250 Beach Dr, Comox BC V9M 1P9
250-339-3966
www.comoxunitedchurch.com

Grapevine

Friday, October 9, 2026

This Sunday: Thanksgiving



The church office will be closed this Tuesday.

Rainbow Gathering on Fri Oct 16 at 7 pm:
Screening of *"Parade: Queer Acts of Love & Resistance"*

The next Rainbow Gathering will be a community screening of the powerful and informative documentary *Parade: Queer Acts of Love & Resistance* on Friday, October 16th at 7 pm, at the Bayside Bistro (Cliffe Ave in Courtenay).

This film is a bold and unflinching documentary that charts the rise of Canada's 2SLGBTQI+ rights movement through powerful first-person testimony and rarely seen archival footage. From drag shows and community organizing to police raids and protests on Parliament Hill, the film honours the elders and activists whose defiance helped shape a more inclusive society

Ben Wang of the Bayside Bistro is offering his regular menu for purchase by those needing a little sustenance to strengthen themselves, and something to slake their thirst. The menu includes a number of sushi and maki rolls, several onigiri items, and a variety of combos which includes spring rolls, steam buns, gyoza and dumplings.

The event, sponsored by our Affirm Committee, is free, but please reserve a ticket at

www.eventbrite.ca/e/rainbow-games-film-parade-queer-acts-of-love-resistance-tickets-2002477148055

Sunday Worship

Worship leaders: **Rev. Karen Hollis**
Barbara Nienaber

Director of Music: **Paul Colthorpe**

Pianist: **Gloria Herauf**

Greeters: **Sue Fabrizio**
Joanne Wiens

PowerPoint: **Barb Page**

Coffee: **Sonja Stryski**
Margie van Binsbergen

Livestream/Audio: **Ken Newman**

How to worship with us

In Person

Sunday worship services are at 10 am.

Livestream

Our livestream will be on YouTube 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

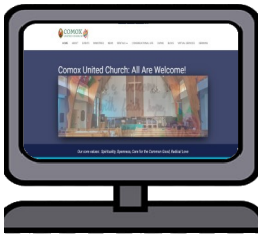
Welcome, Newcomer!

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**



A new Website Tip every week!

Our Pacific Mountain Regional Council has started an Indigenous Peoples' Newsletter.

To read the first edition of *Peace Trail*, click here: **pacificmountain.ca/introducing-peace-trail-your-pacific-mountain-indigenous-ministries-newsletter/**

Never forget, this is your website! Send comments to Joyce Wagland:

websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com or **250-207-5650**

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

Nine-part Celtic Wisdom online series



We have an opportunity to take part in a 9-week series that will be a rich experience of music, prayer, lecture, group discussion, mediation and music.

This series is on the lineage of Celtic Wisdom for today, and will be taught by internationally acclaimed Celtic scholar John Philip Newell, based on his award-winning publication *Sacred Earth Sacred Soul*.

The online series includes teachings as well as meditative practice and live discussion with John Philip, and focuses on the prophetic wisdom of great Celtic teachers from the 2nd century to today, exploring how this vision of the sacredness of Earth and every human being applies to the enormous challenges of this moment in time. It is a lineage of wisdom that has been neglected and even opposed by the holders of political and religious power over the centuries but is rising into consciousness again today as a way of seeing that holds vision for the future wellbeing of Earth and humanity and each one of us.

The 9-week series, which will happen on Tuesday from 9:30—11 am, is divided into three 3-week segments: November 3, 10, and 17; January 12, 19, and 26; and March 2, 9, and 16. We will meet at the church as a group, and will be a discussion group during break-out times.

The UK and Colorado based co-organizers of this event are offering us a group rate, which will be dependent on how many of us participate. **If 10 people take part the individual cost would be $100 for the nine-part series.** The book *Sacred Earth Sacred Soul* is not part of the registration cost - participants would need to order their own copies ($21 softcover, $11 kobo).

There is more information in the link below. However, if you want to be part of the Comox United group DO NOT USE the online registration in the link. In order to enjoy the group rate, please send an email to **Elaine Stewart** (Elainestewartnwt@gmail.com). Once we confirm that we have the requisite group size, the church office will take your payment and we will send the total funds to the organizers to simplify the process. Deadline for confirming your interest is **Friday, October 23rd**.

For more information (but do not register through this link), see:

www.earthandsoul.org/events/celtic-wisdom-online

Healing Hands workshop in Victoria



James Bay United Church in Victoria is offering a "Healing Hands" Phase 1 Workshop on Friday, Nov 27 and Saturday Nov 28. This is an introduction to the basic concepts of healing hands within the Christian tradition.

For registration and inquiries, please contact Jackie Cox-Ziegler: healingpathway@jamesbayunited.com .

For more information about Healing Pathway go to **www.healingpathway.ca**

Lorna is on vacation for another two weeks

Our able administrator Lorna is taking some well-earned annual leave until October 22 to visit her sister in New Brunswick. During her absence, **Laurel Walton** will be handling the office chores.

Large print "Voices United" hymn books available

Large print editions of our *Voices United* hymn book are available in the lobby before Sunday worship — just ask a greeter for one! They are on the same cart as the new *Then Let Us Sing* hymn books.



Office's Concert binder is missing

We've put out an APB on our white Concert Binder, which has gone missing from the office. If you've got this, please return it to the office ASAP. Thanks!

PEO clothing sale on Sat Nov 7, 9–11 am

P.E.O. will host a pay-by-donation Gently Used Women's Clothing Sale on Sat Nov 7 from 9-11 am. 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.

