



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

CLOVERDALE  
UNITED CHURCH



*"Stoning of St. Stephen"*  
Painting by Vittore Carpaccio, 1520

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 부활절 다섯째 주일**

**A Service of Word and Feast**


7 May 2023 • 10:30 AM


**W**elcome to Cloverdale United Church! As we say at nearly every worship service, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey God welcomes you... and so do we.” We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We come from different religious backgrounds, we bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we gather and worship God together as one.

In this lovely old church, we do Sunday morning in some fairly traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We gather around the waters of grace and the feast table of Christ, just as Christians have done for nearly two thousand years. Some of the songs we sing (certainly not *all* of them, though) are ones our grandparents might also have sung in their day. And yet, amidst rituals and rites rooting us in a deep heritage, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and we listen for God’s Spirit still speaking into our lives today. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Have a cup of coffee or a bite to eat with us. Introduce yourself to other worshippers or our pastor. There are plenty of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

**Children are welcome at all services!** It is important for families to worship together. Don’t feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children—and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles—as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, “faith is caught, not taught!”

 **Washrooms** can be found just outside the sanctuary through the door at the front right of the space (the northeast corner of the room).

 Thank you for **silencing cell phones** and other devices, and for refraining from flash photography.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion:** *All* are welcome, *including* children, to share in the feast at Christ’s table. We usually celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of each month, as well as on certain other holy days.

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism:** We gladly offer the sign and seal of God’s grace in the waters of baptism, both to children and adults of any age. *For more information, contact the minister.*

**The language of worship** is rich and diverse, and yet always inadequate to express the fullness of the divine. In our worship, we strive to use *inclusive* language for humanity and *expansive* imagery for the divine, while respecting the poetry and imagery of texts handed down to us from the ages. Honouring our diversity, in those places where we speak or sing together, worshippers may use language with which they are comfortable or familiar.

## The 5th Sunday of Easter 부활절 다섯째 주일

“It was in that crucified, nonresistant presence, where the early church, so pressed by colonial powers, found something full of promise. That right there, in the very heart of Sacred Life, was a goodness that knew suffering—that stands beside and values and affirms people, that denies empire its legitimacy. God knew, in God’s very body, all wounds. To share the suffering of Jesus in the face of oppression and power was better than being alone and without hope”.

— *Chris Budden (Minister in The Uniting Church in Australia and Professor at United Theological College near Sydney, Australia)*

*As you are able, whether in body or in spirit, please rise for those parts marked with an asterisk “\*”*

*Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices, and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.*

## GATHERING 모임

*The Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ’s resurrection*

**Prelude** 전주

*Emma Rui-Xuan Shi*

**Greeting** 인사

*The Rev. Matthew Emery*

*One:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Many:** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*One:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many:** And also with you.

**Call to Worship** 예배로 부름

*Lauren Kirkey*

*One:* We are summoned here by our holy God,

**Many:** who calls us each by name,  
and gathers us together in the unity of Jesus Christ.

*One:* From classroom and kitchen and carpool,

**Many:** we are called into God’s presence.

**\* Hymn 찬송** — “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

*Voices United #211*

**\* Prayer of the Day** 오늘의 기도

*One:* Let us pray.

**Many:** God, you touch our lives with mystery and hope.

We come to this place today,  
ready to see your power working through us.

Help us to be open to your Word,

and to answer your call among us. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

\* **The Peace** 평화의 인사

*One:* 그리스도의 평화가 당신과 함께 하시기를.  
The peace of Christ be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

*All are invited to share signs of Christ's peace with those around them.*

**Words of Welcome & News from Our Life Together** 교회소식

## WORD 말씀

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**Anthem** — “Arise, Shine” by Elvery, arr. Thoburn

*The Choir*

Arise, arise, shine for thy light is come, shine for thy light is come,  
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee, is risen upon thee.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness, and gross darkness,  
and gross darkness the people, gross darkness the people;  
but the Lord shall arise, the Lord shall arise, the Lord shall arise upon thee,  
and his glory shall be seen, his glory shall be seen, his glory shall be seen upon thee,  
and the gentiles shall come, shall come to thy light  
and kings to the brightness of thy rising  
and kings to the brightness, the brightness of thy rising.  
Arise, arise, shine for thy light is come, shine for thy light is come, thy light is come.

