Jan's Journal

Welcome to the fourth Sunday of the Season of Easter as we continue to explore the meaning of the resurrection of Christ in our faith and in our lives.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Congregational Meeting last Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to accept a role on the new Official Board for 2024. We are still in need of two members. I hope that you will prayerfully consider whether you might be being called to fill one of those positions for the next two years.

It is vital that all positions on the Official Board of East Plains United Church are filled as soon as possible. Within the United Church of Canada, every community of faith must have a fully functioning governing body.

Earth Week 2024 begins this Sunday.(April 21-28, 2024). Monday, April 22nd is Earth Day. The theme for 2024 is "*Planet vs. Plastics*." The focus is to increase awareness of the harm of plastic pollution for humans, and indeed for all living creatures. The goal is a 60% reduction in plastic production by 2040. Have you thought about phasing out single-use plastics ? (drinking straws, plastic cups, plastic bags, plastic packaging of fruits and vegetables, etc.) On the Earth Day website, there is a lot of information about the urgent advocacy for a UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, investment in innovative technologies and materials to move toward a plastics -free world, and much more. Perhaps you would like to read more at https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2024/

The first Fresh Start Program session of 2024 will take place on Tuesday evening, April 23rd, in the Campbell Room at 7 p.m. The topic is "Planning for Effective Ministry: The Discern/Plan/Do/Reflect Cycle." It sounds very timely—as we move to discern the future direction for this faith community. I hope to see you there!

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

Blessings,

Pastor Jan