

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

(Please note: * indicates please rise in body or in spirit
VU refers to the red hymn book; MV is the coil bound book)

Gathering in song **VU 227 For the Fruit of all Creation**

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker. [x3]
Come now and worship your God.**

MV 2 words and music: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe

Opening Prayer

**God of the oceans, teeming with life,
God of the forests, breathing with life,
God of the fields, erupting with life,
the whole creation is alive with your life.
We praise you for the beauty
for the mystery
for your life-sustaining wisdom
humming at the heart of all creation.
Draw us this day into communion with you
and your beloved world
that we may find our true place,
that we and the whole Earth may be made well,
and you -- well pleased -- your heart gladdened
as in the beginning. Amen**

***Hymn MV 27 Creator God, You Give Us Life**

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

**Listen, listen, be open O my heart.
Love is calling, be open O my heart.**

-words and music: Bret Hesla

Scripture reading: Matthew 13: 10, 13-17

**God's Word is Life!
All: Thanks be to God**

**Listen, listen, be open O my heart.
Love is calling ...**

Reflection

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

**Refrain: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.
Through this bread and wine we share,
may we be your sign of peace everywhere.**
-words and music: Bernadette Farrell

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Offering our Gifts
**Your will be done, be done on earth [x3]
Your will be done on earth. Your will be done on earth.**
-MV 151 traditional song, South Africa

Communion Celebration

Great Thanksgiving [see insert]
[please note: all the bread is gluten free; each chalice
is filled with grape juice]

Communion songs:

**Longing, we gather longing ... longing for peace
Singing, we gather singing ... joyfully strong
Weaving, we gather weaving ... mending the whole
Praying, we gather praying ... the heart of the world
Dreaming, we gather dreaming ... the world to be**
-words and music: Bret Hesla

**Give us our daily bread [x3]
may we be satisfied.**

**May we be satisfied [x3]
with only what we need. [x3]**

**Never be satisfied [x3]
if any be denied.**

**Passing the gift along [x3]
each adding as we can.**

**Five thousand will be fed [x3]
trusting there be enough.**

-words and music: Bret Hesla

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***Hymn VU 299 Teach Me God To Wonder**

***Commissioning and Blessing
Dare to let God encourage, dare to let God inspire!
God is making all things new;
the challenge now is ours
Dare to let God ... Dare to let God.**

-words and music: Bruce Harding

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James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

**October 7, 2018
Thanksgiving Sunday**

Look and See

This morning, at waterside, a sparrow flew
to a water rock and landed, by error, on the back
of an eider duck; lightly it fluttered off, amused.
The duck, too, was not provoked, but, you might say, was
laughing.

This afternoon a gull sailing over
our house was casually scratching
its stomach of white feathers with one
pink foot as it flew.

Oh Lord, how shining and festive is your gift to us, if we
only look, and see.

- Mary Oliver, from Why I Wake Early



A Nourishing Day in Nature at Beautiful Mary Lake Nature Sanctuary: A Retreat with Gertie Jocksh

Our busy lives can keep us cut off from nature. During this day we will reconnect and explore the many healing gifts available to us as we surround ourselves in natural beauty. You are invited to experience the interconnectedness and unity of all living things.

Date: Thursday Oct 18 10 am – 5 pm

Cost: \$65 Please do not let cost deter you, call us.

Location: Mary Lake Nature Sanctuary,
1772 Millstream Rd, Victoria

(Do you need a ride or can you offer a ride, please let us know)

Bring lunch, refreshments are served.

Register: programs@earthliteracies.org

250-220-4601/ 250-888-7501



Celebrating
50
Years!



**How to Solve Homelessness
and Address Affordable
Housing in our Region!**

October 9th at 7pm (Free Event)

An evening event with Greater Victoria Mayoral Candidates to engage in solutions to some of the most important issues facing our region.

Hosted by Our Place Society at First Metropolitan Church,
932 Balmoral Road (entrance on Quadra Street).

Our Place Winter Warm Up - Sleeping Bag/Blanket Drive

Our Place needs your help to gather 300 sleeping bags and 500 blankets to assist our community's most vulnerable this winter. In Victoria, please drop off bags and blankets to 919 Pandora Avenue anytime between Oct. 7 and Oct. 13 (Homeless Action Week) or on the West Shore at 94 Talcott Road between 9:00am-4:00pm from Oct. 9 to Oct. 1.

Scripture Reader: Sylvia Scott

Ushers & Greeters: Sylvia Scott, Cheryl Caldwell

Communion Servers: Colleen Nichol, Beverley McLean, Duncan McLean, Martin Stewart, Wylie Stewart

Cup & Conversation: Eunice Davison and Colleen Nichol

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:

The Church office will be **closed Tuesday, Oct. 9** in lieu of the Monday statutory holiday.

Open Wednesday and Friday 9 am – 12 noon

For Pastoral care emergencies please contact:

Rev. Karen Dickey at 250-592-5931.

THIS WEEK AT JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH:

Tuesday, October 9 – OUTREACH CLOSED

in lieu of the Thanksgiving statutory holiday.

Friday, October 12 - JBUC Thrift Shop

Open 10am – 2pm

Your donations are gratefully received

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

9:00 - 11:30am.

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There will be a congregational meeting in the lower hall following Sunday morning service on October 14th.

Lunch will be served.

