



250 Beach Dr, Comox BC V9M 1P9

250-339-3966

[www.comoxunitedchurch.com](http://www.comoxunitedchurch.com)

# Grapevine



**Friday, Aug 29, 2025**

**This Sunday: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



**The church office will be closed this Tuesday.**

## **Final pre-worship hymn sing this Sunday**

This Sunday, Paul Colthorpe and members of the choir will lead a mini-hymn sing before the service starts so arrive a bit early and fill your heart with song!

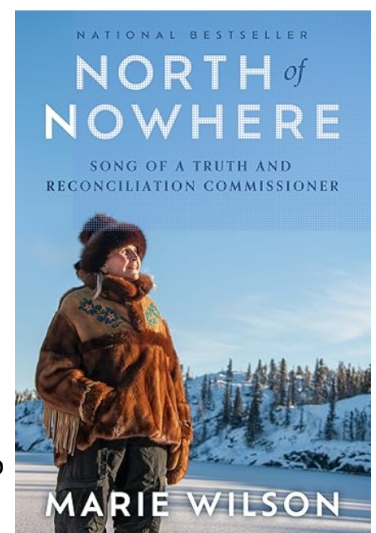
## **Marie Wilson to speak after worship on Sun Sep 21**

### **Contact church office for free ticket**

As one of three commissioners of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Marie Wilson criss-crossed Canada for six years, documenting the history and lasting impacts of the Canadian Indian residential school system. She has recently written a book, *North of Nowhere*, and will be speaking at Comox United following worship on Sunday, September 21, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. There will also be time afterward for conversation around the book sales table.

To tide us over, a bit of extra nourishment — buns, cheese and veggie trays — will be available during our regular coffee time.

The public will also be invited to this event, so we would ask you to reserve a free ticket either by calling or emailing Lorna at the church office, or you can go to [the EventBrite page for this event](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/learning-and-sharing-with-truth-reconciliation-commissioner-marie-wilson-tickets-1637168648499). (www.eventbrite.ca/e/learning-and-sharing-with-truth-reconciliation-commissioner-marie-wilson-tickets-1637168648499)



**Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love**

## Sunday Worship

Worship leader: **Rev. Karen Hollis**

Director of Music: **Paul Colthorpe**

Pianist: **Marni Fisher**

PowerPoint: **Barb Page**

Greeters: **Bev Agur**

**Sue Fabrizio**

Coffee & tea: **Heather Flint**

**Leone King**

Audio/Livestream: **Ken Vaux**

## How to worship with us

### In Person

Sunday worship services are at 10 am.

### Livestream

Our livestream will be on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams) at 10 am (youtube.com/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams)

### Recorded services

Recordings of all our livestream services can be found at  
[comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services](https://comoxunitedchurch.com/pages/online-sunday-services)

## Welcome, Newcomer!

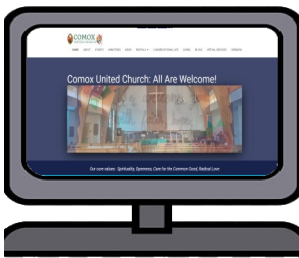
If you are new to Comox United Church, we welcome you as God welcomes us all.

Comox United Church is a faith community within the United Church of Canada. Our central values appear at the bottom of this page. We are one of over 300 Affirming United Church Ministries across Canada, which means we affirm, include, and celebrate people of every age, race, belief, culture, ability, income level, family configuration, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation in the life and ministry of our church, and proudly display the crest of the association of affirming churches known as Affirm United.



*Crest of  
Affirm United*

For more information about our faith community, see [comoxunitedchurch.com](https://comoxunitedchurch.com)



## A new Website Tip every week!

To check out some photos from the Tuesday morning coffee group, go to the church website, click on **Congregational Life**, then scroll to **Coffee and Conversation**. Enjoy!

To contribute photos of church activities, contact **Joyce Wagland**.

([websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com) or 250-207-5650)

**Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love**

## Small Group Profile: United Church Women (UCW)

The latest in a series of profiles of small groups at Comox United. This week, it's the United Church Women (UCW).

The UCW was created in 1963 as a unique national organization with a mission to love God; foster Christian commitment, faithfulness, and spirituality; and promote respect and love for all God's creation. Today there are UCW units in almost every United Church across Canada.

Here at Comox United, the Lousia Catchpole Unit meets eight times during the year (September to November, and January to May.) There are no meetings in July or August, and in June and December we have luncheons to which ladies of the congregation are invited. These are always happy occasions at which we collect donations of toiletries to be given to women in Transition House and Stepping Stones.

We raise funds by serving teas after funeral and memorial services, and by organizing bake sales/bazaars in May and November. Thanks go to the congregation for their support of those events. The money we raise is disbursed in November after discussion at the monthly meeting. We donate to charities and organizations locally, nationally and internationally. Occasionally, in the event of a national catastrophe, fire or flood for example, a donation will be sent at other times of the year to the Red Cross to help with recovery efforts. A list of the organizations we support can be seen on the UCW notice board in the church hall.

