

## Jan's Journal



Welcome to the seventh Sunday after Pentecost. Welcome to the month of July! June seems to have been busy with many special services. This week we have an “ordinary” service in Ordinary time!

On July 21<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate “Christmas in July” in worship. This will be a less formal service during which you will have an opportunity to share your experience of your Epiphany Star word (or words). How has your word (or words) impacted your life since you chose them in January?

Have you forgotten your Star Word? Lost it? I will have the basket of words with me on Sunday, if you need to choose a new one!

Following worship on July 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be an indoor “picnic” with summer treats, so please be sure to come if you can!

The Native Plant Perennial Garden has been completed this week with the addition of a bench. I invite you to walk down the east side of the church property to the Indigenous memorial. There you will find the garden. Relax on the bench and enjoy the solitude. We are grateful to Sami McKay and volunteers from *Youth Nature Keepers* and *Canadian Council on Invasive Species* for their part in creating this garden.

As the busy-ness of the church winds down for the summer, we all have time to take a breath or two and to “stop and smell the roses,” both literally and figuratively. That said, people are still busy with a number of projects and activities:

- The first meeting of the new Official Board, functioning under the new Governance structure will take place this month.
- The Official Board will disband the previous Affirm Team and then establish the new Affirm Team. This new team will plan the Affirm Celebration in September and will also plan how the congregation of East Plains United Church will live out our new Affirm ministry in the Aldershot community. If you have suggestions about how you would see this happening, please consider volunteering to participate as a member of the new Affirm Team. This new Affirm Team must include new people with new ideas!
- The gardens around the church are looking lovely! All the recent rain has stimulated lots of growth! If you have some extra time over the summer, please consider helping out with weeding and dead-heading. Many hands make light work, or so the saying goes!

As summer begins and we go away to cottages, or on a vacation journey, attendance at worship wanes. But the cost of maintaining the church building, staff, and projects continues. Please consider making your contribution through PAR or e-transfer so that your contributions continue through July and August.

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

Blessings,

Pastor Jan