



AVUC



Upcoming events

September

- Aerobics—Every Monday and Wednesday @ 7 pm
- Adult Choir begins Sept. 11, and Young Voices choir begins Sept. 18.
- Sept. 8—Emerging Spirit meeting @ 3pm
- Sept. 10—UCW Meeting @ Noon; WonderWhat?Cafe meeting @ 1:30 pm & Worship Meeting @ 7pm
- Sept. 11—Pastoral Care meeting @ 10:30 am followed by **Chili Work Bee.**
- Sept. 14—Round-up Sunday Service followed by Chili luncheon.
- Sept. 15—Stewardship meeting @ 1:30 pm
- Sept. 17—Council meeting @ 1 pm
- Sept. 27-Family Campfire @ Dry Creek Park

October

- Aerobics—Every Monday and Wednesday @ 7 pm
- Oct. 15—Council meeting @ 1 pm
- October 28—Happy Times Party, 1pm

Upcoming Services:

- September 14—Round up
- October 5—Worldwide Communion
- October 12—Thanksgiving
- October 19—World Food Day

Food For Thanksgiving and World Food Day— collection to start on Sunday, Sept. 28th:

Add to our Sanctuary decorations with your gifts of vegetables (onions, tomatoes, zucchini, carrots), fruit or flowers. Our Thanksgiving offering of vegetables will be used by Children's Worship to make soup for the Bread of Life to Celebrate World Food Day!

World Food Day, October 19th Des Irwin will share experiences from Guyana, children will share soup, and you are invited to share "healthy" canned goods with the Bread of Life through our Mission, Service & Outreach Team.

UCC/BC Conference/Presbytery Notices:

- Moorcroft Information Meetings—September 13, 10am-3pm @ Campbell River.
- BC Youth Conference—Vancouver Nov. 13-15/08

GREETINGS

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

September always feels to me like the beginning of a new year. After a hot and restful summer, plans made seemingly so long ago are starting up. Programs, school, activities and plans seem suddenly to be ready to start! And this is also true here at Alberni Valley United Church. As you will see in this newsletter, things for us are coming along.

There are many opportunities to be a part of the discipleship that occurs here at the church. Whether it is coming to worship and sharing in our special Welcome Round-up Sunday service and luncheon on the 14th, or discussing how

to see the holy in our everyday lives at God Talk on Tuesday afternoons, or any of the other many opportunities that exist for us to feel we belong to this church together. The spirit is truly moving us to amazing places here at the church! Just like the first church described in the book of Acts, it is wonderful to feel and experience a sense of mission and community continually being formed and created through our time together.

I look forward to our journey together in Christ as we boldly go forward into this new season! May you find the blessing of the spirit inspiring you to places of new life in this time of beginnings.

God Bless,

Rev. Anna Constantin

AVUC NOTICES

Off ice Hours are returning to regular days as of September.

Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.

Our e-mail addresses have changed. The office address is albernivalleyuc@telus.net.

Reverend Anna's e-mail is avucrev@telus.net

The Craft Corner: *Are you interested in getting together with other crafters (knitting, sewing, whittling, card making, painting, etc)? Phone the office and leave your name and phone number or talk to Doreen Grant so we can set a day and time that's suitable.*

Christmas Bazaar—November 15:

Now's the time to begin preparations for the annual UCW Christmas Bazaar by:

- *starting cuttings of household and outdoor plants*
- *Making items for the craft table—knitting, sewing, crocheting, card making, woodworking, candle making etc.*
- *Sorting out quality items for the Antique Treasures*
- *Putting aside used books*

From the Stewardship Team

September – A Time for New Beginnings

Even though my children are long past school age, September still feels like the start of the new year for me. It's a time to reflect on what I want or need for myself, my family and my friends and to see where or how I can make changes to ensure that I meet the goals that I set on the "real" New Years Day. We, as a congregation, need to look towards the goals that we set for our Church Family last Jan/Feb and to see if we are each doing our part to reach them. It is also a time to look toward the future and to make plans for the coming church year. I hope to see you all soon.

Regards, Holly

Round-Up Sunday

September 14! Come one and all to our special fall service. Wear your jeans and enjoy a service with a western theme. And afterwards, stay and enjoy home-made rootin' tootin' chili lunch for the low price of \$5/adult or \$10/family. We're ropin' in the congregation to celebrate fall start-up. See y'all there!



Family Campfire!

September 27th,
At Dry Creek Park @ 7pm.
Come join in the fun and activities sponsored by Children's Worship & Youth Group. Activities and fellowship starts at 7pm. Hot chocolate and snacks at 8pm and walk to the campfire at 8:30 pm. Bring a chair, a mug, and a flashlight, and be ready for some fun!



