



Broad View
— UNITED —

January 2021

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Dear Friends,

How good it is to be leaving the year 2020. It has challenged us, led us to feel our vulnerability, and shown us some fault lines in the foundation of our communities. And, for all it's ferociousness, it has not defeated us.

2020 has sparked our resilience, our creativity and our flexibility. It has catapulted our church technology into the 21st century and shown us new frontiers we need to embrace. It has also shown us the challenges of bringing all of us together into this new frontier.

As we turn our calendars over to a new year there are two life changing events we are probably all looking forward to: getting the vaccine to 75-80% of the Canadian population and celebrating a new tone of public leadership in our neighbor to the south.

We know neither of these events will be easy or smooth sailing all the way. In fact, we know there is real structural work to do in our own country and in the world. We have learned to pivot and to earn as we go. We have seen the difference between empathetic leadership and self absorbed leadership on the world stage.

2021 will be a year for hard work but we will do the work with a hopeful heart and a spirit of good will for all.

Our theme at BVU for January and early February is *Making Change and Walking the Talk*. Beginning Jan. 17, we'll look at the stories of the Rich Young Ruler and of Nicodemus to guide us in our deliberations. Both of these stories focus on the key figure having a choice to make – a hard choice but one that will lead them to even more abundant life if they will make the leap.

As a congregation Jan and early Feb will see us reviewing again the plans for our vision filled renovation. BVU: a hub for community services and a commons ministry that invites, welcomes, nurtures, engages, educates, and equips people for the spiritual journey. A large membership, progressive, justice seeking community that embraces both the opportunities and responsibilities of walking our talk.

This January newsletter is full of information and comes to you with the best wishes of all the staff and leaders at BVU for this new year. As always, if there is any way we can assist you and/or reach out to you, please call one of the ministers to set up a conversation. If you have ideas you'd like to suggest put them in an email and send them along. With all good wishes for an adventurous and faith-filled year to come,
Cheryl and Mark



Children , Youth & Family

KID'S ZONE

While we cannot gather together in person, the January Faith@Home Kits will be delivered next week and the virtual Kids' Zone will still be posted! This month we will have readings, stories and activities based on Epiphany, and the stories of Nicodemus (from the gospel of John) and of The Rich Young Ruler (from the gospel of Matthew) about being born in the Spirit and living with the Spirit.



To play in our Virtual Kid's Zone visit broadviewunited.org/bvu-kids-zone-online/

SR. YOUTH GROUP @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

Senior Youth Group – Usually students in Grades 9 – 12 gather at the Arbutus Site every second Sunday evening from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. Until we can gather in person again, we will be gathering on Zoom. I will be contacting you to confirm the date and time.



PARENT AND TOT PLAY GROUPS

Parent and Tot Program – Our free program for children aged up to 4 years old and their care giver usually runs Wednesday mornings from 9:30 til 11:30am at the Arbutus Site., however it is suspended at the moment until further notice. Please stay tuned for a re-opening date once we get the go ahead from Dr. Bonnie Henry.



YOUNG ADULTS @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

Typically we meet every second Sunday around 12:15pm for a lunch gathering. You must bring your own lunch but drinks and dessert are provided. Until we can gather in person again, we will be meeting on Zoom. Our next Zoom gathering will be Sunday, January 17th.



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Outreach

BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS: Jan 4th -6th

There is still time for you to help us support our Baby Shower for Jesus Outreach program during the Christmas season. This is but one way we work to make a practical impact for those living on the edges of our society especially during these pandemic times. After Christmas many young parents struggle with making ends meet and these supplemental items go a long way in supporting children and families at risk.

Saanich Neighbourhood Place (SNP) works with young parents through outreach workers to support young parents between the ages of 13 and 28. Because most live on income assistance, they often don't have enough for many of the basic necessities because so much of their income must go toward their rent. This often leaves many families short of money for food and other essentials. Christmas and the weeks that follow become an added strain. You can help by dropping off at either the arbutus site or the CHX site during office hours, one of the following items to the box outside the office entry way doors:

- diapers - sizes 4, 5 and 6 (little ones stay in the large sizes longer so therefore higher demand!),
- pull ups,
- infant formula ,
- wipes,
- baby food,
- infant cereal,
- toilet paper,
- feminine hygiene products

Thank you for your support and generosity.



