

Beach United Church Board of Directors March Eblast

Happy First day of spring! (ok I'm old school and I was taught that it is March 21st!). On behalf of the Board, I hope you are enjoying some spring sunshine and slightly warmer temperatures. We are ready for green!

There are lots of exciting events and changes to share. We hope all of you have earmarked April 2nd in your calendars to either attend via Zoom or come in person to the Congregational Meeting which begins at noon. This meeting is a summary of all the work and activity that took place in 2022 as well as a preview of what is happening in 2023 and the election of the Board of Directors and new trustees for the 2023-2024 year. Pre-read material will be available soon.

Also at the Congregation meeting will be the opportunity to hear about and vote on Beach UC's efforts to become an [Affirming Church](#). Under the leadership of Rev. Greg and Cynthia Stretton we have been hard at work on this project and look forward to sharing what this means for Beach UC. We are especially grateful to Cynthia for this work as she has decided to step down from the Board. We express our heartfelt thanks for her support and participation this past year.

We want to recognize the fundraising event "Peace by Chocolate" film screening that took place on March 20th by The Beach Cares to raise money to support Wesam and Olesia; Ukrainian and Syrian refugees who arrived last weekend. They will be living in the Beach area and we are asking each of you to welcome them if you have the opportunity to meet them.

And speaking of awesome fundraising events.... Mark your calendars for March 31st for the next in the series of an evening of fantastic food and wine; this time from Chile. Titled "[Breaking Bread Together](#)" you have until March 28th to register. These events have sold out in the past and are educational and yummy! Thanks to Jo-Anne LaForty and group for once again organizing such an amazing evening!

Jo-Anne is one of the many incredible volunteers Beach UC is lucky to work with and we are always looking for new folks to help out with the many great activities and groups that form part of our community. Whether you are interested in an ongoing commitment (helping with lunch on Thursday) or a one off (the Christmas Marketplace, for example) your skills, time and energy are always welcome. Please contact the Beach UC office and we will follow up with you!

Lastly, this is my last Eblast as your Board Chair and as a regular member of Beach UC. Many of you know that I retired last August and moved back to my hometown of London, ON. Having had the opportunity to be a member of, first Kew Beach and then Beach United, has been an extraordinary privilege and it has been my pleasure to have served on the Board these last several years as well as other roles in the past. I wish each of you and the general community only the best as you continue to live a mission and set of values that are integral to the health and healing of our community, our planet and our spiritual health. Thank you for all the ways you have welcomed and supported me and my family. It is truly appreciated! I'll be at the April 2nd Congregational Meeting to say hi and bye!

Lastly if there is ever anything you want to share or suggest to the Board we can always be reached at: board@beachuc.com

All the best,
Nanci Harris, for

Paul, Gwen, Cynthia, Greg, Lynne, and Karen (Watson)