



Connections

I will not leave you desolate, says the Lord; I will come to you. John 14: 18

**SPECIAL
ISSUE #10**

Let's go to church - in a different way

Sunday morning. A quick breakfast, we get dressed in our Sunday best, then it's off to Christ Church for our weekly time of worship and Christian fellowship together. Our friends are gathered chatting in the narthex and we settle in our usual pew in anticipation of a refreshing hour with God at the centre.

It will not be long before this familiar part of the rhythm of our lives will return, but until then we still need to be together in worship.

"Going to church" while the church building is not available means opening the Christ Church website, **www.christchurchscarborough.com** on your computer, tablet or phone and clicking **CLICK HERE FOR ONLINE SERVICES**. On the page that appears you will see listings of several services. Click on the current date and - you're in church! You can sing the hymns, share and respond to the prayers, hear the readings and listen to the sermon, all without leaving home.

But there is more. For many people, the coffee hour after the service is a special time to linger for awhile and enjoy a relaxing visit with each other. It's an important part of the day, and we miss it.

On page 2 of this issue, look for an article about Zoom meetings. We're going to see whether this kind of virtual get-together will work for us,



FROM A MEMBER OF CHRIST CHURCH

Have I mentioned how appreciative I am to have these services online?..... if not - I am! God has made perfect use of this technology. Thanks be to God.
Jeanette



OUR REDEEMER AND FRIEND

The familiar hymn "*What A Friend We Have in Jesus*", was written by Joseph M. Scriven as a poem in 1855. He wrote the poem to his mother for comfort. He lived in Canada and she was ill and separated from him, living in Ireland.



It has been made into a sentimental hymn enjoyed by jazz artists, big bands, country, contemporary artists

and churches alike. Most of us could hum the tune, if not sing the first verse by heart.

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

In these times of great stress and fear, these words of comfort help to get us through. The poem gives us comfort, knowing we have a friend in Jesus. Perhaps we should hum it more often. It will certainly help carry me through until I can be with my family, my old friends and others I love. And oh, the new stories we will share as we celebrate our reunions.

zooming into coffee hour



One of the important weekly events for many of us at Christ Church is the happy time we spend over coffee and a snack after the Sunday service. While we can't meet in the upstairs hall right now, we can use digital technology to be together virtually, using a program called Zoom.

At one o'clock on May 24, we plan to host our first Zoom coffee hour, to which we are all invited. **Look for an email invitation in the next few days.**

You don't need to have a Zoom account to participate in a Zoom meeting. **You can join our virtual coffee hour simply by clicking on the meeting link in the invitation email and following the instructions.**

Here are some of the details you need if Zoom is new to you:

VIDEO

- 1 If you have a webcam on your computer, you will be welcomed by the host.
- 2 Look for a video icon in the bottom left corner of your screen.
- 3 If it has a red slash through it, click on the icon to "start video" so everyone can see you.
- 4 So that we don't all talk at once, just wave your hand when you want to say something and we will listen. Don't forget to unmute your microphone!

AUDIO

If you don't have a camera on your computer, you can use either your computer or your phone for an audio connection.

- 1 Once you are in the meeting, you'll see a telephone icon in the bottom left corner of your screen.
- 2 If it has a red slash through it, click on the icon "unmute" so everyone can hear you.
- 3 When you aren't speaking, it's best to stay muted so the microphone doesn't pick up any background noises.
- 4 Even without a webcam you will still be able to listen, speak and see the video of other participants.

Zoom is a very user-friendly program - much easier than it appears on paper. The one thing Zoom can't do is provide the coffee for our coffee hour! You'll have to brew a pot ahead of time and then sit down in a comfortable chair for a brief chat with your friends from Christ Church. We're limited to 40 minutes, so please arrive on time at one o'clock.

Please pray for these members of our faith community and their families

Anne S
Annet K
Beverly B
Christina & Joshua
Corinne P
David M
Deb A
Ebun D
Euphrasia
Felicia, Lucia, Sam R
Florence S

Hannah M
Hector B
Jenille L
Joan N
Ken K
Margo P
Philip I
Rosita
Sherri-Ann & Ron
Viggy M
William I

and for all those affected by COVID-19

Maureen thanks all the friends who have been praying for her during her recovery from hip surgery

Meditation by Zoom in stressful times

There are two weekly opportunities now to join people from Christ Church and beyond in a meditation with Spiritual Director Wendy Passmore (Pastor Pam's SD). These times include quiet reflection on how we are experiencing the divine during these unusual times. We also pray with a psalm written in inclusive modern language: seeing what speaks to us and why.

You are invited to light a candle in your space and have with you a journal for writing your insights.

There is no sharing, so this is a time for you to deeply connect with God in your way.

The Bible says "Be still, and know that I am God" (*Psalms 48: 10*). This is your invitation to come apart for just a little while and "be still".



The Prayer and Meditation sessions have helped me to relax my mind from emotions in regard to the world's present status. I now look forward to 10:00 AM on Tuesdays.

Merle

This time of meditation is helping me to Zoom into focus, examine and strengthen my connection to the source of my faith and purpose of my spiritual journey.

Jo-Anne

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ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS

CANCELLED

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Here are the invitations for the Tuesday at 10 am and Thursday at 7 pm Meditation by Zoom meetings.

TUESDAYS

Topic: Meditation by Zoom

Time: May 26 2020 10:00 AM

Every week on Tuesday, until Jun 30

June 2, June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84903022654?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84903022654?pwd=azJJVDA0dmNOZ1NVTVpCY1ZPVEhvZz09)

[pwd=azJJVDA0dmNOZ1NVTVpCY1ZPVEhvZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84903022654?pwd=azJJVDA0dmNOZ1NVTVpCY1ZPVEhvZz09)

Meeting ID: 849 0302 2654

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

THURSDAYS

Topic: Meditation by Zoom

Time: May 14, 2020 07:00 PM

Every week on Thursdays, until June 25

May 21, May 28, June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85976928941>

Meeting ID: 859 7692 8941

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Thank you all for your contributions to Connections.

Since we have to print and snail-mail about 35 copies of each issue, we try to keep it to four pages, and give priority to news updates and other materials that directly affect our worship life. So please bear with us if your poem or article does not appear.

