



# Horizons

Newsletter of Eastside United Church



**eastside**

Summer 2021

OPEN MINDS. OPEN HEARTS. OPEN DOORS.

## Minister's Reflection - Summer 2021

*These four questions were laid out at the beginning of this book: Where do I come from? Where am I going? Why am I here? Who am I?*

*All children, regardless of their racial or socio-economic backgrounds need to know the answers to these questions. They need to know who their ancestors are, who their heroes and villains are; they need to know about their family's traditions and cultures and the community they are a part of. Our children must feel that they are loved, valued, and worthy members of society who belong in this world exactly as they are.*

*As Thomas King said, "But don't say in the years to come that you would have lived your life differently if only you had heard this story. You've heard it now." ([The Truth About Stories](#))*

Tanya Talaga, *All Our Relations*,  
pg. 220

As I write this, another 182 unmarked graves have been uncovered at the former St. Eugene Mission Residential School, near Cranbrook BC and the Ktunaxa Nation. This brings the total to 1325 unmarked graves identified and counting. It has been a tough few weeks for Canada, for the church, and especially for the Indigenous community who are traumatized all over again with each announcement. We grieve with them, at this senseless loss of young lives, in such cruel and inhumane ways that the church felt it needed to be covered up. It can make one question the

church, God, and humanity.

The reality is that God did not have anything to do with this abuse and death. God grieved with the children and the community. It is important for those of us who are non-Indigenous to allow space for this grief and not to be asking things of those we know who are Indigenous, other than to offer support and love. It is up to us to educate ourselves, hear the stories and read and learn about the truth. If you haven't read the 94 TRC Calls to Action, take some time to [read them](#). Or if you prefer to watch videos, Reconciliation Thunder has

## Minister's Reflection, Continued

made videos for each call and are offering new [videos](#) for 94 days before Sept 30, starting June 29. There are many books that tell the stories of Indigenous experience, take time over the summer to [read one](#). Take in a powwow or other indigenous cultural celebrations to experience and learn about the culture. The people are very welcoming. We hope to organize going to the Treaty Four Powwow in September with Indigenous Christian Fellowship, which would be the second week of September. As these announcements of more unmarked graves continue over the coming months and possibly years, may we be able to continue to be sensitive to the grief and pain each announcement will cause among Indigenous people, so that we can stand with them, continuing to honour the children and not numb ourselves to the news or ignore the reality. In light of

the Thomas King quote above, may we begin to live our lives differently, having heard the stories and go about learning the truths.

In the midst of this we are also moving through a time of transition as we hope to see things open up after 15 months of living in a pandemic. This means that come the fall, we hope to be in person for worship and our ministry programming. As we do so, we honour the different comfort levels people will have. As such some of us will continue to be wearing masks and we will encourage physical distancing as we worship in the West Sanctuary. We will continue to offer worship online for those who wish to stay home and for those who join us from out of town. This is part of our new normal. As we move through this time, may we do so with grace and

compassion for wherever people's comfort levels are at, knowing that we are all a community of God, and that God is with us in this transition, as God has been with us through these challenging times.

May you have a blessed summer filled with rest, renewal, and wonderful visits with family and friends whom you may not have seen for a while!

Blessings,

Russell Mitchell-Walker

Diaconal Minister



EVERY CHILD MATTERS

# Summer Programming

## JOIN US FOR SHARED SUMMER SERVICES!

Sundays at 10:30 am



You can join these services by using our regular worship link. More information will be included in weekly emails.

### Sunset United Church

306-586-3613

June 20, 27, July 4

### Wesley United Church

306-586-5220

July 11, 18, 25

### Lakeview United Church

306-586-7844

August 1, 8, 15

### Living Spirit Center

306-761-0556

August 22, 29, September 5

*Bread of Life - August 22*

*Eastside United - August 29*

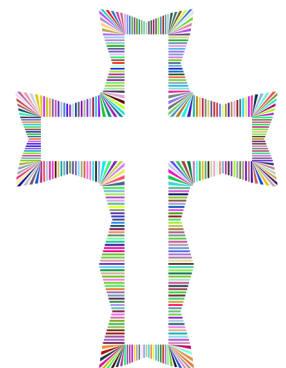
*Immanuel - September 5*

### Reopening Plan

We plan to resume in-person worship on September 12. We are confident that this will allow us the time to prepare for this re-integration. If you are uncomfortable resuming in person worship there will be options to continue worshipping with us online. This preparation work is consistent with the recommendations of the

Living Skies Regional Council and the United Church of Canada, and done in a manner that is meaningful for our community and is safe for every member of our congregation. As part of this we will encourage physical distancing during worship and people are welcome to wear masks. If you enjoy singing and are ready to sing again, you are

asked to sit in the front section and wear a mask. If you have questions or feedback, please let Sarah Tkachuk know.



