

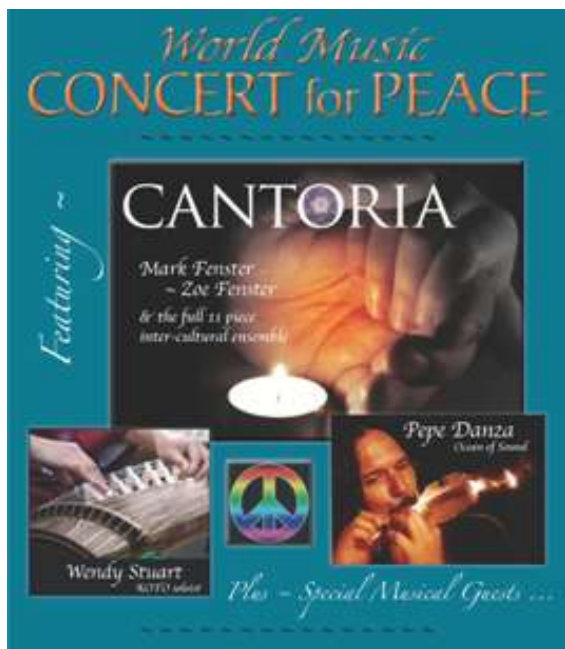


ST. DAVID'S
UNITED CHURCH

The Shepherd

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November, 2010



First United is celebrating 125 years of community service in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Join Mark Fenster and his daughter Zoe (recent guests at St. David's) and Pepe Danza and friends, along with a full 11 piece ensemble for an inspiring and beautiful inter-faith, inter-cultural concert. Tickets, (available at the office) are \$20 and all profits will go to support those in need on the downtown east side.

Why not make it a whole evening in celebration and support of First United by attending the fundraising dinner being held prior to the concert! Eat with old friends and new ones and support the mission at First. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, or \$30 per family and are available at the office.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 and the concert begins at 7pm. St. Andrews is located at 1044 St. Georges Ave. in North Vancouver.

This evening is a combined outreach initiative of St. Andrews, Capilano and St. David's United Churches.

Come Celebrate With Us!

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Minister: Dan Chambers
Minister with Children, Youth & Families: Colleen Blair

Minister of Music: Marsha Goold
Administrator: Leanne Gilhuis

Reflections...



*I think of a gesture of love as anything we do that helps others discover their humanity.
Any act where we turn to one another. Open our hearts. Extend ourselves. Listen.
Any time we're patient. Curious. Quiet. Engaged.*

M. Wheatley, Turning Toward One Another

The children and youth have spent the autumn exploring with their teachers, what is at the heart of our faith. We have talked, created, played and sung about the heart of our faith as being a path...a way of the heart...a way of being in the world. That way is based on two seemingly separate but inextricably and beautifully intertwined relationships: *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your strength and with all your mind **and** you shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

The Christian faith has an ethical imperative. It is something that demands our *response*. We cannot love God *without* loving our neighbor....these two pieces are part of a whole, part of a way of seeing and responding to all the realities of life. ***We love God by loving what God loves***...by loving and caring for our neighbor, by loving and caring for ourselves and by loving and caring for creation. This is the very essence of what it means to be a Christian, all else in the bible informs this commandment. How do we turn towards one another? *Listen* from the heart... *see* with the eyes of your heart... hold the experiences of another in your heart... share, engage, pay attention, be present, be open, wonder about another. All of these nurture relationships and carry us deeper into the heart of God.

Rev. Ric Matthews of First United Church shared recently the Zulu greeting commonly used in South Africa. "Saubona" which means 'I see you', is met with the response "Ngikona", I am here. The greeting is based on the concept of 'ubuntu', described here by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

...It is the essence of being human. It speaks of the fact that my humanity is caught up and is inextricably bound up in yours. I am human because I belong. It speaks about wholeness, it speaks about compassion. A person with ubuntu is welcoming, hospitable, warm and generous, willing to share. Such people are open and available to others, willing to be vulnerable, affirming of others, do not feel threatened that others are able and good, for they have a proper self-assurance that comes from knowing that they belong in a greater whole. They know that they are diminished when others are humiliated, diminished when others are oppressed, diminished when others are treated as if they were less than who they are. The quality of ubuntu gives people resilience, enabling them to survive and emerge still human despite all efforts to dehumanise them.