— from Isaiah 60:1-3

**The Early Word** 어린이 설교

*Robyn Garland*

*ending with* **The Lord's Prayer** 회중기도와 주기도

**Many: Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done**

**on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil,  
for Thine is the Kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

하늘에 계신 우리 아버지여,  
이름이 거룩히 여김을  
받으시옵며, 나라이 임하옵시며,  
뜻이 하늘에서 이룬 것같이  
땅에서도 이루어지이다. 오늘날  
우리에게 일용할 양식을  
주옵시고, 우리가 우리에게 죄  
지은 자를 사하여 준 것같이 우리  
죄를 사하여 주옵시고, 우리를  
시험에 들게 하지 마옵시고,  
다만 악에서 구하옵소서. 대개  
나라와 권세와 영광이 아버지께  
영원히 있사옵나이다. 아멘.

\* **RESPONSE 찬송** — “Alleluia!”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**First Reading 성경봉독** — 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:2-10

*pew bibles NT p. 233*

Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

*after the reading:*

**One:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**Many:** Thanks be to God.

**Second Reading 성경봉독** — Acts 7:55-60

*pew bibles NT p. 126*

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God’s word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

**IN ENGLISH**

*after the reading:*

**One:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**Many:** Thanks be to God.

**IN KOREAN**

*after the reading:*

**One:** 아멘 (Amen).

**Many:** 아멘 (Amen).

\* **RESPONSE 찬송** — “Alleluia!” (CELTIC ALLELUIA)

*see music above*

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Sermon 설교**

*Lauren Kirkey*

*a time of quiet follows the sermon*

\* **Hymn 찬송** — “Don’t Be Afraid”

*More Voices #90*

\* **Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed** 신앙의 고백: 우리 신소

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.

우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.  
하나님의 세계에서 삽니다.

We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.

우리는 하나님을 믿습니다.  
만물을 창조하셨고,  
지금도 창조하시며,  
화해시키고 새롭게 하기 위하여,  
말씀이 몸을 이룬 예수님 안에 오셨으며,  
우리와 남들 안에서 성령으로  
역사 하십니다.

We trust in God.

우리는 하나님을 신뢰합니다.

We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus,  
crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.

우리는 교회를 이루라고 부름받았습니다.  
하나님의 임재를 찬양하고,  
우주 만물을 존중하며 살고,  
남들을 사랑하며 섬기고,  
정의를 추구하며 악에 항거하고,  
십자가형을 당하시고 살아나셔서,  
우리의 심판자와 희망이 되신  
예수님을 선포하라고 부름받았습니다.

In life, in death,  
in life beyond death,  
God is with us.

삶에서, 죽음에서,  
죽음을 넘는 삶에서 하나님이 우리와  
함께 하십니다.

We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.

우리는 홀로가 아닙니다.  
하나님께 감사드립니다.

**Responding with our Gifts** 봉헌

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*Emma Rui-Xuan Shi*

**Many ways to give!** We welcome your offering in the way that works for you: by cash or cheque in the offering plates, through automatic gifts via Pre-Authorized Remittance (contact the office to enrol), by eTransfer from your bank (to cloverdalepastoralcharge@gmail.com), or by credit card via CanadaHelps.org (service fees apply). Want to give now but don't have cash or cheque? Scan the QR Code → to be taken to CanadaHelps



**Prayer Requests** — As the morning offering is collected:

- in-person worshippers can share prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) on the **purple prayer request cards** found in the pew racks and place them the offering plates as they are passed.
- live-via-Zoom online worshippers are welcome to submit prayer petitions (thanksgivings and intercessions, joys and concerns) in the **Zoom “chat”** feature.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God all crea-tures  
 here be - low: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Je - sus Christ whose  
 pow'r up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

\* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** 감사기도

**Many:** We thank you, God, that you do hear our prayers.  
 Grant us the grace to be part of your answer in the world,  
 through all that we are, all that we have, and all that we offer.  
 Amen.

The Prayers of the People

## FEAST 성찬

*God feeds us with the Presence of Jesus Christ*

\* **Hymn** 찬송 — “This is the Feast of Victory”

*Voices United* pg. 904

### Invitation to the Feast

#### The Great Thanksgiving 성찬 감사기도

*One:* The Lord be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

*One:* Lift up your hearts.

**Many:** We lift them to the Lord.

*One:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*One:* It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave  
and by his glorious resurrection  
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with all the faithful of every time and every place,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Many:** **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**  
**God of power and might,**  
**heaven and earth**  
**are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest!**

거룩 거룩 거룩하신 여호와  
전능하신 하나님, 하늘과 땅이  
주님의 영광으로 찬만하나이다.  
호산나! 가장 높은 곳에서 주님을  
찬양하나이다.

