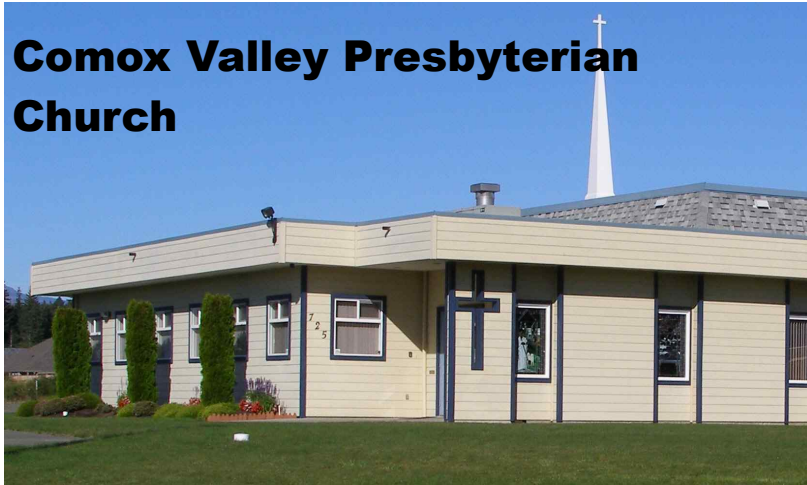


Connections Fall 2015



Comox Valley Presbyterian Church

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Over the summer I have had the great privilege of taking in some of the various music festivals and musical acts that have come to town. I love live music, both the communal experience and the spontaneity! I enjoyed listening to Lyle Lovett and Graham Nash at the Vancouver Island Music Fest, more than I had anticipated and I thoroughly enjoyed listening to my favourite sibling act, the Barbers, at the Filberg Festival. There has been quite a diverse array of genres. We listened to electronic music at the Atmosphere gathering, and enjoyed the Strathcona Symphony at the air park. One of the most memorable was the Bhangra-Celtic mix of Delhi 2 Dublin. Music has an ability to draw us in, to transform a moment, to take us down memory lane and to reach us at our very core. For that reason, and since it has been a summer of music, I thought it would be a good idea to reflect on our favourite hymns.

I remember my father telling me a cautionary tale about ministry. A minister arrived at his new church and realized that the pew Bibles were horrendously out of date. As a result he decided to change them to the more modern translation of the NRSV. Anticipating some push-back he braced himself for some concerns. However, none came. Everyone adjusted to the new translation without any problems. A year later when the new hymnbook was released, the minister replaced all the old hymnbooks with the new ones, expecting a similar result. However, it was greeted with much uproar. People couldn't believe that hymns had changed, been removed and new ones added! It demonstrates that for many of us our hymns are sacred. I understand that. I don't know what I would do if they changed the words to my favourite hymn! But when I began to research it, I discovered that the words for my favourite hymn had been

changed over the years, many times!

My favourite hymn is Be Thou My Vision (# 461 in the Book of Praise). I enjoy the booming introduction and the imagery of arming ourselves with God's righteousness. I have heard a men's choir sing it in Old Irish and the harmonies are quite moving yet simple. It is the hymn that was sung at our wedding and it reminds me of how, in all our life changes and struggles, we need only set our eyes on God. The hymn is also one of the oldest still in our hymnbook. It dates to about the eighth century and is attributed to a sixth century Irish poet, Saint Dallan. It has been part of the monastic tradition in Ireland for a long time, but was only set to music in the twentieth century. The tune is called Slane and comes from an old Irish folk song. While there are many variations in translations, the English words most familiar to us were translated by Eleanor Hull in 1912. Perhaps part of

the reason why this hymn tugs at my heart strings is because it touches that quarter of me which comes from Ireland. It harkens back to my roots.

While I commit to choosing hymns that fit well with the sermon and Scripture themes, which means learning a few new ones every now and again, I also commit to choosing those hymns that for you, are your favourite. Never hesitate to share with me your favourite hymn (or offering hymn) suggestions. Thank you for sharing some of your favourites with us. You can look forward to them in the upcoming worship services! May the music of Summer flow through to our Autumn songs and make us ready to sing those classic carols that carry us through Winter until the song birds return once again in Spring!

The Rev. Jenn Geddes

Important Dates from the Minister

Aug. 30-Sept. 7	Jenn on holidays
Sept. 8	Session
Sept. 13-21	Jenn on holidays
Sept. 22	Presbytery at Chinese Presbyterian Church, Victoria
Sept. 24	Advanced Care Planning Workshop 1-3pm
Sept. 30-Oct. 3	Jenn at Church Doctrine Committee Meetings in Toronto
Oct. 4	World Communion Sunday
Starting Oct. 7	Every Wednesday (except Oct. 21 and Nov. 11) Minor Prophets Bible Study
Oct. 16-18	Jenn at BC Synod in Nanaimo
Oct. 21-24	Jenn at Canada Youth Panning Team meetings in Ontario

Ladies Bible Study

A thank you to Jean Bullard for leading the Ladies Bible Study for the past 5 years. Jean is retiring from this position to pursue other roles. She lead the study with wonderful integrity and hard work, researching each session using quality historical resources. Jean could write a book with all of her amazing research. Thank you Jean!

