



250 Beach Dr, Comox BC V9M 1P9

250-339-3966

www.comoxunitedchurch.com

# Grapevine



**Friday, September 12, 2025**

**This Sunday: 14th Sunday after Pentecost**

Rev. Karen Hollis will be on study leave this Sunday. We thank the **Rev. Trevor Malkinson** for leading us in worship.

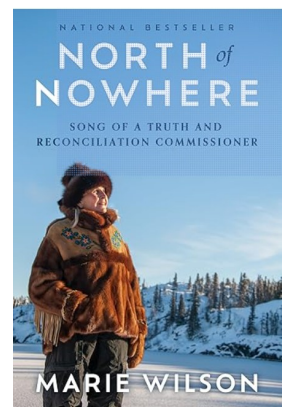
## Early hymn sing on Sunday morning

Paul Colthorpe and the Choir will again be offering an early Hymn Sing before the start of the service. Arrive before 9:45 am to participate!

## 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 by using this QR code, by calling or emailing Lorna at the church office, or you can go to [the EventBrite page for this event](https://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)

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## Sunday Worship

Worship leader: **Rev. Trevor Malkinson**

Director of Music: **Paul Colthorpe**

Pianist: **Marni Fisher**

PowerPoint: **Arlene Bell**

Greeters: **Klaus Jennerman**

**Heather Flint**

Coffee & tea: **Margaret & Ray Morin**

Audio/Livestream: **Julie Whitman**

**Dale Erhart**

## 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/channel/UCcomoxunitedchurch3917/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.

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



Crest of  
Affirm United



## A new Website Tip every week!

To read about the upcoming author discussion on the story behind the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and the historic apology by the United Church to indigenous peoples, go to the church website and scroll down to **Community Events**, then click on “**North of Nowhere.**”

This is your website! For comments or submissions, contact **Joyce Wagland**.

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

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## Glacier View Service this Sunday at 1<sup>30</sup> pm

Glacier View services are usually on the third Sunday of the month, but for September only, it will be the second Sunday, which is this week. Everyone is welcome to join the residents of Glacier View to sing favourite hymns and hear a prayer or two. Besides singing along, Comox United Church folks can also help by turning songbook pages. If you would like to learn more about this monthly event, feel free to contact Carol Jennermann at 250-339-9246 (landline) 250-703-1440 (cellphone) or [kcjmann@shaw.ca](mailto:kcjmann@shaw.ca).

## Truth & Reconciliation Day Movie: Sugarcane

### Contact the church office to register

On Monday, September 29 at 7 p.m., we will be screening the Academy Award-nominated documentary *Sugarcane*. It is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school, shedding light on years of forced separation, assimilation and abuse that Indigenous children experienced at the hands of Church and government. This urgent and timely film brings the hidden story of cultural genocide to audiences worldwide while



celebrating the resilience of Native people as they work to overcome cycles of intergenerational trauma.

To register to attend, either click on this QR code, or contact Lorna in the church office.

## Do you have a spare baseball glove?

Do you have a baseball mitt we can borrow??

We are hosting a softball game for queers and allies on Sept 19 in Lewis Park (all are welcome!) and need some more baseball gloves for the outfield. If you have one we can borrow, please mark it so you can identify it later and bring it to the church office. Thanks!



## 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.

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## Ministry & Personnel Committee (M&P)

The M&P Committee is happy to announce that the Temporary Office Administrator position has been filled. **Laurel Walton** (partner of Rev Keith Simmonds) will be acting in this position starting October 1st for 3 weeks. Let us all welcome Laurel to this posting and to Comox United.

## Council: The Governing Body of our Community of Faith

Our Church Council is like the board of Comox United Church. It is made up of a chair, secretary, treasurer, the chair of the Ministry & Personnel Committee, the chair of the Trustees, and individuals from other committees and members-at-large. Also, the minister must be present at Council meetings in order to pass motions. Currently our Council has 13 members.

Council meets once a month except in July. Here is a taste of what happens at our meetings.

