

# hope



## JOIN US FOR FOUR INSPIRING STORIES OF HOPE

WHEN? TUESDAYS IN ADVENT -

November 29, December 6, December 13 and December 20 at 7:00 pm

WHERE? ST. TERESA'S CHURCH, 120 MUNDY POND RD., ST. JOHN'S

ADMISSION: FREE



## OUR STORYTELLERS:



Sue Cummings



In my twenty years working in tertiary care mental health and addictions I have heard much about hope and loss of hope. As we enter the Advent season, we take opportunity once again to shine a light on core human virtues common to us all. St. Paul likened the spiritual life to running a race and as we know athletes train vigorously for these events. As we practice the virtues in the face of our own suffering and challenges, we have opportunity to hone and deepen our insight and skill. A common virtue practiced deeply becomes uncommonly wise. I look forward to sharing my thoughts and practices of hope with you all.

Lucille Brennan is a Registered Social Worker at The Gathering Place in St. John's. She works as the Guest Empowerment Coordinator and is responsible for all programming and establishing a sense of community and belonging for people who access services. Lucille worked 27 years in Ontario and practiced poverty law as a social worker and licensed paralegal. She returned to NL almost 4 years ago and has continued her work with marginalized individuals. She is currently a Field Instructor for Memorial University School of Social Work and supervises 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students in their practicum placements at The Gathering Place. Lucille's work allows her to love and support people who are struggling in our community and letting them know they are not alone.



Lucille Brennan



Sr. Margie Taylor, RSM



During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, I read a novel where a small boy attempted to survive the Korean War. He constantly asks himself, "Will I live all my life SMALL... (small like a bird in flight... small like a butterfly...?" "He struggles with this issue until he realizes he is anything but SMALL. Situations force him to take his own power and prevail and find hope in his life. Many times I meet people who feel small, marginalized, depressed... Come join me in a conversation as we journey with these people who have now moved into a space where they are "NO MORE SMALL."

Hope is not the most often said four-letter word in prison, but it may be the most talked-about feeling. Some want to steal it; some want to drown in it. I like to share it and do I have stories to tell! Straight from the Diary of a Prison Chaplain.



Gerry Phelan