



## Ministers' Message—Listening Deeply (1 Sam 1-4)

Welcome to October. As we move into the fall season we shift our monthly theme to "Listening Deeply." Using the story of the call of Samuel, the first prophet, we encounter a number of times that each character in the story learns what it means to listen more deeply. While on the surface each character assumes that they know what is happening, throughout the story new learnings happen as each person learns to let go of their assumptions and listen more deeply. Each time this brings new insights and it deepens the relationship of the characters as well.

This month as we plumb the depths of these stories, we are reminded of the opportunities there are for each of us to take the time to listen to pieces of the life-stories of one another. We seek to build a safe place in our congregation where people can feel like they are seen and heard in such a way that their life story and insights can be shared and appreciated. During the pandemic, what we hear the most from people in the church is how much they miss the connections that happen in the groups and post-worship gatherings. This desire for connecting has been made all the more real when what we took for granted was taken away.

Yet in the midst of this time, new ways of connecting and listening deeply have emerged. Many of the new small groups have met both online and in person to begin building a new support network where needs can be expressed and met by this group of people. For those groups to form into a network of support, stories are being shared and people are risking a level of vulnerability that enables others to really know them. The same has been happening in the educational programs that began this week as well. And even the coffee gatherings we have had in person and online have involved the sharing of stories and change for people to feel listened to on a deeper level. Phone calls and emails and Zoom chats are all ways each of you have reached out to one another to listen deeply and connect.

It is our hope that as we work this year to "Evolve Together" that we will recognize the importance of setting time aside to listen to one another, to hear the stories of each other's lives and the deep desires of our hearts and souls. And in doing so may we find the places of our shared humanity. Like the song "Deep in Our Heart" reminds us, we all share a common bond. It is one of the things that COVID cannot take from us. And from that shared common bond comes a deep sense of gratitude: for the life we have lived, for the people who have enriched us and for the abundance that surrounds us. And with gratitude comes a peace and wholeness, a sacred way of being. A reminder that life is a gift and we do not make this journey alone. And for all this we give thanks. May thanksgiving and gratitude be the most honest and heartfelt prayer we offer this season. And may we listen deeply for the answer.

Mark & Cheryl

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# Building News

## **FORMER GORDON HEAD UNITED CHURCH SITE SOLD**

The legacy of the Gordon Head United Church will continue to be lived out in the City of Saanich now and into the future. Built in 1982, the GHUC building was one of three United Churches that surrounded the university campus. The amalgamation of the three churches to better serve the district of Saanich was completed this past May on Pentecost Sunday. The funds from the recent sale will be used to support the vision articulated in the amalgamation plan which among other things includes a renovation of the Cedar Hill X site which will eventually become the permanent home of the new Broad View United. The legacy of this congregation will be lived out in this new site and its connection to the Gordon Head neighbourhood and all the other neighbourhoods in Saanich.

The current leases with the ArtsCalibre independent school and the Lambrick Park Preschool will be honoured by the new owners of Tri-Eagle Developments so that the children in those programs can complete their school year without disruption. The sale has been approved by the BVU board and by the Pacific Mountain Region (PMR). The closing date is October 28, 2020.

As part of our commitment to the larger church, a biblical tithe of 10% of the proceeds will go to the Pacific Mountain Region's Provision Fund to support congregations who are looking for funding for new initiatives. Additionally, as part of our commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous communities, an additional 10% will be used to support the work of reconciliation and the needs of the Pacific Mountain Region's Indigenous council.

We are grateful for the faithfulness of past generations at GHUC that have provided a legacy for future generations to be lived out in the life and ministry of the new Broad View United congregation.

