

Upcoming Things of Interest		
Thurs, May 13	Noon	"Thursday on the lawn" begins again!
Thurs, May 13	7 pm	Zoom – Session 2 – gardening
Fri, May 14	All day	Braeburn Camp Clean-up
Sat, May 15	Afternoon	In-person – plant sale at the church (see note below)
Sat, May 15	All day	Braeburn Camp Clean-up
Sat, May 29	10:30-noon	Connections Women's gathering, Lewis Hall (see page 3)
Sun, June 6	1 pm-ZOOM	AGM

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## Could this be you?

**Chair, Finance Committee - Could this be you?** As many of you will know, Jennifer Moorlag and her husband, Barry Waitt, are moving from the territory this summer. Jennifer has served as Church Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair and Co-Chair for several years. A wonderful person has stepped forward to take on the Treasurer role! We are now seeking a Finance Committee Chair. The role is truly that of committee chair - calling and chairing meetings, developing meeting agendas, working with other church committees and with the Treasurer and Finance Committee.

Jennifer is happy to chat about the role - time commitment, tasks and the AWESOME people that are all staying on Finance Committee. Call (333-0228) or email ([jennifermoorlag@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermoorlag@gmail.com)) for more info.

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**Thursday on the lawn** ..... beginning again May 13<sup>th</sup>. Bring a chair, a beverage and dress for the weather (warm hopefully!) – a weekly opportunity to chat with church family in a socially distanced, safe manner.

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### **THIS WEEK - Plant Sale:**

Just want to let you know that the bedding plant sale this year will go ahead on the afternoon of **Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> at the church**. If you are able and willing, you are welcome to contribute plants. Popular items have been tomato plants, other vegetables, herbs and flowers. Contact Diane if you have any questions or are planning to contribute plants at [emond.diane@gmail.com](mailto:emond.diane@gmail.com).

**To sign up for a time slot to purchase seedlings** at the plant sale, please email Diane at [emond.diane@gmail.com](mailto:emond.diane@gmail.com) or text 867-335-7009. The sale is Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> 1 to 4 pm at the church entrance.



**Cleanup weekend for Braeburn Camp** is scheduled for **Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15.**

Even though the kids' camps have been cancelled for this summer, use of the camp will still be promoted for retreats, family outings, and renters. Also, each of the supporting churches will reserve a weekend for members of their congregations to have a 'church camp', within COVID restrictions and guidelines, of course.

So, it is important to prepare the camp with the annual cleanup.

The list of tasks is extensive so many hands will help make for light work (as the saying goes ☺).

Coming out Friday afternoon or evening and staying overnight is optional. If you plan to come out for the Saturday, please come early so you can enjoy the great breakfast starting at 8:00 am.

Stella Martin has offered to coordinate accommodation at the camp for those requiring an overnight stay in available cabins. Please send her an email message ([stellamartin1981@hotmail.com](mailto:stellamartin1981@hotmail.com)) to reserve a cabin.

Please make sure announcements are made for this event so we can get a good turnout.

Hank Moorlag  
On behalf the Braeburn Camp Property Maintenance Committee

*Open Invitation to Women of Whitehorse United Church.....*

The next **Connections** gathering will be **May 29**, 1030 to 1200 at Whitehorse United Church Lewis Hall. Women of Whitehorse United church are welcome to come out, join in the chit chat and re-Connect with our church family.

We will observe the COVID 19 safety recommendations:

Please defer attending if you:

- are sick;
- have been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19; or
- travelled to an area which requires self-isolation on return.

Otherwise.....

- please wear a non-medical mask until you are seated
- sanitize your hands upon entry to the hall
- chairs will be 6 feet apart (sorry ladies, no mingling and laughing in the kitchen)
- we are not permitted to share food; please bring your tea or coffee in your travel mug and a snack if you choose
- please bring a project if you wish... or not... some of us just like to chat
- unfortunately we cannot offer childcare
- list of all attendees will be maintained

Any questions please call Beth at 633-2710.

## FREE FOOD in Whitehorse

COVID health & safety protocols will be in place

### 7 days a week

#### BREAKFAST

7 am to 11 pm  
Whitehorse  
Emergency Shelter  
405 Alexander St.

#### LUNCH

11:30 am to 1 pm  
Whitehorse  
Emergency Shelter  
405 Alexander St.

#### DINNER

5 pm to 6:30 pm  
To-Go Meals for pick up  
Family Hotel  
314 Roy St.

### + Additional LUNCH Opportunities:

**Mon, Wed & Fri**  
12 pm to 2 pm  
Stookum Jim  
Friendship Centre  
3157 – 3rd Avenue

**Tue & Thurs**  
1 pm to 5 pm  
Sandwiches provided  
Mary House  
504 Cook Street

#### Women & Children

**Tue & Thurs**  
11:30 am to 1 pm  
Bully & Sisters  
The United Church  
601 Main St.

**Wednesday**  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm  
Victoria Faulkner  
Women's Centre  
503 Hanson St.

