



# Comox United Church

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

**FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> - 8th, 2024**



Vlad D-unsplash

## **Sunday Service, February 4, 2024**

**Leaders:** Rev. Karen Hollis

**Scripture:** Julie Whitman

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

**Coffee:** Debra Monk, Marilyn Bourne

**Greeters:** Evy Gillespie, Merrilee Cameron

**Livestream:** Joanne Wiens

**Sound:** Dale Erhart

**Power Point:** Barb Page

## **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

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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
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 (resumes in March)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	9:00	Men's Breakfast (Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> NOT the 17 <sup>th</sup> )

### LORNA IS RETURNING!!

Tuesday, Feb 6, 9 am, Church Office. 🤗

We are happy to announce that Lorna will be returning to work on Feb 6, 2024.

Members may wish to drop by the office and say welcome back to Lorna and good bye to Karasima, please permit them a few days to settle in and update each other.



Karasima, thank you for filling in for Lorna during her absence. You handled the duties and responsibilities extremely well. We sincerely appreciate the determination and efforts you have put in to ensure that in the church office ran smoothly. Best wishes on your future endeavours.

M&P Committee

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### 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

### SCAM EMAILS

This week there have been scam emails circulating saying they are from Rev. Karen Hollis. If you receive a message asking to purchase gift cards or helping in an emergency because Karen is in a meeting, do not reply.

Karen's email addresses are:

[minister@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:minister@comoxunitedchurch.com) or  
[revkarenhollis@gmail.com](mailto:revkarenhollis@gmail.com)

Otherwise, it's a scam and should be deleted.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS cont...

### **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.**



### **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK!**

Join United Church Canada as they celebrate from February 4 to 10, they will share stories about how the United Church and Mission and Service global partners work to address inequality, hunger, climate change, and poverty, and increase well-being on a global and local scale.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS cont...

### MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

I'm organizing the pancake supper scheduled for Feb. 14th before the Ash Wednesday service.

I'm having an organizational meeting for anyone interested in helping out after the service Sunday.

Barrie Turnham

### World Day of Prayer 2024

*"I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"*

*Ephesians 4:1-3*



**March 1, 2024 at 2pm**

Reception to follow

**Hosted by**

Comox United Church

*This year's service was written by Christian women from Palestine. Please join us for a service of prayer for Palestine and all who are suffering in the region.*



Thank you all for your kindness, patience, and laughter as I learned parts of Lorna's vast and varied tasks. I had a wonderful time being creative, eating good, dark chocolate, collaborating and growing.

You are a special community - walking the talk of inclusiveness, accessibility, flexibility, and allowing others to be individuals within a committed community of faith and spiritualism.

You made a difference in my life and I will think of you often.

Perhaps I'll see you at the Church. So many wonderful events happen here and I don't want to miss out.

May you be happy  
May you be at peace  
May you be healthy  
May you live in abundance

Namaste,

Karasima



## COMOX UNITED CHURCH WEBSITE

1. To read about the Have a Heart show beginning next Friday, go to the website by googling Comox United Church.
2. From the menu at the top of the page, click on Events.
3. Scroll to Stop the World, Start the Music and click on it.
4. Enjoy!

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

### FREE INCOME TAX CLINIC DROP OFF

**Where:** Wachiay Friendship Centre  
1625 McPhee Ave., Courtenay, BC

**Starting Feb. 20, 2024**

Mon. – Thur.: 9am- 4pm  
Fri.: 9am- 3:30pm

**Drop off only**

**Questions : Roger: 778-225-0308 or [roger@wachiay.com](mailto:roger@wachiay.com)**

### THE COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday,

Comox United Walkers will be walking to support - Dawn to Dawn & the Comox Transition Society. Please join Marj. Adams -our team- the Comox United Walkers, donate on line or a \$20.00 donation & above will receive a tax receipt. Please join us!!

Visit <https://cnoy.org/location/comoxvalley>. here you find out how much money each walking group has raised so far...as of Feb 1st, they have raised \$1405....wow! for more information contact marj at [marjnew@icloud.com](mailto:marjnew@icloud.com)



## OUR GROUPS

### **“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 SHED**

Hi: On behalf of the Men's Breakfast group I'm organizing the pancake supper scheduled for Feb. 14. before the Ash Wednesday service. Barry T

### **UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

February is Black History (or African Heritage) Month. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of people of African descent.

This week they are starting things off with the latest [Black History Month blog](#) from the Rev. Franklyn James. Stay tuned for more Black History Month blogs dropping each week in February!

