



## Comox United Church

***Our Values: Spirituality, Openness, Care for the Common Good, Radical Love***

**Minister of Pastoral Care and Congregational Life:** Wayne Hughes

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Visit our website: it is updated weekly: [www.comoxunitedchurch.com](http://www.comoxunitedchurch.com)

**Please note: Newsletters are also posted on the Comox United website.**

Announcements should be sent to [admin@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:admin@comoxunitedchurch.com)

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

**If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please email [admin@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:admin@comoxunitedchurch.com).**

Friday, Sept. 23, 2022

### **Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022**

**Greeter:** Joan Gillies, Les Herauf

**Soup & Sandwich:** Super Singles

**Service Leader:** Wayne Hughes

**Sermon:** Walls That Divide

**Power Point:** Barb Page

**Scripture Reader:** Sara McDonald

**Scripture:** Luke 16:19-31

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

The office will be closed for Friday, Sept. 30 in honour of Truth and Reconciliation Day.

### **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/UCJlaxG\\_quMwagK5WeiQwXPA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJlaxG_quMwagK5WeiQwXPA)
- 3) Watch the service at another time from the "Virtual Services" page on our website:  
<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services>

## **NOTICE**

The congregational meeting scheduled to be held on Sunday, 25th September is postponed until a future date. Further details will be given during Sunday's worship service.



**Check out the CxU Blog**

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

### ***Prayers of the People***

The Worship Committee would like to reinstate the sheet for prayer requests for concerns and also welcomes requests for prayers of thanksgiving. A sheet will be on the table in the Narthex with a pen for you to write requests and the worship leader will pick it up on their way into the service.



### **Volunteer Opportunity:**

We are looking for more volunteers to run the PowerPoint on Sunday mornings. You would usually be scheduled for one Sunday a month.

Training will be provided. Please let the office know if this is something that calls to you.

**From the Treasurer**

Financial update as at  
September 8, 2022

Revenue \$210,978.87

Expenses \$225,083.76

***This week's Tip:***

Comox UC Website – How To . . .

This week's Tip: 1. To read the recently updated information about how to donate to the church, go to the church website by googling Comox United Church.

2. From the menu at the top of the page, click on Giving.

3. Read about the "best" and most effective ways to donate financially.

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](mailto:websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com) or phone 250-207-5650.

## Minute for Mission

### Women for Change



An educational slide prepared by Women for Change shows their community-based work to develop climate resiliency.

*Credit: Women for Change*

In areas where historically there has been little rain, now there are floods, and where there were floods, now there are droughts. That's how Shadrack Chembe, the Monitoring and Evaluation Manager at **Women for Change**—an organization in Zambia that strives to improve conditions in rural communities by empowering women and girls—describes the changing climate in Zambia. And women bear the brunt of the changing climate.

"In Zambia, women are still responsible for collecting firewood and charcoal and making food. Now, because of climate change, they have to walk a longer distance to gather firewood. Charcoal is harder to get. That means it's harder to make food. At the same time, women aren't involved in the decision-making processes that impact this work," explains Chembe.

**Women for Change** was established in 1992, and its long-standing partnership with the United Church stretches back to 1995. From the beginning, mobilizing communities to share ideas and best practices has been key to the work. Since its inception, 1,500 community groups have been established, with 25-40 people in each group. The groups discuss a variety of justice-related topics.

Building climate resiliency by preparing for, recovering from, and adapting to drastically changing weather patterns is a priority. Weather extremes due to climate change coupled with companies promoting seeds that only produce a single crop increasingly put people at risk.

"The majority of farmers are poor. They can't buy seeds, but companies have created seeds that force farmers to have to purchase them each year," says Chembe. "Groups discuss how they can save and share seeds, what they can plant with longer or shorter rains, and if there are traditional methods that can increase food production," he says, adding, "We are grateful for the United Church's support. The church has really been there for many years, helping us build awareness and resiliency. It's been a real partnership."

Our congregation gives a designated amount of our annual offerings to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church, which support projects such as Women for Change



Prayer requests can be sent to any member of the prayer group:

Elaine Burnell [ebbburnell@gmail.com](mailto:ebbburnell@gmail.com)

Noreen Robertson [noreen1944@gmail.com](mailto:noreen1944@gmail.com)

Joan Gillies [joanb1@shaw.ca](mailto:joanb1@shaw.ca)

Trevor Fox [trevor.fox@islandhealth.ca](mailto:trevor.fox@islandhealth.ca)



This Sunday **Soup & Sandwiches** will be sponsored by the Super Singles group. We hope all you folks who have been worshipping on line will join us this Sunday the hall after church. Its a wonderful time to relax, have lunch, and chat with friends.

