



# Gordon United Church Announcements

<http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca> [office@gordonunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@gordonunitedchurch.ca)

Check us out on Facebook

935 Goldstream Avenue, Victoria BC, V9B 2Y2 - Phone 250.478.6632

*We are happy to share worship with you on YouTube! It's a brave new world!*

*We invite you to join us after the service on Zoom. The connection information is not publicly available and is **sent via email only**, so if you do not receive our emails, we would love to add you to our distribution list.*

*Whether you are new or visiting, or have been a congregation member for many years, please feel free to send your contact information to the Office (contact information above, in **GREEN**). We would be happy to add you to our weekly email distribution list and/or update our church directory. **WELCOME!***

**God gives us glorious, perplexing, unbelievably wonderful gifts! Stewards recognize them for what they are—and give God the best they have to offer in return.**

## Sunday, December 13:

[CLICK HERE FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE](#)

Thank you to **Evelyn Le Quesne, Andrea Koschzeck and Tayah Thompson**, our Readers and Candle Lighters today.

Scriptures:

- Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

## Zoom Meeting

Sunday's Zoom meetings begin at 11:15am  
See your Friday email for the connection information.

## Opportunities to Contribute

Please consider, should you be looking for something to support, our **Refugee Fund** for the refugee family from Syria, stranded in Beirut. With several of our church events cancelled or postponed this year, we have not been able to raise funds in the usual way for this very worthy cause. The **Gifts With Vision** catalogue has been received. You can have a paper copy mailed to you from the church (contact the church office) or you can [CLICK HERE](#) to view it online.

## Angel Gifts 2020

Once again, Gordon United has been so generous. Considering monetary and wrapped gifts, we are contributing 44 gifts to those less fortunate than ourselves. Good job!



*Filling the Night  
with Music and Light*

Gordon United Church  
Christmas Eve 3:00 and 7:00  
on our YouTube Channel,  
Facebook and our website:  
[www.gordonunitedchurch.ca](http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca)

250-478-6632

## GAG Fundraiser

The Get Acquainted Group is pleased to offer some wonderful Christmas quilts for sale! Please [CLICK HERE](#) to see the photographs. (Note the candle & snowman hangings are sold)  
**Tish Portelance (250) 478-1350**

## Opportunities to Help:

### Sound and video technical help needed

We need at least two volunteers to help with our sound and video for worship: one to operate the sound board during recording and live services (when they happen) and another interested in doing some video editing for worship videos. A team of people would be even better! If you know someone or are someone who likes to do this sort of thing, please leave a message for Council at the office.

### From Rev. Heidi (from last week's sermon)

The Examen is a 500 year old tool for honest prayer. Traditionally done at the beginning and end of each day, it's kind of a check-in with God and with ourselves. We place ourselves in the presence of God in prayer. We open ourselves up to God, being honest about our hopes, fears or worries for the day ahead, our gratitude and regrets for the day past. We offer all of that to God, asking God to teach us what we can learn from the day, to release any grievances and ask forgiveness for our misdeeds or missed chances, to recommit ourselves to the path of life in Jesus, and to thank God that we are not alone in all of this. Perhaps in this week, and in the weeks to come, you can incorporate this check-in as part of your daily routine.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about the Examen.

### More Opportunities to Help:

#### O Live and Prayer-in-a-minute help needed

Due to technological difficulties and time zone complications, Pat Wilson is no longer able to publish our quarterly newsletter, the O Live, or manage the Prayer-in-a-minute email. If you are interested in taking on either of those tasks, please leave a message for Council at the office.

### From KAIROS



Dear Friends, May we be ready this Christmas to really welcome the Holy One, the radical love and justice that changes everything. Let's believe in impossible change and join our hands and hearts to the movements around the world that help make it so. [CLICK HERE](#) for a short video message from

KAIROS (Ten churches and religious organizations work together, through KAIROS, in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights.)

