morning Prayer or Compline Offices on weekdays. The community joined in regular discussions, storytelling, potlucks and musical events and committed to come alongside neighbourhood and Anglican Diocesan justice and reconciliation actions.

On October 11, 2014, Bishop Logan consecrated the community chapel and our first 4 Novices (including the founding leadership) entered the 8-9 month Novice process. Sr. Brenda Jenner of the Anglican Sisters of St. John the Divine assisted the Novice process as a mentor.

The community continued to pray and worship in the small front room chapel and to deepen their lives of discipleship. They spent many months finalizing the rule of life which would become the foundation of the community's common life and how they reflected on their vows each year.

With great joy and under the gentle direction of Sister Brenda, the first novices of the Emmaus Community took their vows on October 6th 2015 (deliberately near to the Feast of St. Francis) and the community has gone on to receive those discerning a call to the community every year since then.

The first meeting of the 'Chapter' of the community was held on October 28th 2015 at Belmont House and Meagan Crosby-Shearer was affirmed by consensus as Formation Director, Marilyn Gough (non-residential) and Rob Crosby-Shearer (residential) were affirmed by consensus as co-priors; (symbolic figureheads and signing officers) and Margot Spence was affirmed by consensus as the Cellarer (bookkeeper). 6 years later (in 2021) the Formation Director is Roxy Humphrey, Community Intercessor is Sue Patterson, Cellarer is Rob CS and Co-priors are Matt Humphrey & Marilyn Gough.

In the fall of 2015, the Emmaus community had the happy problem of outgrowing their small chapel for the weekly Eucharist and so in the tradition of monastic communities moved their 'Abbey Worship' to Paul Phillips Hall, a local community and arts space in Fernwood, BC. On October 4th 2015, the AbbeyChurch was formally launched with a Blessing of the Animals in SpringRidge Common Permaculture Garden with Rev. Michelle Slater of Oak Bay United offering the blessings - before settling into the Hall. Kirsten and Jeff Horncastle-McMenamie along with Meagan and Rob C-S were tasked by the community for overseeing the weekly Eucharist (by 2021 this group came to be called the

AbbeyChurch Vision team) and Jeff Poynter from local musical group West My Friend joined as our first music director and Tressa Brotsky from Oak Bay United Church as our multigenerational visionary. As the community leaders were all lay folk, various presiders were engaged to Celebrate Communion each week. These included Dawna Wall, Alastair McCallum, Christopher Page, Travis O'Brien, Sue House, Erin Sterling, Michelle Slater and others.

On Jan 15th 2016, The Emmaus Community entered into a shared ministry agreement with the Victoria Presbytery of the United Church of Canada and with the Anglican Diocese of BC. Executive Officer Stephen Martin was appointed by Bishop Logan as the liaison with the community and represented the Diocese. Carol Martin as chair of Presbytery and Thomas Dennett in his role as Regional Minister for BC Conference (later Pacific Mountain Region) were there to celebrate this new relationship along with Archdeacon Alastair McCallum and Bishop Logan. The covenanting service was attended by Diocesan clergy and UCC executive and ministers throughout the region.

The AbbeyChurch continued to worship in the theatre space at Paul Phillips Hall, setting up and taking down each week. In the spring of 2017, noting the exhaustion of the temporary nature of the space and that the community was reaching capacity in it, Bishop Logan encouraged the Sunday worship to move to St. Matthias Anglican Church in Fairfield.

On July 30 2017, after a short liturgy of gratitude, the community walked from Paul Phillips to their new Sunday worship space at 600 Richmond. A vision team of initially 10 people (Nathan McDonald, Christopher McDonald, Jeff Horncastle, Kirsten McMenamie, Rob Crosby-Shearer, Bert & Katherine Haupt, Meagan Crosby-Shearer, Chris Pollock, Catherine Pate, Aneeta Saroop, Nancy Walker, Margot Spence and Marilyn Gough met in September of 2017 to pray and discuss and envision what the Sunday Eucharist of the community might take in this next phase of its life. A value exercise led by Catherine Pate shaped some of those early discussions (appendix).

In 2017 (Meagan) 2018 (Rob) and 2020 (Matt) were ordained to the priesthood and licenced to the Emmaus Community, AbbeyChurch and eventually Wild Church and continued to serve the sacramental and worship needs of the community. Rob was also appointed as the Bishop's advisor on Emerging Communities. The vision team continued to gather periodically to offer feedback and direction to the shape of the AbbeyChurch.

