



Comox United Church

250 Beach Dr, Comox BC V9M 1P9

250-339-3966

www.comoxunitedchurch.com



Grapevine

Friday, May 10, 2024

This Sunday: Communion



Pentecost is next Sunday!

Each year we commemorate the beginning of the early Christian Church on Pentecost. At Comox United we usually celebrate in two ways:

1. Let's wear yellow, red and orange on Pentecost

The Acts of the Apostles describes the Holy Spirit as "tongues of flame" that descended on the early apostles. Dress in your favourite flame-coloured clothing.

2. Birthday Cake!

Happy Birthday to us! Each year, members of the congregation sign up to bring a birthday cake on Pentecost. (We need 12, one for each month of the year.) Then after worship, we each go to the table representing our birth month (all the January birthdays at one table, the February birthdays at another etc.) If you'd like to contribute a Pentecost cake, you can sign up after worship this Sunday during coffee time.



Welcome, friends!



Karen and Gord Kilarski recently indicated they would like to join Comox United, and provided a brief bio to Rev Karen: Gord and Karen were both born and raised in Saskatchewan. Gord comes from a strong Polish background and in his youth, he attended St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Regina. He has fond memories of being very involved in his parish community. Karen was raised in the United Church, attending Sunset United where she was a member of the youth choir as well as a Sunday School teacher.

Karen and Gord resided in Regina and Calgary before moving to Aurora, Ontario, where they lived and worked for 25 years. They then moved to Courtenay in May 2022.

They have two adult children: Jennifer, who is married with two children of her own and lives in Brisbane, Australia; and Kevin, who is also married and lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Karen and Gord enjoy golfing, travelling (especially to Australia), doing home renovations and visiting family and friends. They are looking forward to being welcomed into membership by Comox United Church and actively engaging in the church community.

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Worship Today

Worship leader: **Rev. Karen Hollis**
Director of Music: **Paul Colthorpe**
Pianist: **Gloria Herauf**
Scripture Reader: **Margie van Binsbergen**
Power Point: **Arlene Bell**
Audio: **Dale Erhart**
Livestream:
Greeters: **Joanne Wiens**
Les Herauf
Coffee & Tea: **Joan Hanson**
Sue Newman

Communion

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. We serve Communion several different ways — during the service, Rev Karen will indicate which way Communion is being served .



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

Glacier View Service postponed to next Sunday

Each month, usually on the first Sunday afternoon of the month, we present a short time of hymns, songs, and a prayer or two at the Glacier View Lodge Complex Care Facility (2450 Back Rd). We also lend a hand helping the residents turn their music pages.

This month, the service has been postponed to next **Sunday, May 19th**. Likewise the June service is postponed to **June 9th**.

Share your spring flowers with us!



If you have spring flowers blooming in your garden, and want to share their beauty with us, we'll be displaying garden flowers at the front of the church during Sunday worship in May and June. If you'd like to share your flowers with us, email Flower Coordinator Julie Whitman (cjwhitman98@gmail.com) and she'll arrange for a date with you to provide a bouquet. Thank you.

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Good Gord! A Lightfoot Tribute TONIGHT!

Limited tickets available at the door

It's Friday, and there are still a few \$25 tickets available at the door for tonight's "Good Gord" concert, a fundraiser presented by Comox United and the Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship, with proceeds going to Gukwas sa Wagalus (Rainbow House).

Refugee Support Committee is looking for a few items for an Eritrean family

Dave of the Refugee Support Committee reports that a family of three from Eritrea are arriving with their 14-month-old daughter. They need a high chair, a stroller and other such items. Dave will be in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time after worship this Sunday selling beautiful sets of cards to help with expenses, and accepting donations of useful items.



Men's Breakfast pushed back one week to May 25th Special guest speaker: Dr. Stephen Faulkner

The monthly Men's Breakfast usually happens on the third Saturday of the month, but that's the Victoria Day weekend, so we're pushing it back one week to May 25th.

Our special guest speaker will be Dr. Stephen Faulkner, who had a successful medical career as an anesthesiologist. Now in retirement in Duncan, he chooses to spend time working with men as they face the challenges of growing older. At a men's retreat two years ago in Nanaimo, four of us from the Comox Valley were privileged to hear him. Stephen has agreed to come to talk with us and to share his insight and wisdom on men's issues. He describes himself like this: "I spent much of my career putting people to sleep; now I find myself choosing to wake men up."