Comox Valley Unitarians

Screening of "*Incandescence*" on Fri Oct 16 at 1:30 pm

We have a covenant with the Comox Valley Unitarians, and a Joint Liaison Committee works to help both congregations live into that relationship. We have an opportunity next month to share time with each other at a screening and discussion of the recent film *Incadescence* on Friday, October 16 at 1:30 pm.

Wildfires are burning with increasing intensity around the world. Following the rhythms of the seasons, Nova Ami and Velcrow Ripper's *Incandescence* is an immersive cinematic experience, weaving on-the-ground footage with extraordinary stories of survival and adaptation that transform our understanding of wildfire. The film takes shape from the ancient patterns embodied in fire: destruction, aftermath and rebirth. From the flightpath of bees to an osprey's aerial perspective, floating over the landscape: the Earth comes back.

Enjoy tea and refreshments during the discussion!

United Church Women (UCW)

Save the Date & Think of Us!

Saturday November 7th *is the date for the next UCW bazaar here at the church from 9-12. If you are cleaning out cupboards and have* ***small items*** *you wish to donate, please set them aside for us.* ***(Item drop off will be the dfay before, on Friday Nov 6th between 1-3).*** *Used books, puzzles, glassware, jewelry, accessories & decorative pieces are some of the items we would love to receive. We also appreciate donations of preserves, homemade candy & baking of all types. Please* ***NO clothing, CDs, DVDs, plants or large items****.*

Where does the money raised from our fall and spring bazaars go to? Here are the donations our Comox United UCW have made so far in 2026:

- *$2000 Comox United Church*
- *$1000 Mission & Service Fund of the United Church of Canada*
- *$500 Canadian Red Cross Venezuela Relief*
- *$500 UNICEF Cuban Relief*
- *$500 Child Haven Nepal Relief*
- *$350 Eureka Support Society Comox Valley*
- *$350 Lush Valley*
- *$350 Comox Valley Food Bank*
- *$300 Doctors Without Borders*
- *$300 Healthy Babies Comox Valley Chapter*
- *$300 Comox Care Society*
- *$300 Child Haven Overseas*
- *Plus, thanks to the women who attended our Spring Women's Luncheon, several bags of toiletries and some cash donations were provided to Stepping Stones Recovery House.*

We look forward to seeing you on Fri Nov 6th for item drop-off and Sat Nov 7th for our Bazaar. You can look forward to finding delicious goodies to eat, previously loved treasures, your next good book, all while listening to live music. When finished shopping you can join your friends for tea, coffee and home baked cookies and muffins. Thank you for your donations and your shopping support!

Pause-café en français ce dimanche!



Rev. Karen apprend le français. Les 2e et 4e dimanches du mois, après le culte, un groupe l'aide en conversant avec elle en français. Si vous souhaitez vous joindre à nous, retrouvez-nous dans la salle 207.

(Rev. Karen is learning French. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month after worship, a group is helping her by having French conversation. If you'd like to be part of this, look for us in Room 207.)

Dice and cards at Men's Breakfast!

The Saturday-morning Men's Breakfast is happening next week on October 17 at 9 am, when Barrie Turnham will be presenting *Topics in Probability and Statistics.* If you're coming, remember to bring a deck of playing cards and a pair of dice! The cost is $10 for a continental breakfast — please RSVP Barrie (chemist@telus.net) by Wednesday.

Happy Birthday, Robin!

Robin Giles recently celebrated his 90th birthday, and we helped him celebrated with cake, of course!





Social Justice Committee

Special Thanksgiving Appeal: Comox Valley Food Bank

This Sunday, there will be special envelopse available for a Thanksgiving Appeal. There are so many organizations that are needing our help so that they can be a part of making a fairer and more just world.

Your Social Justice Committee is asking you to please support the Comox Valley Food Bank this year. It is in its 43rd year and serving more than 45,000 people. They rescue 90,000 lbs of food monthly, and depend on at least 25 amazing volunteers. It has helped people we know through a difficult time.

If you go online to Comox Valley Foodbank and hit the About button, there is an informative video that will give you a good look at how they provide a simple, dignified, and welcoming atmosphere for each client. You will also note that they are looking for volunteers.

This Sunday please bring cash or a cheque written out to Comox United with Foodbank in the memo line and put it in the special envelopes provided. You will receive a tax receipt for your donation.

Thank you for continuing to put the "giving" into Thanksgiving

Coming Events at a glance

This Week...

Sun	10 a.m.	Thanksgiving Sunday
	11 a.m.	Café en français
Mon		Thanksgiving
Tues		Church office closed
	10 a.m.	Coffee & Conversation (Comox Golf Club)
Wed	10 a.m.	Queer Bible Study
Thurs	10 a.m.	"Yucky Bits" Bible Study
Fri	1[30] p.m.	*Incandescence* screening
	7 p.m.	Rainbow Gathering: *Parade*
Sat	9 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sun	10 a.m.	Worship
	1[30] p.m.	Glacier View service

Coming Soon...

Oct 19	Knitters
Oct 20	Coffee & Conversation
Oct 21	Queer Bible Study
Oct 22	"Yucky Bits" Bible Study
	Choir
Oct 23	Centering Prayer
Oct 25	Worship
	Café en français
	Soup & Bun Lunch
	CxU Walking Group

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
Barbara Nienaber, Student Minister: barbara@comoxunitedchurch.com
Laurel Erhart, Treasurer: treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com
Debra Monk, Givings Administrator: envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com
Laurel Walton, Church Admin (temp): 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.)