AbbeyChurch did the first renaming ceremony for a Trans person (that we know of on Vancouver Island). We have pioneered a way of worshipping which seeks to be Christ-centred, Trinitarian, liturgical, creative, traditional, inclusive, musically eclectic and eucharistic.

In 2018 our first poet-in-residence, Evelyn Cresswell came on board followed by Vanessa Caruso, Roxy Humphrey, celine chuang and in 2021, Benjamin Hertwig.

In 2020, Cornelia van Voorst came on as our first Artist in Residence to "teach about and contribute to the restoration of visual language as part of our ability to recognize the presence of God"<sup>1</sup>. In the context of this vibrant worshipping community, we have had the joy of baptizing, re-naming, marrying and standing vigil at the death of both a child and

---

<sup>1</sup> Cornelia van Voorst - Artist in Residence Proposal 2020

elder. Gathered around the Eucharistic table and as companions in the eucharistic life, we continue to lift up our lives, trying to hear how God might be calling us to worship in each stage of our life together.

Morning Prayer continued out of the Belmont House location in Fernwood and we set up a prayer box outside the house for folk to drop prayers off. This became a wall of prayers in the chapel. We saw the fruits of this common practice in the deepening of our accompaniment of one another and the neighbourhood and were witnesses through our life of prayer to the work of God in each other's lives.

The community offered wider diocesan leadership through leading worship at Synod and clergy conferences, offering quiet days, leading ordination retreats and creating devotional resources, seasonal prayer books and book studies to deepen the life of prayer in our community and in the wider church and world.

As we deepened our life together, our formation and discernment became more clear. This eventually led to the creation of our Discernment and Novice resource and to the clarifying of our companion and covenanted roles.

In 2020 Sue Patterson became our first formal prayer intercessor and through her love and commitment to a contemplative life, continued to nurture the community and wider village in prayer.

While initially all in person, the community began to offer prayer several days per week that were available to our wider companions and friends via Zoom. As the COVID-19 pandemic hit, this provided a foundation for the community to move our prayer life online and keep connected to one another as well as to offer a space of prayer and connection for those beyond the community.

## **Simplicity**

*“A life defined by simplicity can hear and respond quickly to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Our vow of simplicity means having all we need for a healthy life but seeks to remain free from the bondage of unhealthy attachments. We desire to be mindful of wastefulness, to care for God’s creation and to be concerned for how we use what we own... In our call to simplicity, we trust in God’s providence and provision. We desire to respect God’s creation and to live in the reality that each person is made in the image of God. We recognize that simplicity is a grace from God that we receive—and that simplicity is found in seeking the reign of God.”(From the Emmaus Community Rule of Life)*

One of the gifts of life in the community has been the contagious nature of our experiments. Peter Maurin of the Catholic Worker community once wrote that a life rooted in the gospel would make it easier to be good. While perhaps not always good, our vow of simplicity has encouraged us to be creative; becoming self-reflective about how we use our time, resources and technology and how to learn from and share with each other these learnings.

One of our community members committed to a waste-free year and out of that experiment we began a community plastic recycling hub. Another family took on electricity fasts and others a commitment to decrease technology and increase time in creation.

Caring for creation and growing our food in local and sustainable ways, has meant everything from helping the garden at SpringRidge Commons to growing our own front yard veggie plots, to partnering with the UVIC Inland project to create a native plant garden on the boulevard.

In order to look toward the future sustainability of the community and to live into a Benedictine ideal to build a community based on the work of our hands, the community began to research and implement a beverage collective. One of our members experimented with recipes for a lime ginger elixir that has become a staple in our houses and in the long line of the monastic community before us, Rob started to experiment with brewing beer. and Craig H, Incumbent at St. Mary, Oak Bay and a seasoned brewer himself, mentored the community in developing the test brews. In June 2016, the community brewed their first 99-bottle test batch of "St. Alban's Ale" – a Belgian-inspired Trappist-style "Tripel" Strong Ale which came to maturity on the feast of St. Alban the Martyr. The community continues to determine the viability of the collective as a source of financial support.

As the community called us to a deeper sharing of our common life in order to move more intentionally into a life of simplicity, we continued to dream about creating a foundation for shared living.