## **COVID GUIDELINES FOR ALL BVU SITES & PROGRAMS**

In consultation with the Worship team, the Educational Programing Team and approved by the BVU Board, the following protocols have been adopted for in-person programs, activities and meetings:

1. Entry into the building sites will be limited to those attending a program, who have an appointment or are there for a volunteer activity for which they are expected.
2. No one who is experiencing any symptoms of being unwell or having travelled out of the country in the last 14 days or who has been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive in the last 14 days will be allowed on site.
3. Everyone who enters the building will be required to be masked, sign in at the entrance with the date and time they arrived and sign out again as they leave. Masks will be provided for those who do not have their own.
4. Everyone will be asked to sanitize their hands with sanitizer provided and move directly to the program area or meeting they are involved in. Social distancing rules to be adhered to of 6ft between persons.
5. For educational programs, everyone must register in advance to attend in person programs and there will be a maximum established for each program. This enables us to adhere to the limits of our spaces as well as provide contact tracing should it become necessary.
  - a. Everyone will be required to sanitize their hands upon entering and be wearing a mask. Once you have made it to your physically distanced seat in the room and everyone is seated, masks may be removed for the conversation and duration of the class. But as the class ends, masks must be donned once again for the leaving of the room and the building.
  - b. Everyone attending will be asked to sign a declaration each time that they have not been out of the country or had contact with anyone who has tested positive in the last 14 days. They will be asked to attest to not having any fever or other signs of illness.
  - c. Beverages may be brought to the program in participant's own cups but will not be provided. No hospitality will be possible at this time
  - d. Participants will be asked to limit what surfaces they touch coming and going in the building and restrict their attendance to the room and bathroom if necessary.
  - e. No program supplies will be shared.
6. Bookings for small groups who wish to meet in person in either the Arbutus Site or the Cedar Hill Cross site, must book in advance through the respective office to confirm space and numbers. Groups will be expected to adhere to the guidelines set for Educational Programs as per #5 above.

# Thrift Store Update

## **BROAD VIEW THRIFT STORE**

The thrift store is making very positive strides in a number of areas. As the demolition work is beginning in the thrift store area the volunteers are able to get a sense of how open and accessible the new space will be. We are able to imagine a layout that will allow a real flow of customers within the COVID guidelines.



We have established order in the lower hall and have merchandise sorted into the departments that will eventually go into the new store. We are setting up the former niche room and are having a contest among the volunteers to rename that space. Shelving and corner units are being repurposed and are going to work great for sorting. Used shelving going into the new store will be painted or polished and generally spruced up. New shelving is being decided upon in consultation with Marilyn Poutanen, our amazing designer.

A Broad View Thrift Store volunteer crew has cleaned out Gordon Head Lions Club Thrift Store, located at the Gordon Head United Church. They were assisted in moving all the items back to CHX by other members in our congregation with big hearts and strong muscles. We are also very grateful to the Salvation Army donation pickup team for going “above and beyond” in their efficient attention to our mountains of donations.

The transition team consisting of Gail and Dave Murdoch, Ann Harris, Marilyn Smith, Marietta Mitchell and Cheryl meet weekly and then guide the whole group to accomplish the next steps. The thrift store board has been busy and will be introducing the new thrift store managers in next week’s Friday note. There is mounting excitement as well as a lot of genuine hard work happening amongst the happy volunteers. Many hands are accomplishing mighty deeds.

We anticipate the month of October will continue to produce many changes as we work to create a thrift store that will serve the community for many more years to come. If you would like to join in the thrift store’s fun and purposeful work, please contact Ann Harris at [eaharris@shaw.ca](mailto:eaharris@shaw.ca) and let her know of your interest.

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## **TOWN HALL ONLINE MEETING—OCTOBER 20 @ 7:00 PM**

The monthly Town Hall meeting for October will focus on the thrift store. This hour-long meeting will feature a presentation by a guest for 15 minutes or so and will be followed by a moderated Q&A session. We will bring an update on the renovation of the thrift store space and we’ll introduce the new thrift store managers. At least some of the transition team will be present.

We’ll talk about the new pricing system and other innovations we are putting in place. We’ll talk about getting ready for the grand re-opening and when we think that will be held. We’ll talk more about how the thrift store fits the understanding of a social enterprise. We’ll also talk about what it means for a community of faith to be home to a thrift store—the opportunities for ministry that arise from hosting the community at large every week. Watch the Friday email for the link!



# Children, Youth & Family



## YOUNG ADULTS @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

(Finished high school to 30ish.) We had our first gathering of the year on September 20 and shall continue meeting on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month (October 4 & 18). We meet for lunch after the concert around 12:30. Bring your lunch and we will gather in faith and friendship and build community.

