



# Comox United Church

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

**JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> TO FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2024**



## **Sunday Service, January 28, 2024**

**Leaders:** Rev. Karen Hollis

**Scripture:** Barb Page

**Prayers of the People:** Rev. Hollis

**Coffee:** Ray and Margaret Morin

**Greeters:** Joan Gillies, Joanne Wiens

**Livestream:** Ken Newman

**Sound:** Dale Erhart

**Power Point:** Sue Newman

## **Worship services are available in three ways:**

1. Attend in-person at the church on Sundays @10:00am

2. Watch live on-line by going to our YouTube channel. Click on this link at 10:00 am on Sunday morning:

<https://www.youtube.com/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams>

3. Watch another time from the "Virtual Services" page on our website:

<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services>

## Contact Information

Minister@comoxunitedchurch.com

Treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com

EnvelopeSecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com

Admin@comoxunitedchurch.com

## OUR COMMUNITY LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

### WEEKLY

Mondays	1:30	Knitting Group
Tuesdays	10:00	Coffee and Conversation at the Comox Golf Club
Wednesdays	10:00	Queer Bible Study (starts Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> )
Thursday	6:30	Choir Practice
Fridays	10:00	Men's Shed

### MONTHLY

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	10:00	Communion
1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	1:30	Glacier View Worship & Music *Feb 11 <sup>th</sup> not the 4 <sup>th</sup> .
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon.	1:15	United Church Women
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri	12:00	Social Singles Contact: Merrilee: <a href="mailto:tomyhome@shaw.ca">tomyhome@shaw.ca</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	9:00	Men's Breakfast

## COMOX UNITED TAX RECEIPTS

For those who have not picked up their tax receipts, they will be available, in the foyer, after today's Service.

They will also be in the Church office until **Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**. After this date, they will be mailed. Office hours are: Tue-Friday, 9-12 pm. **"PLEASE CALL FIRST** to ensure that someone is in the office".

Cheryl McMahon  
Givings' Administrator



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Lobby Spruce Up

#### You could win a gift certificate to a great, Comox coffee wagon!

How would you describe **Radical** Love through a photo?

I, Karasima, had to look up Radical Love: "This type of love is unmotivated by the possibility of reciprocation or reward. Its ultimate purpose is selflessness, compassion, understanding, and gratitude" ([www.betterhelp.com](http://www.betterhelp.com)).

This definition made me think of all of you – how you give, volunteer, listen, support, care for and about others, the world, nature, and each other. Images popped into my head as I read this definition and look at the Church's calendar of events.

**If you have a photo of what you 'see' as Radical Love** send it to Howard at [hojo29@shaw.ca](mailto:hojo29@shaw.ca). If your photo is chosen, you will win a gift certificate to his (and mine) favourite coffee wagon!

Perhaps you think of Radical Love in words, music, smells (yummy goodness simmering on the Church's kitchen stove), send me your thoughts so I can learn from you about Radical Love.



### STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC! TICKETS ARE SELLING QUICKLY!!

Join Gloria Herauf and the cast of the Beach Street Players for another rousing musical adventure entitled "*Stop the World, Start the Music*". View Calendar of Events (listed below) for performance dates.

Tickets are available at Blue Heron Books and Benjamin Moore House of Color and will **also be on sale in the Hall each Sunday after Church.**

All tickets are \$25 and the proceeds will be split evenly between Comox United Church and the Strathcona Sunrise Rotary Club.

**In past years shows have sold out so get your tickets early for a fun-filled afternoon or evening of music while supporting our Church.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

### Welcome to the Comox Valley Community Services Directory

Have you ever been approached by someone needing help with food, money, or shelter? Do you know where to find help? Go to <https://directory.ceas.ca>. with over 300 local service organizations.

You will see a Quick Reference guide, *copies are in the foyer*, to services in the Comox Valley, organized by category (emergency, financial assistance, food, housing, etc.). . For information about the Warming Centers, please visit <https://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/services/emergency-management/emergency-preparedness/comox-valley-warming-centres>



### COMOX UNITED CHURCH WEBSITE

1. To read about the climate action workshop starting in the church this weekend, go to the website by googling Comox United Church.
2. From the menu at the top of the page, click on News.
3. Scroll to Finding Climate Action – from SAGE.
4. Consider attending this worthwhile event!

