



250 Beach Dr, Comox BC V9M 1P9

250-339-3966

www.comoxunitedchurch.com

Grapevine



Friday, May 1, 2026

This Sunday: Communion

Lenten Contemplative service TODAY at 1:00 pm

You are invited **TODAY** to a time of music, holy readings, prayer and silence in Room 101 (in the lower level) from 1:00 pm to 1:30 pm. Please enter using the door from the lower parking lot.

NEXT Friday at 10 am: Centering Prayer

Next Friday at 10 am, there will be a time of Centering Prayer in Room 101 on the church's lower level.

Bev Sparks will offer some history, gentle instruction, and will hold the space for us. All are welcome and no experience necessary. Centering Prayer is offered on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 10 am.

We're telling you about this a week ahead of time because the *Grapevine* is emailed to you on Friday morning after it starts.

United Church Women (UCW)

Spring Bazaar is TOMORROW!

In addition to delicious baking, you can also pick up jams and preserves, book and jigsaws, and check out the small treasures table. Come and relax while enjoying coffee with muffins and a chat with friends.

Item donation

You are welcome to help by bringing Items for any of the tables. You can drop off these items **TODAY** (Friday) **between 1:30- and 3 pm**.



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

Sunday Worship

Worship leader: **Rev. Karen Hollis**

Director of Music: **Paul Colthorpe**

Pianist: **Gloria Herauf**

Greeters: **Les Herauf**
Bev Agur

PowerPoint: **Merrilee Cameron**

Coffee: **Peter Senior**
Jan Bjarnason

Livestream/Audio: **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/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams) at 10 am
([youtube.com/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@comoxunitedchurch3917/streams))

Recorded services

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



We are celebrating Communion this Sunday. Our Communion table is open to all. You do not have to be a member of Comox United, or the United Church of Canada, or any church—**everyone** is welcome at the table. There are several ways we serve Communion, so during the service Rev Karen will indicate which way is being used.

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://www.comoxunitedchurch.com)



A new Website Tip every week!

To find out about the Glacier Grannies' upcoming spring sale, go to our church website, scroll down to **Community Events** and click on "**Glacier Grannies Spring Sale**". Consider attending!!

This is your website! Send comments to **Joyce Wagland**.

(websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com or 250-207-5650)

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P.E.O. clothing sale tomorrow, room 101, 9:00 – 12:00

Tomorrow from 9 am-12:00 in Room 101 (lower level), our church will host a Gently Used Women's Clothing Sale where you pay by donation. The sale is being run by a local branch of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. This organization, founded in 1869, is dedicated to supporting women who wish to continue their education through loans, scholarships, scholar awards and grants. The Courtenay chapter offers a Bursary through North Island College and contributes to local charities such as Transition House and Care-A-Van .

Coffee & Conversation: Breakfast on Tuesday at 9 am

The Coffee & Conversation group usually meets at 10 am each Tuesday morning at the Comox Golf Club. This **Tuesday, May 5**, they will be meeting one hour early — at 9 am — for breakfast.

Next Men's Breakfast will feature speaker Dave Ashwell

Men's Breakfast meets monthly. The speaker on **Saturday, May 16 at 9 a.m.** will be Dave Ashwell. Dave is a 65-year-old retired elementary school teacher who leads the weekly Comox Community Song Circle, a gathering of folk who love to sing and to gather in warm, spirited community. Dave loves to sing and to lead singing. He believes that singing is a birthright and a vulnerable practice that can build community and friendship. He believes also that singing together can bring wholeness, adventure and harmony to singers. He allows that he does not have a polished singing voice and that he doesn't particularly like to perform but just loves to sing in harmony with others. Dave knows many 'layered songs' and has created a few himself. What Dave hopes about our gathering on May 16 is that we will experience the joy of singing together in community. He shares that he has layered songs which are like rounds, each part of the round (or layered song) is distinct melodically and rhythmically. Because of the distinct differences in the parts, inexperienced singers can often sing in harmony with others without much effort. Dave has one song of his own whose lyrics will be familiar to you from a surprising place.! No one has heard this song for at least twenty years! Dave will also be bringing a pretty sweet drum...perhaps we'll get a chance to play it! Finally, Dave acknowledges that he likes to teach songs by "call and response." As he says, "I sing, you copy--no lyric sheet, no sheet music." Two songs that Dave will share with us are: "In Your Element" by Ashleigh Johnson and "This Sky" by Lawrence Cole.....

