



**Broad View**  
— UNITED —

# February 2021

Broad View United—Arbutus  
2625 Arbutus Rd Victoria BC V8N 1W4  
250-477-2715 office@cadbayuc.org

Broad View United—Cedar Hill X  
3703 St. Aidan's St, Victoria BC V8P 2V7  
250-477-2089 office@staindansunited.com

## Inside This Issue...

- ◇ [Kid's Zone](#)
- ◇ [Youth Groups](#)
- ◇ [Parents & Tots](#)
- ◇ [Young Adults](#)
- ◇ [Family Day](#)
- ◇ [Intercultural Ministry](#)
- ◇ [Monthly Town Hall](#)
- ◇ [Daycare](#)
- ◇ [Staff Update](#)
- ◇ [Movie Night](#)
- ◇ [Garden Sale](#)
- ◇ [Henri Lock's Retirement](#)
- ◇ [Building Re-design](#)
- ◇ [Chinese New Year](#)
- ◇ [A note from Betty Anne](#)
- ◇ [Lenten Study Opportunities](#)
- ◇ [Thrift Store Update](#)
- ◇ [Congregational Meetings](#)
- ◇ [Coldest Night of the Year](#)
- ◇ [Tuesday for Trees](#)
- ◇ [BVU Justice Team](#)
- ◇ [Vivo Knife Promo](#)
- ◇ [Baby Shower for Jesus](#)

## Leading into Lent - Mark Green

Welcome to February! What a month January was. It seems like 2021 will be as unpredictable as 2020 was yet at the same time there are some things that are a little bit different. We sense that the world, while still immersed in the dangers of the pandemic and the need to ward off a catastrophic doubling of cases in a very short period of time, is still holding on to a new emerging atmosphere of hope. From the promising results of the vaccine and its roll out, to the inauguration of a kinder more compassionate president in the US to the prophetic words of the young poet at that same ceremony, there seems to be hope rising out of the ashes for us begin to catch glimpses of light at the end of the long haul. And while the dangers are still before us and we are weary, there is hope on the horizon that we can see and imagine.

Hope is like that. It is illusive while still tangible. It is fleeting yet still within sight. This will be important for us to remember as we enter into the season of Lent which begins in the middle of February. Lent: a time of introspection and looking carefully at our lives. And for this season we will unpack together the notion of privilege. The context of the privilege will include many things such as being in the middle of Black History month. It will include attempts by the World Health Organization to make sure that rich and poor countries alike have equal access to the vaccine. Our context will always include the fact that we live, work and worship on the lands of the Coast Salish peoples and that the process of reconciliation is still at its very infancy stages. And yet we will live in hope. Just as Jesus and the disciples did in the context of Roman occupation. We will live in hope just as the disciples did on Good Friday.

In the pages of this newsletter you will find many opportunities to engage in the Lenten Journey. You will find 3 Lenten study opportunities to choose from. You will find an invitation from the Justice team to engage the struggle to end homelessness. You will find an invitation to partake or sponsor our BVU team in the "Coldest Night of the Year" walk. You will find information about Chinese New Years and an invitation to participate with our intercultural friends. You will read about initiatives past, present and future that invite you to deepen your faith and share the journey with others.

We are indeed blessed. With the opportunity to own our privilege and use it wisely to redistribute wealth and power, with the resources we have to make an impact, with the strength of community to uphold and sustain each other through the pandemic, with the grace of a loving God who makes the journey with us reminding us that "we are not alone". For all this and more we can be grateful as we begin our Lenten journey. Thanks be to God.



# Children , Youth & Family

## KID'S ZONE

The latest Faith@Home kit was delivered and the latest virtual Kids' Zone was uploaded mid January with many activities centered around the story of Nicodemus and changing our perspective. The next kit and virtual Kids' Zone will be delivered February 11th-13th. There will be many opportunities for you and your family to explore Valentine's, Black History, Ash Wednesday, Lent and the bible story about the baptism of Jesus over the next month.

To play in our latest Virtual Kid's Zone visit [broadviewunited.org/bvu-kids-zone-online/](https://broadviewunited.org/bvu-kids-zone-online/)



## YOUTH GROUPS @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

Our Youth Groups (grades 6-8 and 9-12) typically meet Friday evenings for Junior and Sunday evenings for Senior but we have not been meeting recently. We are anxiously waiting to get word when it will be safe to do so again.



## PARENT AND TOT PLAY GROUPS

Tots aged 0-4 years and their caregivers typically gather Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 for play and socializing. We will let you know as soon as we are able to gather again!



## YOUNG ADULTS @ THE ARBUTUS SITE

Our Young Adult Group (ages 18 - 30ish) continues to meet on Zoom every second Sunday evening at 7:30. Reminders and the Zoom link are sent out so if you have not been receiving them please contact the office and get your name added on to the list. It is a great opportunity to connect and support each other in a safe space.