**Blessed is the One who comes**  
**in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

주님의 이름으로 오시는 이를  
송축하나이다. 호산나! 가장 높은  
곳에서 주님을 찬양하나이다.

*One:* Creator of the cosmos, Breath of heaven, Lover of us all,  
you are our praise, our life, our joy.

You are there

through desert wanderings and wilful murmurings,  
rebellious running and tears of complaint.

You are there

when sorrow becomes our daily food;  
you rescue us from ruin and anoint us with blessing.

Rising Sun, Soaring Spirit, Radiant Lord,

you are there

in stable and temple, river and hillside,  
cross and tomb

and even beyond the grave.

You are there in shining glory,

overcoming death and welcoming us to life.

You meet us in the breaking of bread,

you pour out the wine of salvation;

you feed us with grace and overwhelm us with love.

By your Spirit, make these gifts your body and your blood.

By your Spirit, make us one with you and with each other.

By your Spirit, make us strong

that we might share your love

with your blessed and broken world.

Fount of mercy, Fire of justice, dearest Friend,

bind us to you and send us out to seek and serve and sing your praise,  
until you gather us up in glory and bright, unending song.

**Many: Amen.**



## Remembering the Stories 떡을 땀

## Sharing the Feast 성찬에의 참여

**An Open Table!** When we celebrate Holy Communion we are *all* guests at the table, with Jesus himself as our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of the Holy Communion is open to *all* — including children—who wish to know the presence of Christ and the community of God's people, and not merely members of this congregation or denomination. This is a joyful feast for *all* the people of God.

***We receive communion at stations in the front of the church.*** You will come forward to one of the stations to receive a piece of bread and a cup. Partake of these and return to your seat.

성찬을 위한 분병과 분잔은 본당 앞쪽에서 진행됩니다. 성찬에 참여하는 성도님들은 앞으로 나오셔서 개인별로 빵과 컵을 받고 자리로 돌아가시면 됩니다.

***Anyone with mobility concerns may simply signal an usher or communion server to be brought the sacrament at your seat. As is customary at Cloverdale United Church, all cups have non-alcoholic grape juice, and gluten-free bread is available.***

거동이 불편한 분들이 계시다면 안내원이나 봉사자들에게 알려주십시오. 자리로 가져다 드리겠습니다. 모든 성찬 포도주는 클로버데일 교회의 관례대로 무알코올 포도주스, 빵은 전통 빵과 글루텐 프리 빵 중 선택하실 수 있도록 함께 제공됩니다.

## Prayer after Communion 성찬 후의 기도

**Many:** Glorious Lord of Life,  
may we, who share in Christ's body, live his risen life;  
we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others;  
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so that we and all your children shall be free,  
and all creation will live to praise your name. Amen.

## SENDING 파송

*God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world*

\* Hymn 찬송 — “We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection” *Voices United* #586

\* Charge and Benediction 파송과 축도

*One:* ... Alleluia! Christ is risen!

***Many:* Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\* **RESPONSE** 찬송 — refrain from “Thine Is the Glory”

Voices United #173

Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quiring Son:  
end-less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

\* **Postlude** 후주

Emma Rui-Xuan Shi

**Be Our Guest!** Come on down to the Lower Hall for coffee or tea or another beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! Access to the Lower Hall is down the stairs outside the door at the front right of the sanctuary or via the elevator at the front left of the sanctuary. Follow the crowds on down, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you!

# Life at Cloverdale United Church

## Worship

**About today's cover art:** Vittore Carpaccio's *Stoning of Stephen* is the final canvas in a narrative cycle of the saint's life that was commissioned by the Scuola of Santo Stefano in Venice—a confraternity combining devotional, festive, and philanthropic functions.

In all the scenes, beginning with his consecration as one of the first seven “deacons,” described in Acts 6:1-6, Stephen is shown wearing the liturgical vestments (robes and other apparel) that a deacon would wear for worship in the medieval church, similar to the deacon's vestments still used in parts of the Roman Catholic and Anglican traditions. In the *Stoning* he kneels close to the right margin, vested in a dalmatic of red and gold over his white alb, with a maniple hanging from his wrist. Seen in its original location to the left of the altar, Stephen's celestial vision would have appeared to hover above the altar where deacons assisted in the celebration of Mass for members of the confraternity.