As mentioned at the beginning of this history, in 2014, we took the first 'baby' step in this direction of fulfilling the dream of a residential aspect of our community. A few of our members co-purchased a 3-suite house called "Belmont House" in Fernwood which housed 5 of them, occasionally others, and also served as a community hub for open meals and our chapel or original hope was that others would join us in Fernwood by renting or purchasing nearby - but, sadly, the housing market rose rapidly in 2017 and the neighbourhood gentrified quickly, making further housing purchases or even rentals out of reach for most of our membership. Fortunately, a core of committed 'dispersed' members were able to join us for prayer and meals very regularly by walking, biking or driving.

In 2018, we made an offer on a multi-suite property near Belmont House that was owned by the Roman Catholic Sisters of St. Ann. Despite hopeful conversations, support of the Anglican Diocese, and an offer and funds being in place, this offer fell through at the last minute on the part of the Sisters of St. Ann.

In 2019 we received permission from the Diocesan Council of the Anglican Diocese of BC to have conversations with parishes around the use of surplus church land to 'house' this way of re-imagining church.

In 2019 we also began to look more deeply at the 'forms' that might hold this vision. We examined CoHousing, Land Trusts, Societies and other entities; eventually landing on an Equity Housing Cooperative model which we felt best matched our own values and democratic ethos and desire for shared ownership. Also in 2019, we opened The Priory in one of the self-contained suites at Belmont House. The Priory had a separate retreat space, including our library, kitchens chapel and two guest rooms for hospitality. Due to space limitations with Covid-19, we closed the Priory in 2021, but it served as a prototype for

some of the hospitality that we hoped to be able to offer in the future and galvanized our community around the use of space.

From 2019 and onward, we began to develop a business plan in conversation with several housing and business consultants, builders, developers, The United Church, VanCity, The BC Cooperative Housing Federation and other housing CoOps. We also toured spaces such as Co:Here, Kingfisher Farm and East Van Co-Housing.

Internally, we spent 2019-2021 deepening and clarifying our Emmaus polity and our formation process - making our "With Burning Hearts" discernment process and Novice period (Novitiate) into a 2+ year process of discernment and formation to enter Covenanted Membership of the Emmaus Community. In this sense, we aligned our process into more traditional monastic practices.

In 2020, some of our members registered the Burning Hearts Housing Cooperative under the BC Coop Act - with the financial support and encouragement of our affiliated denominations, the United and Anglican Churches. In early 2021, we clarified the business model for the CoOp in conversation with VanCity, seeking to ensure that this form of housing could be affordable for a diversity of people from varied economic means (modifying the model to being a Coop involving Limited Partnerships), as well as to develop an ecologically sensitive build - and that common spaces could house our various ministries and desire to balance the needs of residents and offer hospitality.

We entered into conversations with St. Matthias Anglican Church and received support to explore a non-binding MOU. In March 2021 this process was ended by the incoming Bishop and we were told that we would not have the support to build a ministry hub on existing church land.

As of May 2021, the community continues to move forward in faith, trusting that the Spirit will open doors that will allow this deep call to a shared common life to bear fruit. We are in the process of praying and considering other properties; both with other denominations and also private property that is on the market to house this vision.

With the arrival of Matt Humphrey to the staff team in the summer of 2018 came renewed conversation around our commitment to care for God's Creation and to experience the life of God through God's world. As Matt went through discernment towards ordination, conversation with Bishop Logan also encouraged combined with some encouragement from Rob Crosby-Shearer to give birth to Wild Church Victoria - a watershed discipleship community. As a ministry that flowed out of Emmaus and our common life, the hope has been to engage a wider array of people and to help all people to fall in love with God's world and to commit themselves to its care and cultivation. A vision fund grant of \$7500 was awarded to support a pilot project in July 2019, with follow up funding granted in 2020. We met monthly in summer/fall 2019 for outdoor worship and gatherings, hosted meals and launched a book study. Online workshops began with the dawn of Covid in Spring 2020 and have continued to present. We produced regular online content in partnership with AbbeyChurch and have cultivated a lively discussion group on Facebook. We look forward to a post Covid opportunity to continue to cultivate this vision.

## **Presence**

*"Our vow of presence is taken in response to the radical presence offered to us by God...As a community, we respond to our call to presence as we incarnate the*

*Gospel in our daily lives, work, and relationships. It is a commitment to authenticity and availability, knowing that as we journey together, Jesus joins us on the road, widening our view and changing our hearts... Through our commitment to stability, hospitality and presence, we become witnesses to what God is doing in our neighbourhoods and in the world, and we become signs and symbols of that in-breaking reign of peace, justice and love.”(From the Emmaus Community Rule of Life)*

One of the simplest and most difficult calls of the Gospel is present in each other's lives - To see the face of Christ in each other and enter into the hard work of walking with each other through times of conflict, disillusionment and despair.