## FAMILY DAY - MONDAY FEBRUARY 15

On family day this year both offices will be **closed** and staff will be taking a break and enjoying time with family, virtually and within their bubbles. We hope you take the opportunity to connect with your own families that day as well, make a phone call, plan a zoom call, re-connect and check in. Enjoy your family day!



Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](https://broadviewunited.com)



# INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY

## IPaB (Intercultural Program at Broad View United)

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

If you miss traveling, or are curious about the different cultures in the world, you will enjoy our Intercultural program very much. It allows you to meet people of different cultures and backgrounds while sitting at your own home. Please check out our programs below.



## IWaB (Intercultural Workshop at Broad View United) – Feb 7 at 2pm to 3:30pm

The cross-cultural exchange has created a fabulous opportunity for all participants to learn about cultures of different yet similar values in our community. On Feb 7, participants will be meeting online to explore on family cultures and relationships.

The IWaB exploration includes topics in the following areas:

- 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.

## ICaB-BM (Intercultural Conversations at Broad View United - Business Mentoring) – Feb 9 & 23 (Bi-weekly Tuesday) at 7:30pm on Zoom

We thank all 28 of you who have shared your career journey with the Intercultural Community during 2020. We continue to invite those who have 10+ years of working experience in Canada to contact us if you are willing to share your insights in the ICaB-BM Conversations. It is a fabulous opportunity for our participants to learn about the different professions and their in's and out's from every conversation.

[Please register](#) to get the Zoom link and the details of the speaker and topic for the Conversation.

Click [here to review summaries of our conversations](#).

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

It is wonderful that we have a safe place for everyone to ask questions and exchange cultural information while practising English. We welcome both English speakers and learners for this Conversation.

[Please register](#) to get the Zoom link.



Broad View  
— UNITED —

Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](http://broadviewunited.com)





# What's Happening

## MONTHLY TOWN HALL— Feb 16 @ 7pm via Zoom

BVU is pleased to welcome the moderator of The United Church of Canada, Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, to be our guest at the next townhall. Richard will speak about the State of the Church and he brings a national perspective that will be very interesting to hear. Our format will be Richard speaking for 20-30 minutes and then we will have questions and answers from attendees.



In keeping with the desire of BVU to share our resources and stories to build up the wider church we have invited United Churches from Vancouver Island to join in this zoom meeting. So from Port Hardy to James Bay the people of the United Church will be invited to join in this opportunity to hear and to ask a question of the Moderator.

## DAYCARE

We are pleased to announce that we are partnering with [GillyBird Nature Schools Ltd.](#) to provide a Daycare at the CHX site. The owner/operator, Gillian Fehr, is keen to both lease the space as well as be a partner with BVU in reaching out to families in this catchment area. We have agreed that we can refer people to her program and she will refer her families to the church programs. Gillian and the Thrift Store managers have already met and conversation turned to how those two groups can compliment each other and how they can create reciprocity between them. These are early days but we are excited to again be providing a daycare in this area.



Gillian, in talking about her program and philosophy says: “At Gillybird Nature Schools, our program is based on free play and inspired by nature, with aspects from Montessori, Waldorf and Canada Forest School curriculums. We believe in emphasizing the importance and connection of all living things, promoting growth towards independence, and engaging the child in three distinct ways; through head, heart and hands. We believe that each child is unique. Therefore, we seek to provide an environment that provides a warm, nurturing atmosphere. Such an environment can promote a child’s mental, physical, and emotional development.”

The first children will begin the second week of February. Welcome Gillian and GillyBird Nature Schools. Watch for signs going up.

## STAFF COMING AND GOING

As you have heard elsewhere, Betty Anne has given us notice of her retirement. The effective date is still flexible but will be in May or June. Opportunities to contribute to a retirement gift and details of the celebration will be forthcoming as those plan evolve and a firmer date emerges. Laurel is filling in for Nadia who is away on medical leave. The office at CHX is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Friday.



## **MOVIE NIGHT FEBRUARY 26TH AT 8PM "BEST OF ENEMIES"**

The true story of the unlikely relationship between Ann Atwater, an outspoken civil rights activist, and C.P. Ellis, a local Ku Klux Klan leader. During the racially charged summer of 1971, Atwater and Ellis come together to co-chair a community summit on the desegregation of schools in Durham, N.C. The ensuing debate and battle soon lead to surprising revelations that change both of their lives forever.

You can find this movie on amazon prime, youtube or google play. Watch the movie prior to the group meeting and register [HERE](#) for the zoom link for discussion if you are not already registered for movie night.