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu
"God Has A Dream" © 2004 Published by Doubleday

On Sunday, November 14th, through story, song, art and reflection, children and youth will share their experience and interpretation of Christianity as a way of the heart. Your presence will support and encourage the children and the experience will connect, enliven and remind all of us of the stunning beauty and simplicity of our faith.

*Autumn blessings,
Colleen*

The wisdom of the Desert Fathers includes the wisdom that the hardest spiritual work in the world is to love the neighbor as the self – to encounter another human being not as someone you can use, change, fix, help, save, enroll, convince or control, but simply as someone who can spring you from the prison of your self, if you will allow it. All you have to do is recognize another you "out there" – your other self in the world – for whom you may care as instinctively as you care for yourself. To become that person, even for a moment, is to understand what it means to die to your self. This can be as frightening as it is liberating. It may be the only real spiritual discipline there is.

Barbara Brown Taylor, [An Altar in the World](#)



Presidential Wanderings

Recently, on my day off, I was exercising at Griffin Rec Centre when I saw a frequent visitor to St. David's and greeted her. In our conversation, she asked a very good question, "What do minister's *do* the rest of the week? I mean, I know you need to plan for worship, but other than that, what do you *do*?"

It's a fair question. I really have no idea what a bank manager or a shop keeper or a company executive or city councilor does on a daily basis, so I have no expectation that people would have a clue what I do to fill an average of 50 hours of work a week.

Rather than give you the full tsunami of involvements and responsibilities, I'd like to focus on one important aspect of my work: serving as President of BC Conference (I'd say 20-30% of my work hours per week are given to Conference responsibilities). Moving into my final seven months as President, it seems appropriate that I share with you some of my recent involvements. Because you have blessed and supported me in this work, it is only right that you have a sense of what I've been doing and where:

- **Leadership Retreat** As many of you know, I was involved in the planning and worship leadership of a gathering of 45 United Church clergy from around BC to focus on leadership in challenging times. A former Moderator of the United Church, the Right Rev. Peter Short, was our keynote speaker, reminding us of the soul-work of ministry. We would begin at 9:00am, and end at 9:00pm, so the days were long but well balanced with different speakers, small group work, individual reflection, worship, delicious meals, and on two days we had time for a walk (the weather was beautiful that October week). All left inspired, challenged, encouraged. (Oct. 17-22, with much planning in advance; and more planning for the next gathering in the Spring).
- **The Truth and Reconciliation Commission** How do you right past wrongs? Or, at least, how do you address injustices of the past to work towards reconciliation and wholeness of self, community and nation? This is the concern of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, established by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and now chaired by The Honorable Murray Sinclair. Tuesday, Oct. 26th, the Squamish Nation invited the Commission, government representatives, hereditary and elected chiefs from Coast Salish bands, religious representatives and civic leaders to the Joe Mathias Center on Squamish land, at the base of Capilano Rd. The day was a brilliant example of hospitality and respect, commitments made for the work of reconciliation, hard truths spoken by survivors of the Residential Schools, and words of apology and grace spoken by religious representatives. It was a long day of listening; but a powerful gathering of people and stories, expressing not only the horrors of the past, but gratitude for the present and yearnings for a better future. (I'll be involved with ongoing work with church leaders and First Nations representatives in BC.)
- **Evolve** Every year youth and young adults from around the Conference gather for a youth weekend. It's a time to be together with youth from White Rock to Haida Gwaii, Tofino to Nelson for inspiring worship and workshops, presentations and social time. As Conference President, I feel it's important to make connections with our young people and will go to lead a couple of workshops at this year's gathering in Naramata. (Nov. 11-14, though I'll be back to St. David's for the Youth Worship on Nov. 14).
- **Executive Meeting** The President of Conference Chairs the BC Conference Executive meeting, a gathering of ministry personnel and lay leaders from around the Province. This November, we'll meet in Victoria and will include a tour of the newly renovated Camp Pringle. (Nov. 18-20, though I'll leave early to be present for our Advent Retreat on Bowen Island, Nov. 19-21).
- **General Meeting** The BC Conference General Meeting this year will be held in Penticton, May 26-29. The President of the Conference Chairs the gathering of 500 people and is highly involved in the planning of this event which is a mix of worship, business and reflection around a particular theme. This year's theme will be

Faithful Public Witness, and will consider how we engage this aspect of the Conference's Mission Statement. How, in a secular, 21st century society, do we work for justice and peace in our communities and our lives?