So, please put Saturday, May 16 at 9 am on your calendar and plan to come to the Men's Breakfast. The cost of the continental breakfast is a modest \$10. Any profit from the Breakfast supports the refugee program sponsored by the Comox United Church. Come, let us sing and eat together!

Please let Scott Agur know by Wednesday, May 13 if you are planning to come— he orders the food based on the 'Wednesday before the event' count. Please contact him at agur@shaw.ca. Assistance with set up and take down (not a lot of work) would be appreciated!

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Local Church News

Weird Church: Conversations with new Regional President-Elect

Thea Sheridan-Jonah has been elected President of Pacific Mountain Regional Council. Tomorrow (Saturday, May 2), from 11 am to 12:30 pm, you have an opportunity to talk with Thea at Weird Church in Cumberland.



Regional Church News

Toward 2035: An On-line Conversation on May 14

The national church has initiated a project called “Toward 2035”, an invitation to prayer and a whole-church conversation about the future of God’s call to the United Church of Canada.

Here in the Pacific Mountain Region, Executive Minister Treena Duncan and Regional Minister Kathy Davies are inviting you to join an online conversation on **Thursday, May 14, 1⁰⁰-3³⁰ pm** to explore the United Church’s *Toward 2035* vision, reflect on regional insights, and imagine a shared path forward for ministry. All are welcome! [Join by zoom here.](#)

Treena and Kathy are also visiting local communities across the region to discuss *Toward 2035* in-person. [Click here to register for a gathering near you.](#)



Rainbow Gathering: Queer Trivia Night on Fri May 15

Friday, May 19 marks the return of the ever-popular “Queer Trivia Night!” ! Come to Bayside Bistro (Cliffe Ave., Courtenay) at 7 pm. There will be terrific questions, fabulous answers, another great set of prizes, and a whole evening of fun getting to know local, national, and international gay culture and history as well as participating in inter-generational teams and learning from each other.

The evening will be hosted by Dr. James Chamberlain, President of Island Queers and Allies Who Care.

The event, sponsored by our Affirm Committee, is free, but please reserve a ticket at www.eventbrite.ca/e/rainbow-gatherings-queer-trivial-pursuit-night-tickets-1987343405624.

Thought for the Week

“As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance for you matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you. And you need the church.”

— Michael Carl



Last Sunday, the walking Group (and two dogs), visited the rhodo gardens near Hurford Hill Nature Park.

Living Our Values – Radical Love

One of our church community families is in need of some basic household items. Perhaps you are spring-cleaning or decluttering and have things you no longer need. We are looking for:

- 4 heavy duty plastic dinner plates, side plates and deep cereal bowls (no glass, please)
- 2 Mixing bowls
- 1 Frying pan
- Slow cooker
- A one-step heavy-duty step stool
- Landscape fabric or large outdoor area rug
- Large garbage can with lid

If you can help with one of these items, please drop it off at the church in the “Radical Love” box in the office.

Thank you for your generosity!

Multifaith Prayer for Peace this Wed May 6 at 12 noon

The Multifaith Action Society is convening an online meeting for all people of faith and spiritual traditions across the province of BC, where Prayers for Peace will be offered by select representatives from a diverse cross-section of spiritual traditions.

The chaos, unrest, wars and rumours of war in the world today are causing distress in many forms and impacting the physical and mental well-being of many people around the world.

“Please join us online on **Wednesday May 6th at noon PST** for the offering of Prayers for Peace.