The following topics will be covered in our discussion:

1. Presentation on the Communication and Neighbourhood Initiative Report.
2. Analysis of congregational feedback of Sabbatical time.
3. Church Financial Picture to date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free the Voice

Thursday October 18, 6:30-9:30 pm in the church hall.

A 3 hour immersive workshop where participants explore the voice as an instrument that radiates and resonates from the imagination, body, and movement. A chance to not only discover but to fall in love with your voice. This is a healing practice brought to us by Los Angeles based vocalist, composer, teacher, internationally renowned artist and educator, Odeya Nini. Cost: \$50. Space is limited (20 people). Participants need to book in advance:

Daniel Brandes at music.jamesbayunitedchurch@gmail.com
or Vanya Smith at jbuchurch@gmail.com
More info: www.jamesbayunited.com

New Expressions of Faith in the 21st Century for those who missed the “Weird Church” book study and for those who participated, a chance to deepen the conversation with the author

Friday, October 26th 7-9pm, Saturday

October 27th 9am – 4pm

Sunday, October 28th 1-3pm

\$25/person for the entire weekend,
including lunch on Saturday

Each event hosted at

Cadboro Bay United Church,

2625 Arbutus Rd. **Register now: victoriapresbytery.org**



With cold, wet weather coming, Cool Aid is in urgent need of donations of gently used rain shells or jackets, umbrellas, socks, underwear, and blankets. These can be dropped off at the Rock Bay Landing shelter on 535 Ellice

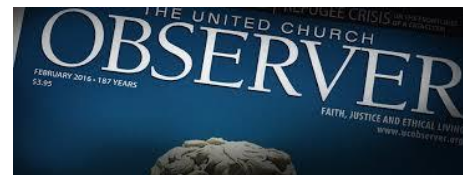
Street or Sandy Merriman House Women's Shelter on 809 Burdett Avenue. Thank you for caring.

Contact information for shelters: (250) 383-1951 (Rock Bay Landing) or (250) 480-1408 (Sandy Merriman). www.CoolAid.org

New in the James Bay United Church library this week:

When Phyllis Jack Webstad turned six; she was taken to residential school. In the days before school started, her grandmother saved money to buy Webstad a new outfit. The excited girl picked out an orange shirt that had a string lace-up front and on her first day of school, the shirt was taken from her and she was given a uniform. Webstad never saw her orange shirt again. THE ORANGE SHIRT STORY is the account of Phyllis and her orange shirt, focusing on her year at residential school. Orange shirts honour survivors and generational survivors of residential schools and symbolize a commitment to ongoing reconciliation efforts in Canada.

<https://www.united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/september-30-orange-shirt-day>



United Church Observer Magazine Renewals for 2019

Our United Church Observer Magazine renewals are now due for 2019. The cost of each subscription for the year will be \$25.00. In order to ensure that we are able to purchase each subscription at the above mentioned price we must have a minimum of five subscriptions. Presently we have 15 persons participating.

Each member or adherent who is presently subscribing to the Observer is asked to Contact Linda Clegg at (250 383-3275) or see her after service on Sundays during the month of October to confirm whether you wish to renew your subscription and pay for it. Those persons who are not presently subscribing to the magazine but would like to are also asked to contact Linda Clegg. The deadline for renewing your subscription or purchasing a new subscription is October 31, 2018 as I must have the information sent back to the Observer before November 10, 2018.

Great Thanksgiving

The Holy One is here!

God's Spirit is with us!

With thanksgiving let us celebrate Christ in our midst.

In hope and joy we do so.

Let us give thanks to God!

All our thanks, all our praise!

Creator of life, of all life, each life,

how does the creature say thanks

for all the beauty, all the mystery, all the wisdom,

every occasion of grace, each expression of mercy.

How could we walk sightless among miracles?

Praise to our God, alleluia! Everybody praise our God!

We give thanks for all the outpouring of love,

all the care and attentiveness that strengthens life

We give thanks for your love that endures forever;

that even when we hoard your gifts, when we are too

afraid to share, you call us back to you, to live in your all

sufficient grace, **that we and the whole creation may live.**

Praise to our God, alleluia! Everybody praise our God!

We give thanks for your presence revealed to us in Jesus,

your Wisdom and our Way,

who walks with us sharing our joy and our sorrow,

healing, forgiving, feeding the hungry,

restoring life where death has had its way.

Praise to our God, alleluia! Everybody praise our God!

So it is that we join the song of all creation as we sing of
your goodness:

**O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space. All
earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the one who comes and bears your name
always.** -MV 203 words: William Kervin, Paul Stott

Mighty and tender God, we recall on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

As he lifted the bread to bless it, it was as though his whole life
was gathered up in that loaf. He thanked you.

"My body," he said, breaking the bread to share with his friends.

"Eat this, and let it become part of you. Do this in the
awareness that I am with you."

**Then he lifted the cup ... as though it was brimming with
his whole life. "My life is poured out that the power of
forgiveness may be released among you," he said. "I am
the vine, you are the branches. Apart from me you can do
nothing. Drink this all of you. Remain in my love."**

Great Healer and Hope of all the world, we hold in the light of
your love all with whom we are given to stand
in solidarity this day. **Hear the prayers of our hearts**

...

Pour out your Spirit upon us, upon these gifts, the whole
creation. **Pour us out for each other. Nourish the life of the
earth.** Make us, while many, one. **Make us, though broken,
whole.** Make us despite death, alive!

**In this hope and as your people, we praise you,
now and forever.**

Lord's Prayer (VU 914)