



St. Andrews United Church

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August 2021

Minister: Rev. Michael Hare

Music Director: Deborah Handley

Church Administrator: Jeanette Chassie

Musician: Jacob Greenan

Bookkeeper: Angela Darychuk

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair – Judith Ray

Vice-Chairperson – Beate Pothmann

Secretary – Cherie Dobson

Treasurer – Dennis Larson

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

M & P – Cherie Dobson

Pastoral Care – Linda Bouchir

Cluster Rep – Myrna McGregor

Property – Lyle Treleaven

Worship – Barb Treleaven

Affirming Ministry

Linda Bouchir

Darian and Tyler Komaszczuk

Deborah Handley

Cathy Waller

Candace White

MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEES WITH GLADWIN HEIGHTS

Joint Board: Judith Ray, Beate Pothmann, Myrna McGregor

Joint M & P: Cherie Dobson, Lyle Treleaven

Joint Worship: Linda Bouchir, Beate Pothmann, Deborah Handley

Have you thanked
God
for your eyes
Today?



AUGUST 2021 LECTIONARY

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 1, 2021

- 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a
- Psalm 51:1-12
- Exodus 16:2-4,9-15
- Psalm 78:23-29
- Ephesians 4:1-16
- John 6:24-35

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – August 8, 2021

- 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33
- Psalm 130
- 1 Kings 19:4-8
- Psalm 34:1-8
- Ephesians 4:25-5:2
- John 6:35,41-51

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – August 15, 2021

- 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
- Psalm 111
- Proverbs 9:1-6
- Psalm 34:9-14
- Ephesians 5:15-20
- John 6:51-58

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 22,2021

- 1 Kings 8:1,8:6, 8:10-11, 22-30, 41-43
- Psalm 84
- Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
- Psalm 34:15-22
- Ephesians 6:10-20
- John 6:56-69

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 29,2021

- Song of Solomon 2:8-13
- Psalm 45:1-2,6-9
- Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9
- Psalm 15
- James 1:17-27
- Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Minister's Message

For some, July 2021 has been a challenging month. The month started with record high temperatures which has been followed by forest fires raging out of control throughout the province and the destruction of Lytton. One wonders when it will end.

It will end. My reference point is Labour Day weekend. In my experience, that is when we shall start to see sufficient rain that we will see fires suppressed, evacuation orders rescinded, and energy put in to rebuilding buildings and communities that were destroyed. Individuals will resume the rhythms of their lives.

Then there are the ongoing conversations about Covid 19. Most of us are looking forward to the loosening of the last of the restrictions on Labour Day. But the number of cases of the Delta variant of concern and the stall in vaccination rates in the United States makes one wonder as to where we really are getting the coronavirus under control.

Together, all this makes us one whether we are living in some kind of Armageddon. Some may wonder where God is in all of this. Some may wonder why does God allow this to happen. Good questions, with no easy answers.

All that can be said of forest fires is that they are a part of the natural order. They are necessary for the rejuvenation of the soil and the reproduction of certain plants. Our indigenous neighbours knowing how important forest fires were to their well being, upon occasion, purposely set fires so that this process of renewal could take place. They also knew when to set these fires so that they would not result in the destruction and disruption that we experience today.

There is some speculation that one of the reasons that forest fires are more dangerous these days is because of climate change which is resulting in increasingly high temperatures. There is much that we can do to slow down the pace of climate change. The tree planting project of the Environment Stewards of the Mid-Fraser Cluster is one of those practical things that we can do. In doing so, we are demonstrating a commitment to engage in the care of creation.

The Covid 19 pandemic has reminded us that we live in an inter-related world: what is happening with the coronavirus in one part of the world has implications for life in another part of the world. An inability for a country to fully vaccinate its residents means that there will be restrictions on travel to prevent variants of concern unwittingly being able to spread in another country. The consequence will be a delay in a complete reopening of borders. In response, international agencies like UNICEF are trying to find funding to increase the number of individuals vaccinated, a programme that you are supporting through your gifts to the United Church World Development and Relief Fund.

If we look carefully, we can see signs of God at work. People have been moved to make financial donations for Evacuation Centres to give out gift cards for evacuees from the fires. People have been moved to persuade the federal government to donate surplus doses of Astrazeneca to low- and middle-income countries as well as supporting agencies and organizations that are financing the purchase of vaccines. We support health care workers and forest firefighters in our prayers and in our conversations. We pray for the coming of the time when there will not be extremes in temperature, viruses that overwhelm our well being as individuals and as a community will cease to be; and that we shall live in respect with creation.

Michael

Announcements



Romeo (Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Yeah!!!!!! The men from the Romeo group can finally meet in person again!!!! All men from all congregations are invited to this breakfast meeting every other Friday at 8:00 am. The next meeting is on Friday, August 6 , 2021 Why not join and have some great breakfast company? The breakfast is held at JoJo's Bana Restaurant in Abbotsford, meeting at 7:30am.

Healing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray that You will lay your healing Hands upon all those who are sick. We beg You to have compassion on all those who are suffering so that they may be delivered from their pitiful circumstances.

*In Jesus, we pray.
Amen.*

Our Prayer List

The result of Prayer is Life. Prayer irrigates the Earth and Heart. Author Unknown

Please hold these people and families in your heart and prayers:

Shay
Cyril
Greta and family
Waller family
Bernice
Sally and family
David,
Annie,
Marilyn,
Devon and family,
Paulette and family,
Loa
Lynea and family

Blessings Linda B.