- **Presbytery Visits** Yikes! I'm falling behind and still need to visit 5 of the 10 Presbyteries in BC, including the Cariboo, Okanagan, and Victoria Presbyteries. What I do on these visits varies: sometimes I'm invited to preach or lead a workshop, sometimes I am simply present to offer greetings and updates and to listen to the realities of church life in our very different regions of the Province. Always I find these visits very interesting.

This may be more than you wanted to know, but I hope gives you a sense of my whereabouts and commitments in the work of the larger Church. Once again, thank you for your support as I offer this ministry. It means that I struggle to meet deadlines and attend to important areas of ministry at St. David's and to have time for my family. So in a real way I feel this is ministry shared by the congregation of St. David's to the Conference, because as you support me, you support our shared ministry in BC.

Gratefully,
Dan



Music at St. David's

Wow! Look what we've got lined up for Sunday mornings in November! It's a musical cornucopia!

November 7: Imagine this ... bagpipes AND Dan's beautiful trumpet tones PLUS poignant words set to music, offered by our committed singers ... the makings of a moving Remembrance Day service.

November 14: Emmanuel Huchet will be strumming along with us this day. We may even have a surprise guest or two. Be here to find out who it will be!

November 21: Singer Dawn Pemberton will be with us to share her very special musical gifts. Dawn describes herself:

"Vibrant, genuine and soulful, Dawn Pemberton has deep musical roots that take her powerful voice from gospel and soul to jazz, funk and world music. She has become a staple of the Vancouver music scene and can often be found tearin' it up as a vocalist, pianist, teacher, facilitator, choir director and session musician for live and studio performances. Dawn has had the pleasure of opening for artists such as Ursula Rucker, Jeremy Ellis, and Zaki Ibrahim. She has also shared the stage and performed with The Campbell Brothers, The Hard Rubber Orchestra (Cantata for The King), Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir, John Boutte, Dee Daniels, Kurt Elling and Kenny Werner."

Dawn has long been active within the United Church. Her gifted teaching at Naramata has even inspired our own Dan Chambers! We are thrilled she can be with us. We hope to encourage Dawn to bring some of her recordings for us to take home. If you're looking to expand your collection, you may want to bring a little extra cash with you this day.

November 28: To round out this musical mosaic of a month, handbell soloist Cara Beirnes will travel from Nanaimo to be with us "with bells on". The sounds of Christmas will surround us as we light the first Advent candle.

The Advent Choir also starts up this day, with rehearsals held every Sunday morning before Worship. We look forward to a continual choral presence up at the front for the season of Advent. All are welcome.

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS WANTED!!!

If you like to sing or play a musical instrument, you are needed here, throughout the year!! Have no fear! We're all friends here!

And a special message to all parents: Would your child be interested in singing in a group during this year's Christmas Eve service? Rehearsals will be held immediately following Sunday School on Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12 and 19. Advance commitment is appreciated.

I am always looking for feedback on the musical aspects of our Worship services. We try to provide a variety of styles to suit all tastes. Please let me know what you like and what you're yearning for.

Your humble servant,

Marsha Goold

Email: marsha@stdavidsunited.com

Phone: 604-809-6708

Family



Sexy Inc.

Our Children Under Influence

A Gathering for Parents and Teachers Tuesday, November 9th at 7:15

St. David's United Church, Cypress Room

Parents and teachers are invited to join us to watch this highly recommended documentary (35 minutes) and participate in conversation afterwards.

"Sexy Inc. details how the conjoined explosion of music video culture, the internet, and the commercial targeting of youth as sexual beings is having an intensely noxious effect on youth culture. The film reveals how young girls in Canada, and by extension elsewhere, are being commoditized, objectified, and sexualized in more and more intense ways year by year. Throughout the film, experts attest to the danger of overinvesting in image at the expense of cultivating identity.

Psychologists, social workers, educators and health care professionals offer realistic solutions for countering the ill effects of youth hypersexualization."

To register or for more information contact: colleen@stdavidsunited.com 604 922 3961

Something for Everyone

You're Invited!