This took the form of intentional check-ins and holding each other in gentle accountability to our vows. We also began regular community meals and committed to sharing our resources as we were able. We invested in the lives of the children in our community and responded to the emerging needs of each person as imperfectly as it sometimes was, providing a bed or meal or listening ear in times of need.

As the community sought to incarnate the Gospel in our time and place we began not only to attend to the difficult and messy work of being present more intentionally in each other's lives but also how we could be present in our neighbourhoods and to answer calls to solidarity as they emerged.

In 2015 we partnered with St. Barnabas to provide a space for coffee and conversation in our chapel. This was an opportunity for the street-involved community that received grocery vouchers at the Friday Mass to build community in a more informal setting.

In the spring of 2016, we started our first internship program. This was an internship in neo-monastic living and organic farming. It was a joint Emmaus Community / City Harvest Internship that came alongside a small urban farming cooperative to support their work while engaging a young person in the life of an intentional community.

In 2016 we also partnered with the Mustard Seed to host a 'street cafe.' Several of us loaded up a van and parked downtown and made wraps for folk who came by. As able, we had a musician playing on the sidewalk for the time. As the logistics of insurance and risk assessment for this kind of street work became tricky, we shifted to helping in the Mustard Seed building itself for the Friday night dinners. This relationship has continued to the present with a monthly meal served by Emmaus Community members and friends from other Anglican parishes and United Churches.

One of the unexpected sides of presence has been the community's role as a mentor or model for other communities and individuals seeking renewal. Our founding scripture is about accompaniment along the way and this has meant not only the spiritual accompaniment and formation of people but also hosting visiting parishes, youth groups, theological students and other intentional communities to talk about the ethos vision and implementation of emerging communities. We have also continued to learn from other intentional communities including Reba House Fellowship, Arocha, Kingfisher farm, Grandview Calvary Baptist's New Monastic Order, The Bruderhof, The Catholic Worker and others. In 2017 Marilyn Gough took the 'Leadership in the New Parish certificate' and has been instrumental in sharing that learning with us and others and many of us attended the Inhabit gatherings.

In February of 2018, we had the opportunity to sponsor the Starfields festival. This was an exciting, inaugural festival of hope, expressed through music, dialogue and spoken word. In November of the same year, we partnered with the diocesan emerging community working group to host 'Resurrect' - "An emerging communities learning party to hear about Church Plants / Starts (in many forms), Indigenous-Settler Partnerships, Re-visioning space for Arts and Mission, Intentional Communities, New Monasticism and the renewal of the local Parish in our neighbourhoods, villages and towns in our Cascadian and Canadian Contexts". This included us hosting an All Souls Goth Mass in the Crypt! We have had ongoing connection with the New Leaf Church Planting Network and the Parish Collective.

While never prescriptive, being present in the wider justice and reconciliation initiatives has been an important part of our life together. This has taken the shape of presence on the Diocesan Sacred Journey, responding to the invitation of the Tsleil-Waututh to faith communities to stand with them, standing as witnesses with Wet'suwet'en youth and involvement at the Women's March, Earth Day, Black Lives Matter, support of the tent city neighbourhoods and GVAT events.

We continued in presence in our own neighbourhood; being a part of the local school and community organizations, arranging our meetings at local cafes, baking bread and hosting concerts. We set up a little free library outside of Belmont House and tried to walk our dogs, shop locally or have outside bluegrass night to continue (as much as possible) to be a visible and loving presence in the places we lived.

## **Funding**

Initially, all the ministries of Emmaus were volunteer and the community was supported by the giving for our core community and friends. As we began to grow we have been blessed by the support of grants by both the UCC and ACC to develop the worship, microindustry, housing, the Wild Church Network and the administrative sides of our common life. In spring 2021, the Emmaus staffing was 18 hours. The AbbeyChurch staffing was 4 hours for each of the clergy, 4 hours for Caroline our music director and 2 hr per week for Anna our children's minister and the development of the Wild Church network was given an additional 5 hours per week. As we've continued to develop, we've always tried to grow by keeping our grants diverse, and around half or less of our overall income.