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## YOUTH GROUPS @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

Our Youth Groups meet every other week (usually the 2nd and 4th weekends) to build community and really get to know one another through fun and games and lots of laughter. Friends are always welcome! This is a safe space for everyone to test out new ways of being with their peers.

**Jr. Youth Group** (Grades 6, 7, 8) will meet Fridays from 7-9 at the Arbutus site. Gathering dates are October 9 & 23, November 6 & 20, and December 4 & 18.

**Sr. Youth Group** (Grades 9-12) will meet Sundays from 7-9 at the Arbutus site. Gathering dates are October 11 & 25, November 8 & 22, and December 6.

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## KIDS PROGRAM

(For kids up to 12 years old.) We are so excited to start up our Kids Program! We are gathering on the first Sunday of each month and October 4 will be our first Sunday at the Arbutus site at 11:00 a.m. Once the kids are signed in and everyone has washed their hands, we will gather (socially distanced) to hear the story of the Call of Samuel. Kids will be grouped according to ages and will dig deeper into the story of Samuel with small group activities. Each family will be given a Faith@Home kit with activities on the story of Samuel as well as Thanksgiving and Hallowe'en. We will gather in person again on November 1.

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## PARENT AND TOT PLAY GROUPS

GOOD NEWS! We are ready to start and we hope you can join us. Parents/caregivers and tots up to the age of 5 from all over the community are invited to gather, learn, laugh and develop together. We are convening from 9:30-11:30 on Wednesday mornings at the Arbutus site starting on October 14. COVID protocols will be in place so please bring your own snacks. We will serve coffee/tea for the adults. Contact Jean Margison at [jean@jampot.ca](mailto:jean@jampot.ca) or Pat McKay at [pat@broadviewunited.com](mailto:pat@broadviewunited.com) for more information.

### ***A Note from Jean Margison***

*I've been part of this program for over two years and it's become one of the most important of my church volunteer activities. I worked with young children for most of my career and this particular program has given me the most happiness and satisfaction. It was brought to St. Aidan's by Maisie Brenner from Gordon Head, whom some of you may know. When Maisie died I was determined to keep this program going in her memory. Caregivers have an opportunity to socialize while the children are safely playing with one another, and we often have the opportunity to give adults pastoral care when needed, too. We need volunteers so if you have worked with children and enjoy interacting with them please consider joining us!*



# IMAGINE CHILDREN's RETREAT 2020

ONLINE EDITION

*'I am the CHURCH  
YOU are the CHURCH  
We are the CHURCH'*

together  
hands reaching out

connect online  
play  
sing  
share stories  
laugh  
pray

**Saturday  
October  
24  
9:45 - 11 am**

Register/Information  
[imaginechildrensretreat.ca](http://imaginechildrensretreat.ca)

Each person registered by  
October 15 will receive a  
kit to use during the  
retreat!



# Music Programs & Events



## SUNSHINE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

In person at Cedar Hill X site: Wednesdays 5:30-6:15

Online: Mondays 4:30-5:15

We have had our first practices in person and online with 16 children registered in total. Lots of singing, games, stories, dancing and more. For more information and/or to register, please contact Mary Kennedy at [makenn@uvic.ca](mailto:makenn@uvic.ca).

## BROAD VIEW UNITED DRUM CIRCLE

The Broad View United Drum Circle met for its first time on September 27. We had a great session with djembes, water jugs, claves and shakers. We focused on using word rhythms to connect us to the drums and to each other.

This time is a place to sink into the rhythms and beats that you create with the community around you. All ages and skill levels are encouraged to come check it out and see how drumming might fill your soul at this time. Join us and remember what it's like to make music together again.



## CONCERT UPDATE

Our first two concerts have been a resounding success with folks expressing gratitude for the chance to be back in our sanctuary spaces and feel the power of spirit nurture their souls through the music shared.

Here is a brief outline of what is being offered for the month of October. Details about the artists and music as well as the registration form can be found on our website. You must register in advance to attend and there is a limit of 40 seats per Sunday.