To: An all ages Advent Potluck Party!

When: Sunday, November 28th

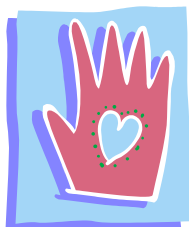
Time: 5-7 p.m.

Details: Our evening will begin at 5:00 with crafts and making advent wreaths and Dinner will be on the table at 6:00. We'll end the evening in a candlelit sanctuary with story and song. Along with your potluck supper contribution, bring your own picnic supplies: dishes, cutlery, cups and a plastic bag to take them home to wash!

Bring your family, friends and neighbours to this evening filled with great food and conversation, crafts, and carols.

RSVP: Please sign up on the poster on the landing or email Colleen, colleen@stdavidsunited.com

Schedule for Junior and Senior Youth Groups



Children and Youth Worship Service and Fair Trade Event **Sunday, November 14th**

The theme of "The Heart Of Christianity" in worship this day reflects the focus in Sunday school throughout the fall. Prepare to be inspired! The youth and their families thank you for the support your attendance brings.

Following worship, **Ten Thousand Villages** will host a Fair Trade Sale in the lounge. Bring your Christmas list and take advantage of this opportunity to support Fair Trade!

Youth Events:



Friday, November 12th

Junior Youth will meet from 4:30-6 and prepare for the children and youth worship service on Sunday November 14th.

Senior Youth will meet from 6:30-8:30 and will prepare themselves and the sanctuary for worship on Sunday

Friday, November 26th

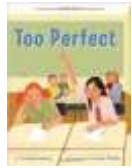
Junior Youth 4:30-6 pizza and games event at St. David's. RSVP to Colleen and please bring \$5 to cover costs.

Senior Youth 6:30-8:30 High school youth are invited to pizza dinner at Colleen's home, with games to follow. RSVP to Colleen and please bring \$5 to cover costs. Colleen lives at 72 Glengarry Crescent, just 5 minutes from St. David's.

Parents! Check out some of the new books for children and youth in the library.



Perfectionism: What's Bad About Being Too Good? The title says it all! Miriam Adderholdt writes for the teen to early adult age group but the book is also a valuable resource for parents of younger children who struggle with self esteem and the need to be perfect.



Too Perfect, written by Trudy Ludwig. A book similar to the one above but for a younger age group. Reviewers suggest that, "it sets the stage for meaningful discussions about being yourself and working to your potential, not to perfection." "Perfectionism isn't a disease to be conquered; it is a self-esteem issue in need of healing."



Hope is an Open Heart, by Lauren Thompson. A beautiful inter-cultural look at how hope can be felt in many diverse ways and how hope is a heart that is open to the world around us.



Where the Sunrise Begins, by Douglas Wood. "The world is always turning, turning toward the dawn. And although nights can be dark and long, each day brings a brand new sunrise." A beautifully illustrated and gentle book about hope, from the author of Old Turtle.



Old Coyote and **I Miss You**, are both books about death and loss. **I Miss You** is aimed at young children and explores children's feelings and questions about death. **Old Coyote**, looks at death after a long life. It's exceptionally illustrated and very gentle. As with all the books in the "circle of life...death/ loss/hope" section of the library, *ideally*, the very best time to read and talk about these books is before children and families are facing loss.



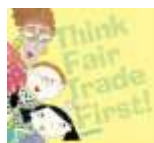
The Heart and the Bottle, by Oliver Jeffers. "Once there was a girl whose life was filled with all the wonder of the world around her. Then one day something occurred that caused the girl to take her heart and put it in a safe place. However, after that it seemed that more things were empty than before. Would she know when and how to get her heart back?" A wonderful book of love, loss and hope.



Mr Peabody's Apples. Written by Madonna, this book was inspired by an old Jewish story about the power of words and the lasting harm that gossip and rumour can bring to others. An excellent book!



Be Fit, Be Strong, Be You. This is part of the 'Be the Boss of Your Body' series and is directed at the 8-13 year age group. It looks at balance between body, mind and spirit and addresses self esteem, having a positive relationship with food, exercise, and steps youth can take for overall health.



Think Fair Trade First, written by Ingrid Hess, this is a great book to introduce the concept and value of Fair Trade to children, as the children in the story search for the perfect birthday gift for their mother.