Coffee Schedule

The new "After Church Coffee Schedule", starting September 14th, is being circulated. Although the group scheduled, is responsible for serving coffee, it doesn't mean that they can't ask for assistance from those who aren't involved in a scheduled group. For those not in a scheduled group, and would like to be involved in serving coffee, please let Dell Weiler know, and she will assign you to a group. With much thanks, Jean Bishop



Pastoral Care: With Fall approaching, very quickly, your Pastoral Care Team will be resuming our activities. Our Care Home Services are on Sept. 25, starting with Westhaven @ 2pm, EchoVillage @ 3pm, and Fir Park @ 3:45pm. Please consider joining us as we really need more singing voices. Also, if anyone would be interested in helping out with Hospital visiting, we would be so grateful if you would let us know. Sincerely Yours, Judy Vatamaniuck

Catering: A huge "Thank-You" to all of you who volunteer to make our catering events so successful. It is so heartwarming for us when we phone for setting up, cleaning up, providing food and helping out, that everyone is so pleasantly willing to help. We really appreciate all that you do. Thank You. Sincerely Yours Anne Gray & Judy Vatamaniuck.

*I had no time to hate, because
The grave would hinder me,
And life was not so ample I
Could finish enmity.
Nor had I time to love; but since
Some industry must be,
The little toil of love, I thought
Was large enough for me.
Emily Dickinson*

Check out our website!

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FROM COUNCIL

Dear friends,

The time is fast approaching when, hopefully, most of the familiar faces will be back in our pews on Sunday mornings, perhaps with some additions. Where has the summer gone? We hope that your time at the cottage, traveling, visiting, or just plain goofing off was to your complete satisfaction and relaxation.

As you know the fall will bring a big change. On the first Sunday in September we will welcome our new church musician Ellen Vander Putten. We look forward to her musical contribution to the life and worship of AVUC.

This fall also marks Rev Anna's first complete year with us, and what a treat this past year has been! Congregations need to show their appreciation for their clergy, so on behalf of a very grateful congregation, "Thank you Anna".

I don't need to tell you that the tempo of church life and work will start to pick up very soon. Who knows what this year has in store for us, but with God's help we'll be equal to the tasks.

Blessings,
Hugh Sproule,
Council Chair



MUSIC AT ALBERNI VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

Music ministry at AVUC is a vibrant, exciting part of church life. Identified as a key focus for our congregation, our music continues to grow.

A varied music program enhances our Sunday morning Worship experiences. Our congregation loves to sing and enjoys the opportunity to join our choirs in a well integrated music program.

We are blessed with a number of dedicated musicians who share, with us, their time and talent. Our Sanctuary often vibrates with the sound of piano, guitars, drums, trombones, flutes, violins and voices. We invite anyone (of any age) who wishes to join our musical team to either call Janet at 250-724-6008 for information or simply join the choirs at rehearsal on Thursdays. We will be happy to see you and will try to accommodate any instrument you play.

This year we are blessed to have been given the loan of the Dr. A. P. Miller Memorial Handbells from the Port Alberni Orchestra and Chorus Society allowing us to add an adult hand bell choir to our existing youth bell choir. Those interested in playing in the youth bell choir are asked to meet on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Those interested in playing in the adult bell choir will meet on Thursday, Sept. 18th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss rehearsal times.

Music and "shenanigans" is the general theme of the entertainment for our fellowship gatherings. A rather unruly group of entertainers, the Calamity Players, can bring a smile to all. A hearty sing-a-long has become one of the attractions for many at our social events.

Special musical/drama presentations throughout the year add a dimension to both Worship and Fellowship events and serve to "Tell the Stories of our Faith" in an inspiring and sometimes intriguing way.

We are a growing, learning and loving congregation singing to the Lord a New Song. You will be welcome -- come lift your voice with us!



Say Hello to Ellen Van Putten!

Ellen has lived on Vancouver Island all her life and in Nanaimo for the last 40 years. She's been teaching piano since the early seventies. Her studies include two years at U Vic and several years at the Victoria Conservatory of Music. As well as teaching, she has done some accompanying and been very active in the BC Registered Music Teachers Association. Ellen and her husband Ian Howie, and cat Dexter. Already, she loves living in Port Alberni!



Activity for all ages and fitness levels.

Exercise increases energy. Energy is exciting!

Raise funds for our church - \$2.00 per session.

Off the couch - out on the gym floor - step to the music.

Bring a towel or matt for toning and stretching.

Improves your breathing, your balance and your body.

Come join us every Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 pm.