**October 4th - 11am @ Arbutus:** Louise Rose, Jeff Poynter and Cheryl Dennett. *Songs of faith both secular and sacred to explore our monthly theme of listening deeply.*

**October 11th - 11am @ Cedar Hill X:** Anjolie Djearam (soprano) and Jane Edler (piano). *A stunning repertoire to nurture your soul.*

**October 18th - 11am @ Arbutus:** Louise Rose, Jeff Poynter and Cheryl Dennett. *A second set in the series exploring our monthly theme of listening deeply.*

**October 25th - 11am @ Cedar Hill X:** Eden Oliver, Alex Rempel and Jeff Poynter. *Enjoy the musical styling of the Victoria folk trio, West My Friend.*



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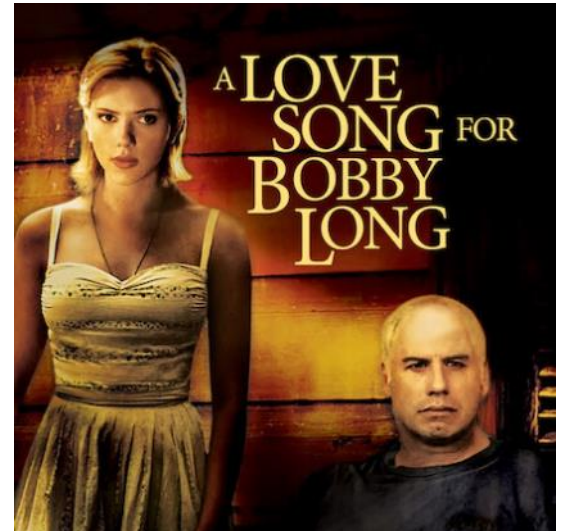


# What's Happening at BVU

## MOVIE NIGHT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 7PM

Come join in the discussion of our monthly movie selection that engages the theme of the month (listening deeply) with a big screen movie. This year, due to COVID restrictions, we are watching the film from the comfort of our own homes at 7pm and then joining with others at 9pm for a Zoom conversation to unpack the film.

This month's film is ***A Love Song for Bobby Long***. A young woman, Porsy (played by Scarlett Johansson), learns that her estranged mother has died in New Orleans. She returns to her mother's house to discover that it is inhabited by two men, one an aging alcoholic, Bobby Long (played by John Travolta). Available on Netflix.



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## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LABYRINTH

During these COVID times, spiritual practices to keep us grounded are more important than ever. Labyrinth walking is one of those opportunities that offers the chance for meditation and involves movement of the body as well. For someone who finds sitting and meditating challenging, this mode of meditation can open up new pathways to their inner life.

The path of the labyrinth winds its way to the centre as a metaphor for the life journey with twists and turns. And yet unlike a maze, there is but one path that leads us to the centre. As we walk we can take a question with us that we want to focus on, or a word or mantra. Or we can simply seek to walk in silence and clear our mind of any thoughts or worries as they enter into our consciousness.

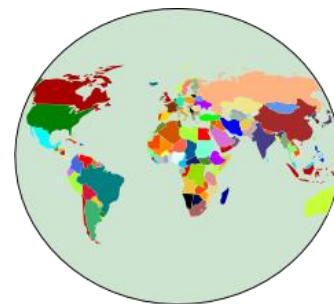


There are lots of possibilities in walking the labyrinth but none of them are complicated. To help with this process of being introduced to the labyrinth we are offering an online introductory course complete with a short video, a handout with some tips and ideas and a conversation to offer stories of the experiences of others and answer questions from those who are new to the labyrinth. We will offer this short introduction online on Friday, October 23 at 10:00 a.m., followed by three weeks of opportunities for you to book the labyrinth to try out walking one or more times. There will then be an online debrief session on November 13 at 10:00 a.m. You can register [HERE](#) to receive the Zoom link.

The labyrinth is open every Friday morning at the Arbutus site for 30 minute solo time slots. You can book it online [HERE](#).

**Registration for all events can be found at [www.broadviewunited.com](http://www.broadviewunited.com) under [Program and Event Registration](#) on the right hand menu.**

# Intercultural Programs (IPaB)



## INTERCULTURAL WORKSHOPS

**First Sundays 2-3:30pm**

These once-a-month workshops will lead us to understand and engage the people in our intercultural community through exploration of the following topics:

- learning the different cultures in our community
- power in our community and in our relationships
- religious festivals and cultures
- conflicts and relationships
- cultural events and enjoyment in our community

We are planning to have our sessions on Zoom for October 4 and November 1, and in person for December 6, depending on the pandemic situation. The format for the rest of the sessions will be determined closer to the new year. We encourage explorers and the open-minded to join all the sessions and welcome those who are curious to participate in any of them. Please [register via the IWaB page](#) on the BVU website.