And—in case you missed it—the [2024 Black History Month: Jesus in the Village](#) worship service and [video](#) are now available! Find this worship and more under [Black History Month Worship Resources](#).



## MATTHEW MYSTERY PROJECT (MMP)

### MATTHEW MYSTERY PROJECT MARKETPLACE (MMPM)

Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, after the Service, Church Hall

Last November Comox United held a very successful vendor's marketplace, 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.

**What is the Matthew Mystery Project?** It is inspired by the Gospel of Matthew 25: 14-30. On October 1<sup>st</sup> last year, members of the congregation were unexpectedly handed an envelope containing \$20 and asked to use their talents to multiply the \$20 over the months leading up to April 30<sup>th</sup>, when all raised profits will be donated to the Church.

Since that time over \$5000 has been raised and the project still has three months to go! If you have recently started attending Comox United and would like to participate in the Matthew Mystery Project, please contact Elaine Brown at [broelaine@gmail.com](mailto:broelaine@gmail.com) for your own envelope and \$20 'seed money'.

March 17<sup>th</sup> MMP Marketplace falls at the beginning of March Break, two days before the Spring Vernal Equinox and two weeks before Easter. Think of the possibilities a new season offers for items you could

- make and sell, or else purchase to support the vendors:
- Easter treats (cookies, cupcakes, hot cross buns, etc.)
- Spring decorations (wreaths, table runners, plant pots, etc.)
- Gifts for gardeners, golfers, hikers and cyclists
- Picnic baskets of goodies, and homemade barbecue seasonings

If you would like table space as vendor at our March 17<sup>th</sup> marketplace, please contact Elaine Brown.

If you don't feel you can participate in the MMP Marketplace, you can still multiply your \$20 seed money by:

- Hosting a garden or indoor tea party, a movie or games night
- Leading a special walk with a packed treat for the walkers
- Selling your services to help others with spring cleaning of windows, closets, or garages.
- Dog sitting or walking.
- Assisting with gardening (planting, or grounds cleanup).

Monies earned for the MMP should be placed in an envelope with the following clearly printed on the outside:

- Your name, address, givings' envelope if you have one, and the donation amount

Please give your envelope to Elaine Brown after worship.

## **Shared Holy Week Services 2024**

**Ash Wednesday: Comox United, Feb 14, 7pm**  
**“Shrove Pancake” Dinner at 5:30, RSVP**

**Maundy Thursday: CV Presbyterian, March 28**  
**Soup supper at 6:30pm with service to follow**

**Good Friday: St. George’s United, March 29**  
**Service at 10:30am**

**Easter Vigil: St. George’s, March 30**  
**Service at 6:30pm**



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### **CVUF AND CXU WILL SHARE A JOINT SERVICE**

Sunday, Feb 18 at 11am in the Sanctuary

...to celebrate the renewal of our covenant.

The ecumenical service will braid together United Church and Unitarian Universalist worship elements and provide a space for engaging and exploring our partnership and the ministry we share. After worship we will gather for a potluck lunch in the hall.

## SUSTAINABILITY ACTION GROUP FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (SAGE)

### SAGE RECOMMENDS SIGNING:

The petition below is from **Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)**. The deadline is Feb 5 for input to the Canadian Government:

At COP28, the federal government released a framework for the **Emissions Cap** - its long-awaited plan to cut greenhouse gas pollution from the oil and gas sector. A **strong and fair Emissions Cap** would fight climate change while protecting the health of people across Canada from pollutants associated with oil and gas production.

**Your voice is urgently needed. Take two minutes to raise your voice for a strong and fair Emissions Cap.**

The government is receiving public input into the framework, and the deadline for feedback is **February 5th at midnight**. We're hearing that **oil and gas-affiliated groups are organizing submissions of their own, arguing for a toothless cap.**

**This is a major opportunity to safeguard health and tackle climate pollution.**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 2024**

### **Black History Month**

**2<sup>nd</sup>**, Ground Hog Day.

**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>**, Wednesday Comox United is hosting Ash Wednesday for the Valley. The evening will begin with a "Shrove Pancake" dinner at 5:30pm (yes, on WEDNESDAY), followed by a 7pm service.

**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>**, Saturday, 2 pm, STOP THE WORLD, START THE MUSIC, Church



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## 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>**, Sunday, **Comox United Church's AGM**, 11 am, Church Sanctuary

**25<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday, The Coldest Night of the Year

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

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



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH 2024

1<sup>st</sup>, Friday, 2 pm, National World Day of Prayer, Church Hall

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



Anita Austvika- unsplash

**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)**