## **GARDEN SALE FUNDRAISER FOR SHELBOURNE COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

Each year the CHX site holds a plant and garden sale with proceeds going to Shelbourne Community Kitchen, in 2020 after the sale was planned and ready, Covid hit and we had to change gears. We ended up putting a little plant stand at the bottom of Vivian Skinner's driveway to sell some plants and raise some money. The result was amazing and in total we raised over \$3500!

Spring is just around the corner so let's do it again this year! Let's have an informal Plant Stand at the end of Vivian's driveway at 3597 Thistle St like we did in 2020. The little stand will stay in place from May - July and folks can drive by or walk up and take a plant in exchange for a donation! If you have any plants that you'd be willing to donate please contact Vivian ([vivianskinner@shaw.ca](mailto:vivianskinner@shaw.ca)/250-595-0543)



## **HENRI LOCK IS RETIRING – HELP US CELEBRATE ON FEB 10TH VIA ZOOM**

Henri delivered the United Church Campus Ministry at UVic for decades, reaching out to young adults from a wide range of church backgrounds – or no church background at all – to introduce faith, contemplative practice, and the connections to personal growth and sustainable living. Join us in celebrating Henri's rich contributions to the United Church and to the lives of young people in our community. We're having an on-line celebration the evening of Feb 10, and you can contribute words, songs, photos, remembrances or videos to share BEFORE Feb 2. All the details of the zoom link, video upload, gift contribution options and emails to send your best wishes to Henri can be found here: <https://www.pmfirfirstthirdresources.ca/heartbeat-news/uvic-chaplain-henri-lock-is-retiring-lets-celebrate-his-faithfulness-together#/>



Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](http://broadviewunited.com)



## DESIGN REIMAGINING • THE PROCESS CONTINUES...

Thanks again to the many of you who joined in the Broad View United Design Reimagining information and feedback sessions in late November. Between joining together with family and participating in congregational events focused on advent and nativity, the committee has been less visible for a time, but has been working at refining the design proposal taking into account all of your feedback.

**Please note:** We continue to look forward to all of your suggestions, concerns and celebrations, which can be submitted at: [reno@broadviewunited.com](mailto:reno@broadviewunited.com)

- (The committee will review and consider all submitted e-mails, though may not be in a position to respond to each individually)
- The proposal and building walk-through videos and the proposal booklet are all available for download and viewing at: <https://broadviewunited.org/building-reno>

**Design Reimagining Research Groups:** In combination with ongoing professional consultations with engineers, architects, contractors and others, the committee recognizes the importance of tapping in to the ideas and expertise within the congregation. Specific questions come up that require research into specific technical choices, economic considerations and sensitivity to our community values and memory.

With this in mind, when specific questions come up, the Design Reimagining committee will be approaching individuals based on their interest and expertise, to serve as a research group member. These groups will be asked to research a specific question and serve as consultants to the Design Reimagining committee in their work sharpening details in the designs. Ideally most of these Research Groups will be small in number and short in duration, and will have successfully completed their tasks when they have submitted their research guidance to the Design Reimagining Committee.

An example of a research group question:

The choices that will make the Broad View United an inviting place of worship, a vibrant values-based community centre but also a safe and secure facility (so inviting but not tempting?) involves some specific research into materials like windows, locks and security system, but also important conversation about how we present ourselves to the community at large. Equipping the Design Reimagining committee with technical suggestions and a good representation of the community's wishes and concerns will support the upgrading of features in the building economically as part of the renovation.

Currently there are several Research Groups working with members of the Design Reimagining Committee or in the process of forming:

- Labyrinth (Mark )
- Signage (Cheryl)
- Sanctuary Art (Mike)
- Audio Visual (Mark)
- Library (Marilyn)



Others will be formed as the process continues. Your input is welcomed at [reno@broadviewunited.com](mailto:reno@broadviewunited.com)

Continued on next page →



**Budget:** Several questions have been raised about the budget for the project with some folks wondering if the number of 3.5 million is a rough estimate or built upon actual quotes. A more detailed budget with categories and numbers attached will go with the second package coming to you at the end of February, but the estimate of 3.5M is based upon actual quotes from our architect, designer and contractor and also has a 10% contingency fund built into that number as well. While that number may seem high, remember that we are dealing with 27000 sq ft of space. In today's dollars to rebuild this space would cost at least 10.9M before the additions of furnishings and equipment. We are looking to be as prudent as possible with the funds and yet also renovate the building to serve the congregation and community well into the next decade.

**Second Package coming Feb 26<sup>th</sup>:** In the second package to the congregation, you will find supplementary information to the floor plans that were distributed in November. Contents will include:

- Elevations, drawings of some of the walls, to give you a feel of what the space will look like.
- Perspective (3D) drawing of the Commons and the Sanctuary to give you a feel of the ambience and openness. "
- Budget outline of work areas included
- Budget possibilities for areas not currently in the scope of the project
- Timelines moving forward on the renovation project
- Statement about space renovations and their connection to our values and ministry plan moving forward
- Wording of the motions to be presented and voted on and the congregational meeting March 14h.

