

Welcome to: St Paul's United Church

October Newsletter



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St Paul's United

October 2020

You Are Welcome Here!

www.stpaulsunitedkelowna.com

Facebook/StPaulsUnitedKelowna

Instagram/StPaulsKelowna

Sunday Service via Zoom: 10am

Visit us online for all of our current news and events at: www.stpaulsunitedkelowna.com

Rev. Ivy Thomas: Minister's October Message

On our last Sunday in the Season of Creation, as we considered and celebrated those things that give us hope, I shared a portion of this poem by Macrina Wiederkehr. I had so many requests for it that I decided to share the full version as my offering for the month of October. It is one of my favourite reflections and reminds me regularly that waiting, trusting and hoping are gifts from God that we must not take for granted. When fully embraced, they are what will get us through these challenging and uncertain times.

Like the autumn trees, may we celebrate the Sacrament of Letting Go

The Sacrament of Letting Go – Macrina Wiederkehr

Slowly
she celebrated the sacrament of letting go
first she surrendered her green
then the orange, yellow, and red
finally she let go of her brown
shedding her last leaf
she stood empty and silent, stripped bare.
Leaning against the winter sky
She began her vigil of trust. ...

Shedding her last leaf
she watched its journey to the ground.
She stood in silence
wearing the color of emptiness,
her branches wondering:
how do you give shade with so much gone? ...

And then,
the sacrament of waiting began.
The sunrise and sunset watched with tenderness
clothing her with silhouettes
that kept her hope alive...

They helped her understand that
her vulnerability
her dependence and need
her emptiness
her readiness to receive
were giving her a new kind of beauty.
Every morning and every evening
they stood in silence
and celebrated together
the sacrament of waiting!

October

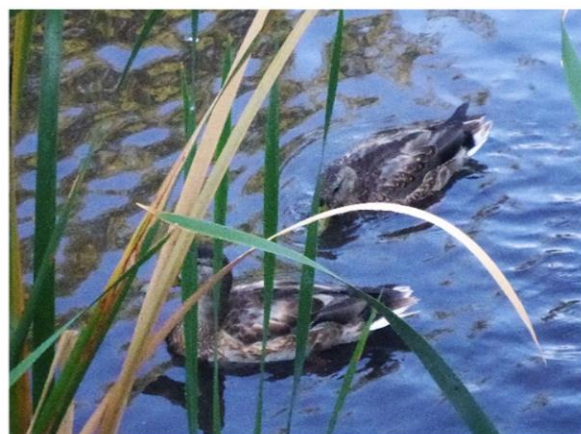
Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries:

Ivy Thomas and LeAnn Blackert - 1st
Jim Harnden & Judy McAulay - 6th
Leo & Gwen Chabot - 7th
Art & Vicky Pedlar - 8th
Cameron & Shawna Banman - 15th
Don & Irene Lillico - 16th

Birthdays:

Barbara Dickinson - 2nd
Evelyn Nicholson - 8th
Catherine Cole - 11th
Catherine Hardy - 13th
Judy McAulay - 16th
🍂 Bob Baturin - 23rd
Gwen Boek - 23rd
Airlie Pinkerton - 29th
Art Pedlar - 30th



Thank You Jayne for sharing your lovely photos!

Zoom Worship Services

Sunday at 10am Join in via Zoom.us

Share the link with friends and family who may like to join us live!



All Welcome!

Delaine and her husband Adam with Ivy at their 10 year anniversary vow renewal ceremony!





