

Good morning,

My dad and brother and I were in a small boat on a big lake. A storm was brewing. Waves were splashing over the front and sides of the boat. My brother and I were bailing water. The motor quit. My dad kept pulling the cord to restart it and it wasn't working. I felt helpless and afraid. My brother and I gave each other a worried look. We had life-jackets on and I was concerned that we were going to get to use them. The sky darkened even more. I saw lightning in the distance. I was silently praying that I didn't want to drown. There was nothing I could do but bail.

Finally I heard the motor catch. "Got it!" dad yelled over the noise of the wind. We headed for shore with the storm chasing us. It was raining. My brother shouted that we should pull into the nearest shore and find shelter. Dad wanted to take us around the point and closer to where our campsite was. My brother and I yelling about the shore and the rumble of thunder convinced him otherwise. We pulled up onto a rocky beach, dragged the boat onto land and got our bearings. We could see a gravel road up the hill. My brother said he would go and figure out how to get to our campsite and come back with the truck and boat trailer. My dad and I waited under a tree drinking lukewarm coffee from a thermos. About an hour later my brother arrived and soon we were at the campsite preparing supper. We sat down with a beer in hand. Dad looked at us and said, "Well, that wasn't so bad!" My brother and I rolled our eyes. It was one of the scariest times of my adult life. Fear can get us.



Rather than be paralyzed and out of our heads because of fear, Jesus would have us trust in God's compassionate presence, find calmness in the community of God's people, not become frantic, and know deep in our hearts that we are not alone and at the mercy of our fears. "**Where is your faith?**" he said to his disciples in their storm story (**Luke 8:22-25**). Facing fear is a hard way to learn about faith, but I guess that is what it takes sometimes. When the pastor says, "*The Lord is with you,*" it is not just about quiet times, but also when fear stares us in the face.

The Lord is with you.

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Coming up at Hope:

April 20 @ 9:00 a.m. (Saturday) Church Council Meeting

April 21 @ 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service (Zoom opens @ 9:30 a.m.)

April 23 - May 7 Pastor Terry on holidays

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Please note that we are invited to **Winds of Change: Truth, Art & Reconciliation** (May 8, 2024). Please see below, or reply to brechinmando@gmail.com for further information

Winds of Change

Documentary followed by Q&A with Daniel R. Elliott, Stz'uminus First Nation watercolour artist and descendant of residential school survivors. Daniel wants to take people on a healing journey. But first, he's asking people to confront the history and impact of residential schools head on, and not look away. . .

Daniel, whose father is from Stz'uminus First Nation and mother is Scottish, has always felt like he was straddling two worlds. In the 1990s, he went through a spiritually transcendent experience in a sweat lodge that allowed him to feel, for the first time, at home with who he is as an Indigenous person of mixed ancestry.

"My art is about helping people forge a new relationship," said Daniel. "I've tempered all this pain and sorrow with hope. That was hard to do. I want to explore how this healing can happen, how we can bridge Canadian educational structures with Indigenous knowledge, how we can find a way to put that together in a good way."

Daniel will also be selling his book "Truth, Art and Reconciliation: The Winds of Change Project" in the lobby.

[Click here to view the trailer](#)



Wednesday, May 8, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Winds of Change: Truth Art & Reconciliation

Register

Malaspina Theatre



UnitedWay/HopeLuth./BrechinUC/HolyTrinityCatholic
Malaspina Theatre, VIU Building 310, 900 5th Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5S5 CA

You will receive the Sunday Worship Service and Invitation to Zoom for worship on Saturday mornings as usual, including while the pastor is on holidays.

Christ is Risen! The Lord is with us.
Pastor Terry