**Timeline to the next opportunity for decision-making:**

- Questions and concerns raised through email Dec 1 - March 9
- Small research groups providing input ongoing
- Second package distributed to congregation Feb 26<sup>th</sup>  
(this second package will contain more in-depth design information, more firm financial information and the precise motion wording for the Congregational meeting)
- Congregational conversation at town hall about second package March 9<sup>th</sup>
- Congregational meeting via zoom Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am

**The larger timeline:**

- Congregational Approval given for the project March 14, 2021
- Permitting and Packing Up phase March – June, 2021
- Construction phase July – Dec., 2021
- Hopeful end of COVID restrictions on large gatherings September, 2021
- BVU living as one congregation at Arbutus site June – Dec. 2021
- BVU moving to their new permanent home January, 2022

As you can see, the building reimagining is a living, vibrant and evolving process. We are incorporating questions and concerns and ideas raised where possible and appropriate and appreciate the feedback we are receiving. Buildings like people, are ever changing and evolving and we have been keeping the core values of openness and flexibility at the center of our design recommendations. We are excited about what is emerging and are pleased to share that excitement with many of you who have offered such encouraging comments.

As always, your feedback is welcome at [reno@broadviewunited.com](mailto:reno@broadviewunited.com).

## CELEBRATION OF CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR - FEB 12, 2021



As a significant part of the world's population prepares to celebrate the Lunar New Year, some knowledge of the customs and traditions and history might be helpful. Below is a brief summary of a longer article you can find [HERE](#) on our website.

**The Year of the Ox – 2021:** The Ox is the second of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. The Ox was about to be the first to arrive, but Rat tricked Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox. Thus, Ox became the second animal.

**Personality and Characteristics:** Oxen are honest and earnest. They are low key and never look for praise or to be the center of attention. This often hides their talent, but they'll gain recognition through their hard work. They believe that everyone should do what's asked for them and stay within their bounds. Though they are kind, it's difficult for them to understand persuasion using pathos. Rarely losing your temper, they think logically and make great leaders.

**Customs:** It's easy to see when the Lunar New Year is around the corner – festive scarlet decor adorns every street, storefront and home. Being associated with wealth and good fortune, red decorations are hung to ward off Nian – a lion-like monster that is afraid of the colour red, according to LNY mythology.

The belief is that the loud noise of the firecrackers serves to scare Nian, the lion-like monster who legend says rose from the sea for a feast of human flesh on the new year.

Nian mythology also plays out during lion dances across LNY festivities – one of the most globally recognized traditions because of its prominence in diaspora celebrations. This colourful traditional dance is performed outdoors to the accompaniment of drums and cymbals, sometimes as a street parade – or in the air, if a flying lion dance is taking place.

Traditions like new clothes, tea ceremonies, and a number of traditional foods shared among family and friends, makes this time of year and the celebrations connected with it the most central celebration of the year. There are 15 days of Customs and traditions that differ from place to place around the world. A more comprehensive description can be found [HERE](#) on our website.

**Red envelopes - Lucky Money:** In other cultures, children receive gifts for holidays. Gifts are also exchanged during the Spring Festival. In Chinese tradition, children receive —red envelopes. Also called red packets or pockets, they include money. This money is supposed to help transfer fortune from the elders to the kids. They can also be given between bosses and employees, co-workers, and friends. With the development of technology, digital red pockets are the trend now.

For Seollal celebrations in Korea, these presents take the form of red satchels, and monetary gifts are accompanied by encouraging messages and blessings of good luck for the new year. Celebrations are Varied and Many

Because of the large diaspora of Chinese people around the world, the customs and practices have evolved over time. Being in conversation and sharing in celebration is just one of the many ways we can shrink our differences and expand our connections to one another. Much more can be found and read online and as referenced earlier, a longer version of this article is available [HERE](#) on our website.





## MY RETIRING THOUGHTS.....

*"Connections, along with love and belonging, is why we are here, and is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives"...Brene Brown*

Do you remember a moment when you were deeply connected with your spirituality? Do you recall a loving, warm connection with a loved one? And how about that profound connection with the Holy?

While serving St. Aidan's/Broad View United, I have had many of these experiences that are held and protected deep in my soul!

These last 5 years at Broad View United have been a challenging and joy-filled time!