Postcards from Home...

A Heartfelt Thank You.



Six months ago I announced my intention to ride in the first annual Vancouver-to-Whistler "GranFondo" bicycle ride. That ride was just a few weekends ago (Sep 11), and it was an incredible success, both for the ride as a whole and for me personally. That's me on the right in the yellow and black jacket climbing up Furry Creek hill.

The experience was more than just a sense of accomplishment -- it felt like a personal transformation of sorts. Six months ago I didn't even have a road bike (or the related gear such as padded shorts, cleat shoes, and so on) let alone the two or three thousand dollars you

can spend to get equipped. More importantly, I was out of shape. Not overweight (OK, maybe a few kilos) but just unfit from too many years of no regular exercise. I was well-practiced with the usual excuses though: not enough time, knee surgery and a lower back that were giving me problems, standard middle-age stuff. So when I announced my goal to ride 120km (mostly uphill) from downtown Vancouver to Whistler, it was anything but a sure thing.

Fast forward six months and not only did I do better than I had hoped, but I'm now well on the way to a healthier lifestyle: exercising regularly, eating better, and enjoying more energy. This really was a transformation, and provided a couple of valuable lessons that I'd like to share. They apply not just to personal change, but also for organizations (churches for example) that are going through transformation. Of course to make an inspirational talk memorable you have to create a buzz phrase. So I'm calling this...

The Four G's of Transformation

The first G: Get a Goal.

This one's a no-brainer; every motivational book emphasizes the importance of goal-setting. But while it is necessary, I think it's actually the least important of the four G's. Yes you need to create a vision of where you want to be and what you want to accomplish, enough to light a fire under you. Describe it to yourself (and to others as well to help you get committed to it) in enough detail that you find it compelling, but don't be a slave to your goal.

Too many people hyper-focus on the vision in their head. They agonize over every detail and spend too much time devising complex plans for how to get there. This happens every January 1st -- we make resolutions that never become more than an idea, because they spend the whole time in our head. So get yourself a vision, but don't let it blind you. Put your goal out there but hold onto it loosely so you'll be comfortable adapting it if (when) things change. Then quickly move on to...

The second G: Get a Group.

More important than a goal is the group of people that will help you achieve it. No matter how good you are individually, a group is better. There are simply more ideas, more resources and more energy available if you involve others. I had two goals: ride the full 120km GranFondo and raise \$1000 for charity in the process. So I got two groups to help. I figured if I asked people to donate money (to Canadian Diabetes in this case) then I had better actually go through with doing the ride. Thanks to this first group, most of whom are members of St. David's, we raised over \$1100 for the cause.

The second group would be cyclists to train with during the summer. This was easy since these were the six friends who encouraged me to sign up in the first place. Once a week for the past six months a few of us would get together for a ride. Some days I didn't feel like getting on the bike, but because I committed to the group I went anyway. Other days I was the motivator for the others. We all learned from one another, we all got in better shape, and our rides got longer and more challenging so that by race day we were ready. Cycling is in many ways a great metaphor for life -- it combines competitiveness and cooperation, individual achievement and teamwork. You alternate with your competitors taking the lead (which uses up the most energy) and so as a group you each do much better than you could do individually.

So you've got your goal and your group, next is...

The third G: Get Going.

This is even more important than the first two. You can devise all the goals in the world; you can sit around with your group and commiserate forever -- in the end nothing gets accomplished until you get going. You don't need to fully understand every step required to get there -- in fact you shouldn't wait for a perfect roadmap, it's not likely to materialize. The world moves too quickly now to build a perfect plan that removes all unknowns and all risk.

So just start. Take the first baby step. All you really need to decide after you've created your vision and assembled a group is: what is the very next concrete thing I need to do to move in that direction. Come up with that, then do it. That's it (then repeat the process a hundred or a thousand times). Once in a while you'll want to sit back and examine if a course correction makes sense or if your goal needs adjusting. Things will happen that you could not have foreseen, so adapt where you need to. This is why you should not hold on too tightly to your goal. But this is the secret to making progress: Don't get hung up on all the potential future actions; just decide on the next specific action you can take, then do it. Every tiny accomplishment creates more momentum that propels you to your goal.