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## BUSINESS MENTORING

**Tuesdays 5:30-7pm on Zoom**

We started this conversation at the end of March aiming to help newcomers and young adults gain insights on the Canadian workforce as many of them are eager to learn and shape their path in Canada. To participate, please [register on the ICaB page](#) on the website. I invite those of you who have Canadian working experience to share your career journey with some of the young adults and newcomers—if you are interested in more details on this, please email [julie@broadviewunited.com](mailto:julie@broadviewunited.com).

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## BASIC ENGLISH CONVERSATIONS

**Thursdays 2:30-4pm on Zoom**

Many people travel for the experience of meeting local people and learning about their cultures. While traveling overseas might not be ideal at this moment, meeting people from different parts of the world through our conversations might quench your travel thirst for now. We have had participants from countries including Argentina, Bosnia, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Taiwan and Thailand use this opportunity to practice their English skills. If you are interested to join our conversations, please [register on the BVU website](#).



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*Connection  
Care*

*Community*

*Learn  
Spiritual*



Many of the small groups that launched in the spring and summer are continuing to meet via Zoom, in person at the church (with appropriate physical distancing and COVID protocols in place), or a combination of the two.

Relationships are in the process of being formed as folks get to know and appreciate each other through the sharing of life stories. The spirit is alive and well, and with trust, we continue on!

Some groups have started to explore a book together and others have decided to take some of the program sessions (such as Racism 101) and bring back to their groups for discussion. It is delightful to watch the variety of ways in which groups have divided into this new opportunity, even with all the challenges of launching a new program in the midst of a pandemic.

The following two groups are open to receiving some new members:

**Climate and Environmental Justice:** This group is currently meeting via Zoom. Please contact either Brenda Henderson: [bjhenderson@shaw.ca](mailto:bjhenderson@shaw.ca) or 250-370-1550 or Brian McConkey: [brianmcc306@gmail.com](mailto:brianmcc306@gmail.com) to explore this option.

**Exploring Spirituality:** Currently meeting in person at Arbutus site. Please contact Val Bauld [valbauld@shaw.ca](mailto:valbauld@shaw.ca) or 250-721-5962.

The following groups will begin once we have enough folks to go ahead (including leadership):

**An LGBTQ2S+ Small Group**  
**An Arts & Spirituality Small Group**  
**A Small Group for those New to Faith / Church**

If you would like to speak to someone NOW about SMALL GROUPS, please be in touch with any of the contacts listed below.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN HELP YOU CONNECT!** Your Core Team

Margaret Harper  
Val Bauld  
Betty Doherty  
Adele Heise

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250-477-2715  
250-721-5962  
250-472-1756  
250-883-0033

# Staying Connected

## EXPLORING GRIEF & LOSS TOGETHER

Learning to navigate the complexity of emotions as a result of the grieving process is a path that can be lonely, difficult and often overwhelming. Joining with others who are on a similar path can provide tremendous relief and the sense that we are not alone.

Once we have a few more expressions of interest, dates and times will be chosen for this group. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Margaret Harper at [margaret@broadviewunited.com](mailto:margaret@broadviewunited.com) or 250-477-2715.

## BREEZE (NEW DIRECTORY)

Nadia has been setting up a secure online directory where members and adherents can find each other's contact information and photos, generate lists, send individual or group emails, search and register for events, and more. You will be emailed an invitation to set up an account—don't worry, it is not spam! After you have followed the instructions in the email you will be able to simply log in with your email and chosen password to view profiles as well as update your own information. There is also an app you can download onto your phone or tablet that will provide you with all the other features as well as the ability to email or call contacts directly from the app! Instructions for how to set up your account can be found [HERE](#)—keep in mind you need to receive the email invitation first! Please contact Nadia at [na-dia@broadviewunited.com](mailto:nadia@broadviewunited.com) or 250-477-2089 if you have questions or feedback as to how this new tool might best assist you with your communications and endeavours at Broad View United.



## BROAD VIEW UNITED STAFF

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