- \* I remember being welcomed back after "retirement"-the trust and love...
- \* I remember the "Bus Trips"-laughing, singing, playing games, red licorice, chocolate, a broken wrist (sigh...)
- \* I remember Christmas lunches-turkey and "pot-luck" trimmings, music, chatter, joy!
- \* I remember 9:00am Sunday meditation-music, prose and poetry, candles, sacred silence.
- \* I remember holding hands in prayer, passing tissue to dry tears, sharing "namaste", chatting over coffee, laughing so hard it hurt!
- \* I remember challenging conversations about amalgamation-watching strangers become friends, hearing positive comments about new strategies, heartfelt sadness concerning change. And hoping that even though we will not see the end result (as there is no end result-it is a continuing work in progress), we know that we have honoured our individual truths and prayed hopefully for the future of our beloved church.
- \* I remember...and I am eternally grateful for this journey.

My Plan is to move back to Port Coquitlam in May or June...my Hope is to be able to meet (either face-to-face or zoom) sometime in April...

I close with this...

**God, what would you have me say and do today?**

*You have begun well...*

*by asking.*

*Continue to ask today,  
in each encounter, event, and circumstance.*

*It takes only a moment's intent  
Divine communication is much quicker than human thought or words spoken.*

*Feel my answers within you...*

Blessings to All!

Shalom,

*Betty Anne*



**Broad View**  
— UNITED —

Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](http://broadviewunited.com)





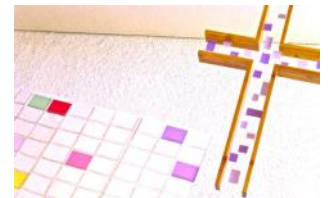
**SALE**

**BROAD VIEW THRIFT STORE**

First sale! Come by Wed Feb 3rd between 10am and 6pm for our buy one get one sale (equal or lesser price) on all clothing!

**LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITES FOR 2021**

Lent gives us the opportunity to deepen our connections with each other and our world as we reflect on the life and ministry of Jesus. And while we cannot do this in person, we have the following three on-line opportunities that we hope you will avail as spiritual food for the journey in February and March, 2021.



**6 GUIDING VIRTUES/VALUES FOR LENT**

As a backdrop to exploring the life and passion of Jesus, we will utilize 6 guiding values from The Virtues Project™ and connect them to our BVU Values statement.. Some of the questions we will explore together are:

- ◇ How did these values guide and sustain Jesus in his ministry and calling?
- ◇ How might these values and virtues assist and encourage us on our own spiritual paths, and as we walk with each other in community?

**Virtues:** Love/Compassion, Humanity, Faithfulness, Justice, Wisdom, Resilience.

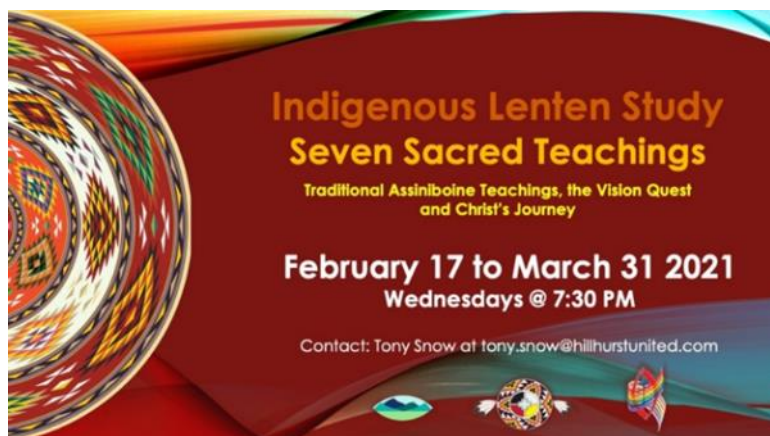
**How to Register :**

\*If you are in a small group already, your group will choose how it wants to participate in a Lenten program .

\*\*For those who are **not yet in a small group**, you are invited to join an on-line Zoom gathering six Sunday evenings from 7-8 pm, beginning Sunday, February 21, through to March 28.

**The Virtues & Values Zoom Series** will be led by Margaret Harper and Betty Doherty. We welcome you to this time of spiritual nurture, connection and exploration. Questions can be directed to [margaret@broadviewunited.com](mailto:margaret@broadviewunited.com) or 250-419-3082 Register [HERE](#) on our website

The Following Two Lenten Opportunities are offered and facilitated in conjunction with our Pacific Mountain Region and our neighbouring United Church Region, Chinook Winds.