## **Continuing on the way**

A few years back, one of our members had a dream of standing across the street from Belmont House. At the top of the street was a young girl dancing impatiently from foot to foot and shouting, "Come on" What are you waiting for!?" It was clear in the dream that this young girl was God.

Looking back on the history of this young community it is amazing to see what God has done in and through us as we have answered God's call to 'come and see!' This has not and will not be an easy road. We are human after all and we falter and fall and lose sight of the vision or forget to lift our heads up to see the love-filled God with us on the way. Even so, we continue to walk forward in faith, trusting in the abundant grace and infinite compassion of our Companion and Guide.

As of this writing, the community has over 22 people in discernment or vows around 90 (including many of those 22 as well as children) who share in worship with us at the



AbbeyChurch and many others who join the community in the variety of community ministries and in lives of prayer, simplicity and presence wherever they may find themselves.

On the road and at the table, with lives broken open and hearts on fire, we continue to seek the living God and to find glimpses in the faces of each other and in these neighbourhoods that we have been planted, the image of the Beloved.

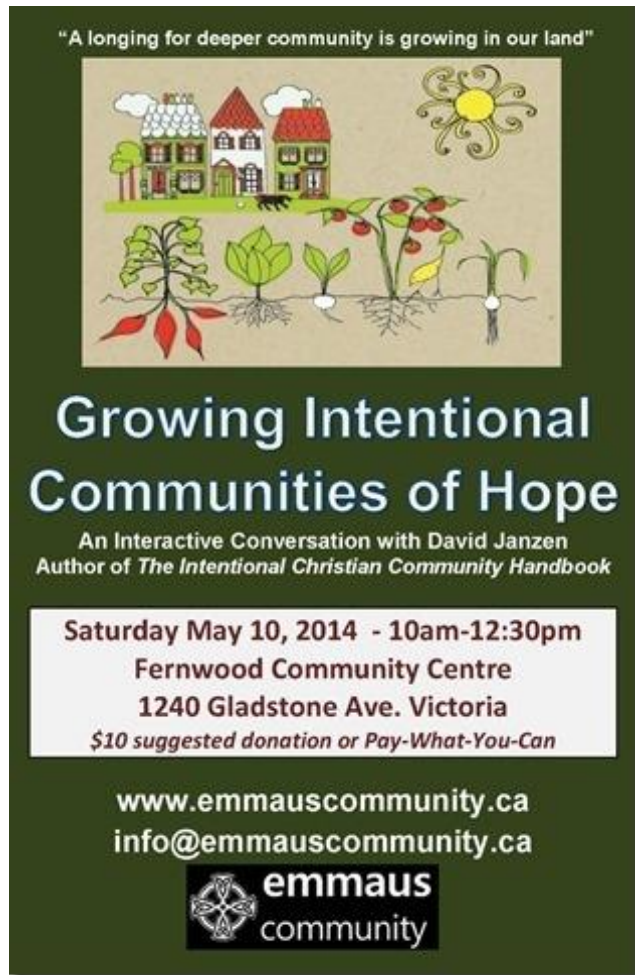
## Appendix

### Core Visioning exercise of the AbbeyChurch (September 2017)

When asked “What does The Abbey mean or represent to you?” the core vision team responded with pictures and words.

More	Eternal	Transformation
Messy	Sharing	Common centre
Communal	Safety	Sacramental
Embodiment	Peace	Sacrificial
Radiating	Christ-centred	Confessional
Real	Authentic community	Confessing
Desirable	More	Cross
Kairos	Justice	Liberation
Creation	Cosmic	Cubism
Created	Transcendent	New life
Receiving	Possibility	Sustenance
Physical	Opportunity	Death
Connection	Real	Resurrection
Play	Rooted	Freedom
Calling	Celestial choir	Valuable
Feeding	Bread and wine	Connecting
Super-imposed	Integrity	Grace
Forgiveness	Messy	Gift
Organic	Joyful	Pay Attention
Life-giving	Light to the world	Love
Missional	Ancient	Prayer
Intergenerational	7 days a week	Children
Tangible	Constant companion	
Consistent	Grace-filled	
Ancient	Radical hospitality	

## Media Releases /Posters



### **STARFIELDS MEDIA RELEASE FEBRUARY 26TH 2018 Starfields 2018: A Festival of Hope**

#### Background

- Starfields 2018 is an inaugural festival of hope, expressed through music, dialogue, and spoken word, scheduled for April 13th - 15th, 2018 in Victoria, BC, Canada
- Starfields 2018: A Festival of Hope presents opportunities for open-minded and open-hearted human engagement and artistic expression to foster closeness and understanding among people of different faiths, cultures and community groups.