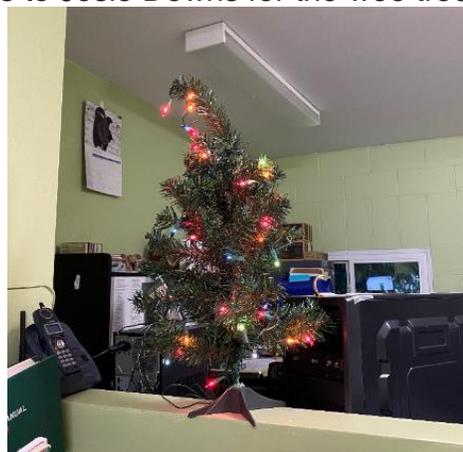
### Having Trouble Hearing the Worship Service? Please - DO adjust your set!

Adjust volume on your video player (Facebook, YouTube, etc.) and also on your computer. If you have separate speakers attached, turn those up, too! By wearing masks during recording, we are following rules set out by Dr Bonnie, the Canadian CDC and WHO and, ultimately, helping us all stay safe & healthy.

### From Ray Green's family treasures



### Christmas decorations in the church office (thanks to Josie Downs for the wee tree & lights!)



### Pastoral Care

We invite anyone who is in need of Pastoral support to contact:

Adele Morley - (250) 590-2507  
Betty Pellaers - (778) 430-3073  
Deanna Robb - (250) 294-6737  
Dianne Wilson McDougall - (250) 391-7550 (home) or (250) 415-9461 (cell)  
Ruth Kelbough - (250) 478-5450

**Email: [pastoralcare@gordonunitedchurch.ca](mailto:pastoralcare@gordonunitedchurch.ca)**

### Regional Council Prayer Cycles

December 13 - 19

China [\(info\)](#) [\(churches\)](#)

Hong Kong [\(info\)](#) [\(churches\)](#)

Macau [\(info\)](#)

World Council of Churches  
Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle>

# Nourishing Connection

Faith Communities Outreach With Our Place



Registered Canadian Charity No: 82709 8344 R80001

Dear Friends,

Last week we celebrated the second week of Advent and lit the candle of Peace. The eight-day festival of Hanukkah, the Feast of Lights, began. Peace and Light are so greatly needed this season! Here at Our Place we are busier every day.

The generosity of the community has allowed us to support many people who are having to use our services for the first time. Our drop-in, hygiene, showers and services are busy all the hours we are open and we are serving more meals as the days get colder.

We are especially in need of hygiene supplies – nail clippers, disposable razors, and pocket or purse size packages of Kleenex.

## Care Kits and Warm Clothes

Everyone needs to feel warm and clean! You can help by providing essential items like first aid supplies, feminine hygiene products and toiletries. This year, Our Place provided over 14,000 showers to people in need. Warm clothing, socks, toques, gloves and face masks are also needed.

## Create a Poster

Gathering together is challenging this year, but there are still many special events and traditions to celebrate and acknowledge in new ways. Your faith community is invited to create a poster, contribute a holiday message, or gather pictures and information for the bulletin board at the 919 Pandora Drop-in Centre, where Our Place offers meals, showers, warm food and services to hundreds each day.

## Sponsor a Breakfast

Every day, hundreds of nutritious meals and snacks are served at the Our Place downtown Drop-in Centre. Hot, filling breakfasts are important during the cold months, and a shared meal is often the first step toward a healthier life and a sense of community in times of despair. Your faith community can help spread the warmth by sponsoring a meal — your efforts will be recognized in an upcoming feature in the Times Colonist in the new year.

Donations can be dropped off at Reception at 919 Pandora in Victoria from 6:30am – 8:30pm, seven days a week. We are open all statutory holidays.

## Join Coldest Night of the Year

On February 20, 2021, gather your faith community and your families to join this walk-a-thon that will take place both virtually from your neighbourhood and, conditions permitting, in timed, distanced, masked groups downtown and on the West Shore. Invite another faith community to walk, too! You can join the fundraiser to help ensure that people experiencing homelessness have drop-in access to snacks, washrooms and showers during evenings and weekends.