May 7, 2019

**Statement from L’Arche Greater Vancouver on the passing of Jean Vanier.**

Today we join with so many others around the world to remember the life of Jean Vanier. His life and mission made a profound difference in our lives.

Many of us had the privilege of meeting him when he visited Vancouver, when we heard him speak at L’Arche Federation events or when he gave retreats in his home community in Trosly, France.

He last visited L’Arche Greater Vancouver on our 30th anniversary in 2004 where he led our community retreat. While he was here he also gave a memorable talk at St. Andrews Wesley Church entitled “Community: Healing the Heart, Mending the World”.

He was a faithful friend, sending us messages of encouragement even as he aged and grew frail. It was important for him to tell us that he was at peace.

We remember him as a man of great kindness and wisdom. He was our friend and teacher.

**Denise Haskett**

**Community Leader/Executive Director**

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