



Comox United Church



There are a few paper copies available for those who would prefer a hard copy. Announcements should be sent to

admin@comoxunitedchurch.com or

call 250 339-3966 by **8:00 am Thursday morning.**

Minister: Rev. Phillip Spencer eutyclus33@gmail.com 250-618-6310

Minister: Rev. Debra Bowman revdabowman@gmail.com 604 802-8210

Minister of Pastoral Care and Congregational Life: Wayne Hughes

Text or phone: 250 203-7258 care@comoxunitedchurch.com

Treasurer: treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com

Envelope Secretary: envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter press reply and let me know.

Friday, May 20, 2022

Visit our website: it is updated weekly: www.comoxunitedchurch.com

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Greeters: Julie Whitman, Marg Silman

Coffee: Jan Bjarnason, Peter Senior

Service Leader: Rev. Phil Spencer

Sermon: It's a Scandal

Power Point: Noreen Robertson

Scripture Reader: Elaine Burnell

Scripture: Acts 16:6-15, John 5:1-15

To read the scripture follow the link below then type in the scripture verse <http://bible.oremus.org>

Church office closed May 24, 2022

Comox United Church worship services are available in three ways.

- 1) Attend worship in-person at the church on Sundays at 10:00 am.
- 2) Watch live on-line by going to our YouTube channel. Just click on this link at 10:00 am on Sunday morning:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCprSWtXE0g4K3LOvG54v0-g>
[Sunday Services Comox United Church](https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services)
- 3) Watch the service at another time from the "Virtual Services" page on our website:
<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services>



Parking Lot UPDATE

For approximately ten weeks, Edgett Excavating will be using part of the upper parking lot as they install a sidewalk along the south side of Comox Ave in the vicinity of the church. Good news for us! We apologise for any temporary inconvenience this may cause, but we are confident that we will continue to be able to accommodate our congregation and our many user groups.

Daily Reflections hosted by the *Christian Seasons Calendar* offer encouragement in our common ministry as disciples of Christ Jesus, for the glory of God and the sake of God's beloved world.

<https://christiancalendar.squarespace.com/daily>



Coffee and Tea will be served following the service however as the dishwasher in the church kitchen is awaiting repair. Please LUG a MUG

Hello from Clark Graham

Clark has requested that we let the congregation know that he has settled into his new place and has all his Comox pictures on the wall of his new home.



Banners!

The Worship Committee is currently reviewing our use and placement of the abundance of banners we possess. If you have some considered thoughts about the banners and suggestions for their use, you are encouraged to contact members of the Worship Committee. Thanks for the input! Joyce Wagland ajwagland@gmail.com



To the Ladies of Comox United Church:

The UCW is pleased to announce that they will be hosting a luncheon for the women of the church on **Monday, June 13th** to which you are invited. The luncheon will begin at at 12:15 p.m. Food will be provided. (No potluck this time.) There will be a small charge of \$5.

As per our usual practice we will be collecting items for the Transition Society, they have suggested sets of gently used twin sheets, socks, sunscreen, underwear and grocery cards. Toiletries are also welcome.

Please register by June 9, 2022 if you wish to attend. Phone Noreen at 250-890-0204 or email robertsonalexnoreen@gmail.com

**We look forward to seeing you
for lunch at the church on
Monday, June 13 at 12:15 pm.**

Ministry Profile & Search (MPS)

On Sunday May 15, the congregation approved our recommendation to fill our current ministerial vacancy with a full-time minister to work in concert with our part-time minister Wayne Hughes. Once we receive approval from Regional Council on May 30, we will begin the "recruit and interview" process.



Got Questions? Ask any member of the MPS Committee:

**Ken Newman, Barb Craig, Dale Erhart,
Serena Patterson, Sue Fabrizio, Robert
McDonald, Sue Sutherland-Justice,
Alan Brown**



Check out new postings.

