



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
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St. Andrew's is a member church of Affirm United

Announcements for August 17, 2025



**We look forward to seeing you this
Sunday at Trinity Memorial!**
33737 George Ferguson Way
Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/@TrinityMemorialUC>



Aroon Whitelaw – Aug 4
Rhonda Schultz -Aug 14
Lloyd McKimmon – Aug 16

Our Prayer List

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

John ♦ Daryl ♦ Ted ♦ Janice ♦ Maggie ♦ Sherry ♦ Adrian ♦
Glen ♦ Jacob H. ♦ David ♦ Barb ♦ Rudi

Blessings, Pastoral Care Team

Please contact Beate Pothmann to be included or removed

Minister's Message

When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers?

- 1 Corinthians 6:1-6

Siblings in Christ,

How should we respond when someone publicly misuses Christianity to promote racism, homophobia and other views that we find abhorrent? Sean Feucht, an American preacher, has been in the news because of his cross-Canadian tour, framed as public worship services. Mill Lake in Abbotsford is one of his proposed locations.

Opposition to his views and presence have been loud, swift, and widespread from all segments of society. As Christians we are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to think carefully about how to live faithfully in our time and place. That faithfulness requires us to speak up when God's children, especially those on the margins, are persecuted, and especially when that persecution is conducted in the name of God. I was also invited to write an email to Abbotsford City Council, urging them to deny a permit for Feucht's event. As a disciple of

Jesus Christ, I oppose Feucht's message, but I was conflicted about this request.

The cultural context of Paul's injunction to the Corinthian church – to not drag each other into civil court (i.e. to not sue each other) - is grounded in his particular cultural context. Courts tended to be biased in favour of the rich; indeed, it was almost always the rich taking their inferiors to court, not the other way around, and judges were notoriously corrupt. Paul understands civil lawsuits among Christians as a failure to live up to a higher standard of Christian community: to take a sibling in Christ to court is a rejection of the kingdom of God. It is to assume a superior position over them and deepen animosity rather than striving for unity.

I am a Christian citizen of a mostly free democratic society, but even despite that – indeed, because of it - I am not sure that using civil procedures such as petitioning the government to revoke or deny permits for those we disagree with is the appropriate course of action unless that behaviour rises to the legal definition of hate speech. I wonder if suppressing those we disagree with only leads them to come back more violently, with the conviction that democracy itself is against them. I wonder if this is partly the reason for the MAGA determination to destroy democracy.

Perhaps Paul's recommendation not to engage the civil apparatus against such people is still wise: it deepens antagonism. Christian community, and democracy, might be better served by allowing all voices to be heard, considered, and judged.

While I am still developing my thinking on this question, I am of the opinion that we should publicly proclaim love in the face of public hate, especially when that hate is cloaked in Christian guise. But I am not sure that shutting them down is the long-term way to further the kingdom of God, nor democracy.

I realize this is probably a controversial opinion. I'd love to hear your thoughts.

Yours in Christ,

Tim



Summer Schedule



DATE	LOCATION	REVEREND
August 17	Trinity Memorial	Tim Bowman
August 24	Trinity Memorial	Tracy Fairfield
August 31	Trinity Memorial	Tim Bowman
<i>Please bring your offering envelopes!</i>		

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Psalm 82 [VU 799, alternate refrain]

SUNDAY'S HYMNS

VU 383 - "Come O Holy Spirit, Come"

MV 12 – "Come Touch Our Hearts"

MV 156 – "Dance with the Spirit"

"Give Thanks for Life"

The Lord's Prayer - First Nations Version of the New Testament

MV 185 – "Ev'ry Day is a Day of Thanksgiving"

VU 713 – "I See a New Heaven"

MV 213 – "Take up His Song"

Current Events at St. Andrew's

A service of remembrance and celebration for Myrna McGregor will be held at St. Andrew's United Church in Mission on Thursday August 28 at 1:00 pm with a reception to follow in the church hall. Come and share your love of Myrna with her family and friends and help us all reminisce about her contributions to our church and the community.

Ongoing Events at St. Andrew's

LECTIO DIVINA (BIBLE STUDY) Wednesdays at 11am in the chapel.

CHOIR PRACTICE Sundays after service. Check with Deborah for full schedule.

MEET & EAT DATES & LOCALS

Sept 9 - Five Forks

Oct 14 - The Station Grill

Cluster & Shared Announcements

ROMEO Retired Old Men Eating Out: **Every second Friday, 7am** at JoJo's Restaurant, Abbotsford. For more information, contact Don Strangway at Trinity.

Please Note!

BROADCAST WORSHIP SERVICE St. Andrew's offers our service by Zoom. Link for Zoom services: For Video – click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89052449596?pwd=NFVtMlljeIMwM0NmdU9wcVdnZ0toZz09> Passcode: 432554
Join via Telephone – 1 778 907 2071. Meeting ID: 890 5244 9596 Passcode: 432554
Please continue to sing and pray while on Mute.

Coming soon

Please let us know if you have contributions to include in our announcements

Church Reception Hours

St. Andrew's Office

Monday 8:30am-4:30pm

Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm

Gladwin's Office

Tuesday 8:30am-4:30pm

Thursday 9am-12pm

Reverend Tim

10am-5pm

