



GLADWIN HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH
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Gladwin Heights is a member church of Affirm United

Announcements for March 1st, 2026



We look forward to seeing you this
Sunday at 9:30am!

*Happy
Birthday*

Ellen Alstad	March 9
Alan Peterson	March 9
Helaina Assels	March 22
Sandy Dahm	March 31

Weekly Worship Elements

SCRIPTURE READINGS

VU 749, Psalm 23, Refrain 2 [sung]

HYMNS

VU 747 – “The Lord’s My Shepherd”
“With You, O Lord” – Songs from Taize 31
TLUS 22 - “Build a Longer Table”
The Lord’s Prayer [sung] “Abana in Heaven”
TLUS 23 – “For Everyone Born”

Minister's Message

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

-Mt 27:45-50.

"When you hit your thumb with an eight-pound hammer it's nice to be able to blaspheme. It takes a very special and strong-minded atheist to jump up and down with their hand clasped under their other armpit and shout, 'Oh, random-fluctuations-in-the-space-time-continuum!' or 'Aaargh, primitive-and-outmoded-concept of a crutch!'"
- Terry Pratchett, *Men at Arms*.

Siblings in Christ,

It is indeed, as Pratchett says, somehow helpful to curse at God / Fate / the universe in general when something unfortunate happens. The idea that we have somehow been targeted is strangely more comforting than the idea that the world doesn't care one way or another.

This is the instinct behind the Judeo-Christian tradition of lamentation. Sometimes we get the idea that it is unfaithful

or deeply sinful to be angry at God, to accuse God of not caring, or even to complain to God. But the opposite is true. We even have an entire book of the Bible (Lamentations) devoted to it. To complain to God is to trust that God cares, that God is involved in our lives, even if we have the idea that God may somehow be complicit in our suffering (which is not a claim I am making).

But this is why Good Friday is important. Even Jesus cries out to God. Even Jesus feels afraid and abandoned. To feel afraid and abandoned in our deepest moments is deeply human, and Good Friday tells us that while this is a human experience, God is never absent from us. Indeed, the Incarnation says that God does not abandon us; God is right there beside us on whatever Cross we are experiencing. Have a blessed Easter, and know that you are never alone. Yours in Christ,

Tim

Gladwin's Events



GARAGE SALE Our annual garage sale and soft good collection will be held Saturday **April 18th, 2026**.

Unfortunately there is no storage at the church, please contact Ellen she can arrange something.



5/2 MINISTRIES WITH B'HAI we are making sandwiches to distribute to those who are homeless.

We meet at the church on the **first Tuesday of the month at 2pm**

Cluster & Shared Announcements



RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT Next ROMEO date is **March 6th, at 7am** at JoJo's Restaurant.



BLESS, BREAK, SHARE: RECIPES FOR FAITHFUL LIVING Lenten Study – In-person, **11am to noon,**

Fridays at Trinity. This devotional invites you to reflect on food and hunger as a spiritual practice. What do you hunger for? What feeds your soul? How do you feed others? Every meal and every table can provide an opportunity to grow in faith. Estimated price \$15 including tax.



QUEER GAME NIGHTS Weekly game nights **every Monday, 7-9pm at Trinity,** for queer folk and allies.

Bring any games that you want to play. 33737 George Ferguson Way

TRINITY'S THE COLDEST NIGHT FUNDRAISER

What: Walking event to raise funds for the homeless with groups across Canada. The recipient organization in Abbotsford is the Cyrus Centre. Tax receipts are available for any donation of \$20 or more.

When: Feb 28th at 10am

Where: Meet at the Gladwin Heights United parking lot

Needed: Walkers with sponsor forms/donations. Team sign up and donations can be done online at www.cnoy.org, and then searching for the registered group "Fraser United Church Walkers." For any questions or issues accessing the online resources, please contact Sophie in the TMUC office at 604-853-2591 or tmucabb@gmail.com. A link will also be posted on the church homepage. Printed pledge forms are also available.

Purpose:

- 1) To partner with other city groups and the city in a common purpose of making a positive difference.
- 2) Reach out to your friends and families to form a team for sponsorship.
- 3) To strengthen the mandate of each of our United Churches in common purpose.
- 4) To live out our mandate as followers of Jesus.



IRISH LUNCH You and your friends are invited to an Irish Stew (gluten-free) lunch on **March 15th at Trinity** following our worship service. Cost will be \$20 per adult, \$5 per child. Irish sing-along following lunch. Tickets for sale starting March 1st.

Please Note!



Our 7th annual birthday celebration is now in the past and onto next years planning!

Thank you to all of you who managed to take time out of their busy schedules to celebrate with us. One surprise is that Ray Hill has joined our Distinguished group (80+) that we did not expect!

Thank you to Rita and Julia for playing their ukuleles, leading us in a sing song around our campfire which was just in our minds!

Thank you also goes to Julia and Ted for participating in the Claim to Fame Western Canada edition game, dressing up as characters from the past. This game was written by Julia. A little bit of Canadian history with Klondike Kate and Billy Miner gracing our presence!

These birthday celebrations cannot be done by one person, it takes a few, very talented, wonderful ladies, Carlene and Nancy, to work with on these projects. Also, huge thank you to our men, Len and Daryl who come always to lend a helping hand, setting up and taking down and other people who stay to help the take down. THANK YOU! Couldn't do this without you!

Thank you, Gayle, for taking on the kitchen chore!

Until next year's birthday celebration, enjoy, celebrate and live your life with fun and laughter!

Sincerely,

Ellen



FACEBOOK SERVICE We broadcast our in-house service via Facebook Live, for those who are unable to make it in person. Visit the [Gladwin Heights Facebook Page](#) and look for the Service by date. It can be viewed online anytime.



Gladwin Height is a recipient of a Seeds of Hope grant in support of our redevelopment plans

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