



# Comox United Church

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

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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 Aug. 18, 2023

## Sunday, Aug. 20, 2023

**Greeters:** Bev Agur, Klaus Jennermann

**Coffee:** Debra Monk, Heather Flint

**Power Point:** Sue Newman

**Live Stream:** Joanne Wiens

**Reflection:** Radical Love Part 1

**Scripture Reader:** Elaine Burnell

**Scripture:** Mark 12:28-34


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

### 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 contact [bevagur@shaw.ca](mailto:bevagur@shaw.ca)  
 Tuesdays 10:00 Coffee and Conversation at the Comox Golf Club  
 Fridays 10:00 Men's Shed  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. TBD Social Singles  
 Contact Merrilee: [tomyhome@shaw.ca](mailto:tomyhome@shaw.ca)



Please remember that one of Comox United Church's main charities is Healthy Families and their families. Donations such as diapers, skin care, shampoo and feminine hygiene products and food are gratefully received. These can be brought to the church and placed in the basket in the foyer.



## Comox UC Website – How To .

This week's Tip:

1. To read the latest Mission and Service Story, go to the church website by googling Comox United Church.
2. At the top of the page, click on News.
3. Scroll down to Mission and Service Stories, August 20, 2023..

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



I am looking to rent or borrow a slide projector. I could also use any device that would turn slides into a format for the computer. Thank you  
 Heather Flint celtic-heron@telus.net



The Comox Valley Pride Celebration is August 26! Comox United will share tent space with St Georges and will march in the parade next to Weird Church. Please gather to walk the parade at 11:30 on Saturday near 5th and Fitzgerald. The parade begins at noon (sharp) and will proceed to Lewis Park. Rainbow attire is encouraged! If you would like to help host the tent at Simms Park, please let Karen know. [minister@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:minister@comoxunitedchurch.com)



[Collaboration for Sustainable Community](#) is an online gathering place for those interested in learning about different models of community hubs and sharing resources and stories.

Community hubs help connect people and forge alliances between organizations in the powerful ways required to plan and implement substantial, positive change. We're very excited to explore the potential of these hubs to create stronger, more connected communities!

The Collaboration for Sustainable Community's \$20 membership fee helps cover honorariums for the community leaders, but we'll be waiving it until December 2023. Join us this fall to develop a network of people interested in learning about community hubs and to access our fall webinar series! Register for the [Collaboration for Sustainable Community on CHURCHx](#).



In 2004, Steve Thiessen assisted in setting up Florence Centre, a Family Service agency in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, patterned after the work of Communities Supportive Care Services, the organization of which he was the director in Abbotsford until his retirement in 2013. In September, 2019, he and Vange were invited to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Florence Centre. While in Zaporizhzhia, the Thiessen's visited the famous 700 year old Zaporizhzhia Oak tree. Encouraged by their Ukrainian host, Steve took some of the trees' fallen acorns back to Canada and successfully grew one into a little oak tree. Sharing the story with the Comox Men's Shed, the men collectively decided to donate it to the Town of Comox with the request that it be dedicated as a "Welcome Tree" to recent Ukrainian immigrants, especially those dislocated by the Russian-Ukrainian war. The tree is now planted by the Town of Comox in **McKenzie Park, aka Quarry Park**, in north-east Comox.

**On August 24th, at 3 pm** the Ukrainian National Day, there will be a dedication ceremony at the park. We have been in touch with the local Ukrainian Cultural Society throughout the development of the plan and they will be represented. The town will also be represented, and this is **an invitation to members of Comox United to participate**. We will also invite the local press.

A plaque will be added to the tree or its space and, with an accessible QR code, there will be a small explanation of the story of the Zaporizhzhia Oak tree, its offspring, and the reasons of our donation and dedication.

We will update you as we get closer to the date of the dedication.

Mike Stewart



Image credit: Cana/Valeria Kemytska

Be a superhero! Join the Moderator and her guests in a thoughtful discussion about hearty topics, through a lens of flourishing. **Starting Sept. 21, 2023 and ending in June 2025**, these (mostly) monthly book club sessions will feature fiction, non-fiction and poetry written by (mostly) Canadian authors, which you can find at your local library or purchase at the United Church Bookstore.

[Shop the Mod's Book Squad Collection](#)

Get 15% off your purchase of two or more books featured in [The Mod's Book Squad Collection](#) at the United Church Bookstore with the discount code **MODSQUAD** (applied at checkout). This offer is also compatible with the promotional code: **FREESHIPPING** to access free shipping on orders of \$100 or more!