

KAIROS VICTORIA URGES CHURCHES (continued from inside)

Faith communities can play an important role in this emergency. We know the strength and hope that arises from taking collective actions to change the world. Let's work with the students and young adults in Victoria who will live out most of their lives in this state of climate emergency and build the world we really want together. All our relations! *The way we see the world shapes the way we treat it. If a mountain is a deity, not a pile of ore; if a river is one of the veins of the land, not potential irrigation water; if a forest is a sacred grove, not timber; if other species are biological kin, not resources; or if the planet is our mother, not an opportunity- then we will treat each other with greater respect. Thus is the challenge- to look at the world from a different perspective."* David Suzuki

In peace and solidarity,
Janet Gray and Susan Draper, Victoria KAIROS Coordinators
for any questions please contact thegrays@shaw.ca or graceful@shaw.ca

Information about the national KAIROS Climate Action Month:

It is a KAIROS initiative intended to further reconciliation by encouraging discussion and reflection on how climate change and Indigenous issues are deeply interwoven. The fossil fuel economy has caused dramatic changes to Canada's landscape and rapidly increasing environmental degradation. Climate change is visible in all parts of the country through flooding, permafrost loss, larger wildfires, and higher temperatures. It is also having disproportionate impacts, such as forced displacements of Indigenous communities. KAIROS' climate action is rooted in reconciliation, so this initiative will amplify and prioritize Indigenous voices.

Check out this link for more details and resources:
<https://www.kairoscanada.org/climateactionmonth>

Services

9:00 am Worship with Communion in the Chapel

11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary

Lead Minister	Shelagh MacKinnon	Ext 233
Director of Music Ministry	Kelly Charlton	Ext 231
Sunday School Leaders	Hayley Henderson & Micia Kanstrup	Ext 225
Building Supervisor	Bruce Davies	Ext 232

Church Office: 932 Balmoral Road, Victoria BC V8T 1A8

Phone: 250 388-5188 Fax: 250 388-5186

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:30 Closed on Statutory Holidays

Email: office@firstmetvictoria.com Website: www.firstmetvictoria.com

Announcements ~September 8, 2019

Prayer Requests : May be sent to the Prayer Team via the Sunday offering basket, the church office Prayer Box, or prayer@firstmetvictoria.com.

Caring and Sharing: Laurie Morgan, Tom Henderson

CONDOLENCES: Our congregation extends prayers and condolences to the family of Tom Lane, particularly his daughter Patricia who notified us last Sunday that Tom had died on Saturday morning, Aug. 31 peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his family. He was 92. Many will remember that until his infirmities required him to stay closer to home, Tom worshipped with us here for more than a decade and regularly helped us at coffee hours gather countless signatures over the years for prisoners of conscience through Amnesty International. Tom was relentless in his insistence on raising the bar on doing our best for climate justice issues. A service was held Thurs., Sept 5 at Oak Bay United Church. Donations to Amnesty International or Sierra Club of BC in memory of Tom would be appreciated.

CONDOLENCES: Our congregation continues to extend prayers and condolences to the Rev. Gordon Cann and family in their loss of his wife of 62 years, Annie Sarah (nee Morrison) Cann. She passed away at home on August 22. Memorial services will be held in Victoria BC and in Whycomomagh NS at a later date. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer Society (<https://www.alzheimerbc.org/>) would be appreciated.

CONDOLENCES: Our love and prayers are with Fred Carr and the family of Helen Carr nee Green. In the early hours of Wednesday Sept 4, Helen peacefully passed away. Helen and her family were long time loyal members of Metropolitan United and latterly here at First Met. She active in the Children's Ministry and was much loved by her little secret pals. She will be missed.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Thursday Sept 12 at 2:30 pm. In the Sanctuary.



**Sunday School
September 8, 2019**

Back to school and the sun still shines! Today in Sunday school you'll shine too – we all know the Lord's Prayer, Psalm 23 and 1 John 4:11. We'll wrap up all this and more, get our kites in the air, and make plans with lots of new ideas! Sunday September 15th - bring your family & friends for our Sunday school start up! Hot dogs, ice cream, potluck, a bouncy castle/obstacle course, games and fun – all right after the 11 am service!

Today: 1 John 4: 11

¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **New International version (NIV)**

Family talk: What's your favourite bedtime prayer?

~Micia and Hayley

Reach us at children@firstmetvictoria.com

*The Lord is my shepherd
I shall not want
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures
He leadeth me beside still waters
and restoreth my soul...*

Our Sunday School Vision Statement: To teach and nourish God's transformative love in an inclusive spiritual community, to share stories of Jesus and the Bible to enable children and youth to develop a spiritual framework for life, to involve and encourage all in worship, outreach, and community engagement, to give and teach tools to our children and youth, core beliefs, and practices of the United Church, and to witness children, youth and families happily engaged in church activities.