- The impetus for the event is the belief that what unites people is greater than what divides them, and that people need hope and inspiration to contribute to a better world.
- The concept for Starfields was generated through discussion and collaboration among several people from diverse traditions and is a ministry of the Emmaus Community, an ecumenical neo-monastic community in Victoria, BC.
- Starfields 2018 is guided by a Steering Committee and supported financially through donations from various sources, combined with ticket sales and other fund-raising efforts. Planning and production of the festival will rely heavily on local volunteers. The 3-day program will feature a diverse mix of faith leaders, musicians, poets, authors and teachers.

#### Locations

- Friday and Saturday downtown Victoria at The Church of Christ the Scientist, Our Place, The Metro Theatre and Studio, the Public Library, Christ Church Chapter Room, First Met Church.
- Sunday morning at UVIC Multifaith Chapel, early afternoon at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Gordonhead, late afternoon and evening at St Matthais' in Oak Bay

Featuring a diverse array of musicians, poets, artists and workshops.  
Saturday and Sunday day events free.

Fri & Sat. Evening concerts \$20.

#### TICKETS:

Munro's 250 382 2464 Ivy's Bookstore 250 598 2713

Online at [www.starfields.ticketleap.com](http://www.starfields.ticketleap.com)

Featuring main stage musicians Friday and Saturday night with The Paperboys, Linda MacRae, Leela Gilday Band, The Small Glories, Cris Derksen, Hope Bay Common.

Saturday [ all downtown Victoria ] and Sunday workshops [ UVIC and area ] with keynote speaker Shane Claiborne, main stage musicians hosting workshops, afternoon concert at the Metro Theatre with Linda Macrae and Victoria musicians Decades After Paris, other artists include Rae Spoon, Maureen Washington, The Lake Men, locations include Open Mic for musicians and spoken word artists at the Metro Studio, " Artists for Change" at Our Place, the Kairos Blanket Exercise, authors, poets, Morning Meditation , Songs and Stories of Transformation at UVIC with Buddhist and Jewish storytellers, inclusive Christian worship - and much more.

## **Resurrect ::: An Emerging Communities Learning Party**

Public · Event · by The Emmaus Community Victoria and 11 others

Nov 1, 2018 at 2:00 PM – Nov 3, 2018 at 12:00 AM PDT

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay

Resurrect 2018 is an inaugural conversation about how the Holy Spirit is moving in emerging forms of Church here on the West Coast of Canada.

It'll have from Thursday 2pm to Saturday at noon at St. Mary's in Oak Bay.

We'll be talking about Church Plants / Starts (in many forms), Indigenous-Settler Partnerships, Re-visioning space for Arts and Mission, Intentional Communities, New Monasticism and the renewal of the local Parish in our neighbourhoods, villages and towns in our Cascadian and Canadian Contexts.

We'll worship with emerging communities. We'll dream, listen, pray.

Resurrect is meant both for practitioners and the curious.

Conversation partners include:

- Liz Sparks (Tacoma Catholic orker)
- Paul Sparks (Parish Collective, Author of the New Parish, Seattle)
- The Ven. Travis Enright (Anglican Indigenous Indigenous Ministry /
- Standing Stones, Edmonton, AB)
- Rev. Ingrid Brown (Weird Church, Cumberland, BC)
- Alana Levandoski (singer/songwriter, Brandon MB)
- LeAnn Blackert (Wild Church, Kamloops, BC)
- Catherine Pate (Co-Founder – St. Benedict's Table, Winnipeg)
- Poor Clare (Church of the Apostles, Seattle) and other members of the Church of The Apostles
- Matt Humphrey (A Rocha Canada)
- Liz Dieleman (singer/songwriter, Victoria, BC / AbbeyChurch)
- The Rev. Laurel Dykstra (Salal and Cedar)
- The Rev. Marnie Peterson (St. Brigids, Vancouver, BC)
- Andrew Stephens-Rennie (St. Brigids, Vancouver, BC)

- The Rev. Meagan and Rob Crosby-Shearer (AbbeyChurch / Emmaus Community, Victoria, BC)... and more to be announced...

Worship

Beer and Hymns,

Emergent Requiem All Souls Communion

EcoLament with Salal and Cedar