**AN INDIGENOUS LENTEN STUDY** on Christ's journey as we examine the Vision Quest and 7 Natural Laws of the Assiniboine people. Everyone is welcome to partake in the teachings, perspectives and lessons of traditional spiritual formation and the Church. **PLEASE NOTE TIME WILL BE 6:30 pm (Victoria TIME)**, (online via Zoom) on Wednesdays Feb 17th - March 31st Hosted by Tony Snow, Indigenous Leader. Sponsored by the Urban Indigenous Circle and Chinook Winds Region.  
**TO REGISTER:** Email Tony Snow directly: [tony.snow@hillhurstunited.com](mailto:tony.snow@hillhurstunited.com)

And Finally, **QUEER VIRTUE LENTEN SERIES** based on the book "Queer Virtue" by the Rev. Elizabeth Edman. This series is designed to help us think about Jesus' demand that we challenge - or 'queer' - thinking that pits us against one another. The ultimate question is: how can we live our faith and be the church more effectively?

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:**

<https://form.jotform.com/210186971020044?fbclid=IwAR1t5-qwT3hVxyFJdp6toAkQ7Bzb9sSGaOLys8Sd1-7CeRMYZNapespeyxQ>



### Online Live Event

#### An Intro to Queer Virtue with Rev. Liz Edman

- Wednesday Feb 10, 6:30-8pm PST,

#### Online Lenten Series co-led by PMR and CWR Affirming Working Groups.

5-week series: Monday nights 6:30-8pm PST,

- Feb 22 - Identity/Pride
- March 1 - Risk/Coming Out
- March 8 - Touch
- March 15 - Adoption/Authenticity

### Online Live Event

Queer Virtue - What Next? with Rev. Liz Edman

- Wednesday April 14, 6:30-8pm PST

The LGBTQ2S+ community persistently looks to the margins to see who isn't yet included and decide what we're going to do about it. This "path" bears remarkable similarity to the path that Christians are called to walk." Thus, queer experience is a lens that can help Christians better understand and navigate an authentic Christian path.



## THRIFT STORE UPDATE

A journey began ¼ century ago when Sylvia Campbell, Patsy Osselton, Joan Martin and Tony Embleton had a vision of a thrift store at St. Aidan's. With the help of countless hardworking volunteers they created an amazing thrift shop presence and resource for the community that evolved and grew over more than 20 years.



Now, thanks to the resources and renewed energy of BVU we have taken advantage of the forced COVID closure and completed a renovation led by the Thrift Store Board, piloted by Marilyn Poutanen with the key support of the Managers, Katy and Sam, and the hardworking transition team consisting of Ann Harris, Marilyn Smith (and Tony), Gail and Dave Murdock, and Marietta Mitchell. This transition team spent countless hours integrating more volunteers, painting, organizing, planning, sorting, setting up, pricing and much more.

Wednesday, Jan 20, when the store opened again to the community was the culmination of tremendous energy, vision, commitment and love. We are deeply grateful to all the volunteers and are eager to welcome more. Katy and Sam, the managers, represent a new generation of leadership at BVU and already they are inviting younger families to make the BVU thrift store part of their shopping route and planning for more innovations.

So, thank you everyone. With gratitude for the past, appreciation of the present and vision for the future we reopened. Now every Wednesday, between 10 and 6 the store is open, following strict COVID 19 protocols, with full service cash, credit and debit capabilities. Donations are also most gratefully received during the store hours of Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. New volunteers are welcomed by emailing Katy and Sam at:

[thriftstore@broadviewunited.com](mailto:thriftstore@broadviewunited.com)

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS CALLED BY THE BOARD:

The following congregational meetings have been called by the board on the dates and purposes listed below:

- ⇒ **March 14th at 11am:** (via Zoom) for the purpose of voting on the renovation proposal to the Cedar Hill Cross site. A package will be distributed at the end of February and a town hall discussion on March 9th will predate this meeting
- ⇒ **April 25th at 11am** (via Zoom) will be our Annual General Meeting. An annual report, year end financial statement for 2020 and a budget outline will be distributed 2 weeks in advance of this meeting. Any questions about either of these meetings can be sent to the Board Chair, Andrew DeLong at

[adelong@shaw.ca](mailto:adelong@shaw.ca)



Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](http://broadviewunited.com)



# Outreach

## COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR -FEB, 2021

### IMPORTANT

In February, our team, “Walk the Talk with Broad View United”, will join over 100 other locations across Canada, in an annual fundraising walk-a-thon. But, there is a change in plans:

**We will not be meeting at Our Place.**

**Victoria’s charity leadership has made the decision to switch the walk to a virtual-only format. This means your walk will be a self-organized route that you can undertake solo, or with a small group of your friends, walking at a time- day or night- of your choosing.**

What hasn’t changed is you can register now to walk and fundraise at [www.cnoy.org](http://www.cnoy.org). Or, donate to BVU’s team, “Walk the Talk with Broad View United”. Invite your friends and family along too. Already our team has fundraised \$2520.00! Questions? Maureen Koch ([maureenkoch76@gmail.com](mailto:maureenkoch76@gmail.com)) Our fundraising dollars will go to Our Place Society. **We can be the Light for the homeless, the hurt and the hungry.**