The Great Canadian Hymn Sing with orchestra, organ, piano and vocalists will at the Royal Theatre, September 8th at 3 pm (\$25 discounted tickets available to church members using code: singuntothelord when purchasing online at www.rmts.bc.ca/events/great-canadian-sing-2019-royal-theatre, or by phone at 250-361-5402.

Events for Sept. 8th—Sept. 15th, 2019 at First Met

Sunday, Sept. 8

9:00	Communion	Chapel/124
10:00	Choir Practice	Social Suite/200
11:00	Worship	Sanctuary/122

Monday, Sept. 9

9:30	SC&W Committee Meeting	Social Suite/200
9:30	UCW Mildred Mossop	DMR/119
10:30	Gentle Yoga	Chapel/124
11:00	Healing Pathways	225
12:00	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall/100

Tuesday, Sept 10

10:00	Property Resource Team Meeting	DMR/119
6:30	Knitting	Toddlers/113B

Wednesday, Sept. 11

10:30	Gentle Yoga	Chapel/124
12:00	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall/100
1:30	Chair Yoga	Chapel/124

Thursday, Sept. 12

9:00	Strollers end of season tea	DMR/119
11:00	Healing Pathways	225
7:00	Choir Practice	Social Suite/200

Friday, Sept. 13

10:30	Gentle Yoga	Chapel/125
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Sunday September 15

9:00	Communion	Chapel/124
10:00	Choir Practice	Social Suite/122
11:00	Worship	Sanctuary/122



Programs in Earth Literacies Fall Programs

Nature & Psyche with Layman Pascal (Sept 10 – 17) & Gertie Jocksch (Sept 24 – Oct 1) Tues, Sept 10 - Oct 1, 2019, 10 am – 12 pm | \$75 or \$20 Drop in, Friends House, 1831 Fern St.

Layman Pascal will explore the need for a more profound mutuality between Humanity and Nature, Mind and Body, Noosphere and Biosphere in order to address the emerging planetary and personal crises that we face. Gertie Jocksch will continue this exploration through the work of ecotheologian Thomas Berry.



Join youth and young adults across Canada who are making their voices heard by striking during the **GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE WEEK, September 20-27**. People of the United Church and communities of faith are standing in solidarity with young climate strikers. For more information or to register your event, visit www.fridaysforfuture.ca.

We would love to hear what you are doing during Global Climate Strike Week or why climate justice is important to you! Let us know by sharing a photo or video online using the hashtags #ClimateStrikes, #FridaysforFuture, and #UCCan for a re-post. Or send your photo or video to us at justice@united-church.ca to be posted on the United Church's social media accounts.

Reminders from our Director of Music Ministry, Kelly Charlton:



No Choir Practice on Sept 12 and 19 when Kelly is on vacation)—will resume Sept. 26.

Pringle Bells will recommence Fri. Sept 27 in Room 200 at 10 am.



Finally, during Kelly's vacation Sept 9-21, **Amber Dayton** (alto choral scholar) **will play at the services on Sunday, Sept 15.**

YOGA IN THE CHAPEL RESUMES:

Gentle Yoga: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at 10:30 am.

Chair Yoga: Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.

TAI CHI IN FELLOWSHIP HALL RESUMES

Mondays and Wednesday at Noon.

KNITTING GROUP IN 113B RESUMES on September 10 at 6:30 in 113B (Toddlers).

Guys' "Water Into Wine" Night—Tues., Sept. 10th 7-9 pm

First Met men are invited to meet for conversation, a pint (if they wish) and a bite to eat at the Bent Mast Pub, 512 Simcoe St. in James Bay. The evening starts at 7 p.m. in the room upstairs. This is not an exclusive group - the invitation is to any guys who might enjoy an evening out together with some other guys from the church.



Volunteering for the Ecumenical Service at Mt St Mary Hospital.

Our service dates for the rest of 2019 are Sept 16. Oct 21, Nov 18 and Dec 16.

In advance, take proof of flu vaccination and police record check to Anne McCaffrey, MSMH Volunteer Coordinator, 250-480-3118. Complete instructions are available through Vanessa at (islandpilgrim@gmail.com and 250-415-9272).

WE URGENTLY NEED FOR 3 PORTERS on Sept. 16 at 10:20 am and 3 PORTERS on Oct. 21 at 10:20 am.

Victoria indie-folk trio **WEST MY FRIEND** (Jeff Poynter's band) has reached their 10th birthday, and to celebrate they are releasing their fourth album, recorded with 53-piece symphony orchestra! They will be joined by more than 130 musicians on the stage of the Alix Goolden Performance Hall, including members of Victoria's symphony community, The Choir & The Chorus, and the VCM Senior String Ensemble. Check out www.westmyfriend.com to learn more about the band.