Join us for an afternoon workshop on Advanced Care Planning!

No matter your age or stage, everyone is invited to attend a workshop provided by the Hospice Society on September 24, 1-3pm at CVPC, on developing your advance care plan. This workshop will explain what you need to know in the event that you or someone you love needs advanced care, including appropriate paper work, contacts, and steps. It will give some advance care planning basics as well as options. Included in the workshop is the helpful book, "My Voice: Expressing My Wishes for Future Health Care Treatment". The cost for this book is normally \$5 but will be available for free for those who attend, thanks to the Memorial Fund (In Memory of Ivan Cronsberry). Please be sure to sign up on the bulletin board so that the Hospice Society can provide enough booklets.

Minor Prophets Bible Study

Ever wondered who Amos was or why Jonah went to Nineveh? Ever wondered why there are twelve minor prophets? Ever wondered how these prophets' words could be relevant to us today? Starting **Wednesday Oct. 7** join Rev. Jenn every Wednesday from **2:30-4 pm** for a six week introductory Bible Study on those minor prophets. No previous prophetic experience required. Everyone welcome!

\$10 A MONTH CLUB

The \$10 a month club continues to help children in need in our school system. Initially most of the money went to provide September school supplies. Now the Kiwanis Club and Staples *Load the Lockers* campaign fill bags of school supplies.

The needs of children in our school system persist in other areas, and most principals try to quietly fill in gaps. A bathing suit allows a child to join a trip to the pool. Running shoes may be needed for gym class. Extra winter coats let students enjoy outside time in snowy weather. Hot lunches are provided at many schools as a fundraiser for school programs, often times there are students who are never able to afford these treat lunches. The joy on a child's face when they are told they are being sponsored for hot lunches for a month is amazing. Helping children participate in field trips and ski lessons with the rest of their class is another use of the funds. Even with subsidies and sponsorships, there are residual costs to families that some cannot manage without help from the Club funds. Schools have used these funds to supplement breakfast and lunch programs, sometimes buying a needed piece of kitchen equipment or supplies. At times schools have bought new clothing for children who have lost everything in a fire or through a traumatic move to a new home.

To administer the funds, I ask what needs schools have and share the money where needs are strongest. Every time I send the email, schools are so thankful that our church is willing to do something concrete to meet the needs of children. The schools all thank you for your support.

Corinne Wester

Note: You can read the thank you letters from the schools on the hall bulletin board.

FAVOURITE HYMNS

A recent survey of the hymns most cherished by our congregation revealed a wide diversity of choice and source. Here they are, followed by the hymn number in our current hymnal, *The Book of Praise*, 1997. Those that come from elsewhere are footnoted.

Amazing Grace # 670	Lord , the light of your love is shining #376
A Man there lived in Galilee ¹	Onward, Christian soldiers #487.
Be still now my soul (tune Finlandia) #749	Part of the family ⁵
Brother, sister let me serve you #635	Rock of ages, cleft for me #240
Day is dying in the west ²	Softly and tenderly #640
Eternal Father, strong to save #325	Spirit, Spirit of gentleness #399
Fairest Lord Jesus #375	The old rugged cross ⁶
Friends of the Lord/Amigos de Cristo #476	The day dawn is breaking ⁷
God, you touch the earth with beauty #667	This is my Father's world #328
Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah ³	To God be the glory #350
In the garden (I come to the garden) ⁴	The Virgin Mary had a baby boy ⁸
Jesus loves me #373.	What a friend we have in Jesus #746
Lord of the dance/I danced in the.. #250	What gift can we bring? #798

1 *The Book of Praise*, 1972, #168.

2 *Praise! Our Songs and Hymns*, #109.

3 *The Book of Praise*, 1972, #504.

4 *Praise! Our Songs and Hymns*, #541.

5 *Songs for a Gospel People*, #44

6 *Praise! Our Songs and Hymns*, #554

7 Latter Day Saints Hymnal #52

8 West Indian folksong (probably Trinidadian).

GLEANINGS - MUSIC IN THE LIFE OF COMOX VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The hymns we sing as part of our worship are part of the memories of special services that go back to our early days when we were few in numbers and lead us to the present time.

September 25, 1994: The first service was held at the Comox Rec. Centre on Noel Ave. The hymn was ***All people that on earth do dwell***. The following Tuesday, **September 27, 1994**, the Presbytery of Vancouver Island gathered for an all day meeting in St. George's

United Church, followed in the evening with a Service of Recognition for the Reverend D'Arcy Lade. The last hymn was ***Thy hand, O God, has guided***.