### + Additional DINNER Opportunities:

#### Tuesdays to Saturdays

**Youth ages 12 to 18**  
6 pm  
BGC Yukon  
306 Alexander St.

#### Friday, Saturday, Sunday

**Women & Children**  
5:30 to 7:30 pm  
A Safe Place  
503 Hanson St.

### + Whitehorse Food Bank HAMPER PICK UP 306 Alexander St.

**Tues & Thurs**  
10 am to 12:45 pm  
& 3 to 4:45 pm

**Families only**  
**Wednesdays**  
10 am to 12 noon



**Yukon Anti-Poverty  
COALITION**  
anti-pauvreté du Yukon

For more information: Whitehorse Food Bank (867)393-2265  
or Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition at (867)334-9317

updated April 2021

## Mission & Service moment ...

### May 16 - COVID-19 Impacts Vulnerable Sex Workers

Everyone has felt the impacts of COVID-19, but vulnerable residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside have been hit especially hard, including people like Mikayla, a 47-year-old Transgender woman. Your Mission & Service gifts support WISH, an organization that works to improve the health, safety and well-being of women who are involved in Vancouver's street-based sex trade.

"I lived there for nine days, and there were three young kids. I think they lived in the cul-de-sac I moved into. They kicked in my door. They beat me with a baseball bat. They wrote "\*\*\*\* tranny" on my wall. They smashed most of what I own," says Mikayla, a 47-year-old transgender woman. "My journey has been difficult. However, today those scars are symbols of my strength, not reminders of my pain. Those experiences have shaped the woman I have become, and are the inspiration for my trans rights advocacy and activism efforts."

After the brutal assault, Mikayla turned to WISH, a Mission & Service partner, for support.

Located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, WISH's goal is to improve the health, safety, and well-being of women who are involved in Vancouver's street-based sex trade. The vast majority of women WISH supports participate in the sex industry by choice. But choice is relative. Extreme poverty, lack of housing, trauma, mental health issues, stigma, violence, and more can limit the ability to choose.

"Systemic barriers mean that most are resorting to street-based sex work as a means of survival," says WISH.

Everyone has felt the impacts of COVID-19, but vulnerable residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside are hit especially hard.

"Every sex worker we support has experienced sudden, total income loss. More women are turning to street-based sex work for the first time. There's increased violence. The closure of safe spaces and public facilities due to COVID-19 has left hundreds of people without the ability to social-distance, and without access to basic sanitation," WISH reports.

To respond to rising needs, the WISHing Well Initiative was launched to provide access to basic sanitation, including showers. A five-toilet washroom trailer and an outdoor safe respite area was added to their backlot. The MAP Van, which provides outreach services to street-based sex workers, added a day shift. The Drop-In Centre expanded its hours.

"This is the first time in WISH's history that we have been able to keep our doors open during the day, something we hope we can continue for years to come. You've made a tremendous difference during these dire times," WISH thanks supporters.

*Your gifts through [Mission & Service](#) provide non-judgmental support and safe spaces. Thank you for caring.*

# Memorial Donations Received

Donations have been made to Whitehorse United Church in memory of the following people:

**Jean and Gerald Talbot**  
by Linda Talbot

**Val Boorse**  
by the Boorse family

**Stewart Breithaupt**

**Rev. Fred & Nellie Lane**  
by Jan Mann

**Janet Agnes Tack**  
by Beth Roberts

**Bill & Gertie Saville Brazier**  
by Bev Brazier

**Jim Winberg**

# Need help with technology?

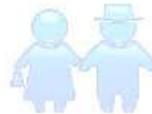
If you are 55+ and interested in learning more about your smartphone, tablet or computer, or being online, or digital security, or just need someone to help you fix a problem, consider attending Yukon Learn's digital skills workshops. These are free. The workshops are done via Zoom and there is lots of help available with that if you are new to it. Some limited one-on-one 'help' sessions are available by appointment.

Questions? Contact Ted Ackerman at [ted.ackerman@yukonlearn.com](mailto:ted.ackerman@yukonlearn.com)

Seniors Outreach Computer Tutor Program



**FREE** to seniors 55 and up



Learn about:

Computers      Tablets      Smartphones  
Internet      Email      Social Media  
Digital Pictures      Zoom      ... and more!

Weekly online learning sessions – call 1.888.668.6280 to register.



**Tuesdays 1:30 to 3:30** Open lab.

Questions, answers & discussion on a wide range of topics, always interesting and lively.



**Thursdays 1:30 to 3:30** Instructor led workshops.

See the latest schedule for upcoming topics.

**AND** ... by appointment:

One-on-one help with computers, smartphones, internet ... just about anything technical.

*(Due to current COVID restrictions, one-on-one sessions must be held in a suitable public place, and with face masks, gloves and sanitization.)*



This project was supported by a grant from CIRA's Community Investment Program Presented in partnership with Elder Active Recreation Association



# Need to talk with someone? Struggling to cope?

**Hospice Yukon:** Offers many resources to help with losing a loved one, co-worker or pet:

- Living with Loss - A free, 2-hr education session to help you better understand the grieving experience.
- Counselling;
- Healing Touch;
- Grief Support Groups;
- Lending Library;
- Vigil Support in the final week to days of life;
- Professional Support.