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

NB: This is **YOUR** website, please email Joyce Wagland at [websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com) phone 250-207-5650.

## RECIPES, BOOKS, AND OTHER THINGS

### Energy Balls

200 grams of pitted, **soft** dates  
1/2 cup raw cashews  
1/2 cup unsweetened shredded coconut  
3/4-1 tsp cardamom  
pinch of salt  
1/2 - 1 tsp of grated orange peel

Place ingredients in a food processor and pulse until all the ingredients are finely chopped, roll into balls. Makes 15 medium sized balls. Store in air tight container. Fiona Curry

### Family Literacy Week: January 21-28<sup>th</sup>

I remember when I first learned to read with my lips closed. The idea that one could read AND be silent was astounding to my little self. I often escaped into the tales of Wynken, Blynken and Nod, The Witch and the Wardrobe, and other iconic writings. I wanted to be a Lion Tamer when I grew up. Growing up with a librarian, made books free and accessible. Every week, bags of books would arrive and I sometimes helped 'organize' them, which also gave me a fondness for the Dewey decimal system.

This week (and any other time) consider reading out loud to a friend, a pet, the ocean, or to yourself (with your lips closed or open). Karasima



## OUR GROUPS

### QUEER BIBLE STUDY

resumes on Wed, Jan 31 at 10 am

We are going to study the Acts of Paul and Thecla. This is a story that wasn't included in the Bible (we're doing some real queering of Bible study here, with a text that isn't even in the Bible!), but was written in the first or second century and relates to some of the Biblical texts we know.

Thecla is known among many as "the girl who baptized herself" and has a fascinating and powerful story. You can pick up a copy of her story in the church office and read it for yourself.

And remember, you don't have to be queer to attend Queer Bible study - it's for everyone.

### "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL"

- interested ladies in the congregation are invited to join UCW members in the church hall on Monday February 12th at 1.15 pm. We will be hearing Caroline Hoon's account of her travels (with photos) "In the Footsteps of Paul" in Turkey and Greece last year. After this we will have refreshments in the lounge and have our monthly business meeting.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Visitors will be welcome to stay for the meeting if they wish.

Any questions? Call Brenda Cairncross (250) 339-0739 or Ruth Giles (250) 339-5609

### COMOX UNITED CHURCH MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Saturday morning men's breakfast has been an important part of the life of Comox United Church for **decades**. In recent times, been a meal created by Chef James Derry.

The breakfast is offered on the **third** Saturday of each month (with the exception of July and August). Breakfast time is at 9 am in the Church Hall and preregistration is required.

We look forward to seeing you!



## MATTHEW MYSTERY PROJECT

### Are You the Mystery Donor?

On Sunday January 7th, an envelope containing \$70 for the Matthew Mystery Project was handed in to one of our ushers.

If you are the donor, would you please contact Elaine Brown at [broelaine@gmail.com](mailto:broelaine@gmail.com) or 250-650-9925. Thank you for your

### Marketplace

Last November Comox United held a very successful vendor's marketplace after our worship service which raised over \$2000 for the Matthew Mystery Project.

On **March 17<sup>th</sup>**, we hope to again raise money through another fun marketplace where congregation members can sell their creations to benefit the MMP and our Church.

If you would like to book a table for the March 17<sup>th</sup> marketplace, or want to know more about the Matthew Mystery Project, contact: Elaine Brown at [broelaine@gmail.com](mailto:broelaine@gmail.com)

### Marmalade lovers

Seville marmalade oranges will soon be in the shops. If you have spare canning jars (250 ml and 125 ml sizes),

the marmalade makers at Church would welcome them

Please leave in the narthex near the office.

Thank you - look for marmalade at the Matthew Mystery sale and at the UCW spring sale.