<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/blog>

Volunteer opportunities



Tech Team

Your church Tech Team has a need for interested folks to help enhance our weekly worship. We now stream our services live and have hired a tech to do the streaming on Sunday mornings as he earns his way to North Island College.

Sound is important, both in the Sanctuary and on-line and we are looking for helpers to assist with providing sound quality. This involves a few functions, most conducted while sitting in a pew with a laptop. We offer training and mentoring to do this and the opportunity to take part in providing a quality experience to the members of our faith community and others.

Do you have an interest? Would you like to know more about what is involved before you plunge into "tech"? Would you prefer to watch a live demonstration of how the system works before making any commitment?

Our team would love to hear from you and talk about what is involved. Please send a message to Joyce Wagland at ajwagland@gmail.com or Ross Griffith-Cochrane at rgriffco@gmail.com with your e-mail and/or phone number and we'd be happy to talk to you or give you an orientation at your convenience.

IS THIS YOU?



1. You have a heart for the Comox United church family.
2. You make others feel safe to speak up.
3. You can communicate expectations.
4. You lead by example.
5. You avoid procrastination and just get things done.

The Pastoral Care team of Comox United Church is a small, dedicated group that among other things:

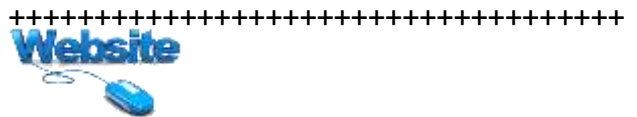
- ❖ arranges for cards to be sent to members (and sometimes friends) of our church family for concerns with health, loss, and celebration
- ❖ oversees monthly services at three facilities in the Comox Valley (Glacier View, Comox Valley Seniors Village, Berwick)
- ❖ provided a Caregiver Retreat locally (and have funds from ProVision to conduct another)
- ❖ supports small workshops
- ❖ meets monthly by Zoom

I joined the Pastoral Care team just a few months after I started attending Comox United and became the facilitator later that year. It has been a wonderful way to get to 'know' the people. Our congregation members are quick to let us know about illness, struggles and life changes in other members' lives.

I have been so grateful for this group, but would like to get involved in other areas of church life. We need a new facilitator and a couple of new members would be nice too. Please contact Marni Fisher or Wayne Hughes if you have an interest or questions.

**WE NEED YOU to join
OUR CREW!**





Comox UC Website – How To .

This week's Tip:

1. To learn how to increase your PAR, go to the church website by googling **Comox United Church**.
2. From the menu at the top of the page, click on **Giving**
3. Scroll down to read about ways to give, as well as how to increase your PAR.

Questions? Comments? Concerns?
Submissions? Photos?

NB: This is YOUR website! If you'd like to add any articles or photos to this or any page, please email Joyce Wagland at websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com or phone 250-207-5650.

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Hearing Assist Devices

We are looking for a volunteer to maintain the hearing assist devices.

Please contact the office.

Admin@comoxunitedchurch.com

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Lorna requires help !!!

Occasionally even the tireless Lorna needs a break from her role as our church Office Administrator and plans on taking a vacation. Normally Joanne Wiens steps in to provide backfill and ensure the office runs smoothly in Lorna's absence, however in September when Lorna would like to take her vacation, Joanne is unavailable. Can you help keep the office going during these 3 weeks? (Tues – Fri 9-1).

The role of the Comox United Office Administrator requires good computer skills with a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Gmail to prepare the church weekly service bulletins, newsletter, PowerPoint slides and email correspondence. Many different groups come into the church so we are looking for someone who will demonstrate our mandate of being a welcoming, affirming, faith-centred place to congregate.