We are always happy to welcome new members. Meetings are a mix of business and social gathering over tea and goodies, and are not an ordeal. Why not join us?



## Knitting Group returns to church this Monday

The Knitting Group has been meeting outdoors during the summer. This Monday (Sept. 1), the knitters move back indoors, meeting in Room 101 (in the lower level of the church) on Mondays at 1:30 pm.

## Searching for new PowerPoint operators

If you've always wanted to change the PowerPoint slides during worship services, now's your chance! We are looking for a couple of PowerPoint operators. Training will be provided. Please contact Lorna in the church office.

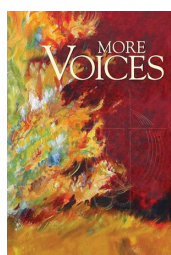
**Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love**

## “Queerly Beloved” starts at Weird Church on Mon Sept 8

### For those who identify as queer

Starting Monday September 8th at 7 pm, Weird Church in Cumberland is offering “Queerly Beloved”, a weekly confidential and safe space to explore the intersection of queerness and Christianity with loads of room for unpacking, questions, sharing and healing.

These meetings are only for those who identify as queer (or questioning), but due to the vulnerable nature of this exploration, we ask that allies not attend this specific space — there will be room for you in other events in the future.



## Looking for hymn books that may be at home

**Question from the Worship Committee:** Did you take a copy of *Voices United* or *More Voices* home during COVID? We are very short of these in the sanctuary, so please have a look on your shelves and if you have a copy belonging to the church, please bring it to the sanctuary and put it in the back of a pew. Thanks for helping us make these available to people on Sunday mornings. (If you are still worshipping with us online and use these hymn books on Sunday mornings, please feel free to hold onto them.)

## Ministry & Personnel Committee (M&P)

### SEEKING TEMPORARY OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THREE WEEKS IN OCTOBER

Our hardworking Office Administrator Lorna is taking a much-deserved vacation in October, so the M&P Committee is actively looking for a temporary Office Admin for the first three weeks of October.

The duties of the temporary position will include:

- Greeting and assisting visitors to the church
- Performing basic secretarial and administrative duties
- Preparation and distribution of weekly documents such as the church bulletin, newsletter and PowerPoint slides
- Managing front-end room rental process

If you or someone you know is interested in applying for this paid contract position, please reach out to either Bev Agur ([bevagur@shaw.ca](mailto:bevagur@shaw.ca) / 250 871-2027) or Karen Spencer ([karenspercernlp@gmail.com](mailto:karenspercernlp@gmail.com) / 647 465-1522). Thanks!

Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love

## The 444 Project

### 4 People x \$4 x 4 occasions

**Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."**

**— Matthew 18:20**

#### Project 444 Update!

A shout out to everyone who has participated in a Project 444 event so far. In our first three months, almost **\$950** has been donated to the church. People have been hosting dinners, wine & appies evenings, and card game nights with more events coming up. Project 444 runs for eight more months so think of how you can meet up with your friends for a great cause. After hosting your event, simply put the money raised into an envelope with the following:

#### **Project 444 Donation**

**Donated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donor address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Hand your envelope to **Project 444 Coordinator Elaine Brown** or ask a greeter to put it in the church office safe. See the last two pages of today's *Grapevine* for more info about this project.

*Come together with joy! The **444 Project** will run from May 2025 to April 2026.*

## Healing Touch/Reiki offered to chemo/radiation patients on Tuesday afternoons at the church

Are you presently receiving chemo or radiation? Did you know Comox United gives support on Tuesday afternoons for patients right here at the church through Healing Touch/Reiki? These can help:

- Promote relaxation and reduces stress
- Support pain relief for acute and chronic pain and discomfort
- Enhance the beneficial effects of medications
- Reduce the unwanted side effects of medications, including chemotherapy
- Promote faster healing after surgeries, fractures and other physical injuries
- Assist the healing process for those experiencing emotional and mental upheavals, including grief, loss and major life transitions
- Provide a sense of overall well being and calmness
- Promote a healthy immune system

The Comox Hospice supports us by taking appointments for us. To make an appointment:

**Call 250-871-0696 or email: [reception@comoxhospice.com](mailto:reception@comoxhospice.com)**

**Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love**



## Coming Events at a glance

### This Week...

TODAY 10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Men's Shed

Sun 10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Worship

Mon Labour Day

1<sup>30</sup> p.m. Knitting Group (Rm 101)

Tues Church office closed

10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Coffee & Conversation

(Comox Golf Club)

Wed 10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Queer Bible Study

Fri 10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Men's Shed

1<sup>00</sup> p.m. Taizé service

Next Sun 10<sup>00</sup> a.m. Worship: Communion

### Coming Soon...

Sept. 8 Knitters

United Church Women

Sept. 9 Coffee & Conversation

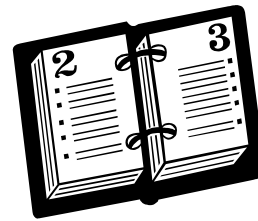
Sept. 10 Queer Bible Study

Sept. 11 Choir rehearsal

Sept. 12 Men's Shed

Sept. 14 Glacier View (2nd Sunday for Sept.)

