Greetings Friends,

This Sunday will be the fifth time that we gather electronically with our sisters and brothers from Westbank United Church for our Sunday Service. Who would have thought this would be how we would be doing things on May 10, 2020. Over the next few weeks BC will begin to live into a new reality as certain restrictions are relaxed and people are allowed to expand their social bubble a little bit. This may or may not have implications for communities of faith and our ability to gather in person. The National Church has begun to put together guidelines and best practices for congregations to use as they contemplate what to do.  The Executive Secretary and President of the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church will be meeting with Provincial Officials to seek guidance as well. What we can be sure of in all this is that the journey to the new normal will be done carefully, thoughtfully and with the safety of people at the top of everyone’s mind. More information to follow in the days and weeks ahead. So continue my friends we need to continue “to be kind, be calm and stay safe.”

The scripture reading that we will engage this Sunday comes from the Gospel according to John. In it we hear John’s central understanding of Jesus – he is the face of God. Jesus says it this way, ”the Father and I are one. If you see me you have seen the Father.” Some theologians have taken John’s understanding of Jesus and gone so far as to say Jesus is God incarnate, “the Word made Flesh,” as John says in the opening of his Gospel. John’s understanding of Jesus is certainly bigger than Jesus being the anointed one of God or the long awaited messiah of God found in the other three gospels.

This passage does invite us to reflect on our own understanding of who Jesus is. Where would you place yourself, closer to John’s understanding or that of Mark, Mathew and Luke?

Looking forward to being with you on Sunday,

Armand

PS

Thanks to Sharon O. for the music video that is attached.

**What You Will Find Included**

The Link for Sunday’s Service

Information about Free Books

An Announcement About the upcoming Church Council Meeting

Music Videos of the Hymns we will Sing on Sunday

**Link For Sunday May 10th Zoom Service**

Time: May 10, 2020 09:45 AM Pacific Time

Join Service by computer, laptop, ipad or other devices

*Contact Armand for the link*

**The Great Book Give Away**

As Kathy and I head towards retirement we have a library of books that we need to let go of. We do not have enough room in our condo for them. So we are inviting you to make an appointment and stop by the church and have a look at what there is and take however many  might strike your fancy. Most of our books are non-fiction and include text books, history books, books on theology, books on progressive theology, books on spirituality, books on grieving, children’s story books, devotionals, etc, etc. When you come in you can let me know what you are interested in and I can help you find some possibilities.  In fact even if you don’t find anything that interests you please take a book anyway to make Kathy and I feel better J Contact Armand summerlandrev@shaw.ca or 250-488-2780 to set up a time.

**Summerland United Church Council meets on Tuesday May 12 at 2pm via Zoom.**

All committees please ensure that you have the chairperson or a representative attend.

Watch you email on Monday for the Zoom connection information.

**Hymns For Sunday**

Let Us Build a House <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3Pb77ylz_Q>

Jesus Bids Us Shine <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxFDArX7bMg>

May God’s Sheltering Wings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUdLubvK958>