## SUSTAINABILITY ACTION GROUP FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (SAGE)

SAGE RECOMMENDS SIGNING:

PETITION FOR TRANSPARENT HEAT PUMP PRICING

*From Nanaimo Climate Action Hub:* Heat pumps are a key tool in the fight against climate change, but even with the rebates, many British Columbians can't afford one. Transparent estimates that show the price of a heat pump separate from the cost of labour have, in our experience, reduced a consumer's cost by as much as \$20,000. But most companies refuse to provide such an estimate. Please help bring down the cost of heat pump installation by [adding your name](#) to our Heat Pump Affordability Petition to Josie Osborne, Minister of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation. <https://www.nanaimoclimateaction.org/affordable-heat-pumps-petition.html>



Sandy Millar - unsplash



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY 2024

**27<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 10-11:30, SAGE, Comox Church, 1<sup>st</sup> of a 5-part Climate Change series starts

**27<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights, in the Hall and Sanctuary

**28<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday, Fourth After Epiphany

**31<sup>st</sup>**, Wednesday, 10-11 am Queer Bible Study resumes in the Church, room M7

**31<sup>st</sup>**, Wednesday, Strategic Planning, 12-2:30, Church Hall



In collaboration with Getty Images-unsplash

## FEBRUARY 2024

**3<sup>rd</sup>**, Saturday, 10-11:30 am part 2 of 5 Climate Change workshops, Church

**3<sup>rd</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary  
Have questions? Email [olynyk.greg@gmail.com](mailto:olynyk.greg@gmail.com) or text/call Greg 250-218-4639

**7<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 10-11 am Queer Bible Study, in the Church, room M7

**9<sup>th</sup>**, Friday, 7 pm, STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC! Church

**10<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday 10-11:30, part 3 of 5 Climate Change workshops, Church

**10<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 2 pm, STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC! Church

**11<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday 2 pm, STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC, Church

**12<sup>th</sup>**, Monday, United Church Women (UCW), 1:15 pm, Hall  
“In the Footsteps of Paul”

**13<sup>th</sup>**, Shrove Tuesday

**14<sup>th</sup>**, Ash Wednesday

**14<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 10-11 am  
Queer Bible Study, in the Church, room M7

**14<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 12:30-2:30, Strategic Planning, Hall

**16<sup>th</sup>**, Friday 7 pm, , Church

**17<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 10-11:30, SAGE, Comox Church,  
4 of 5-part Climate Change series

**17<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday, 2 pm, STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC, Church

## FEBRUARY cont

**18<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday, 11 am, Comox United Church and Comox Valley Unitarian Church (CVUF) are having a celebratory service in the sanctuary, with a potluck to follow in the Hall at noon.

**21<sup>st</sup>**, Wednesday, 10-11 am Queer Bible Study, in the Church, room M7

**23<sup>rd</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary

**24<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 10-11:30, SAGE, Comox Church, 5 of 5-part Climate Change series