With Rev. Ivy Thomas

WORSHIP US

Online

EVERY SUNDAY

10AM ZOOM MEETING

 STPAULSKELOWNA

 STPAULSUNITEDKELOWNA

Each week an email reminder will be mailed out to our subscriber list with the details of how to connect to Zoom. The meeting details are the same each week. The videos of these Zoom Worship meetings are posted weekly onto our website for you to view. If you know anyone who would like to be added to our subscriber emails, please email admin@stpaulskelowna.ca





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD -
WILD CHURCH OKANAGAN LIVE
10 AM & 2 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
ZOOM GATHERING - 2 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH -
WILD CHURCH OKANAGAN LIVE
10 AM & 2 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH -
ZOOM GATHERING - 2 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH -
WILD CHURCH SORRENTO

SATURDAY, OCT 31ST
SPECIAL ZOOM MOVIE "NIGHT"
7 PM

WILD CHURCH OCTOBER

IT'S OCTOBER! THE BIG SWING MONTH!
AND WE'VE GOT A GREAT CALENDAR FOR
YOU AS WE BEGIN A SERIES ON THE SAINTS
OF THE WILD CHURCH WORLD.

THINK ENVIRONMENT.
THINK ECOLOGY.
THINK PRACTICAL FAITH!

A REMINDER THAT YOU MUST
RSVP FOR OUR LIVE ON THE
LAND GATHERINGS AS WE
MANAGE NUMBERS FOR
COVID PROTOCOLS.

STAY WILD!

THE WILD WOMEN

LEANN, LESLY, MICHELE REV LEANN BLACKERT
IN MINISTRY WITH WILD CHURCH BC
GATHERING ON THE UNCEDED TERRITORY
OF THE TK'EMLUPS TE SECWEPENC PEOPLES LOCATED IN
THE THOMPSON RIVER WATERSHED KAMLOOPS, BC

TEXT AND CONFIDENTIAL VOICEMAIL 250-851-1984
WWW.WILDCHURCHBC.ORG



Giving and Donations During COVID19

Are you wondering how you might continue to support the congregation financially, while in-person gatherings have been suspended? Here are a few options for you:

- Join Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)
 - o How it works – An amount that you determine will be automatically withdrawn from your bank account and deposited in St. Paul's account
 - o How to sign up – Contact Delaine and she will forward the form to you via email and guide you through the process
- Mail – yes, you can mail your cheque to the church, or simply address it to us, and drop it in the mail slot just right of the main church entrance, and we will make sure it gets recorded and deposited. **Our new address at First Mennonite: 1305 Gordon Dr, Kelowna BC V1Y 3E7. Please update your address records.** Also please note whether you would like your cheque to be deposited in the General Fund, or Mission and Service, or any other special designation you may prefer. Thanks!
- Canada Helps – there is a tab on the church website that allows you to make a donation online. <https://www.stpaulsunitedkelowna.com/> Note that you will require a credit card for this transaction.
- E-transfer – If you do your banking online, you can e-transfer your donation directly to the church with the use of our finance email: finance@stpaulskelowna.ca

***Please Note:* Due to Covid-19 we are not ordering special donation envelopes this year. Personal cheques may be mailed in as usual. All donations made under your name will continue to be recorded as usual for Tax Purposes.**

Thank you to everyone for your support!

*** Important Notice - Please Read:***
[Click HERE for the Full PDF Proposal Package:](#)

September 28, 2020
A Letter to Members and Adherents of
St. Paul's United Church, Kelowna from the Church Board
Regarding Amalgamation of Central Okanagan United Churches

Last January members of five Central Okanagan United Church congregations met to discuss how we might operate collectively in the future given that membership for most of us was decreasing and several of us were facing issues regarding our facilities, finances, and ministerial leadership.

At the urging of those in attendance at the January meeting, a working group (Exploration Team) was formed to explore various ways in which we might collaborate. The Team included four members from First United, three from St. Paul's, two from Westbank, three from Rutland, and one (Allison Rennie) from the Pacific Mountain Region who served as facilitator. Winfield United is supportive of the initiative but declined to participate at this time.

The Team met over the summer on multiple occasions as a whole and in thematic sub-groups. They drafted a report which was circulated to the combined church Boards on September 18 and discussed in a Zoom meeting the next day. The Boards and the team agreed that the proposal should now be discussed by the four participating congregations and voted upon. The essence of the proposal, and the question to be voted upon, is as follows:

That the four existing communities of faith of Westbank United Church, First United Church Kelowna, St. Paul's United Church, and Rutland United Church join to form one congregation with multiple physical locations. This would be a first step which would allow the communities of faith to minister with:

a single governing body

a coordinated and cooperating staff team

a coordinated administration hub

the potential for powerful mission, outreach, and worship.