SHELBOURNE COMMUNITY KITCHEN CHRISTMAS UPDATE

The Shelbourne Community Kitchen is bustling with Covid-Style holiday programs this month. Last week 25 gorgeous wreath-making kits were packed up and delivered to members all across the city who tuned into Zoom for a DIY wreath-making workshop and a Christmas visit. Virtual coffee and tea get-togethers, holiday cookie baking programs and a holiday protein-draw are on the books.

With more than 400 families and individuals accessing our pantry each month, we are busy preparing orders for curbside pickup and making deliveries of pantry supplies. Hot chocolate and homemade cookies are offered to people who drop by for curb-side pickup. Check the website and Facebook page for information on how to contribute to all this wonderful activity.

Keep dropping your Thrifty's stamps in the mailboxes at the church offices so we can earn more good quality knives to donate to the Kitchen. This is a collaborative effort between Broad View United, St. Luke's and the Lutheran Church of Christ and so far we have collected 18 Chef's knives for the Kitchen. The program runs until mid-February so keep collecting those stamps!!



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What's Happening

PROGRAMING IN 2021

As we begin a new year , a number of our programs will resume/continue. These include:

- **Bookworms** will resume on Wed Jan 20 at 1:30pm The new book is TBA and you can register by emailing Janis at rjevans1@telus.net
- **Bible Study** continues with the DVD series "Philosophy and Religion in the West" via zoom on Tuesday mornings at 10 am . Contact blakebc@shaw.ca to register
- **Living the Examined Life – book study** .. Wednesday Jan 13th at 12 noon via zoom register [HERE](#)

Additional programs will be offered in February as we become clearer about what Provincial health orders will be recommending for the next quarter of 2021. Watch the February Newsletter for more information.

MOVIE NIGHT Jan 22nd at 8pm Via Zoom .. register [HERE](#)

This months movie is 'What They Had ' Bridget returns home at her brother's urging to deal with her ailing mother and her father's reluctance to let go of their life together. Together they all must learn what it means to embrace change and walk the talk.

Please view the movie in advance of the conversation . You can view it a number of ways and you can check your channel subscriptions to see what is available as well

- Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HY_sZYFAxnk
- Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/movies/details?id=o-ql7TX8grs.P>

Discussion starts at 8pm and you will be sent the zoom link on the afternoon of the 22nd of Jan. Join us with a beverage for about an hour of discussion.



DAYCARE RETURNING TO BROAD VIEW UNITED

The arrangements are all in place now for [Gillybird Nature Schools](#) to open a daycare at the future home of BVU.

The space on the lower floor, next door to the thrift store, was originally built as a day care and then transitioned to be part of the thrift Store. Now it is being painted, spruced up, refenced and will open with children on February 1, 2021.

We expect the daycare and the thrift store to have a great deal of reciprocity and synergy together as they serve the needs of children, parents, and grandparents in this community of Saanich.

Welcome to BVU, Gillian!



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INTERCULTURAL

IPaB (Intercultural Program at Broad View United)

The Intercultural Community at Broad View United welcome all of you to join any one or all our activities.

Those who consider yourself global citizen will particularly enjoy our program and activities meeting people of different backgrounds and cultures. Since we have started our program online, we have not only got participants from outside of Victoria but also overseas from China, Japan, Germany, and Mexico, as well as some of our alumnae from different parts of the world. It is amazing to see a continuous growth of the Intercultural Community at Broad View United, not only in friendships, but individual growth because of the connections and support of the network.

We continue to welcome local participations and believe that only when we see integrations of our differences, our society will sparkle with joy and colors.

