ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

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Mission, BC V2V 1J7
Church Office: 604-826-8296
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Website: www.saintandrewsunited.church

March 6 2022
Monthly Announcements

Minister: Rev. Tim Bowman
Music Director: Deborah Handley
Musician: Jacob Greenan
Church Administrator: Angela Darychuk

We look forward to seeing you all *in person* this Sunday! Worship is at 11:30.

We are checking COVID vaccination status and please remember that masks will be mandatory for everyone over the age of 5. There are no exceptions aside from choir members, music leaders and readers / presiders while speaking or singing and physically distanced. There will be a sign in sheet for everyone to sign.

Coffee time is paused at this time.

We will also be broadcasting the Service via Facebook Live, for those of you who can't make it in person. Just go to the Gladwin Heights Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/Gladwin-Heights-United-Church-699893126828536) and look for the Service by date. The live broadcast time will be 9:30 am. Please note if you can't make it at 9:30 you can view it anytime on Facebook.

Reading for March 6 2022
Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Luke 4: 1-13

Hymns for March 6 2022
MV 28 – "God of the Bible"
VU 460 - "All Who Hunger"
VU 542 – "We Give You But Your Own"
Hymn – "When Our Lives Are Ruled by Fear"
MV 196 – "We Will Take What You Offer"

March Birthdays

March Birthdays

Co Kuppusamy – March 2
Devon Galbiati – March 9
Sherry Edmunds-Flett – March 25

Our Prayer List

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

Chico • Shay, • Greta and family • Bernice • Sally and family • Annie • Devon and family • Paulette and family • Loa • Eileen and family • Barb • Roy • John • Sherry • Katy • Linda and family

Blessings Pastoral Care Team

March Lectionary

First Sunday in Lent March 6

Deuteronomy 26:1–11
Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16
Romans 10:8b–13
Luke 4:1–13

Second Sunday in Lent March 13

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17—4:1
Luke 13:31–35
or Luke 9:28–36, (37–43a)

Third Sunday in Lent March 20

Isaiah 55:1–9
Psalm 63:1–8
1 Corinthians 10:1–13
Luke 13:1–9

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 27

Joshua 5:9–12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16–21
Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

Church office hours:

St. Andrews' office is open 9:30am – 3:00 pm, **Wednesday**
Gladwin Heights office is open 9:30am – 3:00 pm, **Thursday**
Remote office hours for both Gladwin Heights and St Andrews' are Monday and Tuesday 9 am to 4 pm

Reverend Tim's office hours:

Tim can be reached from 10am - 4pm Monday and Wednesday at St Andrew's office, 10am to 4pm Thursday at Gladwin's office. Please check for availability.
Tim's contact is: 778-791-3545, or bowmantimothyr@gmail.com

Minster's Message

Siblings in Christ,

Can we pray for Ukraine? Can we *not* pray for Ukraine? What do we mean when we say we are praying for Ukraine?

A colleague recently posted on Facebook that for their Ash Wednesday service they are displaying a Ukrainian flag in their Ash Wednesday service and wondered about a symbol for the Russian people as well (as opposed to the Russian flag which would symbolize its government).

I wonder: what does it mean to pray for Ukraine and for peace? This is an unjustifiable war with a clear aggressor. I have been inspired by the spirited resistance of the Ukrainian people and their military. It seems that only a combination of military difficulties and economic pain (probably both are necessary) have a likelihood of causing President Putin, willingly or unwillingly, to recall his military. But each Ukrainian success means another Russian, another beloved child of God, who suffers and dies.

If I worship a God of Justice, that implies occasionally taking sides as I try to think with the mind of God and feel with the heart of God. Yet I cannot believe that God desires warfare with its death and suffering.

I have considered outright pacifism but cannot in the end sustain that view. I think the truth is closer to the idea that, in an imperfect world, we sometimes have to choose the least bad path. Could it be that choosing to fight or praying for the success of those who do, is a sin that we must accept because failing to do so is worse? But to do so implies that there is some part of Creation, some aspect of human experience, that is outside of God's love and presence. I can't affirm that.

The best I can do, I think, is this: horrible things happen in the world. Some of it is natural evil (cells become cancerous) and some of it is human evil (a dictator invades a neighbouring country). God does not will any of this, but God is present in and experiences the heartache of all involved. In every moment God invites us to choose the good. God invites every Russian and Ukrainian soldier to choose the most life-giving path open to them (none of which may be objectively "good" in a perfect world). God dwells with murdering and murdered soldiers and murdered civilians, walking with them as they approach death and with their loved ones as they grieve.

God offers me and you choices as well, for we live in a world in which all of this happens. If I pray for Ukraine and for peace, I can pray, not that God will miraculously stop the bullets and the bombs, but that God will show me the path that best leads to peace, beauty and wholeness for the world.

I hope that in some way this is helpful to you, and I look forward to your wisdom as well.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

St Andrews United Church

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair – Judith Ray
Vice-Chairperson – Beate Pothmann
Secretary – Cherie Dobson
Treasurer – Dennis Larson

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Trustees - Myrna McGregor
M & P – Cherie Dobson
Pastoral Care – Linda Bouchir
Cluster Rep – Myrna McGregor
Property – Lyle 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

Glad Andy's

Our Coldest night walk was huge success.
We raised $2560 for First United.
Well done Glad Andys.