**All Saints Anglican Church**

**6904 Lougheed Highway, Agassiz, B.C. V0M 1A0**

 **Bulletin July 7, 2025 – July 13, 2025**

 

**‘The ground we walk does not belong to us; for thousands of years it has been - and remains - the territory of the Stó:lō. We are grateful for their sharing.**

***Phone: 604-796-3553***

***Website:*** [***www.allsaints-agassiz.ca***](http://www.allsaints-agassiz.ca/)

[***https://www.facebook.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily***](https://www.facebool.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily)

 **OUR DOOR IS OPEN AND ALL ARE WELCOME**

 **July 13, 2025, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

 Priest in Charge: The Reverend Philip Barker

 Hosts: Graham Featherstone/Jennifer Pinlac

 Intercessor: Sheila Barker

 Lay Administrator: Dorothy Cresswell

 Announcer: Virginia Jennings

 Organ/Piano: Francesca Froehlich

**Vicar’s cell phone:** Revd. Philip Barker. 778-867-2461

**Vicar’s Warden:**Ginny Jennings. 604-796-2206

**People’s Warden:** Lynn Laughlin. 604-799-5131

**Parish email**:   revpb1950@gmail.com

Please contact either warden if you have an issue that needs to be brought to the attention of the Vicar - or contact the Vicar direct (see above for details).

**Wardens Pitch**

* Bible Study with Karol is every Saturday morning 8:30-9:00 on Zoom.
* Prayer Requests can be given on a piece of paper to either of the Wardens or the Vicar or entered in the Prayer Request Book on the lectern. Alternatively, you can contact Anthea Lewis at antheamlewis@shaw.ca for Pray First Prayer Circle, which is a confidential online prayer circle.
* Music Requests may be given to the Wardens or the Vicar.
* AA meets in the hall every Tuesday and Friday at noon.
* Every Thursday in the hall 10:00-12:00 we have a social time with coffee, games if you like or just talk. Following there is a short Prayer Meeting in the church to which all are invited. This is only for 15 minutes and is followed by – Morning Prayer (said) each Thursday at 12:30.
* 5th Sunday of each month will be a potluck lunch after the service.

**Ministerial Meandering**

*What to do with it?*

Let us assume that you are in senior school at around the age of 16 or 17, and you are having an interview with the school’s Career Advisor.

Maybe no such thing exists or existed in your schooling - nor did it in mine. Our career advisors were our parents, if they showed any interest at all.

However, let us also assume that your Career Advisor is brighter than the average bear, and not only does he or she help you to find out what you are good at - what your innate gifts are - but also asks you what you think you should do with them.

Now that may not be as dumb a question as you think it probably is. Your initial response might be that finding yourself to be skilled in rhetoric and logic, you should go into the legal profession; finding yourself adept at technical problems you might consider a trade, such as carpentry, welding, ironwork, jewelry making; finding yourself swept away by the sound of an orchestra, you might reasonably gravitate to a musical career.

But that is only the first part of the question.

Perceive yourself now as Elijah, who has run from Jezebel to save his life, as she has slaughtered all the other prophets, and now you’re hiding in a cave in the mountains. You have smashed your prophetic staff in a fit of peak and self-pity, and just want the roof of the cave to fall in and bury you. Then God comes along and asks you, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” Like your Career Advisor asking, “What are you good at?”

So you tell him; “I was a really good banjo player, and I played my heart out all my life till now - and now that bitch Jezebel has broken it, and found a better player.

Then God asks again, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” Your Career Advisor says to you, “Yes, I know you’re a fine banjo player - but what are you going to do with it?”

You are about to whine out the same lame excuse, when the penny drops that you don’t really understand the question you are being asked.

This is where Career Advisors and parents fall down so often, because they don’t appreciate that we are - all of us - ***spiritual beings*** - dabbling in a temporary pool of humanity. Our home is not this world; we are journeying through it - but with gifts that enable us to survive. That is, we have enough skills to make a living and so ‘live till we die.’ But that is not enough.

The words of the poignant and plaintive song come to mind that Peggy Lee sang with deadpan face in 1969, ‘Is that all there is?’

To which the answer is a very definite ‘No’ - unless you think that you live for yourself alone - with maybe a thought for your family on occasion. You sad people live on a flat plane, a two-dimensional world. You have no hope - except in your own prowess and pride; you are orphans of the universe - about which you know so much. And so little.

You build towers of straw and houses of cards with your brilliance and intellect - and yet, at the end of your time you will be singing along with Peggy Lee, “Is that all there is?”

And you will have missed the point all your life; you are *not your own* - you are a work of art, a creation, a small masterpiece - but you spent all your life in the toilet, singing to the bowl and painting on the wall, whingeing that the toilet isn’t bigger - because you know, somewhere inside, that you’re worth more than this.

And you are. You were bought with a price. God - and the really ‘Good’ Career Advisor - want to give you a new banjo and ask again, “What are you doing here? What are you going to do with your gift?”

And this time you are going to say, “I’m going to play it the best I can, for You and your people all over the world - till the day you call me home.”

Philip+

**Chuckle**

What do you call a magician who lost his magic??? Ian

**Birthdays this Month**

Cohen Hill, 5th. Mary Kirksey, 11th. Neko Veltman, 19th.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for the Clergy and Congregation of:**

St. John the Baptist, Sardis. The Deanery of Peace Arch.

**Anglican Church of Canada Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for:**

Bishop, the clergy and the people of the Diocese of Calgary. The assistant to the bishop and the staff of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. The Canadian Moravian Foundation.

**Collect**

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. May we find peace in your service, and in the world to come see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings**

Amos 7: 7-17 Douglas MacAdams

This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb linein his hand. And the Lord asked me, “What do you see, Amos?”

“A plumb line,” I replied.

Then the Lord said, “Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

“The high places of Isaac will be destroyed
    and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined;
    with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam.”

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. For this is what Amos is saying:

“‘Jeroboam will die by the sword,
    and Israel will surely go into exile,
    away from their native land.’”

Then Amaziah said to Amos, “Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. Don’t prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom.”

Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees.But the Lord took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ Now then, hear the word of the Lord. You say,

“‘Do not prophesy against Israel,
    and stop preaching against the descendants of Isaac.’

“Therefore this is what the Lord says:

“‘Your wife will become a prostitute in the city,
    and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword.
Your land will be measured and divided up,
    and you yourself will die in a pagan country.
And Israel will surely go into exile,
    away from their native land.’”

Psalm 82.

God presides in the great assembly;
    he renders judgment among the “gods”:

“How long will you defend the unjust
    and show partiality to the wicked?
Defend the weak and the fatherless;
    uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.
Rescue the weak and the needy;
    deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

“The ‘gods’ know nothing, they understand nothing.
    They walk about in darkness;
    all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

“I said, ‘You are “gods”;
    you are all sons of the Most High.’
But you will die like mere mortals;
    you will fall like every other ruler.”

Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
    for all the nations are your inheritance.

Colossians 1: 1-14 Graham Featherstone

 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To God’s holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people— the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospelthat has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf,and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Luke 10: 25-37 Vicar Philip Barker

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. **35**The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”