Carpaccio sets the scene in a spacious landscape. Jerusalem on the hill to the left is shadowed by cloud, while sunlight bathes the upturned face of Stephen to the right. Turbaned figures process through the walls of the city towards the foreground, where Stephen's audience is gathered. Carpaccio depicts them as varied in skin colour and costume. They turn towards each other, some perhaps enraged by Stephen's earlier speech in which he had proclaimed Christ as the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets (Acts 7:2–53), others by his declaration that he could see “the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God” (Acts 7:56). At the centre of the group the High Priest with long white beard looks on, stern and impassive.

Seated on the ground and hemmed in at the left corner, we discover the figure of Saul wearing the fancy scarlet hose and expensive tunic typical of the youthful patricians of Venice. Just like Stephen, he lifts his face towards the light and directs his gaze towards the same vision. A red mantle lies at his feet, and he raises a green one towards his beard. Together, Saul's upturned face and mysteriously raised cloth suggest dawning enlightenment, albeit still mixed with incomprehension. A standing figure behind Saul, perhaps his alter ego, bears the large sword that will be the attribute of the Apostle Paul. (*borrowed from The Visual Commentary on Scripture, ed. Ben Quash*)

### Many thanks to today's ...

**readers:** Seunghee Jung, Ursula Maxwell-Lewis

**ushers/greeters:** Laurel and Doug Zulke

**digital ushers:** Terry Wright, Jamie Brown

**fellowship time hosts:** Younghee Lee, Ayunjin Park



**Recording and streaming in use:** Please note that video cameras and microphones are capturing our worship services, and that the resulting content may be transmitted over Zoom, YouTube, or other platforms. Likewise, from time to time still photography of our worship services may be taken and used for church communications, websites, and other uses. By your presence within the sanctuary, you are indicating your consent to the possibility that your likeness may be captured and used in any of these ways. While video capture of congregants in the pews is relatively minimal, if you wish to guarantee you will not ever be depicted on video, the area at the rear centre of the pew seating area is unable to be picked up on camera.

### Acknowledgements:

- Cover art from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, Tennessee; <https://digilib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58399>; used by permission.
- About today's cover art essay: adapted from Paul Hills, “Incomprehension and the Seed of Faith”, 2018, in *The Visual Commentary Of Scripture*, ed. Ben Quash (London: The Visual Commentary on Scripture Foundation);

<https://thevcs.org/stoning-stephen/incomprehension-and-seed-faith>.

- Response – “Alleluia! (CELTIC ALLELUIA)”: Music by Fintan O’Caroll, 1981; harm. Christopher Walker, 1985; ©1985, admin. OCP; ; all rights reserved; reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-606025. Reproduced from *Glory to God: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs*, ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press.
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- Prayer after Communion adapted from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, ©2000 The Archbishops’ Council, pub. Church House Publishing.
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## Learn

**Inquirers’ Sessions:** *Selected Sundays in Eastertide (May 7, and May 21), following worship, starting around 12:00 Noon.* Are you interested in learning about Cloverdale United Church, about The United Church of Canada more broadly—our particular faith perspective, our history, and more—or about basics of Christian faith in general? Might you consider saying a fuller “Yes!” to God and this particular community by becoming a full member of Cloverdale United Church? If either or both of these are the case, then Inquirers’ Sessions are for you! The sessions will meet 4 times on Sundays between Easter and Pentecost (April 23 & 30, May 7 & 21), starting around 12:00 Noon and lasting 45 minutes to an hour, and will be led by Rev. Matt. For anyone interested in becoming a full member of the congregation, our next New Member Joining will happen during worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 28th. If you are interested in (or even just intrigued by) the Inquirers’ Sessions, or otherwise might be interested in full membership (including membership via transfer from another congregation), please let Rev. Matt know so that he can make sure you’re included in these plans: [matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca) or 604-574-5813.

## Summer Camps!

There are a few openings in these camps at **Camp Fircom** on Gambier Island:

- Junior 3, Camp Cha7elkwnech: Aug 7-11 (for campers completing grades 3 or 4)
- Seniors 3, Camp Cha7elkwnech: August 7-11 (campers completing grades 5 or 6)
- Camp Suzuki at Cha7elkwnech: Aug 7-11 (for ADULTS)
- Dad, Kids & Teen Camp: June 2-4 (Dad and kids K-grade 9)

## CAMP SPIRIT

- August 8 - 11, 2023 — United Churches of Langley, Langley OR Peninsula United Church, White Rock

To find out more dates and other locations all around the Lower Mainland or elsewhere in BC, head to <https://www.campspirit.ca/summertime-camps.html>

## Serve

**You Serve with your Stewardship:** *“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.” (1 Peter 2:9).* God pours blessings upon people of faith, and there are expectations. Peter reminds us that we belong to God and are called to proclaim the good news and work for justice, peace, and mercy.

