

St. Mary's Anglican United Church

Sorrento, BC

“Keeping in Touch” -- October 22, 2021



A MESSAGE FROM THE REV. MICHAEL SHAPCOTT

The glorious fall season in the South Shuswap is well upon us... the vibrant yellows and brilliant reds of the leaves as they change colour and drift to the ground are all around us... and the mist rising in the morning from the hills and the lake is almost mystical. What a difference from the mid-summer, when red and yellow in the forest signalled a nearby wildfire and the grey in the skies was choking smoke and ashes.

Canadian faith communities have joined together in a national climate change and climate justice initiative called For the Love of Creation. Find out more here: <https://fortheloveofcreation.ca>

There are plenty of things that each of us can do in our own lives to live more responsibly with the natural world all around us – including energy efficiency. At the Sorrento Centre, the 51 solar panels that we installed during Thanksgiving of 2020 are performing splendidly – generating more than twice the energy for our admin building (Spes Bona) as we use, which means that we share the excess energy with our neighbours (and get a rebate on our energy bill from BC Hydro). Individual actions are good and necessary.

At the end of October, the nations of the world will be gathering in Glasgow for COP26 – the latest United Nations' climate change summit. This is a chance for national governments (including our own Canadian government) to take the big steps that are necessary to slow global warming and climate change. Extreme weather events – from the early summer heat and the wildfires in our region to flooding and other catastrophes in other parts of the world – are all linked back to human-induced climate change.

Continued ...

So, through our United and Anglican Churches, as well as groups like For the Love of Creation, we need to ensure our collective voices are raised. Climate change is not only a scientific matter. Climate change is a profoundly moral issue, as well, which means that our hearts and souls, as well as our minds, need to be engaged.

As we think back over the terrible heat, fires and smoke of the summer, our moral response can include lament – lament for our Mother Earth groaning under the burden of climate change. As we look out at the beautiful fall colours these days, our moral response can include a commitment to fall back in love with the natural world around us.

Psalm 19 includes these words: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

Let us all lovingly engage in deep appreciation of the greatness and goodness of creation all around us... and continue to engage, in our own lives and collectively, to heal the wounds of climate change and live in right relationship with the world around us.

PRAYER LIST

Peter Grout	Anabel Strand
Karen Grout	Dave Nitsche
Michael Shapcott	Ted Strand
Joan and Keith	Janet Fleming
Ida Webb	Len Lidkea
Mandy Gravells	Reuben Pauls

This space will be for those in our community who we would especially like to remember in prayer. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself please make sure that the person is comfortable with their name being sent out to others ... then email the information to Kathy (kwk4141@gmail.com).

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR OCTOBER 24

[Job 42:1-6, 10-17](#)

[Psalm 34:1-8, \(19-22\)](#)

[Hebrews 7:23-28](#)

[Mark 10:46-52](#)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR OCTOBER 31 OBSERVING ALL SAINTS DAY

[Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9](#)

[Psalm 24](#)

[Revelation 21:1-6a](#)

[John 11:32-44](#)

*If you click on the blue links above,
it will take you directly to the full scripture text.*

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your **Church Board** was taking care of housekeeping details when they met this past week . . . the work of the church goes on behind the scenes as well as on Sundays. Thanks to the Wardens and Board members for their dedicated service. St. Mary's is being careful to follow all the public health rules as we have re-opened for in-person services this month.

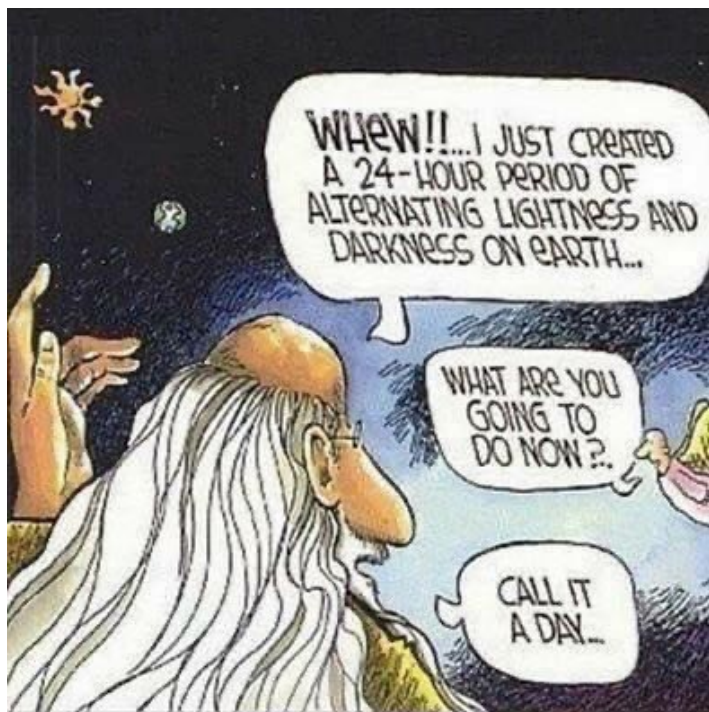
Thank you to our "garden gnome" for the amazing cleanup. The mysterious gardener just might be Lynn Hunter.

