

Mid-Week Message

Nov. 19, 2020

Church News

ONLINE - UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

Nov 22 nd .	Reign of Christ – Stewardship Sunday
Nov 29 th .	Advent 1 – Hope – West Island Shared Worship Hosted online by Beaconsfield United Church – communion service
Dec 6 th .	Advent 2 – Peace
Dec 13 th .	Advent 3 – Joy
Dec 16 th .	Blue Christmas (19h30-21h)
Dec 20 th .	Advent 4 – Love
Dec 24 th .	Christmas Eve
Dec 27 th .	First Sunday After Christmas

Merging Waters
Pastoral Charge



Worship at Merging Waters: www.mergingwaters.ca/Worship-online



Greetings Merging Waters,

Nov 19th 2020

Last week's Outreach service was an excellent reminder of the work of the church. The work of waking the Divine Dream for the World. A dream of peace, hope, love, and justice for all that the Merging Waters community has at its core. A dream that has shaped our identity and that we continue to work to awaken today, changing lives with justice and compassion, showing love to all the world.

This week we will look to [Matthew 25:1-13](#) to remind us that it takes continuing this deep commitment for us to truly live our faith with authenticity. The passage underscores that our intentional planning and commitment to support these actions will help to midwife this dream into reality. We call that Stewardship.

The Spirit calls us, through Jesus, to see our faithful commitment, Stewardship, Care of the World as Sacred, in different ways. Let's ask ourselves some questions about this:

- What have we been doing in our community to bring about a world united in love?
- How have we been preparing for the growth and continuation of the sacred work we do?
- We know that mission and community cannot be sustained without resources. What are we going to share to fulfill our mission and show our commitment?
- What things can hold us back from showing a full commitment?
- How can we continue to live out our lives of faith even as the world changes?
- How can we help it to change for the better?

I look forward to being joined by members of our Stewardship teams in this week's worship service. We will seek renewal and inspiration together in showing our commitment to lives of faith.

Blessings of peace and hope,

Rev. Ryan Fea

MDiv

ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reverend Ryan Fea will be taking a little time off for Study Leave **Nov 24th through the 30th**. In the event of pastoral needs please contact the church office and support will be provided. He will be back from a time of spiritual reflection and reflection of worship and program planning to join us in Worship with our neighbours on November 29th.

Joint Worship Service In our ongoing commitment to stewarding and supporting the spiritual life of the wider community Merging Waters will join with our neighbours from Beaconsfield and Ste. Genevieve United Churches in joint worship on November 29th for the 1st Sunday in Advent – the Sunday of Hope. communion service. Bring your own Elements (BYOE).

The details will be on our usual worship page as usual www.mergingwaters.ca/worship-online

Ebi Kimanani Scholarship fundraiser – Beautiful pillowcases made by Linda Toivanen: all season two pairs and 5 singles; Christmas two pairs and one single. Pairs are \$25 and singles \$13. Cheques can be made to Beaurepaire United with Caring for Kenya in the op/info line. Inquiries to Susan Cruickshank, susanc394@hotmail.com or 514-694-3382



Willing Voices Wanted: We are looking for a few volunteers to announce the Community News and read scripture during our live Zoom services. Please let Christine know if you are interested, at cbmw@bell.net

Michael Woytiuk has been posting Haunting piano classics videos every day the month of October. Check them out! 31 YouTube videos over 31 days, quite an accomplishment here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAd_9lKffha0x7k49giWcHQo2L7CA8LHm

Boutique 24 - needs **WINTER CLOTHES ONLY** – coats and boots and winter gear in good condition & clean, ONLY no other boutique items at this time. Boutique volunteers are at Adair on Wednesdays 1-3pm to receive your winter items. If that doesn't work with your schedule, call June Hudon she will meet you there: 514-713-5054. Also, June has a paper cutter, to donate to who ever is interested, Fiskar with 2 blades. Call or email: June at 514-713-5054 or email june5054@videotron.ca

Lynn Thompson is still making Christmas and other occasion cards. If you are interested drop her and email at: lynnathompson3@icloud.com She prefers cash, but no e-transfers.