For information: <https://broadviewunited.org/intercultural-conversations/>



IWaB (Intercultural Workshop at Broad View United) – Jan 3 @2-3:30pm

In the coming session, we will explore on culture and religion, how some cultures and traditions are formed and influenced by different religions.

IWaB exploration includes:

- 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

Please register to get the Zoom link: <https://broadviewunited.org/intercultural-workshop/#>

ICaB-BM (Intercultural Conversations at Broad View United - Business Mentoring) – Jan 12 & 26 @5:30-7pm on Zoom

How wonderful it is to see increasing confidence from young adults after joining the Conversations? It is amazing to hear that some participants also gained knowledge on employers' point of view which helps their interview and job performance.

While we are welcoming participants to learn from the speakers of different professions and knowledge, we are also inviting those with 10 plus years Canadian working experience to share their experience and career journey in this Conversation.

Please register to get the Zoom link: <https://broadviewunited.org/business-mentoring-conversations/>

Click here to review some of our prev. convos. <https://broadviewunited.org/business-mentoring-summaries/#>

ICaB-BE (Intercultural Conversations at Broad View United - Basic English) – Every Thursday@2:30-4pm on Zoom

It is a safe place for everyone to ask questions and exchange cultural information while practicing English.

Please register to get the Zoom link: <https://broadviewunited.org/business-mentoring-conversations-2/>

UPDATE ON OUR PALESTINIAN REFUGEE PROJECT

It's been a while since we've let you know what is going on, and – honestly – until mid-December, nothing much was happening because of Covid-19 and the closures of most Canadian consular offices. Then the excitement level ramped up when we learned that Nader had been invited to have an interview at the Canadian Embassy in the city where he lives – on four days' notice!

That necessitated many e-mails back and forth to make sure he had all the right documents, and then we waited anxiously to learn how things had gone.

We needn't have worried, as everything went very well, and his interviewer made it clear that he was on his way to his new home in Canada – but...!

First has to come medical exams for him, his wife and son, and we are reminded that this is not the final step. The most important step, and the one that may take the most time, is the security/ background check. We do not know if any part of the background check has already started. This is not something that we can get any information about. So it is possible that they have already begun, or that it may take some time before they begin.

Now we wait again for news that the medical and background checks have been successfully completed. And once we get this news, there will still be a delay in the ability to actually come to Victoria because of the Covid travel restrictions.

We have learned that only those people who were approved for residency by March 18, 2020 have finally begun to get on a plane to come to Canada. No one approved after that date has traveled yet.

We are on the right road, but there are bends and curves still ahead. (it's not going to be a fast or easy experience). Small steps, large prayers, and much patience. Thank to everyone who's been a part of this journey. We'll let you know more when we know.

Always in hope; Carol, Robin & Barbara



SUPPORT PALESTINIAN FARMERS

For a number of years during Advent, Cadboro Bay United supported farmers in Palestine through the sale of olive oil and other products. COVID -19 makes it difficult for groups supporting local people overseas to distribute their products when churches are not open and other events are cancelled. As we were not meeting for worship this year, it was a tradition that seemed a challenge to continue.

But we can continue to support Palestinian farmers.

I have received the absolutely amazing medjoul dates (900 grams) and the beautiful olive oil (750ml). Each cost \$20. There are also a few packages of za'atar, the seasoning with thyme and other herbs for \$5.

The two organizations you support through these purchases are:

<https://zatoun.com/> & <https://palestinejusttrade.ca/>

If you are interested in purchasing these products, please call me at (250) 477-4930.

Barbara Hansen



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ANGEL GIFTS, COVID STYLE

This year the church had to pivot and create a new way of providing Angel gifts for the family at Our Place.

Andrea Hubbard spearheaded the committee who volunteered to oversee the collection of the gifts, using the internet to connect with those wishing to give gifts, to donate money or to buy gifts for family members who were not paired up with donors. She was given a list of 85 family members from Our Place needing gifts. A total of 51 people from the congregation bought gifts for the people they were assigned and 27 people donated money so the 13 shopping volunteers could purchase gifts for the unpaired family members. Everyone was looked



after and the donated money covered the cost of the gifts purchased by the shoppers. All the gifts were brought to Broad View United-Cedar Hill X on the 3rd and 4th of December and collected by members of the committee. On Friday afternoon they were taken into the sanctuary and arranged numerically so that the committee from Our Place could easily pick them up at the beginning of the next week. All the gifts from church groups around the city were also brought to the church so it was a busy place.