**Super Singles** started a few years ago with the main purpose of sharing a meal with someone else rather than eating by ourselves. Over time we've celebrated birthdays, enjoyed outings, friendships and support. If you are single and would like to join us, we meet for dinner on the 2nd Friday of each month. For more information, contact Ruth Gibson [rmgibson@telusplanet.net](mailto:rmgibson@telusplanet.net) or Merrilee Cameron [tomyhome@shaw.ca](mailto:tomyhome@shaw.ca)



Truth and Reconciliation Learning Lab:  
Education

- Thursday, September 29, 2022
- 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Weird Church 2688 Penrith Avenue,  
Cumberland



On September 30, people all across Canada will wear orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential institutions.

This year, Indigenous communities across the country continue to share the truth they have always known: that many of the children who never returned home remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children.

On Orange Shirt Day we also observe the **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. For non-Indigenous Christians in particular, this is a time to reflect on their role in colonialism and the ongoing responsibility to make reparations. For more information visit: <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/honour-children-who-attended-residential-schools>

## CHECK IT OUT – *New in the Church Library*

Our church library has expanded its Social Issues collection to include books on environmental issues. One new addition is Ten Commandments for the Environment. Pope Benedict XVI has been called the green Pope. Drawing from a range of the Pope's homilies, speeches and other comments, Ten Commandments for the Environment compiles quotes of his message about human responsibility for protecting the environment. The quotes are a springboard for author Woodeene Koenig-Bricker to document specific examples of the Pope's greening actions and to provide thoughtful theological reflections. Of particular interest is the discussion of the fifth commandment in which the Gaia hypothesis is considered from the perspective of the church's



main teachings. In this chapter, you will be challenged to examine your own beliefs about the “how” and “why” of creation and your place in it. Koenig-Becker states that Pope Benedict is unique in “his understanding of the inseparable link between Creation, Redemption, and the environment.” A concerted reading of this book can help us to better articulate our understanding of this link. Note: The quotes are organized according to ten commandments for the environment composed by Bishop Giampaolo Crepaldi, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, as a condensation of the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church.



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**SPIRIT WALK – SEPTEMBER 30TH -**  
Two local Indigenous Organizations;  
**MIKI'SIW Métis Association and the**  
**Indigenous Women's Sharing Society** are  
working together to host the 2nd “Comox  
Valley Spirit Walk” in downtown Courtenay  
on September 30th as part of the National  
Day for Truth and Reconciliation 2022.  
They are encouraging people who want to  
participate to wear orange to remember  
Indigenous children and families affected by  
Indian Residential ‘schools’.  
**Opening Ceremonies 11am. Participants will**  
**register at Simms Millennium Park to receive**  
**a map of the predetermined walking route.**  
**Participants can drop in anytime between**  
**11am and 6pm to walk the route, reading a**  
**learning along the route. (Walk will take**  
**approximately 20 minutes)**  
**“In orange shirts and ribbon skirts,**  
**moccasins and a feather, we embrace the**  
**spirits of the ancestors, and we all walk**  
**together”**

**COMING in February, 2023!**  
Beach Street Players and Director,  
Gloria Herauf are thrilled to announce  
their upcoming Musical,  
**SOUNDTRACK OF OUR**  
**LIVES**

*Performance Dates are February 9, 10  
& 11 and February 17 & 18 at Comox  
United Church. Filled with fun,  
laughter, and great music, Beach  
Street Players will put a smile on  
your face and a song in your heart! Be  
sure to mark your calendars!*

**The Community Justice Centre** would like to  
extend our encouragement to attend *the*  
11<sup>th</sup> Annual Campagnolo Dinner and Lecture on  
Wednesday, October 12, 2022. The Dinner is in  
honour of this year's Lecturer and is in the  
Native Sons Hall from  
5 – 7 PM, the Lecture is in the Sid Williams  
Theatre from 7:30 – 9:00 PM.

This year's Lecturer is Dr. Cindy Blackstock of  
the First Nations Child & Family Caring  
Society. She is a change-maker, a disrupter,  
and a persistent and committed advocate for  
First Nations Children and Families in the  
struggle to ensure have equitable opportunities  
to grow up safely at home, be healthy, get a  
good education and be proud of who they  
are. Her Lecture will address questions of the  
place of Restorative Justice in First Nations  
family and children's support.

If you would like tickets to either or both of these  
events, they are available through the Sid  
Williams Box Office in person or online  
at <https://www.sidwilliamstheatre.com/events> .  
The Dinner ticket is \$45, the Lecture ticket is \$25  
or \$20 for students. If you purchase both  
together, there is a discount of \$10, for a total  
price of \$60 or \$55 for students.

***Supported by the CxU Social Justice  
Committee***