■ The **Friday Church Café** - Grab a coffee or hot cocoa and join Rev. Ryan for chat and community every Friday afternoon from **2 pm until 3:00 pm** on Zoom.

This week Rev. Ryan and **Eric Norris**, invite you to discuss Krista Tippett's podcast interview, from her show "On Being," of legendary US civil rights activist **Vincent Harding** considering the topic "**Is America Possible?**"

Join into the conversation, take an hour of Covid19 lockdown time **to listen to the podcast** at <https://onbeing.org/programs/vincent-harding-is-america-possible/> and meet-up at during our weekly-online

Church Café on Friday 20 November, 2 PM. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84212312440>

Stay after (3pm Friday) if you want a Zoom practice session?

Friday-Church Café is on hiatus on **Nov 27th** during Rev Ryan's study leave.

Zoom Practice Sessions: Worship is live weekly on Zoom! Do you want to get to know this useful tool better? Would you like to get more out of Zoom? Are you interested in volunteering as a Zoom Usher during services? Come to the Zoom practice session after the Church Café each week at 3 pm, same link as the Church Café, and get to know this worship resource with Rev. Ryan.



Zoom Practice Sessions on hiatus on **Nov 27th**, but you probably guessed that by now.



On Sunday (Nov 22nd) the Zoom will be open as of 10am so we can join together for a time of gathering and stay after to talk about the theme of the worship for a bit. I hope you have been enjoying the live worship, a more authentic community experience, more live feel.

LOVE
is patient
is kind
it does not envy
it does not boast
it is not proud
it is not rude
it is not self seeking
it is not easily angered
it keeps no record of wrongs
never fails

Merging Waters Pastoral Charge is a community that cares - Our Pastoral Care team is there to help you with your concerns.

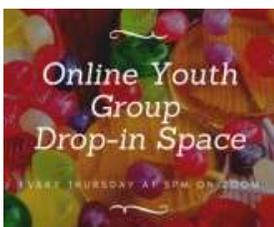
Ivy Lewis Union Pastoral Care Chair: lewisir@hotmail.com &

Diane Nener Beaufort Pastoral Care Coordinator: dianenener@icloud.com

A reminder: we do have the prayer circle made up of members from both Union and Beaufort and that if they do have any **prayer requests** to let me know lewisir@hotmail.com.



Spiritual Practices - on our website check out Spiritual Life for links to Worship at Home – Yoga at Home – Spiritual Centering. www.mergingwaters.ca



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS WEEKLY ZOOM YOUTH GROUP

(target age high school age, roughly 14-19 yrs) If you, or a young person you know of would like a place to chat, hang-out, check-in and see friends from across the regional council, send them the info for our ZOOM Youth Group, Thursdays at 5:00 pm EST.

Contact Shanna for details about how to connect: sbernier@united-church.ca

Online Children's Churches – Ongoing

✚✚ Merging Waters has all of our members at heart, at this time as all times. As part of a wider community we are sharing our worships, programs, time, and love with the world. Other congregations and parts of the church are too. To help support the spiritual life of the children of the Pastoral charge we sent out resources to help families engage their children in their faith life during lent.



To help faith communities and families continue to support the spiritual lives of our children during the COVID-19 pandemic, Shanna Bernier, the Nakonha:ka Regional Council Program Support Minister for Youth and Young Adults, is offering a weekly online children's church service on Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sundays. Videos of all past services are available on the Nakonha:ka Regional Council website:

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/youth-young-adult/>

To join in the Facebook Live Children's Church, go to Shanna's Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/shanna.bernier> 9am Sundays. Then you can all join us for the Online Worship at Merging Waters.

Your church needs you - Merging Waters supports the community and makes a difference in the lives of others. We need your support to keep our mission going:

If you would like to get on Pre-Authorised Remittance [download the PAR Form](#), print and send it in with a void cheque to either church address – you can also send a cheque or post-dated cheques:

Union Church

24 Maple

Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue

Qc, H9X 2E6

Beaurepaire United

25 Avenue Fieldfare

Beaconsfield,

QC H9W 4W4

Mail is picked-up regularly

If you are already on PAR and would like to increase your monthly offering to support the ongoing mission and work of the church please email par@united-church.ca providing them your name and congregation and how much you would like to increase your monthly amount.