For me the first step was to ride my bike from my house to the library and back. That's all I needed to focus on. Five kilometers, almost totally flat, and I could barely do it. But I did, and two days later I did it again, then a longer ride with the guys, then another short ride, and so on for six months. Now I can routinely ride 100km and can be on the bike for three to five hours. Positive change like this doesn't happen overnight, it happens with a series of small steps. Like the song says, it's the journey not the destination. Which brings us to the fourth and most important G...

The fourth G: Gratitude.

If all you care about is getting there, you are probably going to miserable on the way. And miserable to be around. The most important aspect of transformation is to recognize what a gift you've been given. So be thankful. Take time every day as you work toward your goal to find something you are genuinely grateful for. This has a profound effect on your state of mind, which in turn affects your ability to make progress. There's less striving and more enjoying the moments. It's not really surprising: find something to be happy about and

guess what, it makes you happy. Gratitude has a way of tapping into the creative force that surrounds us, and suddenly new pathways and opportunities seem to come to you.

For me this gratitude includes the material support and encouragement I received from both groups -- my fellow cyclists as well as the people who donated to Canadian Diabetes. It includes the profound sense of wonder at the natural beauty I witnessed as I cycled all over the area during this beautiful summer. You see things from a bike that you just don't see from a vehicle or while walking. It includes the camaraderie of hitting the road with the guys at 6am before the sun comes up and before the traffic comes out. And not least of all I'm immensely grateful to God for holding back the deluge of rain forecast for the day of the ride -- we had a dry and safe road the whole morning up to Whistler, and it was only later that night when we were comfortably tucked in bed (after a long soak in the hot tub) that the skies finally opened up.

So again, my heartfelt thanks.
- Emmanuel

PS: If you weren't able to donate to the fundraiser this year, don't worry -- I signed up for next year's GranFondo and will again be taking donations for Canadian Diabetes. Stay tuned... :-)

What's Happening...

Two Amazing Music Events for the Young and Young at Heart:

Sunday, November 7: The World Music Concert for Peace

When Mark Fenster and his daughter, Zoe, shared their music and stories with us at the end of September, you were inspired and greatly moved. If you appreciated the music they offered, you'll love this expanded and enriched musical offering! Mark has invited other musical guests to join he and Zoe as they offer music from around the world for peace around the world. All profits from the concert will go to support the ministries of compassion at First United Church on the downtown eastside.

Donation: \$20.00 (no one turned away for lack of funds)

Location: St. Andrew's United Church

Sponsored by: St. David's, St. Andrew's and Capilano United Church



Sunday, November 14: World Kindness Concert at the Cultch (East Vancouver Cultural Center)

Once again Brock Tully, a former guest speaker at St. David's and community personality, pulls together an amazing array of musicians for a concert that will move you to tears and have you on your feet clapping. If you've been run-off your feet or if life has

dragged you down in the doldrums, this is the event for you (and is also appropriate for your teenager).

Time: 7:00 – 10:00

Place: East Vancouver Cultural Center

1895 Venables Street Vancouver, BC V5L 2H6

Cost: \$35.00 per ticket

Tickets can be reserved at the office

Carpool from St. David's? You bet!

Others going? You bet!

(For a sneak peek, simply Google World Kindness Concert)

Worship in November: Each Sunday, Something Special

November 7 Remembrance Day Service

A time to remember those who have served, and those who loved those who served.

November 14 Youth Service

A time to remember the Heart of Christianity, as reflected to us by the keen insight and gentle spirits of our children and youth.

November 21 A Gospel Beat

Dawn Pemberton, a soulful, R&B, jazz, gospel singer will be with us in worship. Hold on!

November 28 First Sunday of Advent: Hope

Join us as we step into this dark time of year illuminated by the light of hope, peace, joy and love.

This year's Advent Retreat...



November 19-21

Rivendell Retreat Center, Bowen Island.

Bring your own breakfast,

lunch and dinner are catered.

Facilitated by Dan, Colleen and Marsha.

The Advent Retreat is one of my favourite events of the year. Though it's only a 20 minute ferry ride across Howe Sound, Bowen feels like a different time zone...which I think it is, and which is perfect for something like an Advent Retreat, when we're invited, in the crush and press of the Christmas season, to step into a different time zone.

