

Greetings Merging Waters,

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

This week has been one of creativity and visioning, the Merging Waters Board and many committees have been hard at work. We are seeking to put this time of change, where things are shaken up, to work and explore different ways of being the church. There has been much creativity in fundraisers, worship, and programs which continue to inspire some upcoming events that I hope you will all keep an eye out for on the website and midweek message.

As I have lifted the community in my prayers for hope and support, I continue to lift up prayers of thanksgiving for each of you bringing your particular personality, inspiration, and gifts to our life as a community of faith. There have been troubles and challenges during this pandemic but you have risen to meet them with faithful and loving community. We have faced the reality of limits with honest feelings leading to acceptance, and met with passion the call to continue our work as a people who celebrate togetherness. The Spirit is alive in the life of Merging Waters which we are showing is not put to an end by challenge but rather inspired to find and encourage life abundantly lived.

This week Merging Waters will share our commitment to vision and answering the call to be faithful community at all times as we host the Combined West Island United Churches in Worship. We will be reminded by engaging the readings this week, [1 Corinthians 7:29-31](#) and [Mark 1:14-20](#), of our call to discipleship and hope of renewal found in the message that is shared in the life of Jesus.

As we move, not only toward this week's service but also into the future of the church, let us look at ourselves, our congregations, journey of faith, wider community and world continuing to ask:

- Who are we?

I look forward to answering this and other questions in our continued journey, as we embrace the ways that these answers will inform our decisions and actions.

Lifting prayers of peace and courage for each one of you,  
Rev. Ryan Fea  
MDiv  
ryanfea.mergingwaters@gmail.com