**Mid-Week Newsletter for April 1, 2020**

from your friends at Summerland United Church.

Office Administrator Linda Bolton

Minister Rev. Armand Houle

Greetings Friends,

**What You Will Find In This Newsleter**

A Thank You to Our Helpers

News About Our New Telephone Connection Ministry

A Thank You to Our Telephoners

A Thank You from the Finance Committee

An Idea for a Spiritual Practice While We Are Home

A Note from Our Administrator Linda Bolton

A Note from Our Minister Rev. Armand Houle

**A Thank You to Our Helpers**

Thank you to all those who have put their names on the list to be willing to help out others who might need a prescription picked up, or someone to get a few groceries.

Your generous giving of your time to help others is truly an act of faithful discipleship. A reminder to everyone: if you need help with simple errands please contact the church and we will connect you with a helper.

**News About Our New Telephone Connection Ministry**

We are pleased to announce that we will be rolling out our new Telephone Connection Ministry this week. The goal of this ministry is to have every person who is on our Church family list receive a call each week to check in and see how things are going. The folks who will be making the calls are all members of our congregation who you may know and if you don’t know them you will get to know them. You can look forward to getting a call from the church in the next few days.

**A Thank You To Our Telephoners**

Thank you all those who have put their names on the list to be telephoners for our new Telephone Connection ministry. During this time of physical distancing it is important for people of faith to be reminded that we are not alone. God is with us and that we are part of the community of faith called Summerland United. You are living out your call to discipleship through this ministry.

**Thank You From the Finance Committee**

Thank you to everyone who made the effort to get their Sunday Offering to us.

Your efforts will go a long way to paying our staff, maintaining our building and ensuring that our bills are paid.

Again thank you so much for your continued financial support of our congregation during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,  Your Finance Committee

Carol Bubb (250 494 3057), Fred Gartrell (250 494 2551), Melissa Ganzeveld, Joan Gasior, Garry Hollingshead, Olive Hunter, Rev. Armand Houle, Church Office (250-494-1514)

Here is a reminder of options to continue your financial support of the church.

1.      Subscribing to PAR

2.      By mail to PO box 155 Summerland, BC  V0H 1Z0

3.      Drop Box located in the office window

4.      By calling someone to pick it up from you

**An Idea for a Spiritual Practice** **While We Are At Home**

Need something to do during this time of physical isolation.  Why not sort things to donate to the **Summerland United Church Garage Sale**?  We’re not sure if we will be able to hold the sale as scheduled on May 9 or if we will have to postpone until June or early fall.  But why not use this time to get your donations ready!  We’d love that.  And this too is a spiritual practice – of letting go, in gratitude, in recycling and in knowing that others can reuse what we no longer need to use.

**A Note from Our Administrator Linda Bolton**

Hello to everyone. I want to thank you all for taking such care during this virus – for those of us in the office and for others within the congregation. This congregation is truly a “family” who cares for and knows each other. The office remains open so please feel free to give a call and if you want to drop something off you can use the drop box located under the office windows. Please take care, all of you, and stay healthy. Blessings to you.  Linda

**A Note from Our Minister Rev. Armand Houle**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I will be sending out another email tomorrow with a reflection as we head into Holy Week.

What I would like to say in this short note is that I hope you are all finding ways to not only take care of your mind and body during this Pandemic but that you are all taking time to nurture your Spirit. Being alone can be very hard for some of us. It can be hard emotionally and spiritually. If we are not careful we can retreat into ourselves. We can enter a tomb of shadows and sadness. Please, please, please, do not do this.

Reach out!

Call someone, call me, send an email.

The church is here for you! I am here for you! God is with you.  Open your heart to God’s presence.

This will pass.

We will get through this together.

May Blessings and Peace Find You,

Armand