If you want to be woken up by Stephen, please RSVP to Barry at chemist@telus.net or 250-339-1808 by Wed May 22. He will forward the menu when he receives it for those having special dietary concerns.



Queer Bible Study (which is for EVERYONE) queeries the Gospel of Mary Magdalene in May

On the next two Wednesday mornings at 10 am, we will queery the text of the Gospel of Mary Magdalene with openness and curiosity.

Why is the story told this way?

What is the historical context?

Where are we within the text?

QBS is for EVERYONE — Join us!

And mark these dates in your calendar for summer study:

July 24 & 31, and August 7 & 14



Comox Valley Church News

CV Presbyterian holds Car Boot Sale this Saturday

If you want to hold a garage sale but don't have a garage, Comox Valley Presbyterian has the solution: For \$25, use their parking lot on Aspen Rd. and sell out of the back of your car. It all happens **this Saturday, 10 am—2 pm**. There will also be plants, crafts, used books, baked goods and snacks for sale!

To reserve your spot, contact them at comoxpc@gmail.com or 250-339-2882.



May Events at Weird Church in Cumberland

Here are some of the events happening at Weird Church in Cumberland in May:

- Weekly CALM Guided Meditation, Thursdays, 12¹⁵ – 12⁴⁵ p.m.
- Weird Church in the Woods, Sat May 11, 4⁰⁰ p.m.
- Youth Group Games Night, Fri May 24, 7⁰⁰ p.m.
- Writing the Sacred Workshop, Sat May 25, 7⁰⁰ p.m.
- Weekly Sunday Gatherings, 4⁰⁰ p.m. (Community Potluck follows on May 26)

For more information, check out their website: weirdchurchcumberland.com

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National Church News

The Moderator's Pentecost Message available online



Carmen Lansdowne, the current Moderator (spiritual leader) of the United Church of Canada, has created a Pentecost message for everyone in the United Church., sharing how Spirit is interceding in our lives, stoking the winds of change. You can find her Message online at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MqJmcpUizY&t=3s

May we feel the winds of God on our faces and the flames of Pentecost bringing us together in celebration and unity.

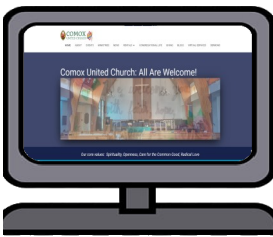
May is Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) Month!

May is PAR Month in the United Church. Many members of Comox United already give their offerings via PAR — an monthly automatic withdrawal just like your cable and phone bills— and why not? No more searching for the cheque book or your wallet on Sunday morning. PAR is easy and reliable, you make your regular monthly offerings even when you are out of town, and of course you can change the amount of your donation any time



For more information about PAR, contact Givings Administrator Cheryl McMahon at

envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com



Website Tips at comoxunitedchurch.com

To see this week's copy of the *Comox United Grapevine* (or to re-read past issues), go to our website, click on **News**, then scroll down to "Weekly Newsletter — *Grapevine*". For comments about our website, contact **Joyce Wagland**. (websiteadmin@comoxunitedchurch.com or 250-207-5650)

CxU People Corner

News about Comox United people can be e-mailed or phoned to the church office.



In Memoriam...

...A service will be held for **Bill Ellis** on Saturday, August 3rd at 2⁰⁰ p.m.

Coming Events at a glance

This Week...

Sun 10⁰⁰ a.m. Worship: Communion
Mon 1¹⁵ a.m. United Church Women
1³⁰ a.m. Knitting Group
Tue 10⁰⁰ a.m. Coffee & Conversation (Comox Golf Club)
Wed 10⁰⁰ a.m. Queer Bible Study
Thu 6³⁰ p.m. Choir rehearsal
Fri 10⁰⁰ a.m. Men's Shed
Sun 10⁰⁰ a.m. Worship: Pentecost
Glacier View Worship

Coming Soon...

May 20 Victoria Day
May 21 Church office closed
Coffee & Conversation
May 22 Queer Bible Study
May 23 Choir
May 24 Men's Shed
May 25 Men's Breakfast

Contact Us!

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

Gisèle Plouffe, Treasurer: treasurer@comoxunitedchurch.com

Cheryl McMahan, Givings Administrator: envelopesecretary@comoxunitedchurch.com

Lorna Tutte, Church Administrator: admin@comoxunitedchurch.com

Comox United Church 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!

The 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.