A congregational meeting will be held following the Zoom worship service on October 18, 2020 to receive questions and comments regarding the proposal and to vote on the motion. The results of the vote will be forwarded to the Team which will consider next steps in the process.

If the four congregations vote to proceed with the proposal, a formal memorandum of understanding dealing with issues pertaining to the amalgamation will be developed. Some of those issues include the form of governance, composition of the Board, use of facilities, and allocation of finances. The memorandum of understanding will then be submitted to the participating congregations for their approval before being forwarded to the Regional Council's Approval Committee for its advice and approval.

Please bear in mind that the report from the Exploration Team describes many possibilities, but what we would be committing to at this stage is just what is included in the motion, but not any of the possibilities noted in the report. Much detailed work will remain to be done to develop a memorandum of understanding which would be returned to each congregation for its consideration.

Gary Dickinson
Chair, SPUC Board



Nourish Families: St Paul's Outreach

When people buy a local restaurant meal online from Nourish Families, the restaurant makes an extra meal for one of their clients. Currently there are 20 families receiving meals, with 10 families on the waiting list. The children of eligible families must be under the age of 12. When a family receives a meal they also receive a play component to enhance the therapy the child is receiving.

We asked the ladies if there was any way that St. Paul's could assist their program. Here are some possible ways:

- if you buy a meal, a meal is provided to a client family. Meals can be purchased online from NourishFamilies.com.

- they can use volunteer drivers on Thursday after 3:00 pm for about one hour to deliver the purchased meals. The drivers do not deliver to the clients. If you are interested in delivering meals, email Nicole at

NourishFamilies@childhoodconnections.ca.

- currently they are looking for an additional refrigerator so that they have room to accept fresh produce for their clients.

- if you know anyone in the restaurant business that may be willing to participate in this program please let them know. They are continually looking for participants.

- monetary donations are accepted so that they can purchase meals for their clients in those weeks where there are not enough participants. It is difficult currently to get participants as restaurants are busy trying to get restarted after the COVID shutdown. Thank You!

A photograph of a group of people, primarily older adults, sitting in a row and looking towards the right. They appear to be attending a workshop or seminar. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the woman in the foreground who is wearing a plaid shirt.

FREE Public Workshops & Seminars

Insight, advice and guidance on topics important to you,
presented by community professionals.
Join us!

Please check out our Events page for more information. www.springfieldfuneralhome.com/events

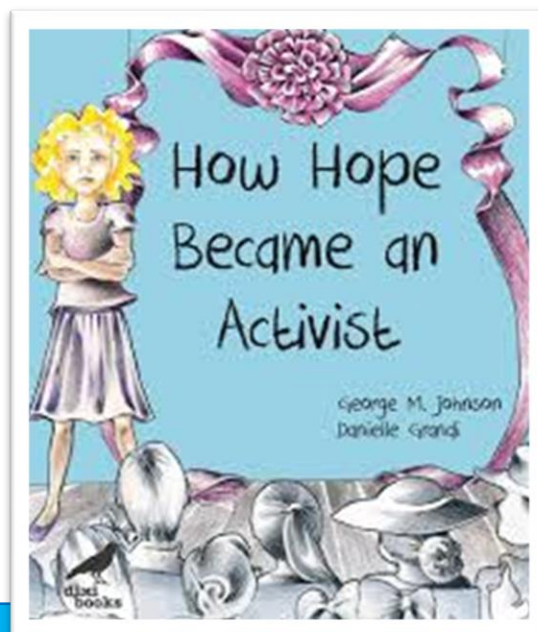
Oct 21 – Okanagan Master Gardeners present Container Gardening for the fall and winter

10:00 am – 11:30 am – Live Stream available

Nov 18 – Estates and Taxes with Glen Jackson, RHN Chartered Professional Accountant

10:00 am – 11:30 am OR 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm – Live Stream available

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Joanne Bonk at
joannebonk@springfieldfuneralhome.com or 250-860-7077.