Another way to support our churches is through CanadaHelps, it is online, it is secure, you get a tax receipt from them and you are anonymous.

For Union Church: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/union-church-ste-anne-de-bellevue/>

For Beaurepaire United Church: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/beaurepaire-united-church/>

Interment Lots for Sale

Union Church has two double interment lots for sale. All four lots are located side-by-side in the Garden of the Last Supper in Rideau Memorial Gardens, boulevard des Sources, Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Quebec. Each lot can accommodate either one casket and two cremated remains or no caskets and three cremated remains. Rideau Memorial Gardens sell similar lots for \$4500.00 plus taxes. Your cost to purchase from Union Church would be \$4000.00 for one lot or \$7500 for a double lot. Enquiries: David Lewis (Chair, Board of Trustees) 514-457-9139, david.lewis@mcgill.ca



E-ssentials

E-ssentials e-newsletter offers all the "essential" news from The United Church of Canada, including updates on events, campaigns, actions, new resources, and more from the General Council Office and beyond! Published twice each month, with occasional special issues. Aug 18th issue. <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es200818?e=9455c8855f>

Nakonha:ka News – This is an online publication that comes to us twice a month from the Regional Council (there is no more Presbytery or Conference). Usually printed and posted at both pastoral charges.

Here is the link: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/newsletter/>

available in English and French versions. A brand new very interesting, issue Nov 12th.

https://mcusercontent.com/cdc0cf1d3f8a8fb5ab6228426/files/cd5017e7-463c-4c1c-9533-5898bd004de3/Nouvelles_NAKONHAKA_News_2020_11_11_E2.pdf



CONSEIL RÉGIONAL
NAKONHA:KA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble – is an online publication that comes to us quarterly. Current news letter arrived Oct 27th
<https://mailchi.mp/9107ea9464b9/your-affirm-joined-ewsletter-4465650?e=80e28d0cfb>



Want to start your day with prayer? Check out Rev Darryl Macdonald's **Celtic Meditations** on the Roxboro United Church Facebook weekday mornings at 9 am.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/roxborounited>

Community News

City of Ste-Annes food drive On **December 6th, 2020, starting at 12 p.m.**, volunteers from municipal services and from the community will cover all the streets of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue to collect donations. **What types of donations are accepted?** Non-perishable food, hygiene products, cleaning products, cash donations or by check in the name of the Food Bank. **What will your donations be used for?** Your donations will be used to prepare Christmas baskets for families in need in the community as well as to ensure regular support for many individuals or families throughout the year. Questions? Contact the Food Bank Committee at 514 820-7174

City of Ste-Annes notice Every year, as part of its maintenance program for the water main system, the City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue rinses pipes throughout the city. From Monday, September 9th to Friday, October 11th, the Public Works Department is inspecting the fire hydrants throughout the City. **South sector** : From Monday, November 16th to Friday, November 27th, from Monday to Friday, 7 am to 5 pm for the whole sector southbound of Highway 40. These interventions may cause rusty colored water. Simply let the cold water run until it clears up. We advise you to do your laundry in the evening or on the weekend to avoid staining your clothes.



Little friendly reminder that, during the winter season, the market is open from **10am to 1pm** indoor/outdoor weather permitting
 Below is the list of vendors who signed up for the winter market. We, however, cannot guarantee that all will be present at each market. This week we expect the following vendors:

- Culture Adamo
- les jardins Carya
- Du champ aux pots
- Masala Dhabba
- Équipe zéro
- Multi-ferme
- Érablière des Roy
- Plume des champs
- 11111Ferme A. Lauzon
- SUUT
- Ferme de l'île mtl
- Tannahill Soaps
- Ferme Diodati SENC
- TWIGS
- Ivoire et Cabosse Cacao (Amango Cacao)
- Worke's Kitchen
- La maison de thé O Chadô

Do you know KAIROS? Their focus is Ecological Justice and Human Rights
<https://www.kairoscanada.org/> on **Friday Nov 20 at 1pm** they have online forum will feature presentations regarding migrant justice, followed by justice updates from across our region.

