



Comox United Church

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

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

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

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

Announcements should be sent to 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.

Friday, Dec.23, 2022

Please note:

The church office will be closed TODAY due to snow.

The office will also be closed Tuesday, Dec. 27. 2022 and Tuesday Jan. 3, 2023.

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/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams>
- 3) Watch the service at another time from the "Virtual Services" page on our website:
<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services>

Life and Work of the Church

Mondays 1:30 Knitting Group (NOT mtg. Dec. 26 or Jan.2)
Tuesdays 10:00 Coffee and Conversation
Fridays 9:00 Men's Shed
Sat. Dec. 24 8:00 Candle Light Service
Sun. Dec. 25 no service at Comox United - shared service St. George's United Church 10:30 worship time
Sun. Jan. 1 no service at Comox United - shared service CV Presbyterian Church – 10:30 worship time



Jan Bentley passed peacefully on Dec. 20, surrounded by family and friends. Memorial service date to be announced.



One of Comox United's four major appeals is Our Place in Victoria.

<https://www.ourplacesociety.com/>

If you would like to donate, e-Transfer with a note stating Our Place to treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com



Please remember that one of Comox United Church's main charities is Healthy Babies and their families. Donations such as diapers, skin care, shampoo and feminine hygiene products and food are gratefully received.

Thanks to the thoughtful person who gave me a lovely little Christmas tree ornament. The sentiment in the card touched my heart. Merry Christmas to you! Joanne Wiens

We need a Treasurer!

Robin Giles is retiring after seven years of being the Treasurer and leading the Finance Committee at Comox United Church. Thank you, Robin, for your diligent work and dedication to the financial well-being of our faith community. We truly appreciate that you've kept our eyes wide open to our financial situation for these many years.

We need a Treasurer! Could this be you?

You pride yourself on attention to detail.

You enjoy working with numbers and arithmetic.

You are able to spend 2-3 hours a week reviewing and coding receivables and payables.

You have experience with spreadsheets.

You are able to attend and report to Council once a month (usually a 2-hour evening meeting).

You would work in conjunction with the bookkeeper, the envelope secretary and another signatory, and have the support of the Finance Team.

You are able to begin this interesting position in January 2023.

Experience with SAGE Accounting software is helpful but not required. Training will be provided.

For more information contact Joanne Wiens at CouncilChair@comoxunitedchurch.com or call 250-941-1598.

Thank you for the prayers, loving concern and meals after Alex's fall. Alex is healing well and back to a more normal life. I have been so touched by that great love passed on by my church family. We have been so blessed.

Noreen and Alex Robertson

*Farewell to Wayne Hughes,
Minister of Pastoral Care and
Congregational Life*

Sunday, December 18 was Wayne's last Sunday with us at Comox United. Wayne will continue to fulfill his role until the early part of January and then he will be taking some vacation and study leave. **We will have a formal good-bye for Wayne and Carol at the church on Sunday, February 12, 2023.**

If you would like to contribute towards a gift for Wayne please e-transfer to treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com or drop off your contribution at the church. Please indicate clearly that this is for a gift for Wayne Hughes.

Comox UC Website – How To Website

This week's Tip:



1. To read about our Christmas Services this year, go the church website by googling Comox United Church.
2. From the menu at the top of the page, click on News.
3. Scroll down to Christmas at Comox United Church.
4. Check out the Christmas Postcard to see what's happening.

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

Message from the Envelope Secretary

- Any gifts that you wish to have receipted in the 2022 calendar year must be received before December 29th (the date of the last 2022 deposit).
 - Please ensure that the church has your current mailing address for tax receipting purposes.
 - Please contact me if you would like church envelopes or wish to have monthly debits to your bank account through the United Church's Pre-Authorized Remittance Program.
- Thank you - Cheryl McMahon
envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com



Plants in the Narthex (entrance)
Free to a good home.

Dance Classes Returns

Chair Dance: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30 beginning Jan. 10

Dance Basics: Thursdays 9:30-10:30 beginning Jan. 12

Drop in fee: \$5.00 per class to be donated to Wachiay Friendship Centre.

FMI Wendy at trinitydance@shaw.ca

Free Books

*They are a number of books on a table in the hall.
Please help yourself.*

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! Tickets are \$25 and will be available at Blue Heron Books and Benjamin Moore House of Color beginning January 6th. Tickets will also be on sale in the hall after church beginning January 8th.

Learning towards Reconciliation

"Reconciliation" was one of the recurring themes during our recent Visioning Process. A starting point for reconciliation is to learn and understand as much as possible about Indigenous values and views. With that in mind, here is an opportunity for you to learn more.

Building Bridges Through Understanding the Village® is an experiential workshop where participants explore their own, personal role in supporting the revival of the values that worked so beautifully in Indigenous villages for thousands of years. This workshop will be held on **Thursday, March 9, 2023 from 8:30am - 4:30pm in the Bighouse on the traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation.**

Register here:

http://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/courtenayrecreation/Activity_Search/5607

Space is limited to 30 people.

Another workshop may be added in the spring if there is sufficient interest.

“INDIGENOUS CANADA” WORKSHOP

Beginning in the New Year a cooperative learning opportunity is being jointly offered by Comox United and Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship. Using the **free** online open access course from U of Alberta through Coursera, "Indigenous Canada" is presented in 12 modules. Participants will independently listen to two online modules of 45-70 minutes in length sometime over a 2 week period. Then participants will meet via Zoom for a facilitated discussion about the content of the two modules. The Zoom discussions will be 7 p.m. to approximately 8:30 p.m. every second and fourth Monday of the month **beginning January 23, 2023** and ending April 24, 2023. There will be no Zoom discussion April 10, 2023, Easter Monday.

"Indigenous Canada is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the Faculty of Native Studies, U of Alberta, that explores the different histories and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples living in Canada. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores complex experiences Indigenous peoples face today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. Topics for the 12 lessons include the fur trade and other exchange relationships, land claims and environmental impacts, legal systems and rights, political conflicts and alliances, Indigenous political activism, and contemporary Indigenous life, art and its expressions."
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/indigenous-canada>

Join us in exploring the history and background of Indigenous peoples in Canada. To sign up or ask questions about this joint program between CU and CVUF please contact Christy Faraher-Amidon at: christyfa@gmail.com

"Indigenous Canada" Working Group
Wayne Wilson Comox United
Wanda Harssema CVUF
Christy Faraher-Amidon CVUF
Barbara Huhn CVUF

*To all that is chaotic in you,
let there come silence.*

*Let there be a calming of the clamoring,
a stilling of the voices that have laid their
claim on you,
that have made their home in you,
that go with you even to the holy places
but will not let you rest,
will not let you hear your life with
wholeness or feel the grace that
fashioned you.*

*Let what distracts you cease.
Let what divides you cease.
Let there come an end to what
diminishes and demeans,
and let depart all that keeps you in its
cage.*

*Let there be an opening into the quiet
that lies beneath the chaos,
where you find the peace you did not
think possible
and see what shimmers within the storm.*

~ [Jan Richardson](#), from paintedprayerbook.com