At our August Council meeting:

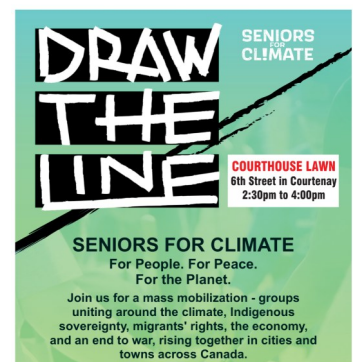
- We endorsed a grant application that the Affirming committee is submitting to the ProVision Fund for their 2026 community outreach activities.
- We discussed copyright and SOCAN fees, and who is responsible for these when an outside group holds a concert in our building – it's more complicated than you think.
- We made a small change to the Communication Policy which will result in more events being listed in the newsletter and on our website.
- We discussed the need for a multi-year property maintenance plan and budget, which is the responsibility of a Property committee chair, but we don't currently have anyone in that role. Interested?

If you'd like more information about any of these items (or what else we did), please contact the Council Chair, **Joanne Wiens**, at [councilchair@comoxunitedchurch.com](mailto:councilchair@comoxunitedchurch.com).

## “Draw the Line”: National Day of Action on Climate Change

**Saturday, September 20 at 2:30 pm**

Join the **Seniors for Climate** action group to take part in a National Day of Action on climate change. Meet at the Courtenay Courthouse Lawn at 2:30 pm on Sat., Sept. 20th.



## The S.A.G.E. Page

### Sustainability Action Group for the Environment

#### Exploring Natural and Conservation Burial

Sunday, Sept 21 at 10 a.m.

How can natural and conservation burial bring new life to the earth after we are gone? A special presentation at Nikkei No Haka Japanese Cemetery in Cumberland will consider the impacts of disposition/interment of our body for the earth and all her creatures, re-imagining together old and simple ways that bring our bodies back into the circle of life. There will be a facilitated walk between two cemeteries, an informative handout, questions and discussions, and an opportunity to meet other folks interested in growing natural/conservation burial opportunities in this community. Let's explore the impacts of modern technological forms of decomposition of the body, while taking a deeper dive into how natural and conservation burial practices are viable and possible choices right now.

Tickets are \$25 and you can get them at

[www.eventbrite.ca/e/re-imagining-end-of-life-death-natural-conservation-burial-tickets-1514224429029](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/re-imagining-end-of-life-death-natural-conservation-burial-tickets-1514224429029)

## Award-winning journalism at your fingertips

### Time to renew your *Broadview* subscription

*Broadview* is the United Church's monthly magazine about spirituality, justice and ethical living. This spring, *Broadview* received dozens of awards from both Christian and secular publishing organizations.

The Canadian Christian Communicators Association and the Associated Church Press each named *Broadview* the top magazine in their networks.

It was also recognized by the National Magazine Awards, the Digital Publishing Awards, and others.

# Broadview

The accolades represent an appreciation for excellence in journalism that wrestles with hard questions, holds space for faith and keeps justice at the centre.

If you would like a subscription, or would like to renew your current subscription, contact Lorna in the church office.

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## 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, **\$1,247** 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 seven 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.

Come together with joy! The **444 Project** will run from until April 2026.

## Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship News

### Explore "Forest Bathing" with Tamiko Suzuki

On Sunday, October 5th at Comox United, the Unitarian service at 4 pm will feature a presentation by Tamiko Suzuki, an active longtime member of the Environment Team with Vancouver Unitarians. Tamiko will reprise her Earth Day service (because every day is Earth Day) to talk about *shinrin yoko*, or Forest Bathing, and her journey to becoming a Forest Therapy Guide. The walks she leads aim to reconnect participants with themselves and with Nature. In this service everyone will be invited to use their senses and imagination to join in an imaginary walk in the forest.



## 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  
1<sup>00</sup> p.m. Glacier View service

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

Tues 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  
7<sup>00</sup> p.m. Rainbow Gathering: Softball

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

### Coming Soon...

Sep 22 Knitters

Sep 23 Coffee & Conversation

Sep 24 Queer Bible Study

Sep 25 Choir rehearsal

Sep 26 Men's Shed

Sep 28 Worship: TRC Sunday



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

**Joanne Wiens, Church Council Chair:** councilchair@comoxunitedchurch.com

## Rev Karen's Office Hours

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

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