# Fall Programming

As we return to in-person worship in the fall, we would like to thank everyone for their commitment to keeping our community safe and for joining us online for worship services over this past year. As the fall season is soon approaching, we have updates on what in person worship will look like in September. COVID-19 restrictions continue to be a bit unpredictable. We are looking to ensure we have the safest transition back to in-person services and programming at the Living Spirit Center.

## Are you interested in a visit?

If you would like to stay connected and are interested in visiting with Russell in person, please let him know by sending us an email. He will be able to do in-home visits soon! He will be alternating coffee shop office hours with home visits every other week.

## HOUSE OF DINAH IS STILL IN NEED OF A LEADER!



Following the passing of Linda Richards, House of Dinah is without a leader at this time. If you are able to fill this position, please let us know! As we near a time where in-person worship is a possibility, coordinating volunteers and ensuring these tasks can be managed is important to keeping our community safe.

## *Film & Faith Schedule*

**September 24**

**October 29**

**November 26**

Stay tuned for more information in our weekly emails! If it remains feasible with pandemic protocols, sessions will be resuming in theaters!





**FOR THE LOVE  
OF CREATION**

## Faithful Climate Conversations

As we live into the crisis of climate change and experience more and more the impacts of this crisis this resource encourages dialogue on climate change. For the Love of Creation developed Faithful Climate Conversations, a series of guides to facilitate small group conversations on climate change. There are three sessions and folk may participate in all or the ones that suit them and where they are at. If you are interested in participating in any of these conversations, let Russell or the office know, along with which one(s) and we will schedule them. The three sessions are:

- 1) **Creation, Climate and You** – Designed for people who have rarely, if ever, talked about climate change in a group setting before, this guide focuses on gently surfacing peoples' emotions and underlying thoughts about climate change.
- 2) **From Concern to Action** – For people who may have a basic understanding of climate change or are concerned about the effects of climate change, but remain uncertain about the best ways to act in light of this reality.
- 3) **Build a Better Future** – Meant for people who have already been involved in climate action at some level, this guide focuses on enacting political and systemic change to address the climate emergency.

*This resource has been developed by a coalition of organizations including Kairos.*



Faith leaders stand at a crossroads in North America today. As people of faith and moral conscious, we can either sit idly by and allow hate, greed, and fear to define us or we can channel the heart of our tradition and speak truth to greedy power, love to angry hate, and hope to unfounded fear. The **Courageous Church Summit** provides a critical look at where we are now and how we get to a more sustainable and equitable future.

Through interviews with influential North American faith leaders in activist-oriented congregations, the **Courageous Church Summit** equips virtual leaders with the audacity, connections, and practical advice to be active leaders in an emerging movement for change. We will once again hear some of these speakers and have conversation afterwards. Join us Tuesdays at 7pm on September 14, then each week from September 28. This will be both in person and online.

**Sept 14** - Diana Butler Bass, author, (Grateful, Grounded), historian

**Sept 28** - Rev. John Dorhauer, President United Church of Christ

**Oct. 5** - Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, minister Middle Collegiate Church, New York

**Oct. 12** - Brian McLaren, author (We Make the Road by Walking)

**Oct 19** - Bishop Michael Curry (Episcopal National Bishop) & Jim Wallis (Sojourners Magazine)

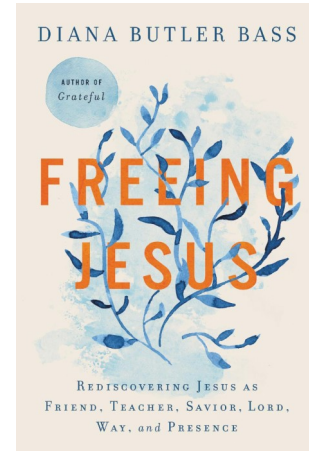
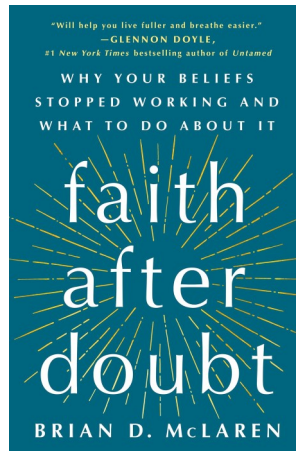
**Oct 26** - Rev Claudio Carvalho, Theologian and Professor of Worship at Union Theological Seminary.

