



Stewardship 2021: Gathered Here Reverend Anne Barker

Dear friends,

It has been a year!

As we head into stewardship season, this is a time to celebrate – celebrate that we are still here, together, caring for one another with such love and compassion.

So many people have experienced profound losses during this pandemic, reminding us constantly that every moment we have together is so precious.

Stewardship is the time of year when we focus on supporting this community of faith – making commitments to sustain this ‘place’ we all love so much. Seems funny to say that – this ‘place’ – when we’ve all been displaced this year. It has been heartwarming to see how everyone has pulled together, to stay connected, even when conditions aren’t ideal.

The greatest blessings of this year, for me, have been the ways we’ve been able to have friends join us from around the world! Our accessibility has expanded, to welcome people from across the country, from England and Germany, many places in the US, and even South America. To welcome in new and welcome back former members, plus family and friends from other provinces, to have guest speakers and feature musicians who ‘travel’ online, has helped bring so much comfort and joy to this community. I am confident that we will grow in new and broader outreach – even once we are back in the building.

I respect and honour your determination and resilience. Thank you for pulling together in true Westwood fashion this year. And thank you for your support as I head off for medical leave. I could not be more grateful to be a part of a community that truly looks out for one another.

With love,
Rev Anne