



Gladwin Heights United Church

3474 Gladwin Road,

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Church Office: 604-852-3984

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Website: www.gladwinheightsunitedchurch.org



September 2020

Music Director: Rita Green
Custodian: Rick Frier

Minister: Rev. Tim Bowman

Musician: Jacob Greenan
Church Administrator: Jeanette Chassie

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair – Gayle LaPointe
Secretary – Gina Hartley
Treasurer – Muriel Thomas
M & P Rep – Sandi Dahm
Pastoral Care & Outreach – Arlene Kropp
Property Inside – Len & Carlene Stein
Property Outside– Daryl & Ellen Alstad
Sunday Morning Coordinator – Gladys Banks
UCW President – Carlene Stein

MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEES WITH ST. ANDREW'S

Joint Board: Gayle LaPoint, Sheila Flavelle, Arlene Kropp
Joint M & P: Lois Chatham, Sandi Dahm
Joint Worship: Rita Green, Carlene Stein, Arlene Kropp

The Season of Creation, Year A: The Spirit Series (Year of Matthew)

This series concentrates on those texts where the Spirit is breathing life into creation, suffering with creation and renewing all creation.

SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY

Land Sunday September 13

Genesis 3:14-19; 4:8-16
Psalm 139:7-12
Romans 5:12-17
Matthew 12:38-40



Outback/Wilderness Sunday September 20

Joel 1:8-10, 17-20
Psalm 18:6-19
Romans 8:18-27
Matthew 3:13 - 4:2 or Mark 1:9-13,

Forest Sunday September 27

Genesis 2:4b-22
Psalm 139:13-16
Acts 17:22-28
John 3:1-16

River Sunday October 4

Genesis 8:20-22;9:12-17
Psalm 104:27-33
Revelation 22:1-5
Matthew 28:1-10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daryl and Ellen Alstad are thrilled to announce that their little blessing from Heaven has arrived September 2, 2020 – nine days late. Vivian Victoria McMurchy, weighing 8 lbs 7 ounces. Our first grandchild! All are doing well with the exception of lack of sleep! Welcome to Parenthood!



It's a little lady!

VIVIAN VICTORIA MCMURCHY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020



Minister's Message

There are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

- 1 Corinthians 12:20b-26.

Siblings in Christ,

Many of you have begun to ask and wonder about returning to regular worship as Gladwin Heights or Saint Andrew's United Church. As we consider this possibility, Paul's words give us much to ponder.

Paul's reminder of our unity in Christ underlies our desire to come together, worshiping face to face with each other and in the patterns that we have evolved in our congregations. Worshiping with our siblings in our Cluster congregations - Trinity Memorial, Mount Lehman and Aldergrove United Churches - also makes visible our unity in Christ, shares the workload among staff and enables all to benefit from the unique gifts present in each congregation. It is a faithful engagement with our identified Cluster goal of increasing collaboration and interdependence. It also involves compromises that may feel unsatisfying.

Paul also reminds us that unity means that all members are equally valued, which entails taking special care for the most vulnerable among us: if one suffers, we all suffer. During a pandemic, in-person worship creates special health risks that fall disproportionately on the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions.

Returning to worship in our own buildings is possible, should we as a congregation and our Boards decide. However, we need to have a realistic view of what that entails.

As the body of Christ, we are responsible to gather safely. As the body of Christ, we have responsibility and accountability to our Region. In consultation with public health experts, our Regional Council is recommending that we remain virtual at this time. Should we decide to return to in-person worship, we will need to develop a plan to do so orderly and safely and to submit it to the Region for approval. This will take a significant amount of time.

We also have responsibilities to our Cluster churches, with whom we have already made plans to worship at least until mid-October.

Until we find and distribute a Coronavirus vaccine, worship in our buildings will look and feel different. Masks may be required, touching, singing and capacity will all be limited, and pre-registration may be required. We will likely livestream our worship on the Internet for those who cannot safely attend. We will not quickly attain the quality of our current Sunday morning broadcast, which is the product of many people's musical and technical skills, and the result of four months of trial and error.

The status quo is a faithful response; returning to a form of in-person worship is a faithful response. Your Board and I are committed to working with you as the body of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Tim



FALL FAIR LITE: Due to the pandemic we will unfortunately not be able to hold our usual fall fair. However we are planning to hold what we are calling “Fall Fair Lite”. On Saturday September 26th from 10:00 till 12:00 we will be running a country kitchen/cookie/pie sale in conjunction with a Value Village clothing/soft goods drop off. On a **preorder** basis only we are offering the following: Cookies: (\$6.00/bag) Chocolate chip, peanut butter, oatmeal, chocolate, ginger snaps Jams/Jellies: (\$4/250 ml \$7/500ml) Raspberry Jam, Raspberry Jelly, Strawberry Jam, Gladwin Heights Special Bumble Jam Pies: (\$10/pie) Apple, Pumpkin All orders must be placed **NO LATER than SEPTEMBER 16TH.**

All orders to be placed with Jeanette at the office (604-852-3984) or office email: info@gladwinheightsunitychurch.org We require your name and phone number. Jeanette will complete the order form with an order number and confirm the order with you. Please pick up your order on the September 26th between 10 and 12 noon. Orders can be paid for by cash or cheque.

VALUE VILLAGE DROP OFF: Value Village will accept all clothing, soft goods including bedding, towels, fabric, pillows etc. The whole purpose is to keep items out of the landfill therefore the condition of the clothing material does not matter all torn, stained, fabric pieces etc. can be repurposed and/or resold by Value Village. Value Village will pay us per pound for the clothing, material etc. that we gather. Please pass the word around to friends, family and neighbours – although this is not our usual Fall Fair we still wish to keep the activity and do some fundraising at the same time. We all hope that by September 2021 we can get back to normal.