Cloverdale Arts & Entertainment Association

save the dates!

MAY 27  
JUNE 24  
JULY 29  
AUG 26  
SEPT 16

2023  
Cloverdale  
MARKET  
DAYS

10AM  
TO 3PM  
SATURDAYS  
HISTORIC  
DOWNTOWN  
CLOVERDALE  
176 ST BETWEEN 56A  
AND 58 AVENUE  
www.cloverdale-ae.ca

CLOVERDALE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

**Coming up — Cloverdale Market Days:** We're looking forward to being a visible, engaging, active presence in our community once again this summer at Cloverdale Market Days. Market Days is the once-a-month arts and entertainment street festival on the "main street" of Cloverdale's historic "downtown" (that is, 176 Street between 56A and 58 Avenues), and will be taking place on Saturdays, May 27, June 24, July 29, August 26, and September 16, from 10 am to 3 pm.

We are registered to have a booth at the Market Days on all 5 of these dates, which will be centred around the pin-button-making activity that proved to be quite appreciated and engaging, especially for families

with kids, at the one Market Days date we participated in last year. The booth will also have a bit of information and materials about our congregation and our faith tradition more broadly... and, most importantly, us: the people of Cloverdale United Church, to have the engagement and the fun, caring conversations with neighbours and newcomers alike that make us who we are.

Rev. Matt plans to be at as much of our Market Days presence as possible, but he can't do it alone... and as many of us discovered last summer, it's quite a fun time anyway! Be on the lookout for volunteer shift signups for the first one, May 27, by next weekend, and take a look at your calendars for the other dates to see which ones you can take part in. We try to keep each volunteer shift to only 2 hours max, and they can be shorter if needed. For more information or to express an interest in helping, contact Rev. Matt: [matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca)

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## Cloverdale UCW (United Church Women) News

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### May and June Update

The UCW (United Church Women) at Cloverdale United Church is and intergenerational and intercultural organization dedicated to fulfilling the mission of our church. All are welcome and invited to participate in the events and activities planned for May and June.

### Hamper Fund Fundraiser

The Friendship Gathering on March 6 was a fundraiser for the CUC Hamper Fund which provides support for local families and individuals in need. We will continue to support this project with donations collected at our Friendship gatherings. If you would like to hear more about the CUC Hamper Fund contact Christine Connel [christine.connel@gmail.com](mailto:christine.connel@gmail.com) or Bev Siggs [bevsiggs@gmail.com](mailto:bevsiggs@gmail.com)

### Monthly Meetings

**Monthly evening meetings** (Sunshine Group) usually take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the CUC Lounge or as announced.

**Monthly morning meetings** (Friendship and Alpha Groups) will take place on the first Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the CUC Lounge or as announced.

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**Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale Pick Up**  
**Saturday, May 13**

**Reminder that pickup is NEXT Saturday May 13th from 10:30 am-noon.**  
**If anyone has a truck and would like to assist with picking up the plants, contact Jamie or Heather.**  
There will be a table of "home grown" plants/flowers to add to your garden as well for sale by donation.  
Contact Jamie for further information.

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**Stitch Club**  
**Tuesday, May 9**  
**7pm**

### Can You Help?

The date for our **2023 CUC Handcraft Market** is November 18. That is 6 months into the future but not too soon to start thinking and planning. We would love to hear your ideas for vendors and activities. Watch for opportunities to participate in the planning and organization of this exciting event. Contact Kim Forbes [blueforbes@icloud.com](mailto:blueforbes@icloud.com) or Margaret Rose [mbrose1@telus.net](mailto:mbrose1@telus.net)

### Mark Your Calendars

- Saturday, May 13: Plant Sale pick up.
- Tuesday, May 9: Stitch Club
- Wednesday, Date TBA: Semi-Annual General Meeting and Desserts
- Monday, June 5: Year End Picnic in the Park. Details to follow.
- Sunday, June 11: UCW Thank Offering Service

*For further information contact: Kim Forbes, UCW President [blueforbes@icloud.com](mailto:blueforbes@icloud.com) or [office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca).*