Zoom link: us06web.zoom.us/j/87040876041?pwd=j70vuwwVzVFc3UkQtwwoU2MUM5RGSn.1

Comox Valley Unitarian Fundraiser

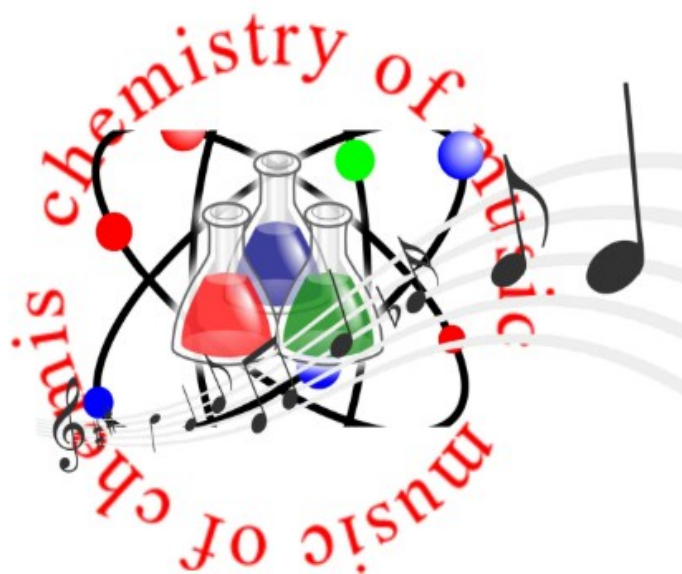
The Unitarian congregation is inviting us to participate in their upcoming fundraiser on Sunday May 10 at 4 pm in our church hall. You can even donate an item, event or service. (To donate, go to cvuf.ca and look under “Forms” or go to form.jotform.com/230741118205041)

Any questions, just call Greg (250-218-4639) or email olynyk.greg@gmail.com



Then Let Us Sing! Workshop in Naniamo tomorrow Learn more about our new hymn book

Tomorrow, a 6-hour singing workshop is being offered at Brechin United (2020 Estevan Rd in Nanaimo)at 9:30 am. Participants, led by Bruce Harding, will explore some of the music resources in the new *Then Let Us Sing* hymn book. Bruce Harding is one of the editors of the new book, and says “Come prepared to sing!” The workshop runs from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Bring your own lunch.



A 444 Project

Find out what happens when a passion for science and a passion for music collide?

All are welcome to a talk by **Ken Newman**, illustrated by both pictures and music.

When: Thursday 14th May, 2:30 pm

Where: Comox United Church, Room 207

Our prayers are with...

...the family of **Reta Walls**, who passed away peacefully last week. Service details will be provided at a later date.



Comox United Church

U.C.W. BAZAAR

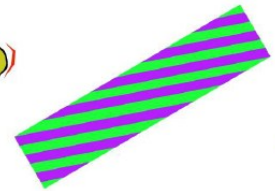
Saturday, May 2nd -- 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Donations gratefully accepted Friday 1 to 3

Home Baking



Jams & Jellies



Books, Puzzles

Treasure Table



Tea Tables



CV Glacier Grannies Spring Sale



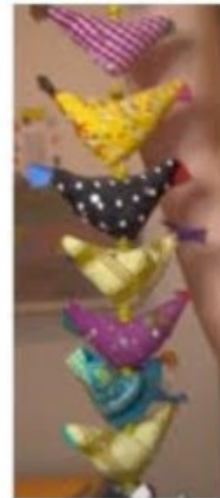
**Saturday, May 9, 2026
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

**Comox United Church
250 Beach Drive, Comox**



**Just in time for Mother's Day, Spring Planting,
Teacher Gifts, Shower Gifts!**

- *Glacier Grannies Angels & many other beautiful crafts*
- *Hundreds of plants for outdoor beds or indoor beauty*
- *Live entertainment by "Swing Valley Two"*
- *Scrumptious home-baked goodies*
- *Gently used treasures*
- *Locally made pottery*
- *Fashion jewellery*



All funds raised will go to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, supporting Grandmothers and their life-enhancing programs in sub-Saharan Africa and the community-led organizations who support them.

Coming Events at a glance

This Week...

TODAY 1⁰⁰ p.m. Contemplative Service
 130 p.m. Drop-off Bazaar donations

Sat 9⁰⁰ a.m. UCW Spring Bazaar
 9⁰⁰ a.m. PEO Clothing Sale

Sun 10⁰⁰ a.m. Worship: Communion

Mon 1³⁰ p.m. Knitting Group

Tues 9⁰⁰ a.m. Coffee & Conversation: Breakfast

Wed 10⁰⁰ a.m. Queer Bible Study

Thur 6³⁰ a.m. Choir

Fri 10⁰⁰ a.m. Centering Prayer

Sun 10⁰⁰ a.m. Worship: Easter VI

Coming Soon...

May 11 Knitters

May 12 Coffee & Conversation

May 13 Queer Bible Study

May 14 Choir

May 15 Contemplative Service

May 16 Men's Breakfast

May 17 Worship: Easter VI



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.)