Looking for a gift for the children in your life?

What is an activist? Why do we need them? Join Hope as she discovers how to make positive change on issues that matter from clothes made in fair trade to refugee aid – and to have fun at the same time! Even if you are small you can still stand tall and help out to make the world a better place for all. *How Hope Became an Activist* is the first in a series on how kids from diverse backgrounds have joined with friends to take action on a range of issues from saving bees to helping in a food bank.

The author, George M. Johnson, is a member of Kamloops United and an award-winning writer and social justice advocate. In 2019 he was awarded the YMCA Peace Medal for his social justice work and writing over more than 25 years. *How Hope became an Activist* draws on a skit that he wrote and performed in with his Global and Community Action group at Kamloops United Church. Find out more about the book at <https://dixibooks.com/categories/childrens-books/how-hope-became/> You can purchase online at:

<https://www.bookdepository.com/How-Hope-Became-Activist-George-M-Johnson/9781913680008?ref=grid-view&qid=1600100558594&sr=1-1>.

First United Choir Director, Francis is offering a variety of musical classes online.



Click here for details:



<http://choral-music.com/classes/>



Virtually TOGETHER

Join our group Zoom Worship this month: Links will be emailed.

Sunday October 4th @10am - Kelowna United Churches Together
Sunday October 18th @10am - Pacific Mountain Region Virtual Gathering

www.stpaulsunitedkelowna.com



BC Provincial Election October 24th

VOTE BY MAIL

<https://votebymail.elections.bc.ca>

Request a Vote By Mail Package
Fast. Easy. Secure.

If you do not want to physically go into a voting location for the BC Provincial General Election on October 24th, you can quickly and easily request a Vote-By-Mail package online. Follow the instructions on the Elections BC website, and you will receive your package in the mail: <https://votebymail.elections.bc.ca/>

Outreach Opportunity

First United is back in full swing with its outreach program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings handing out bags of groceries for those who have homes but cannot afford groceries, and providing lunches and other easy-to-open, ready-to-eat food for the homeless. This morning there were over 30 people who stopped by and all of them were very grateful for everything they received.

The bags and lunches are handed out at the back door of the church. Due to Covid-19, no one actually enters the church. This process is replacing the sit-down food service that First used to host on these days. The current process is definitely not the same as a meal and a time to rest and warm up and visit with others, but it is still a vital service.

As this outreach ministry picks up, First is once again in need of assistance. Volunteers are needed for many jobs such as supplying sandwiches or goodies for the lunches. or non-perishable foods for the grocery bags.

Sandwiches or baking should be wrapped for individual servings. Groceries can be cases of cans/jars/boxes of pasta, sauce, soup, etc. or can be large containers of items such as rice, oatmeal, brown sugar, etc. that can be divided into individual zip-lock bags. Don't worry, volunteers will do the dividing at the church.

And if you have some spare time to help out personally, I know they would appreciate the help. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings volunteers are generally there from 9 to 11:30. Other jobs could be done throughout the week and Cheryl Perry would be available to organize those times with you individually.

You do not have to volunteer your services every week or on a continuing basis. I know that any donations or assistance that you are able to offer would be appreciated.

If you are interested in providing food for lunches, please see the following instructions [CLICK HERE](#)

Financial donations can be made through Tithely and directed for Outreach [CLICK HERE](#)

And if you have any questions or you need someone to pick up your donation, please feel free to call me at 250-762-9606.

For those who wish to help, and for those who have helped in the past, thank you for your generosity!

Jayne

Join the conversation: 2nd and 4th Friday of each month

Zoom Cafe



Grab a cup and pull
up a chair.

Friday @ 10am - 11am

JOIN IN THE MUSICAL FUN!

HAPPY HOUR

HOSTED BY CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Sylvia Clerke

JOIN IN FOR A SOCIAL SING-A-LONG WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS



**EACH WEDNESDAY
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

ZOOM LINK WILL BE EMAILED OUT ON TUESDAY