## TUESDAYS FOR TREES - SAVE BC'S ANCIENT FOREST

Greater Victoria Acting Together (GVAT), of which Broad View United is a member, has initiated a campaign called **Tuesdays for Trees**. One of the goals of the campaign is to raise public awareness and maintain pressure on decision-makers to fully fund and implement the recommendations of the report of the Old Growth Strategy Review. The panel’s report is titled “A New Future for Old Forests” and was released to the public in September 2020. <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/563/2020/09/STRATEGIC-REVIEW-20200430.pdf> In the recent provincial government election campaign, the NDP promised to implement all 14 report recommendations. However, to date, a formal implementation plan and funding have not been put in place. In the meantime, logging in ancient forests is continuing and action is needed now to prevent irreversible loss of biodiversity.

BC’s old growth forests are integral to fighting climate change because of their outsized contribution to retaining carbon. Old growth forests provide habitat for vulnerable and endemic species, enhance air and water quality and offer spiritual connection to the Earth. In addition, they are critically important to First nations’ cultures.

The Sierra Club will be providing the content for a one hour zoom event where the Broad View United community can learn about BC’s old growth forests, the Old Growth Strategy panel’s report and the state of logging practices in B.C.’s ancient forests. We will discern ways we can support efforts to preserve B.C.’s ancient trees and ensure the panel recommendations are funded and implemented.

### **Tuesday, February 9 - 7:00pm-8:00pm - ZOOM EVENT**

Please register by contacting Brenda Henderson at [bjhenderson@shaw.ca](mailto:bjhenderson@shaw.ca) or (250)882-7431. Zoom coordinates will be provided to all registrants.

This event is being co-sponsored by the “Broad View United Environment and Climate Justice Small Group” and “Broad View United GVAT Team”.

# Building a Current of Hope: BVU's Justice Team

*“Each time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the life of others, or strikes out against injustice, they send a tiny ripple of hope, and those ripples, crossing each other from a million different centres of energy, build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.” Robert F. Kennedy*

When St. Aidan's and Cadboro Bay United made the decision to amalgamate and become a regional church, we knew that would bring us challenges, as well as opportunities. But little did we know that COVID 19 was soon to raise its bumpy head, changing everything for everyone. As a result, some of our best-laid plans had to take a back-burner for a few months while other plans were placed on the front-burner. The good news is that we've discovered that **resiliency is also a core value at BVU**; so much so, that we are now able to begin pulling together our other critical church leadership teams. One of those teams in the early stages of mobilization is the Justice Team. We have some of its members already in discussion with more to join in the coming days and weeks.

**So what is the story BVU will tell around justice-making in our region and in the world?** We know it will be one grounded in the work already done by our two founding churches. There are justice pieces that will continue more or less as they always have, but there will also be new pieces added as we begin to think and act like a regional church, and respond to the needs and issues of the day.

Because of the global pandemic, members of the Justice Team have been particularly concerned about the impact this virus has had on the most vulnerable members of our neighbourhood communities. As Christians who follow a teacher who always walked with the vulnerable, the poor and the outcast, we know that working to end poverty will always be a goal of the Justice Team. But this pandemic has revealed the cracks in our social safety net and the extent of Victoria's housing crisis like never before.

*How then shall we live?*

With that in mind, over the next few months, we are inviting you to learn more about homelessness and poverty in the CRD and participate in a number of specific actions.

*Have you been worried about the tents in the parks? Do you wonder how you can respond as an individual or what we can do as a church to help people who have no homes?*

**You are not alone.**

There are many ways to respond to complex issues like this one and we need people to be working in all ways to transform this situation. The actions we take can be short-term or medium term, while other actions are strategies that may take years. But all of these actions are the *ripples* that eventually produce the *current of hope* leading to real change and transformation. (See chart for some ideas. These will be explored in more detail in the months ahead.)

Friends, there is no more time to waste. Let's start telling BVU's justice story.

<b>ripples that</b>	<b>create the current</b>	<b>for real change</b>
Short Term Actions	Medium Term Actions	Long Term Actions
writing letters as individuals to politicians	supporting families with rent subsidies & offering them support similar to what we do for refugees	membership in GVAT and participating in collaborative actions for political change
giving money as individuals to support agencies, projects, etc.	participating in a targeted letter-writing campaign over several months	collectively supporting Our Place financially and as requested
making donations as individuals to food banks, thrift stores, community kitchens	doing a longer book study or taking a course about an issue related to poverty	working collaboratively or in partnership with other organizations to end poverty and homelessness
taking part in activities designed to raise money and awareness for Our Place, Shelbourne Community Kitchen, etc.	working on a food sovereignty project over the summer with other people and organizations	forming a Homelessness Response Team
attending educational events to learn about an issue	volunteering regularly at the Thrift store or Our Place	offering people who are homeless support in specific and long term relational ways



# February's Education and Action: Focus on a Transitional Tiny Home Community & the Hey Neighbour Project

DYK?