Training would be provided. If you believe that you have these skills and would be willing to help us fill this gap, the Ministry and Personnel Committee would love to hear from you. For more information, please contact Mike Stewart at: mnstewart@shaw.ca

Groups and Gatherings of CxU Folk

2nd Monday 1:15 UCW (United Church Women)
Contact Noreen 890-0204

Mondays 1:30-3:30 Knitting Group
Contact Bev 871-2027

Tuesdays 10:00 Coffee and Conversation
Contact Cameron 339-0739

Walking Group – watch website or Newsletter for details

CxU Singles
Contact Ruth Gibson 890-3438 or
Contact Merrilee 941-5898

Men's Shed/Group
Contact Mike 339-7877



Drawdown BC workshop available
Learn about science-based solutions to the climate emergency within a community of concerned participants.

“Getting into Action” - A free 5 session climate solutions course

Mondays: May 9 – June 13, 2022
6:30-8:00pm (PST) on-line

- Explore science-based climate change solutions from Drawdown that individuals, families, communities and government can do
- Network and connect with other course participants
- Develop your personal practical climate action plans
- Access connections with experienced climate leaders, as well as with alumni who are doing exciting climate work across BC and Canada.

For more information visit
<https://drawdownbc.org/>

Register [here:](https://drawdownbc.org/programs-projects/#action)
<https://drawdownbc.org/programs-projects/#action>



Fund Raiser for St. John Gualbert United Church and Wild Heart Music

The Tenors – Gift of Music – concert
A North Island Community benefit Concert
All proceeds to support rural food security and Charity music programs

May 27, 2022, North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill BC

Tickets and info

www.portmcneill.net/tenorsmusic

St. George's United Church has partnered with Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island

We are hosting a fundraising Dessert Party/Silent Auction on **May 28 at 6:30pm** and are asking for donated items to include in our auction. If you have any item(s) you would like to donate to our auction, please email us at 1375thrive@gmail.com. We are looking for household items, artwork, toys, or other items in good condition. (Thanks but no clothing.) We are happy to arrange pick up of your items. Please let us know if you would like to attend our event. You would be most welcome!

Nancy Milliken, Fundraising Coordinator,
1375 Thrive
St. George's United Church Outreach
250 871-0506

MINISTRY Minute

Learning Racism at a Young Age



Credit: kali9/iStock

"The name calling started when she was about three years old. They were racial slurs, and names, and taunts. My child, my own flesh and blood, was being ostracized for having Black skin. The people slinging the insults? Other children on the playground....

"She may not have necessarily always understood the particular terms that they used, but she knew that it was related to her Blackness and her racial identity. And this deeply wounded her tender heart....

"Despite all of our intentional modelling, teaching, and proactive actions, our child is still already developing internalized racism and inferior notions of herself. The children who were taunting her were offering explicit and overt notions of racism, but they were children! They had not even started primary school! And yet, the children had already learned behaviour (at home, or elsewhere in society) that Whiteness is superior. And, they had the audacity to vocalize that to an innocent little child....

"This is in part why I am so deeply committed to dismantling racism in all its forms—racism is damaging and destructive for all people in society. It reinforces negative notions for people of colour. I live it in a particular way because of my own racial identity, as a Black person who has lived with racial injustice my entire life.

"The systemic nature of racism is something that cannot be ignored.... This effort to overcome racism is a continuous effort. And I am committed to this work for the long haul. I hope that you will be too."

An excerpt from a blog written by Adele Halliday, the Anti-Racism and Equity Lead staff for the United Church of Canada. You can read her full blog post here: <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/hard-lessons-racism-begin-young-age>

Our congregation gives a designated amount of our annual offerings to support the anti-racism programs and other initiatives of the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church.

It takes 21 days to create a habit, and we have a beautiful-habit-forming resource to share with you! It's free access to [The PrayerBench's Stroll for Your Soul](#). We're offering it as a gift to all Pacific Mountain Regional Council people



[Sign Up to get the Subscription Link Here!](#)

Stroll for Your Soul offers 21 days of accompaniment through a brief email sent from Janice and Caroline, delivered early each morning to your inbox. Each email will offer a practice, or a reflection, or a poem, or a photograph giving direction and encouragement for your time spent walking or jogging or biking or even skateboarding during that day.