News from **Pat Sheloff** is that she is still working three days a week at the Church thrift shop in Cranbrook. She is well and has had a good visit with Sandy. She thinks of us often.

From Peter Husieff ... Thank you for the card with best wishes for the family of Mary's passing. It means a lot to my family for the love shown by her friends as she goes on to her next life. Please thank everyone who signed her birthday card also. Thank you Peter Husieff

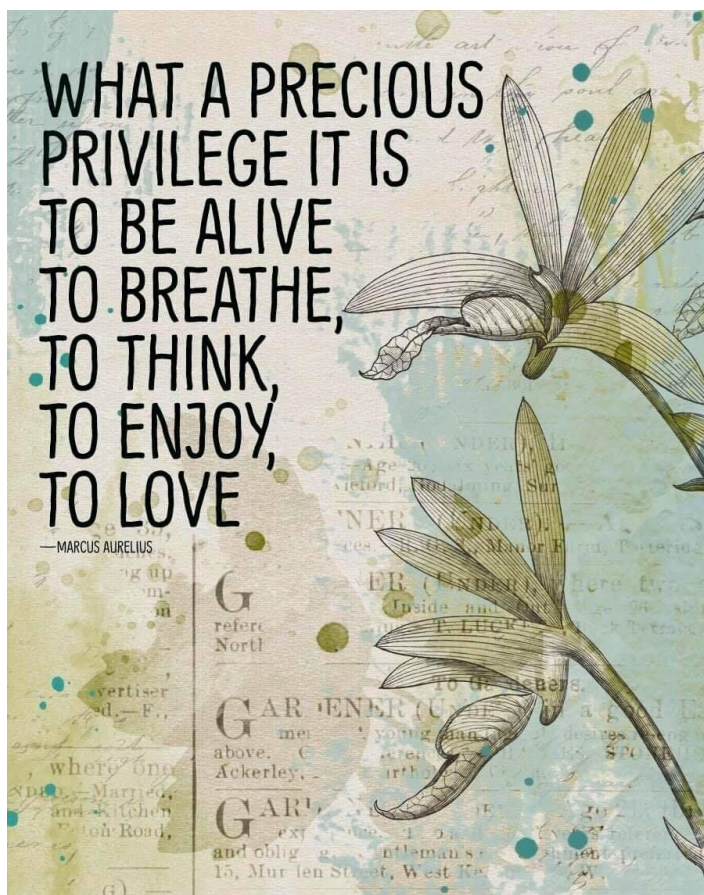
Music speaks strongly to many of us and if you would like to view the following video, shared to me by Wendy Dean, you will see the wonderful transformation in someone who has dementia. By the way the caregiver, named Sam Kinsella, is no relation :) Copy and paste this long link to view:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=c7a0b2baf9&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1714347138086524853&th=17ca95a39b5ad7b5&view=att&disp=safe>



Ministry Schedule

The ministry schedule for November and December will be emailed in the next week and you are asked to email Kathy (kwk4141@gmail.com) right away if there are dates or ministries for which you will not be available (or if you are ready to be back ON the schedule. We are getting a bit thin in the ranks of most ministries so if you feel that you would like to become a reader, prayer writer, greeter or any of the ministry opportunities, please speak to me or Rev. Heather or one of the Wardens to join the team!



SERVICES ON VIDEO

The video archive of the St Mary's on-line showcase can be browsed here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8252414>

The next "Keeping in Touch" newsy-letter will be emailed on Thursday, November 4th. Please send any news items to Kathy (kwk4141@gmail.com) no later than that morning to be included.