

Jan's Journal



The days are flying by and it is mid-September already! I hope that you have had some time this week to get outside and enjoy the lovely weather!

There is quite a lot of news to share this week:

The Coffee and Conversation Group will resume meeting this week. Come to the Campbell Room on Tuesday, September 16th, at 10 am to join in conversation with a focus on faith formation and community. We usually choose a theme around which to focus our conversation. We pursue one topic for a few weeks and then, when that conversation draws to a close, we choose something different. This fall, we will begin with Eco-Theology and then move on to an Autumn Stroll from The Prayer Bench. All are welcome!

The Lunch and Lectionary Group will resume meeting on Thursday, September 25th, on Zoom. We will begin with discussion of the Scripture passages listed in the Lectionary each week. We may choose a book to read and discuss. The Group meets on Zoom between 12:30 and 2 p.m. each Thursday. All are welcome! Please let me know if you plan to join the group, as I will need to send you the Zoom link for the meeting.

Beginning this week, you will find a reflection from **Theology of Place** and some accompanying questions printed in the Bulletin. The Community Hub Ad Hoc Team is hoping that you will take the pages home and spend some time reflecting on the ideas presented and on the questions that pertain to those ideas. You are encouraged to discuss these ideas and questions with family, friends, colleagues on ministry teams at the church, etc. There will be a different reflection and accompanying questions each week. During the time for refreshments and fellowship following worship on October 5th, we hope that you will join in conversations about the first three reflections and the series of questions you have considered. All of this is important in the discernment of the path for future ministry at East Plains. Your responses are valuable!!

As the **Theology of Place** is based upon **A Song Of Faith**, excerpts from **A Song Of Faith** will also be printed in the Bulletin each week. This is the most recent Statement of Faith created for the United Church of Canada. It was adopted in 2006, but was being created for several years prior to that. What do we believe? As individuals and as a congregation? How do those beliefs impact our ministry in the community? These are important questions to ask ourselves at any time, but particularly as we plan for the future.

Did you know that you could build a home in your back garden for a family member or a friend to live in? Apparently, this is true. A Program called **Home Suite Hope** has been promoting this concept for a number of years. Now, with affordable housing difficult to find for many people, the organization is encouraging homeowners to build a 800 square foot home on their property which could be rented to suitable clients. The rent would be affordable for the occupant, geared to their income and subsidized by **Home Suite Hope**, while providing rental income to

the homeowner. There will be a meeting at Port Nelson United Church at 7 p.m. on September 23rd, if you are interested in learning more about this program.

The annual **Walk To the Lighthouse 2025** will be held on Sunday, September 21st. You are encouraged to walk in support of Mental Health Programs offered at Joseph Brant Hospital. You can walk as an individual or in a group. Perhaps we can create a group representing East Plains? If you don't wish to walk, you could donate online at: <https://walktothelighthouse.com>

Pre-walk activities begin at 12:30 p.m. The walk begins at 2 p.m. The walk begins at Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital and ends at the lighthouse adjacent to the lift bridge at the entry to Hamilton Harbour.

As always, I am available to discuss any of the information written in this "Journal."

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

Blessings,

Pastor Jan