## Other news and notes

**First Quarter Financial Update:** This year, our Church Council plans to keep the congregation updated on our church's finances on an at-least-quarterly basis, and March 31st marked the end of the first quarter of our financial year here at Cloverdale United Church. In the first quarter, we kept total expenses about \$4,500 below budget; however, our total income was similarly below budget. Of particular note, our congregation's offerings through the first quarter ran about \$1,000 behind what was received in the first quarter last year and, more critically, \$4,500 under what was budgeted for offerings for the quarter in the 2023 Budget approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. (And, as a reminder, even meeting the offering goal in the approved budget will still necessitate a significant excess draw, far above sustainable rates, upon our permanent fund held in investments in order to make our ministry plans for the year happen.) We invite you to pray about the gifts of God's presence and grace in your life and your gratitude for all that Cloverdale United Church is and does to take part in God's mission. And then, if you've made a financial pledge for 2023, check to see if it's time to catch up with your actual contributions... and consider if going even a little further with your generosity this year is possible for you. If you've not made a pledge for 2023, it's never too late to do so, or for you as well to consider taking the next step in your journey of discipleship through generosity.

### Did you know? CUC's AED Device:

Did you know that we now have an AED—an automated external defibrillator—here at Cloverdale United Church? An AED is an electronic device used to restart a person's heart if it has stopped beating. AEDs can help save lives. CUC's AED is located in the clearly marked white cabinet mounted on the wall right underneath the room directory sign in the main/east entry landing, between the sanctuary, washrooms, upper hall, and church office.

CUC purchased this AED in 2022, drawing upon our Memorial Fund—a fitting way to honour ones whose lives among us have ended, by helping others not meet with death prematurely. As one of the newest generations of these devices, this AED is fully automated and requires no prior training; a person simply opens up the device, switches it on, and audible voice prompts tell them exactly what to do. If you have any questions or want to learn more, contact our Health and Safety Officer, Doug Zulke:

[dzulke@telus.net](mailto:dzulke@telus.net)



### Protecting Love around the World: Michael Blair's Work

Would you go to jail to proclaim your love?  
Would you be willing to die?

We are blessed to live in Canada, a country that recognizes the right to love whoever you want, regardless of their gender or sex. And while we haven't always done what is right, The United Church of Canada now recognizes that all love—including Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ relationships—is holy and blessed

by God. But those rights do not exist in many parts of the world today.

“One of our partners in Kenya has advocated strongly for the human rights of sexual minorities, and that has caused him to be in jail, caused him to risk his life to be able to do that,” says the Rev. Michael Blair. The church's first openly gay General Secretary is now helping to advocate for sexual and gender minorities in foreign countries.

“When we hear these stories, we can see that this is a life and death matter.” Mission & Service plays a critical role in Blair's efforts.

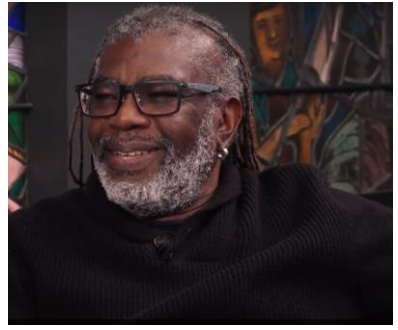
Your gifts help shelter refugees as they escape repressive governments. Same-sex attraction is a crime in 71 countries, and 11 of them have the death penalty.

Mission & Service also holds consultations in other countries to discover how we can best work with our partners to protect sexual and gender minorities. “A few years ago, we hosted a consultation here in Canada with several partners and asked how we can be supportive of their work,” Blair says. “They told us we needed to come and help in their context.”

To date, Mission & Service has supported consultations in Latin America and the Philippines.

“We are bringing together leaders to explore how the church can be a place of liberation and life for sexual and gender minorities in those communities. That is happening because of the folks who contribute to Mission & Service,” says Blair.

Thank you for helping to protect sexual and gender minorities. You are saving lives and changing views around the world!



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***We are a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community, reaching out from the historic heart of Surrey at Cloverdale since 1875. We seek to thrive in faith through relationship with God, one another, and the community.... to serve others as Jesus would.***

## CLOVERDALE UNITED CHURCH

17575 58A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 1N1 | 604.574.5813 | cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Ministers* All of the Congregation

*Lead Minister* Rev. Matthew Emery – matt@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Children & Youth Leader* Robyn Garland – robyn@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Director of Music Ministries* Dr. Emma Rui-Xuan Shi – emma@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Intercultural Ministry Coordinator* Chohee Won – chohee@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Office Administrator* Mope Iruobe – office@cloverdaleunitedchurch.ca

*Church Council Chair* Doug Sowerby – doug@dsowerby.com