Sept. 14 Worship



Grapevine is a weekly newsletter produced by Comox United Church.

To get your announcement into the Grapevine, email or phone the church office:

**admin@comoxunitedchurch.com or 250-339-3966**

**The deadline for articles is Thursday at 12 noon – No Exceptions!**

Grapevine is also posted on the Comox United website. If you have included your phone number or email address in your article and don't want to have that appear on the website, let the church office know when you submit your article.

**If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter via email, contact the church office.**

## Contact Us!

**Rev. Karen Hollis, Minister:** minister@comoxunitedchurch.com

**Laurel Erhart, Treasurer:** treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com

**Debra Monk, Givings Administrator:** envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com

**Lorna Tutte, Church Administrator:** admin@comoxunitedchurch.com

## Rev Karen's Office Hours

Wednesday - Friday by appointment (email listed above, or phone the church office.)

Spirituality • Openness • Care for the Common Good • Radical Love

# The 444 Project

## 4 People x \$4 x 4 times

**Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."**

**— Matthew 18:20**

Our church is much more than a building, it is a community of faith: people who have been brought together by a common love for God and a desire to live out acts of faith, hope, peace and love. During this time of political uncertainty, sovereignty threats, wars, rising prices and environmental challenges, coming together to enjoy companionship and simple shared pleasures bring us comfort, support, escape, and joy. This challenging environment makes now the perfect time to begin the **444 Project**.

A combination of community building and fundraising for our church, the **444 Project** invites us to reach out to friends and invite them (in groups of **4**) to join us in a shared interest while asking them to contribute **\$4**. For example, when we **invite 4** friends over for dinner, a hike in the woods, a games night, a concert at Simms Park, etc.

"I'm holding a coffee and dessert night as a fundraiser for my church where participants are asked to donate \$4. Will you come?"

When each of the **4** invited people contribute **\$4** to the gathering, \$16 is raised. When we do this **4** times over the next year raising \$16 over **4** occasions, that equals \$64. We then donate the money we have raised back to the church as a **444 Project** charitable donation. If 75 congregation members participate and host **4 x 444 Project** events over the next twelve months, we will raise \$4800 to help the church with its work, with the added bonus that 75 (and possibly more) members will have had the opportunity to connect more deeply through fun and enjoyment with 16 other church members, family and friends.

While not everyone has space to host dinners, we can reach out and invite **4** friends to join us

- at the marina to share a thermos of tea
- for a walk in the forest
- for whale and sea lion watching at Point Holmes
- to play cards
- to meet to discuss a book in a park.

The **444 Project** represents simple pleasures that provide us with enjoyable opportunities for discussion and fellowship. And if meeting with **4** people at a time seems too much, we can invite 2 people over 8 times over the year.

Along the way, we hope to share some photos of our group gatherings in our *Grapevine* newsletter.

# The 444 Project

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the 444 in the title of the project stand for?**

**4 People x \$4 x 4 times.** Invite 4 people to join you in an enjoyable activity explaining it is part of a fundraising campaign for the church. Ask each of them to contribute \$4 to the activity, and do this four times over the year. **\$4 x 4 people = \$16 x 4 = \$64 raised and donated to the church.** If 75 people participate, \$4800 will be raised.

**What will the money be used for?**

Our church council is still discussing what the project's earnings will be used for. You will be updated when that decision has been made.

**Will the money I donate be considered a charitable donation for tax purposes?**

Yes.

**It's hard to ask people for money.**

It can be. But if someone asked you over for dinner and explained about their church fundraiser, would you have a problem giving them two toonies for an enjoyable activity with friends? By asking for such a small amount it's easy. We make money for the church by the multiplication of \$4 but we also benefit from socializing.

**Are we inviting church members or other people?**

We hope that there will be increased socialization among our own congregation members because that helps our church community grow stronger. However, this is also a great opportunity to once again talk about something fun our church is doing to people outside of our church which increases our visibility and awareness. You choose whatever works for you.

**Does it have to be 4 people?**

Invite the number of people you are comfortable with. If for your own reasons you want to only invite 2 people to join you that's great. If you want to have a backyard BBQ for 20 people that's fantastic! Do what you are comfortable with. Remember you have until next May so you can spread out your invitations.

**Do I have to do something with the money I collect?**

Please put it in an envelope with your name, address and 444 Project on the outside of the envelope. Give the envelope to the 444 Project Coordinator Elaine Brown who will look after the banking of it, sending you a copy of the deposit slip, and ensure that the information is provided to our Givings Administrator for tax receipt purposes.