All of these programs are offered free of charge. Staff are still available to help by e-mail and telephone. 409 Jarvis Street · Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2H4 · Canada Please call 867 667 7429 or email [info@hospiceyukon.net](mailto:info@hospiceyukon.net) for more info. <https://hospiceyukon.net/>

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## Here are some low/no cost Mental Health resources within the territory:

In-Person free- to low-cost resources

### Counseling

In Whitehorse:

Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services Sarah Steele Building – 609 Steele St.,  
Whitehorse: 1-866-456-3838

Canadian Mental Health Association – 209-1114 Front St, 668 6429

All Genders Yukon through *Ignite Counselling* - 3089 3rd Ave #1. Call 668-5498 for more information.

Hospice Yukon Society is a community-based not-for-profit organization that has been providing a range of *bereavement support* services to Yukoners. You can learn more about the programs and services that Hospice Yukon offers by visiting the website at [www.hospiceyukon.net](http://www.hospiceyukon.net), dropping by the office at 409 Jarvis Street Monday- Friday 11:30 am - 3:00 pm, or calling 867-667-7429. Confidential support is provided free of charge.

## **In the communities:**

Dawson City: Dawson City Community Hospital: 501 – 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Dawson City: 867-993-4300

There are also Mental Wellness hubs in Carmacks, Haines Junction, and Watson Lake. Please call 867-456-3838 or 1-866-456-3838 for more information.

## **(Gov)Employee Benefits (free to employees/ their families)**

YG Employees can access the Employee and Family Assistance Program at 1 867 668-EFAP (3327) or 1-800-667-0993. Included in the YG Employee and Family Assistance Program is an online resource centre with additional supports related to health and wellbeing, family and relationships, career and work. **Access these resources at:** [www.fseap.ca/resources](http://www.fseap.ca/resources).

City of Whitehorse Employees can access their Employee Assistance Program at [www.homewoodhealth.com](http://www.homewoodhealth.com), and by calling 1-800-663-1142 (English), 1 866-398-9505 (en français).

Government of Canada Employees can access the Federal Government Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) available 24/7, free and confidential, 1-800-268-7708  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/occupational-health-safety/employee-assistance-services.html>

## **Online and Other Resources**

**Crisis Services Canada** • 24-hour, confidential and anonymous suicide prevention and support line. • 1-833-456-4566 • [www.crisisservicescanada.ca](http://www.crisisservicescanada.ca)

**Canadian Virtual Hospice** • Information and support on palliative and end-of-life care, loss and grief. • [www.mygrief.ca](http://www.mygrief.ca) or [www.kidsgrief.ca](http://www.kidsgrief.ca)

**Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention** • <https://suicideprevention.ca/> • <https://suicideprevention.ca/About-Suicide-and-Life-Promotion>

**Tao Tel Aide** • Nos lignes d'écoutes sont ouvertes 24 h sur 24 365 jours par année. Un service de confiance | 1-800-567-9699

**First Nations Hope for Wellness Help Line:** This is a specific resource for First Nations and Inuit to provide immediate, culturally competent telephone counselling, 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is available in English, French and upon request in Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut • Call the toll-free Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or connect to the online chat at [hopeforwellness.ca](http://hopeforwellness.ca).

**Road to Mental Readiness App** (look for it in the App store or on Google Play) is a free mobile app developed by Department of National Defense to improve short-term performance and long-term mental health outcomes. <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/r2mr/id1148743063>

## COVID-19 Related Information

### REGARDING PASTORAL VISITS IN THE HOSPITAL

If someone is in the hospital and wants to see a spiritual care giver, you have three options:

1. there will be a chaplain on call and you can ask the staff to put you in touch with that person (chaplains are simply local pastors and ministers and priests, including me, who take turns being on call a month at a time),
2. there are iPads available for use at the hospital and they can help you arrange a visit from me that way, or
3. for those in palliative care, it's possible for me to make an in person visit but the patient her/himself, or the family, has to add me to the list of those who are allowed to visit in person.

### Reminder: COVID-19 information online

The one-stop-shop for information about COVID-19 in the Yukon – including government financial assistance programs – is at [yukon.ca/covid-19](http://yukon.ca/covid-19). For a handy table comparing the symptoms for COVID-19, influenza and a cold, click [HERE](#).

### Let's Chat Yukon now operating

Stuck at home and wishing you had someone to speak with? April 15th marked the launch of Let's Chat Yukon, a toll-free line you can call for enjoyable conversation with a fellow Yukoner. Just because you're self-isolating doesn't mean you're alone. This is a free service run by volunteers. 1-877-321-1001

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- **Yukon 211** -- Information and referral service for health, social and other government services. Confidential, free, available 24/7 in 150+ languages. Dial 2-1-1 ([LINK](#))
  - **Reach Out Support Line** -- Volunteer-based, confidential, non-judgmental and free support line organized by CMHA Yukon. 1-844-533-3030 ([LINK](#))
  - **Yukon Helpers Network** – A place to offer and ask for help in the Yukon ([LINK](#))
  - **Caremongering** -- Information, ideas and contact info for volunteer helpers. In French or English. ([LINK](#))
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