Special thanks to Andrea and her committee; Maureen Koch, Joan Sherwood, Elaine Harvey, Judy Gorby and Eileen Campbell

2021 COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR - FEBRUARY 20

Coldest Night of the Year is a moment when tens of thousands of Canadians walk through the cold and dark on February 20th to declare their concern for people living on the margins of our community. And, by walking we raise funds for organizations like Our Place, whose work transforms lives.

It is not too early to register to walk. Go to www.cnoy.org - find our team "Walk the Talk with Broad View United". Choose to walk in-person on February 20 at Our Place, Pandora or to walk virtually, anytime in February on your own route, close to home. Encourage your friends to pledge money to support your walk.

Questions? Ask Maureen Koch (maureenkoch76@gmail.com) or Susan Draper (graceful@shaw.ca)

services@ourplacesociety.com' and logos for 'lulusesea', '2021-2022 April 21, 2021, Kitchener, ON, 1-202-234-1111, www.ourplacesociety.com', 'S.A.S. OUTDOOR', and 'PACIFIC CENTRE'."/>

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Usually you would be at church on Jan 3rd and could collect your offering envelopes for the 2021 year, but we have had to pivot on yet another item due to Covid. So we are offering folks 2 days they can pick up their offering envelopes at the CHX site only.

January 4 & 5 between 10am and 2pm both Margaret Harper and Betty Anne Dempsey will be available for a short visit and to assist you in getting your offering envelopes. Just drop in anytime between those hours on either day. If you want to move to PAR you can

fill out the form at this link: <https://broadviewunited.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PAR-Sign-Up-Form-fillable.pdf>, and attached a void cheque (if you are using that option) and return the form and voided cheque to

Meghan at the Arbutus Site. Both Margaret and Betty Anne look forward to seeing some of you, wearing masks, from a distance.





Connection

Care

Community

Learn

Spiritual



It is hard to believe that a year ago, we were still in the planning stages for launching the Small Groups at Broad View United. When something new is introduced into the life of a congregation, there is often a combination of excitement and trepidation. At that time, we certainly did not know that COVID would change so much of our plans, nor offer us such a unique opportunity!

When I met with some of the evangelical leaders in the lower mainland in the Fall of 2019, I asked them, "What would success look like as we begin this new ministry?" One leader answered, "Start slow and let it evolve. Have patience and faith." Another said, "If you begin with 3 or 4 groups, that will be a good launch". One year later, we have 10 groups at various stages of development. Some met in person over the summer with the good weather, and now groups have reverted to Zoom due to our adherence to the provincial health directives.

To give a taste of the Small Group experience, here is a reflection from **Brenda Henderson**, one of our small group facilitators:

"I am co-facilitator of the *Climate and Environmental Justice Small Group*. Our group has been meeting approximately monthly via zoom since May. For me, the small group has been a wonderful experience. Because we have been unable to worship in-person at BVU over the past many months, the small group has become "the church" for me. Our group members, most of whom were unknown to me, have become a real source of support and friendship. In addition, I have learned more about a variety of climate and environmental justice issues and enjoyed discussions about spiritual practices and teachings that honour all life and connect us with the Earth. We are a small and caring group of 6 individuals and if anyone wishes to join us on our small group journey, you would be most welcome."

If you would like to explore the above option, Please contact either Brenda Henderson: bjhender-son@shaw.ca 250-370-2550 or Brian McConkey: brianmcc306@gmail.com

Are you yearning for a place where you can get to know others, within a safe, trusting environment? If so, joining a small group may be just what you are looking for!

