Jan's Journal

Happy New Year!

On this first Sunday of 2024, we celebrate Epiphany Sunday. Come to worship and receive your "Star Word" for 2024. Come and learn what a "Star Word" is and how you will use yours.

As we begin a New Year, let's look ahead.

After a brief hiatus over Christmas and New Year, the business of the church resumes this week! The Coffee and Conversation Group will resume their regular meetings on Tuesday, January 9th at 10 a.m. New participants are always welcome! We meet in the Campbell Room. Please bring your own choice of beverage---coffee or tea or juice. We will complete the final two sessions of a series titled "Musicians of Holy Mystery" on January 9th and 16th, then we will learn about *Praying In Colour* from a book by Sybil MacBeth. We will begin a Lenten series on February 13th.

The Lunch and Lectionary Group will resume meetings on Thursday January 11th. We meet on Zoom each Thursday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. The Group began reading and discussing a book titled *We Make the Road By Walking: A Year-long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation, and Activation* by Brian McLaren, last September. It will be easy for new participants to join the discussion. Please let me know that you are interested so that I can send you the Zoom link.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Out4Lunch Program which will resume at St. Matthew's Anglican Church on Monday, February 5, 2024. There will be a meeting for all volunteers at St. Matthew's on Monday, January 15th at 10 a.m. Please speak to me if you would like to add your name to the list of volunteers representing East Plains.

The various Ministry Teams will resume regular meetings in the coming weeks, and the Official Board will meet on January 30th.

Watch for information about a special event being presentd by the Christian Education Committee and the Childrens International Learning Centre. This event will take place on Saturday, January 20th between 1 and 4 p.m. in Peart Hall and the Campbell Room.

There will also be an information event concerning Remit One on a date to be determined in January. This Remit concerns the independence of the Indigenous United Church. The members of the Official Board will vote on this Remit before March 1, 2024. Although we don't all vote, it is important that all members of East Plains community understand the reasons for this proposed change. The members of the Official Board represent all members of the

congregation. I hope that you will speak to Morgan Perigo, myself, or another member of the Official Board to let us know your thoughts about this Remit. The members of the Official Board represent you and should not only vote on the basis of their own opinion, but need to reflect the response of the entire congregation on this question.

You can reach me at: revjanmcc@gmail.com or on my cell phone: 905-630-8202.

Blessings,

Pastor Jan