Advent invites us to intentionally step into a different attitude: too look for the holy even in a harried schedule; to see how cracks of light shine through even the dark places; to breathe deeply even when you find it hard to catch your breath in the blurred pace of life.

To take the time to go away and be together in a gorgeous facility with healthy, delicious food and delightful company is a privilege and a blessing. It may well be for you, as it has been for many, something that nourishes your soul.

Cost: Overnight, Rivendell requests a donation that is comfortable for your budget. Most offer \$60.00 per night, but \$50 or even \$20.00 is acceptable if things are especially tight.

Food cost: still to be determined.

“Advent, if we really attend to it, is the feast of life. It reminds us that the journey to newness is long and dark and may in the end still look as if it has not arrived. Then we may know at last that we have come to that sense of emptiness to which only God can fill.” Joan Chittister



Early December Dates to Note:

An unrushed hour...Thursdays in December (Dec. 2, 6 and 16) Drop in to the sanctuary *anytime* between 7 and 8:30 and breath your way into deep peace and tranquility. Let beautiful music and candlelight wash over you and create a sanctuary in time. Be still...Breath....Be....



Dec. 7 Quiet Christmas...7 p.m. The season of Advent can be frantic for some and laden with complexity and deep longing for many. Sink into the intimate oasis of beauty and spirit at this candle lit service of music, poetry and prayer. 7:30 followed by refreshments around the fire.

Outreach

Think "CHILDREN OF KOROGOCHO" as an alternative Christmas Gift-Giving Suggestion:



During the month of October we have highlighted one of the Outreach Committee's projects, the Children of Korogocho Fund, for special fundraising, both within the church and in the wider community. For 5 years, we have sent money which has helped



fund Home Day Cares, school uniforms and school fees for many children in this extremely poor neighbourhood of Nairobi, Kenya.

Last Christmas, some families chose not to give actual gifts to friends and relatives, but to give "alternative gifts" in the form of contributions to various agencies or projects.

Why not think of a special donation to the Children of Korogocho this year? We have gift cards which tell about Korogocho and have a picture of some of the children we have helped support. Speak to Becky Knapton, Mary Sue Atkinson, or Joan Burrows.



Your Purchase Makes a Difference.



Mark your calendars, and get a head start on your Christmas shopping! On **Sunday November 14th**, St. David's will be hosting a **Fair Trade Bazaar**, with a large variety of unique and one-of-a-kind items from **Ten Thousand Villages** Robson store. <http://www.tenthousandvillages.ca/>

These hand-crafted items represent the handiwork of people from countries around the world, who receive fair remuneration for their labour and materials, and whose human rights are respected in the production.

(Ten Thousand Villages cont'd...)

Men and women around the globe have a simple dream – to earn an honest living, to provide for their children and to be gainfully employed in a job that brings dignity and joy. Ten Thousand Villages partners with thousands of talented artisans in healthy business relationships, and St. David's is pleased to host them for a one day sale at our church on November 14th.

Often referred to as 'Fair Trade,' the philosophy of helping to build a sustainable future is based on the principle that trade should have a conscience. Through Fair Trade, artisans receive the respect, dignity and hope that comes from working hard and earning fair value for their work.

Please support as you are able this St. David's community initiative to live out our mission of *Changed Lives, Changed World* by purchasing fair trade, guilt-free gifts for yourself and others right here in the lounge after worship service.

Thank you for your caring support!
Becky Knapton
Outreach Chairperson

Christmas Hamper Program



The St. David's Outreach Committee would like to request the support of the congregation again this year, by providing Christmas hampers for families on limited incomes and living below the poverty line. All families are registered Members of the Ray-Cam Community Centre at 920 East Hastings Street in Vancouver. Please consider supporting this worthwhile program for those in need and watch for more information to be posted on the Church Landing in the near future.

Library Discoveries

Come visit the library and check out our new books!

We are also in the process of cataloging all of the non-fiction titles with a Dewey Decimal number. Kindly return your overdue library books so this process can be completed.

Colleen has put all of the children's books into themes that you can easily recognize by a coloured dot.

If you're looking for a book...

Creation/Environment
Stories from the Bible
Self Esteem, Uniqueness, Growing Up

Green Dot
Red Dot
Blue Dot

Thank you to Audrey, who has put hours of work into organizing our library. It looks wonderful!