**Register by texting 'Faith' to 306-517-6797 or contact the office**

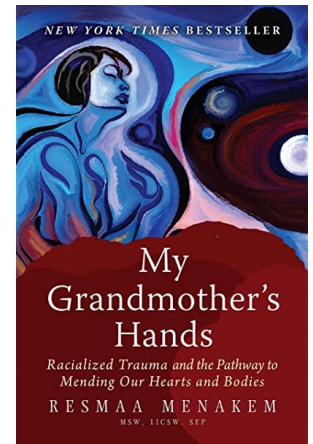
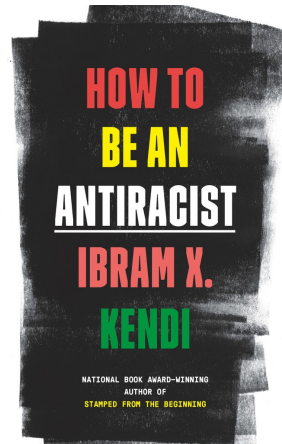
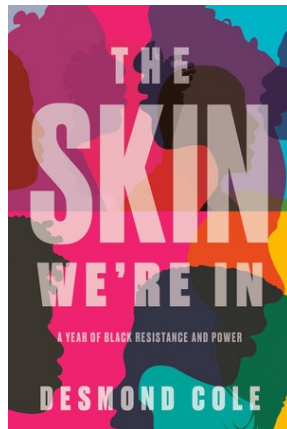
# Craft/Study

Craft/Study will be resuming in the fall on September 16! Sessions will be on Thursdays at 1:30 at the LSC and online. The book for these sessions will be *See No Stranger* by Valerie Kaur. If you would like a book ordered to be picked up at the church, please let Becca know by August 30th. For future books, please see selections below and complete the following form: <https://forms.gle/EsBExwL6itg1gXwS7> . Please submit your top four selections!

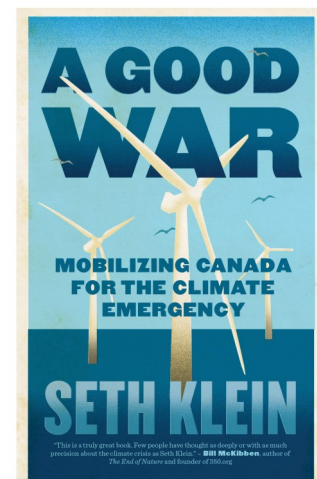
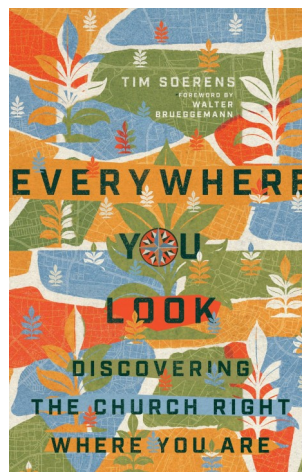
## Faith/Theology



## Racism



## Community/Church





**First SATURDAY of the month 4 - 6 pm**

**Next one:** October 2

**An event for families with crafts, worship, and a meal!**




This is a shared ministry program of the Living Spirit Centre!  
3018 Doan Drive, Regina  
INFO & RSVP: 306-761-0556


**You can also RSVP by texting "Messy" to 306-517-6797!**

**Messy Church** will start up again, with our partners, including Immanuel Anglican Parish! Our first session, to be confirmed, is proposed to be October 2! We will rotate between sharing responsibility for crafts and meal/worship. If you wish to be on our volunteer roster to help with crafts, meal, or worship, let the office know.


Our **community dinners** will continue September 16. Stay tuned for information regarding whether it can be in person or continues online. If you would like to be added to the volunteer roster, please let Russell know. We need kitchen help, set up and clean up.



Eastside United Church invites you to join us for







Contact us if you can pitch in!



**Community DINNERS**

All are welcome to join us for a meal and community!

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-  3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 5:45 pm
-  3018 Doan Dr. , Regina
-  INFO and RSVP 306-761-0556
-  Pre-purchase at <http://bit.ly/eastsidedinner> or at the Eastside office
-  <http://bit.ly/ESdinner>

You can also let us know you would like to attend by texting "RSVP" to 306-517-6797!



**Stay tuned-in to our weekly announcement emails for more information about upcoming breakfasts and INI Cafe held by Indigenous Christian Fellowship!**

# September Potluck

JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST POTLUCK ON SEPTEMBER 26 FOLLOWING SUNDAY SERVICE! THIS EVENT WILL BE CATERED BY MUNCH CAFE AND WILL INCLUDE SOUP AND SANDWICHES. REGISTER BY CONTACTING THE OFFICE OR BY TEXTING "POTLUCK" TO 306-517-6797. COST TBA - PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED A VEGETARIAN OR GLUTEN FREE OPTION!



We appreciate all of those who support Eastside and are thankful to all of our givers! We would like to ask for your continued support during these summer months as we know many will be going away on holidays.

Eastside has experienced shortfalls in our giving this year. We would like to gently remind our friends that we continue to have regular expenses and would appreciate your continued support during these summer months. We have many ways to donate!

- We accept e-transfers! If this is how you'd like to donate, please make the password something we can easily guess. These offerings can be sent to our email address, [eastsideunited@sasktel.net](mailto:eastsideunited@sasktel.net).
- We still accept cash/cheque which can be sent to the Eastside office at our mailing address below.
- Signing up for regular giving through PAR is easy! Give Becca a call at the office or send us an email and we will be more than happy to help you get set up with pre-authorized remittance monthly donations!



## Horizons: The Newsletter of Eastside United Church

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