**Summerland United Church Newsletter April 16/20**

Greetings Friends,

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of the Easter Season. What a glorious time to gather together even if it will be virtually.

We are pleased to be welcoming our brothers and sisters from Peachland United who will be joining with us and Westbank United for this Sunday’s service. In my mind the fact that our three congregations are gathering together in this way could be considered an Easter sign of new life. A sign of blessing in these unsettled times as we come together.

The biblical story we will hear this Sunday is from John’s Gospel and tells us about two different resurrection appearances/experiences. The first to a group of disciples and the second a return visit by Jesus to help the disciple Thomas move beyond his fear and doubt to hope and joy.

It is interesting to hear this story during this time of pandemic. Our world is filled right now with people who are locked behind closed door like the first disciples. People are filled with questions and doubts about the future. Who can we trust for accurate information? Can we trust the scientists and political leaders? Christians might be asking themselves how does the promise of Easter and new life connect with what is going on right now? Can we trust that God is at work in the world?

What doubts, what questions are you wrestling with during this Easter Season in the midst of the Pandemic?

With most of us having to stay home right now I hope you will spend time reflecting on some of these things.

It is through wrestling with our doubts and questions that we can arrive at clarity in what we believe.

See you all on Sunday,

Armand

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**What You Will Find In This Newsletter**

The Information to Join This Sunday’s Zoom Service

Two Notes About This Sunday’s Service

Information on How to Connect to Zoom

Some Helpful Links

**Invitation to This Sunday’s Zoom Service**

Time: Apr 19, 2020 09:45 AM Pacific Time (Canada)

Join the service by computer

Get a link from Armand

**Two Notes about this Sunday’s Zoom Service**

You are invited to get a candle and light it when the Christ Candle is lighted on Sunday.

During the coffee time after the service we will use a feature on Zoom called Breakout Rooms.

You will be placed in a separate meeting with a small group of people. When the invitation comes up on your screen telling you that you have been invited to a meeting room please accept. Once there you will be able to unmute your microphone and visit with the other people in that room. You may have to introduce yourselves as we hope there will be people from all three congregations in each room. This coffee time meeting will last for 6 minutes. You will get a warning when there is one minute left and then the coffee time will end automatically and you will be brought back to this big group.

**How To Participate in a Zoom**

Attached you will find a document put by the Central Okanagan School District for parents and students on how to use Zoom. There is link to a video that provides the same information.

Central Okanagan School District Video

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_SkoTKlv59cT1CfhdVByQU33xILo83II/view>

**Helpful Links**

A link seniors can use to get help if they need it. <http://www.bc211.ca/2020/03/>safe-seniors-strong-communities/

A link to talk to a Psychologist during the pandemic. This is a free service. <https://www.psychologists.bc.ca/covid-19-resources>

Stay Informed With What’s Going On in the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada <https://pacificmountain.us1.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=0999ab25e10c4c23a874af7fe&id=4580ffd787>