On **January 25, 1995** at a service of constitution held at St. John the Divine, 45 adults, 15 adherents and 20 children were received into the Presbyterian Church of Canada. The music was ***Praise the Lord*** and ***The Church's one foundation***.

At the **July 25, 1999** sod-turning we sang ***Christ is made the sure foundation*** and ***Praise God from whom all blessing flow.***

The last service in the Rec Centre was on **January 28, 2001.** ***O servants of God*** and ***When morning guilds the skies*** were sung.

Our first service in our new building was on **February 4, 2001,** and the hymns were ***Praise the Lord*** and ***The Church's one foundation.***

Induction of the Reverend D'Arcy Lade was Tuesday evening **January 11th, 2005** under the auspices of Vancouver Island Presbytery.

Stand up and bless the Lord and ***Pour out your Spirit*** from on high were the hymns.

The Induction of Reverend Jennifer Geddes was held on **January 28, 2014.** The hymns were ***Immortal, invisible, God only wise*** and ***Will you come and follow me***

Just some memories to remind us of our journey of faith in Christ and the feeling of warmth that it gives us.

***Submitted by Laura Cronsberry
Chair, Archives Committee***

Excerpts from the Winter 2008 CONNECTIONS profile on the Sakades

1925: A fine baby boy is born to the Sakade family of Ocean Falls, BC, here to work off a family debt incurred back in Japan. When David Rinkichi's older sister graduates, the family returns to Japan, settling in Hiroshima.

1943: Something about the air disagrees with David's lungs; asthma sets in. When he graduates, he moves to Manchuria for its drier climate. But Japan is now at war.

1945: He's conscripted into the army. Things look bad. The Russians are just 35 km away when the world's biggest bang vaporizes Hiroshima. David's unit takes a train for Siberia. Two years hard labour on two bowls of porridge and a hunk of bread a day.

1947: David's case is reviewed. A conscript? Release him! Two weeks on a train, two days at sea, and there's his father on the platform. His entire family is alive!

1950: David works as an editor and translator. He meets and marries Toku. But his asthma is back. What to do? The driest city in Canada is Winnipeg, and he's a citizen.

1957: Citizen yes, but anti-Japanese prejudice lingers. As a shipping typist for a leather manufacturer, his talent for addition soon eases him into the accounting department.

1964: The boss offers David a partnership. The firm wholesales handbags to national retailers: Eaton's, Simpson's, Hudson's Bay. Business is very, very good.

1972: Handbag sales decline. David moves the company into wicker and rattan, even opens his own retail stores. Once again, business is good.

1988: Freedom 63. David retires. He and Toku travel and play a lot of golf.

2003: The Sakades settle in Comox. Looking for a new church family, they find Comox Valley Presbyterian, to our great benefit.

2015: After a long, fulfilling life, David is called home by his Maker, to our sorrow.

by Jean Bullard



Above: Fellowship Group July 7 tea at the Deep Bay Marine Field Station. LEFT: June Kuhn, Sheila McLellan, Julie McWilliam , Rev. Jenn Geddes and Maryka Wester check out the sea life tanks. RIGHT: Tea's served!

Tai Chi class has continued throughout the summer with somewhat diminished numbers. We were forced outside in June and continued to practice outside all summer. Classes will return inside as the weather changes. Also starting in September we will ask for a nominal donation per person/class which will be passed to CVPC.

Below: Tai Chi Group meet outside during sunny weather. L-R: Dixon Edwards, Corrie van der Boor, Al Manuel, Rick Shaw (leader), Norma Mortimer, Bonnie Claydon, Bob Mortimer. Photo: Bob. Mortimer





Farewell to Georgina Pfeifer, Sunday, August 16.

L-R June Kuhn, Georgina Pfeifer, Rev. Jenn Geddes



The Prayer group bids a sad but fond farewell to Sherry Irvine.

L-R Paul Claydon, Angela Hope, Heather Philip, Sherry Irvine, Debbie Daniels, Rita Tingle.



June 28 CVPC Barbeque

Above: Chefs Mike Day, Marion Lade and Libby Day feed the multitudes. Left: Mike Werth enjoys a quiet moment with (l-r) Warren and Michael Heinpalu.



Above: L-R Kathy Taylor, Anne Nelson and Nerissa Thomas

Below: L-R Dorothy Smith and Hal Hicks



The **2015 Garden Party** at Marion Carmichael's home on Friday, July 17 was well attended and enjoyed.

Above: L-R Jean Sibbald, Heather Philip and Ian Sibbald

Below: L-R Fran McLean, Darlene Janes and Laura Cheyne



Hospice Opening

July 24 was the official opening of the Hospice at the Views. Marion Lade (far right) participated in the ribbon cutting. There are 4 beds open now and the facility will expand to 6 over the next 2 years.