It is our desire to add more groups as the year progresses, and as restrictions begin to lift. We are aware that some people are preferring to wait until in person gathering are once again permitted. 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

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Betty Doherty

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Adele Heise

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250-883-0033

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM - 'YOU'RE IN OUR THOUGHTS' PROGRAM

Each December our community is aware of some members who have had a particularly difficult year due to a variety of circumstances. With the ongoing pandemic, 2020 brought added stress, challenges, heartache and isolation into the lives of so many.



To mark the beginning of Advent, and as a way of reaching out to those for whom we were aware, **107 poinsettias and cards** were gifted in a spirit of love and support as an initiative of the Congregational Care Team. We were particularly delighted that so many folks volunteered to help with the delivery. Masks were worn and safety protocols were followed to ensure the well being of all. Thank you to all our Christmas delivery elves who so readily offered assistance!

This was the first year that the Cedar Hill Cross Site participated in the 'You're In Our Thoughts' Program. The Team heard back from many as to how much they appreciated the seasonal gesture of being remembered, especially this year.

A few acknowledgments: *It was such a pleasant surprise to receive the Poinsettia yesterday from my church family! I was overjoyed and it certainly made my day!*

Thank you to the Broad View Care Team and my dear church friends for the vibrant poinsettia which was so kindly delivered to my home yesterday. It certainly brought joy to my day!

A reminder that BVU is initiating a **prayer chain**. If you or someone you know would like to be upheld in prayer for any reason, please email or phone either Betty Anne Dempsey or Margaret Harper. Due to the confidential nature of this ministry, all names are received and upheld with the utmost respect, care and compassion.

We continue to search for ways to stay connected with each other as we head into 2021, knowing that it will yet take many months for the vaccine to reach everyone. If you are specifically aware of anyone who is lonely, dealing with loss/isolation, changes in health or having challenges of mind, body or spirit, please let us know.

Many blessings to each of you!

Betty Anne Dempsey bettyanne@broadviewunited.com

Margaret Harper margaret@broadviewunited.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are the social media platforms that Broad View United uses. Our Facebook account content is provided by Susan Draper, Maureen Koch and Julie Ng. Our Instagram and Twitter account content is provided by Meghan Vaughan. Each platform has a different appeal, Facebook is more conversational, Instagram more social justice, Twitter informative and fun. We encourage you to follow us on all platforms that you use. Our social media platforms allow us to reach beyond the congregation and into the world, create conversation, awareness and engagement.



Facebook: [broadviewunited](https://www.facebook.com/broadviewunited)

Instagram: [broadviewunited](https://www.instagram.com/broadviewunited)

Twitter: [B_VUnited](https://twitter.com/B_VUnited)

TOWN HALL TUESDAY JAN 19TH AT 7 PM

This month's topic will be a look at trends in the United Church and perhaps the church in general during this pandemic period of time. What impact has this had on local congregations across Canada? What emerging responses have we seen that point us to new directions even after the pandemic ends? In what ways have we been forever changed? We will have a guest presentation (or two) who will help us see the big picture with some fresh lenses. A zoom link will be sent to the whole congregation on the day of the Town Hall.



WAYS TO GIVE IN 2021

No congregation can exist without the ongoing support and dedication of its members. Broad View United is no exception. We are very blessed to have a congregation that has been so faithful throughout the pandemic in continuing a strong level of support. As we move into 2021, our books will amalgamate into one as will our identity with the CRA. In preparation for this, please note the following changes to the ways you can continue to support Broad View United: You can give in the following ways:



1. Those already giving by **PAR** (pre-authorized remittance) will have their current withdrawal simply forwarded to our new bank account. If you are not already on PAR and wish to be set up for this convenient automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account or credit card please contact meghan@broadviewunited.com
2. Via e-transfer to office@broadviewunited.com
3. By cheque made out to **Broad View United** (not St. Aidan's United Church or Cadboro Bay United Church).
4. Through Canada Helps via our website's **Donate Now** button on the top right-hand corner of the website
5. Through regular donation envelopes arranged through the office (those already signed up for these please see page 7 for details on picking yours up for 2021)

When you give to Broad View United, you are supporting a diverse and inclusive ministry of programming, outreach, justice and spiritual development. Your donation helps us provide services like counseling, youth & young adult outreach, seniors care and support for our most vulnerable. Your gift also supports our worship services, adult programming, children, youth and family programming, intercultural programming, small group ministry and so much more. We thank you for your ongoing support of our Ministry and its Mission.