West My Friend Album Release + 10th Birthday Concert
September 20th, 2019—Alix Goolden Performance Hall

Doors 7:00 | Concert 7:30

\$25 General | \$20 Student / Low Income

Tickets at Alix Goolden, Ivy's Books, and alixgooldenhall.com

First Met Men's Group: Our first fall gathering of the First Met Men's Group will be held this coming **Tues., Sept. 10th** at **noon**. Our presenter is Dr. Mary-Wynne Ashford who will be speaking on the topic, *"The Beginning of the End for Nuclear Weapons"*. As we did last year, we will meet at the **Oak Bay Recreation Centre -1975 Bee St.**, Victoria. The luncheon and meeting will be held in the **'Lounge'** on the second floor which can be accessed by the stairs or an elevator. There is parking adjacent to the Centre. Please contact Earl Jenson (778-265-4198) or Cyril Nasim (250-383-0400) if you need a ride.

VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS We are glad that you chose to worship with us this morning. In order for us to get to know you better, there are Welcome Cards in the seat pocket that you can complete and leave in the offering baskets or pass to a greeter after the service. If you like, tear off and keep the blue card that has our contact information

KAIROS VICTORIA URGES CHURCHES:

“RING THE BELLS! WAKE UP THE TOWN! IT’S A CLIMATE EMERGENCY!”

Throughout history, church or community bells have called us to wake, to pray, to work, to arms, to celebrate and, in times of crisis, to come together. In World War II in Great Britain, all church bells were silenced and rang only to inform of an invasion by enemy troops.

Canada, like the city of Victoria and other cities across the nation, has declared a climate emergency. Now what? Business as usual continues to dominate the news; the kinds of transformative collective change that will be required to meet this emergency exists more on paper and in the minds of activists and academics, than it does in the actions of our leaders and the policies of most governments.

This has to change. **With only 11 years to reduce our carbon emissions by 45% in order to avoid irreversible climate disruption (<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12131.doc.htm>), there is NO TIME TO WASTE.** We are all stewards of this beautiful planet and this emergency, is unlike any humanity has ever grappled with before. **WE NEED TO START RINGING THE BELLS AND WAKING PEOPLE UP TO THIS NEW REALITY.**

How can communities of faith show Victoria that they are awake and ready to respond to this crisis? Here’s what you can do:

If your faith community has a church bell, ring that bell for 11 minutes at 12noon on September 27th, 2019 (a minute for each year we have to turn this around and prevent catastrophe). That date coincides with the Global Climate Strike action that will be happening in Victoria and around the world at that time. In addition to ringing your bell(s), consider gathering a group of people to stand on the front steps of your building with signs declaring a climate emergency and other appropriate slogans. *(There will be a general media release so if your church is going to ring its bell(s), let us know so that we can include it.).* **If you do not have a church bell, we encourage you to draw your faith community’s attention on Sunday, September 22nd to the Global Climate Strike Week of Action.** All kinds of local events are being planned in Victoria for that week including these family-friendly ones:

Rally and Teach-in for Climate Justice, organized by the Greater Victoria Teachers Association, Parents 4 Climate, and Dogwood BC

Time: 1:30 - 3 PM—Location: BC Legislature

<https://www.facebook.com/events/638460760011883/th>

Student walkouts organized by Divest UVic, Our Time, Our Earth Our Future, and more! Time: 11am Location: UVic, Camosun, and schools all around the region, and then gather at the BC Legislature for....

GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE Victoria. Join us at the Legislature from 12-5pm. Expect: painting, music, speakers and lots of people power! We are calling on everyone to stop business as usual and walk out of their schools or workplaces for the afternoon. (Continued on back page)

HOSPITALITY: All are welcome to join us in the **Fellowship Hall** (just follow the crowd down the hall) for refreshments after our service today. If you are new to our church we would love to get to know you; please use a blue mug which will identify you as a visitor or newcomer. And as we move into the fall, we would love to have more volunteers to help us serve coffee/tea on Sunday mornings. Many hands make light the work, so please consider signing up on the volunteer sheet on the refreshment table. Thank you!



FRIENDSHIP CLUB—next meeting Sept. 18. More info. to follow.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 11 AM SERVICE RECOGNITION CEREMONY for Allan and Megumi Saunders, recently appointed as Ministers Emeriti of First Metropolitan United Church.

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE

For those needing *emergency* pastoral care after regular business hours please call the church main number 250-388-5188 and press 4 . Wait to be connected to the minister on call.

If you have a non-emergency need, you may either leave a message anytime or call the office during regular hours.

Parking Notice please do remember to register your vehicle, and your whereabouts (while you are in the building) on the clipboard provided in the hall. If you do not do so you may be towed.

Please email all announcement submissions to: announcements@firstmetvictoria.com WITHOUT copying the office. Thank you from The Communications Team.

FIRST MET FALL HOURS EFFECTIVE SEPT. 9, 2019

Monday to Friday

Building is open: 8:30—3:30 & 5:45—9:45

Church Office is open: 9:00—3:30

The Church is open on Sundays 8:30-2:00