**25<sup>th</sup>**, **Comox United Church's AGM**, 11 am, Church Sanctuary

**28<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 10-11 am Queer Bible Study, in the Church, room M7



Wolfgang Hasselmann - unsplash

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH 2024

**2<sup>nd</sup>**, Saturday, 9-3:30, Strategic Planning, Hall

**2<sup>nd</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary

**9<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary

**17<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday, 11am, Matthew Mystery Project Marketplace, Hall

**23<sup>rd</sup>**, Saturday, 1-5 pm, Caregiver Art, L1

**23<sup>rd</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary

**24<sup>th</sup>**, Palm Sunday

**29<sup>th</sup>**, Good Friday (Office is closed)

**30<sup>th</sup>**, Holy Saturday

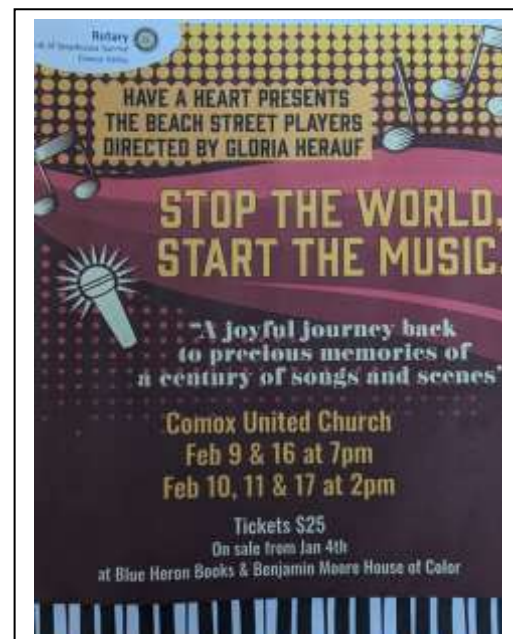
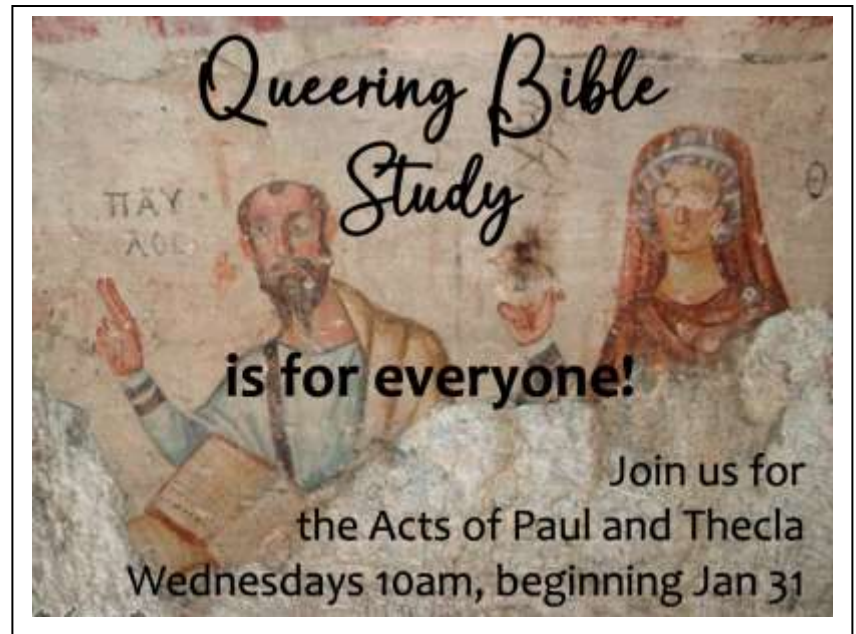
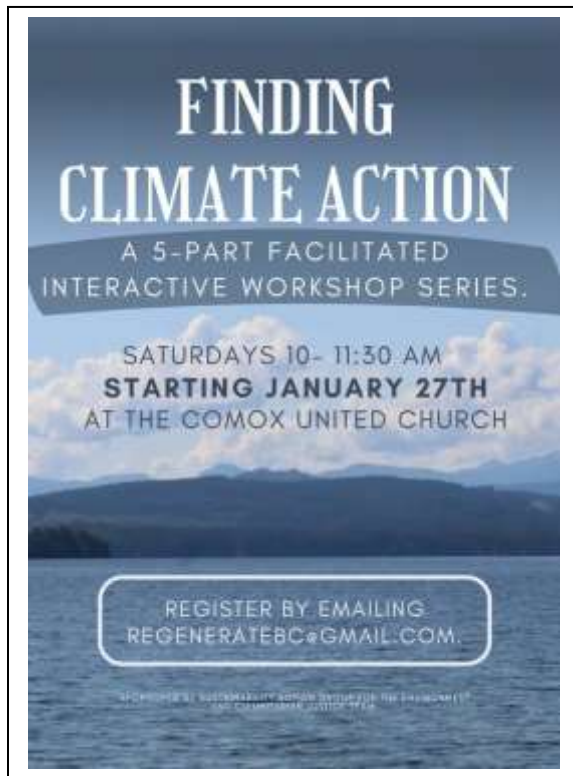
**30<sup>th</sup>**, Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm Participatory Music Nights in the Hall and Sanctuary

**31<sup>st</sup>**, Sunday, Easter



Pascal Debrunner- unsplash

## POSTERS OF EVENTS



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)