West Island Cancer Wellness Centre <https://wicwc.com/>

West Island Citizen Advocacy <https://volunteerwica.com/>



Many Languages of Peace

Many of you have noticed that I say the Benediction in different languages and have asked what they are. I am very pleased to share this with you. Each comes with a story.

For the context of this question a **benediction** (Latin: bene, well + dicere, to speak) is a short invocation for divine help, blessing and guidance, usually at the end of worship service.

The last language I will mention in this series is Spanish. I often include the benediction used in many Spanish speaking churches “Vaya con Dios,” which literally means “go with God,” although it is often translated for meaning “go in the way of God.” The phrase is formed of “vaya”, which is the third-person singular present subjunctive of the verb “ir,” meaning “to go”; “con,” which means “with”; and “Dios,” which of course means God.

The subjunctive verb here expresses a hope or desire, not just a possibility. Linguists refer to this as a hortative or jussive subjunctive. In other words, in idiomatic English, “God be with you” or “go with God.” The intention is to address the community in a formal but collective way that we travel with God blessed by our connections as a community. As it is a time of blessings for peace, what way could be more peace-filled than that which is travelled in community with God in who we move, and breathe, and have our being.

I was first inspired by the act of including the benediction in Spanish at inner-city congregations both in Montreal and Toronto as an acknowledgement and celebration of diversity and welcome. This was also the benediction that was used by communities with whom I shared in worship in Cuba during a trip for religious immersion and exchange. The communities were spirit-filled and committed to justice and inclusion. Even in the midst of deprivation and oppression they lifted up generosity and welcome. These people who had so little shared all that they had with us in spirit, hospitality, joyous worship, work of justice and education, and food. My experience reminded me that people are the true blessing, and that the love shared between us all is the Divine

Food Banks

On Rock in Pierrefonds east: <http://onrock.org/donate.html>

Fonds d'aide in Roxboro: (through Canada Helps) <https://www.canadahelps.org/fr/dn/15557>

West Island Mission: (also through Canada Helps) <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/42261/donation>

Gifts with Vision Catalogues have arrived! But since they will be at the church buildings, you will have to use the internet to see the inspiring programs the United Church is supporting. This will be the third year I will use Gifts with Vision to buy for those I just don't know what to get for Christmas <https://giftswithvision.ca/>

Susan's Bag of Tricks:

Have you seen **Bunny the dog**? It makes me look at dog training in a whole new way.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A83-MNqTzkM>

Florist in Ste-Annes has closed up business. If you call the number you get the lovely florist on Don Quichotte right across from La Belle Province.

Sauvons la Forêt Fairview / Save Fairview Forest <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3411049529008536/>

A Prayer During the Time of COVID

In this time of COVID-19, we pray:

When we aren't sure, God,

help us be calm;

when information comes

from all sides, correct and not,

help us to discern;

when fear makes it hard to breathe,

and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,

slow us down, God;

help us to reach out with our hearts,

when we can't touch with our hands;

help us to be socially connected,

when we have to be socially distant;

help us to love as perfectly as we can,

knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."

For the doctors, we pray,

for the nurses, we pray,

for the technicians and the janitors and the

aides and the caregivers, we pray,

for the researchers and theorists,

the epidemiologists and investigators,

for those who are sick,

and those who are grieving, we pray,

for all who are affected,

all around the world...

we pray

for safety,

for health,

for wholeness.

May we feed the hungry,

give drink to the thirsty,

clothe the naked and house those without homes;

may we walk with those who feel they are alone,

and may we do all that we can to heal

the sick—

in spite of the epidemic,

in spite of the fear.

Help us, O God,

that we might help each other.

In the love of the Creator,

in the name of the Healer,

in the life of the Holy Spirit that is in all and with all,

we pray.

May it be so.

— A prayer during times of COVID-19 by the **Right Rev. Richard Bott**, originally posted on Facebook.

Moderator Bott encourages the sharing of prayers he posts throughout his term.