BROAD VIEW THRIFT STORE UPDATE

The renovation of the Thrift Store is complete and now the dedicated volunteers and managers are busy getting the store set up in COVID compliant ways. The equipment is purchased so the store can accept cash, debit and/or credit cards. The storage room has shelving specially set up to receive Rubbermaid storage containers and John Davoren's handy 4 wheel drive collection carts. The niche/workers sorting area will be set up so volunteers can work efficiently and socially distanced. What a lot of work has gone into getting the Thrift Store ready for this next phase of it's life. There are too many thank you's to name for the risk of missing some would be too great. But the Managers, Katy and Sam, as well as the Transition Team members – Gail and Dave, Ann, Marilyn and Marietta have been so diligent and hardworking. And we would be amiss if we did not thank Marilyn Poutanen, the reno project manager, who went above and beyond to listen to and incorporate ideas as well as giving attention to so many details. Thank you EVERYONE.



The store will begin receiving donations on Wednesday, Jan 20 and will open for covid safe shopping on Wednesday, Jan 20. Watch for more details in the Friday email and pass the word around.



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BUILDING RENOVATION UPDATE



Toward the end of 2020, the Building Redesign Working Group made a series of presentations in a town hall like format. Over 150 people participated in the 3 presentation and good questions and conversation were had. On the most part, feedback has been very positive to the design and lots of enthusiasm shared. The working group then took a rest for the Christmas season but will be back to the drawing board to begin finalizing details and working with quotes from structural engineers etc. during the first week of January as the new year begins.

The timeline we are working toward next is for final working drawings, some elevations and input from the contractor as we put together the final package for the congregation. Our aim is to have this out by the end of February in anticipation of the congregational meeting call for March 14th. It is at that time that the final budget and proposed plans will be voted on and if successful forwarded onto the Pacific Mountain Region for their approval.

We are also working hard to incorporate feedback from the congregation and put together a Q & A document that will join the other documents on the website. At this moment in time you can access the following:

- ⇒ Video presentation of the proposed renovation plan [HERE](#)
- ⇒ Printable package of the presentation with drawings and history [HERE](#)
- ⇒ Video tour of the Cedar Hill site building as it currently exists [HERE](#)

All of these are on the website under the tab on the side labelled “Building Reno” You can visit here as well to find the Q&A document when it is ready and an email link to the working group at reno@broadviewunited.com. While we cannot promise an individual response to every email, all feedback will be read and considered in the final design we are working toward presenting in February.

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU!

Advent was an incredibly busy season with so much happening around BVU despite the pandemic. A HUGE thank you to the many, many volunteers who helped make everything happen this past season:

- ⇒ Those who delivered over 100 poinsettias to members of our congregation who were grieving or shut in
- ⇒ Those who helped make our Drive In Christmas eve possible
- ⇒ Those who were a part of our 3 online Christmas Eve services and our virtual church
- ⇒ Those who volunteered and staffed our Christmas Thrift store pop up service
- ⇒ Those who helped with the renovations to the Thrift Store
- ⇒ Those who served on boards and committees that met to plan for 2021
- ⇒ Those who made repairs to building and property during December
- ⇒ Those who decorated the two sanctuaries for the season
- ⇒ Those who created advertising signs and publicity online
- ⇒ Those who kept our Facebook and Instagram pages current and relevant during season
- ⇒ Those who created children, youth and young adult learning opportunities for Advent and Christmas
- ⇒ These helpers and the many more are what make the ministry of BVU possible. Words are not enough to express our thanks.



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Drive-In Christmas Eve 2020