The City of Victoria is working with the Province to offer everyone currently sheltering in parks a 24/7 indoor sheltering opportunity, and ending 24/7 camping in parks as of March 31st. But shelters aren't homes and recognizing that housing is a human right, the Mayor and Council have developed what they call a *housing continuum*- a plan to move people out of tents into shelters or supportive housing, and then, if and when possible, from this supportive housing into market units, or treatment, or new CRD housing. The plan appears to be working: in

December, 81 people moved along the continuum.

One of the projects that has the potential to give 30 people brand new transitional housing is the “**Hey Neighbour**” project that is an Aryze Development collaboration with the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness and Mayor Lisa Helps. They are crowdfunding \$500,000 and have managed to raise over \$300,000 from individual donors in just a few weeks.



*Does that sound like a lot of money?*

Consider this: for \$500,000, other solutions would likely house just two to three people. With the Hey Neighbour project, \$500,000 will house 30 people using shipping containers. Not only will they will have access to comfortable and safe housing that will incorporate public art, it will offer opportunities for residents to learn new skills and engage in social enterprises, like bicycle repair shops and community gardens, where they can share their talents and gifts, and participate in the community.

*And isn't that sense of belonging what this is really all about?* Giving people hope that their futures can be better and that they have neighbours who care about their well-being.

**This month, we are asking members of BVU to consider making a donation to the Hey Neighbour project; there is some time urgency, as a donor has stepped forward to match all donations before a March 31st deadline.**

This project has legs, with a location at Royal Athletic Park selected, all necessary approvals in place, as well as a non-profit lined up to operate it. All they need now is more financial support from those of us who can spare the change.

Go here to make your tax receiptable donation: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/greater-victoria-coalition-to-end-homelessness-society/campaign/hey-neighbour/>

As Mayor Lisa Helps notes in one of her weekly blogs- “The root of the issue facing our community right now isn't only that people are living in parks. It is a sense of disconnection, vulnerability, alone-ness. This makes sense given that we are 313 days into a global health pandemic where we've all been told to isolate as much as possible. My hope for all of us is that we can shift our way of seeing even just a little bit, and recognize that we are all – fundamentally – connected.”

**The Justice Team agrees with the Mayor and over the months to come, we will share other ways for you to contribute to the work of ending homelessness and poverty in the CRD. #WalkingTheTalk #CurrentOfHope #JusticePath**

## VIVO KNIFE PROMOTION - SHELBOURNE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Thank you to everyone who has been handing in their Thrifty's stamps so we can earn knives for the Shelbourne Community Kitchen. We are down to our last couple of weeks before the promotion ends...

February 10 is the last day to collect stamps at Thrifty's and February 24 is the last day for us to redeem the stamps, so please get your stamps turned in to the church offices right after the 10th so we can redeem the knives before the February 24 deadline.

The knives we earn are going to be shared with the Kitchen's participants as part of the [Shelbourne Community Kitchen](#) "Feel the Love February Campaign".

February is a challenging month for many and the campaign focuses on mental health and wellbeing; offering social activities via Zoom, special treats in the pantry, program surveys, prizes, recipe sharing and special Food Skills Programs that feature everything from heart healthy foods to vegetarian comfort foods. Thank you for supporting the work of the Shelbourne Community Kitchen.



## BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS UPDATE

A huge thank you to the Broad View United community for your amazing response to the "Baby Shower for Jesus", in support of the families served by [Saanich Neighbourhood Place](#). Diapers, wipes, baby food, formula and other items are very gratefully received and will be put to good use by our participants. January is often a month where money is extra tight after the holidays, and these items are both costly and necessary. We appreciate your generosity and support.

Saanich Neighbourhood Place provides services to individuals and families across Saanich. We offer a variety of supportive family services including parenting support and education, early childhood programs, youth and family outreach, youth mental health support and outreach, specialized programming for LGTB2QIA+ youth, children and families, as well as food security programs like community kitchens and Food Skills for Families. We also have a pre and postnatal program for vulnerable families, and a young parent program (formerly the Young Parents Support Network). Services are offered out of our Tillicum location, at the Royal Oak Neighbourhood House, and last year we partnered with Broad View United (through the former St Aidan's United church) to offer a weekly drop in at your Cedar Hill X site. We are deeply grateful for your continued support and willingness to work in partnership with us to support the folks in our community, and look forward to the time when we can work together again in person! Jacquelin Green, Family Services Manager at Saanich Neighbourhood Place.



Visit Us:  
Find Us:

[broadviewunited.com](http://broadviewunited.com)

