

Announcements for December 7, 2025



**We look forward to seeing you this Sunday at
10am for the Advent of Peace!**



Roberta Gladwin – December 1
Julie Lloyd – December 14
Judy White – December 17

December Birthdays

Our Prayer List

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

Ted ♦ Maggie ♦ Ben ♦ David ♦ Barb ♦ Rudi ♦ Janice & Family
♦ Matthew & Karlee ♦

Blessings, Pastoral Care Team

*Please contact Beate Pothmann to be included or removed
from the list*

Minister's Message

Magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet."

....Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

- Matthew 2:1-5, 13-15.

Siblings in Christ,

Some of the minor characters in the Gospels fascinate me. The Syro-Phoenician woman ("even the dogs under the table eat the crumbs") is one such figure; the magi are another. The magi (possibly Persian Zoroastrian priest-philosophers)

know about Jesus from their own studies. They are not Jews; they are not Christians; they remain rooted in their own faith tradition, going back to “their own country by another road.” But they are the first in Matthew’s Gospel to make Jesus known to the world, proclaiming the birth of the Christian messiah and causing the Jews to consult their own scriptures.

Because the magi inquire of Herod, Jesus and his parents must flee to Egypt. Once Herod is dead, they return, mirroring God’s calling the Jews out of Egypt to make of them a people and a nation (Matthew alludes to Hosea 11).

We sometimes feel that we must guard God’s honour and God’s truth by avoiding or competing with other religions. But this and other stories show us that God is faithful to his people, working out our salvation, partly through the agency of people outside the Judeo-Christian tradition. Similarly, we can work for the world God imagines with all sorts of partners, and the wisdom of other traditions can shed new light and new perspectives on the Gospel of God’s all-inclusive love, mercy, and justice. All the great faith traditions point to the truth and beauty in the world that includes and transcends all human understanding and all human systems.

Whether we are all climbing the same mountain or whether we are climbing different mountains, we can all help each other to reach the top. Let us celebrate with all people of goodwill in this season of light and revelation.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

Weekly Worship Elements

SCRIPTURE READINGS

READER: JUDITH RAY

Isaiah 11:1-10

Ps 72:1-7, 18-19 [VU 790 Pt 1&3]

Mt 3:1-12

HYMNS

"We are Waiting"

VU 18 – "There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying"

"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"

"Wait for the Lord"

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

MV 142 – "Oh a Song Must Rise"

TLUS 70 [Sung] – The Lord's Prayer

"These Gifts We Bring"

Events at St. Andrew's



ALL IS CALM Three free concerts featuring local artists. Bring your lunch and enjoy an hour of music in our sanctuary. Tea & coffee provided. **December 10th, & 17th, 12-1pm**



ADVENT OF PEACE White Gift Sunday & celebration with our Legacy Grant Partners. **December 7th, 11:30am**



FESTIVAL OF TREES Walk through All Saint's winter wonderland of beautifully decorated trees in the downstairs hall. **December 9-13, 3-8pm.** St. Andrew's will have an angel tree set up in memory of Myrna. Live entertainment to see, Santa's lap to sit on, and children's activities to do! See flyer on the announcement bulletin or ask Melissa for hours of operation!



WASSAIL Gather your family, friends, and neighbours.

Pack up your instruments and join us for an evening of caroling & community. We provide warm drinks; please bring a small plate of savouries to share and a donation for the Christmas Bureau. **December 11, 6:30-8pm**



ADVENT OF JOY December 14th, 11:30am



ADVENT OF LOVE December 21st, 11:30am



CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT December 24th, 9pm



CAROLS & READING December 28th, 11:30am



WHERE IS THE LIGHT? Join us for Dinner Church when we explore the meaning of Christmas through poetry, stories, music, food, and conversation. With special guests and a community choir. **January 4th, 2026, 4:30-6:30pm**

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

Dec 16 - Ricky's ♦ Jan 13 - 14th Ave Pub

Cluster & Shared Announcements



ROMEO Retired Old Men Eating Out:

Next ROMEO Breakfast is **Dec. 12th at 7am**
at JoJo's Restaurant. Wives and partners are invited.



TRINITY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG will be held at TMUC on **Thursday, Dec 4th**

from **7:00 to 8:30pm**. Admission is by non-perishable
donation for the food bank.



GOGO'S BAKE SALE 4th annual bake sale is at
Gladwin Heights on **Dec 6th from 9am to 12pm**




UCW CHRISTMAS BAKE & CRAFT SALE Trinity will
be hosting another pop up sale after the service on
Sunday, Dec. 7th, in the upper Conference room, adjacent to
the sanctuary. Homemade baking is greatly appreciated by
busy families or those living alone. The sale will be held
along with the Advent Turkey lunch. Enjoy lunch and then
get delectable baking and unique crafts. Contact **Rose**
Soneff at **rsoneff@gmail.com** if you have questions.



MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Gallery 7 Theatre
proudly presents Miracle on 34th Street, A Christmas
Tale of Faith adapted by Caleb Marshall & Erin Keating and
based on the story by Valentine Davies. Santa Clause has
come to town. But does anyone recognize him amidst the
commercialism and chaos of the season? A story of faith and
believing in the unbelievable, this family favourite is bound to
bring Christmas cheer to your holidays. Running **December**
12 & 13, 16 – 20, 2025 @ 7:30 PM with Matinees on Dec.
13, 20 & 21 @ 2:00 PM at the Matsqui Centennial
Auditorium (32315 South Fraser Way,
Abbotsford). Recommended for all ages. Tickets and
info: www.gallery7theatre.com or call 604-504-5940. Group
rates available!

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE for those who don't always feel jolly at Christmas, and may be struggling, grieving, or have conflicting feelings in this holiday season. Join us for a quiet service at Trinity Memorial United Church, **December 18th at 1pm.**

 **MURDER MYSTERY GAME January 24th.**
Sugar Shack Cafe will run from **11:30-1:00pm** for Lunch at Gladwin Heights. More info coming soon!

Please Note!

ANNUAL REPORTS It's that time of year to start thinking of what to write in your reports! Please have your reports submitted by January 12th

MISSION & SERVICE Please consider supporting the United Church Mission & Service Fund this year at Christmas with "Gifts with Vision". Give the gift to someone in your family or circle of friends, that helps those in need nationally or globally. Really, it's a gift that keeps on giving. To see the many options, go online to: [Gifts with Vision](#)

ZOOM St. Andrew's has discontinued indefinitely. Please join Reverend Tim online at Gladwin at 9:30am via [Facebook](#)



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