

Gordon United Church Announcements

<http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca> 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!***

Amid the struggle of our lives, God has loved us abundantly. We give thanks!

Sunday, February 21, 2021

[CLICK HERE FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE](#)

Thank you to **Rose Justice**, our Reader for the Sunday service.

Scriptures:

- *Matthew 8: 1-4; 16-17*
- *Matthew 11: 29-30*

Zoom Meeting

Sunday's Zoom meetings begin at 11:15am. See your Friday email for the connection information. Please note that our meeting Sunday will be hosted by **Myrtle Acton**, allowing Rev. Heidi to take a few days away. Thank you Myrtle!!

In Loving Memory of Frango DiMambro
March 15, 1955 – February 2, 2021



Worship Tips for Lent

Lent began on Wednesday Feb 17th with Ash Wednesday. We will be observing Ash Wednesday as part of the First Sunday in Lent (21st), but instead of ashes we will be using a little bit of soil or sand and water. Please have these and a candle ready if possible. You are invited to pick up a piece of “sea glass” (recycled tumbled glass) from the steps of the church during the week (or if you wish you can find it at many dollar stores and craft stores – and if you’re really lucky, on the beach!). Family packs (including the glass) have been delivered to homes with children of pre-school age and older. The sea glass will be used in worship each week.

Here’s a short “trailer” video on our Lent theme:
[CLICK HERE FOR HOLY VESSELS VIDEO](#)

Signing In at the Church

Please SIGN IN if you visit the church so that contact tracing can be done in case of a positive COVID 19 case at Gordon United Church. The sign-in sheet is on the shelf across from the church office, on the brick wall where the plants are sitting. Thank you. **The Safety Team**

Our Place Towel-Bundle Project

The Westshore Multifaith Group and Gordon United, together with the Metchosin 4-H Club and Baha'i community, are creating Towel Bundles to donate to Our Place.

You are invited to donate a new large towel, or a complete bundle:

- 1) NEW towel,
- 2) NEW socks suitable for men or women,

- 3) toothpaste,
- 4) packaged toothbrush,
- 5) packaged underwear,
- 6) bar of soap and small bottle of shampoo,
- 7) a candy treat, and
- 8) small card with inspirational message.

The Baha'i folk make the bundles with all of these items in a small bag, wrapped in the towel and tied with a ribbon. They use blue and pink for gender-specific bundles; we might want to make some neutral or rainbow bundles as well and simply write on the ribbon what size any items are!

We encourage you NOT to make an extra trip to a store, out of concern for your safety; rather you could pick up these items as part of your weekly shop, order for curbside pick-up, or have them delivered. Items can be dropped off at Metchosin Hall from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday the 21st and 28th; masking and distancing will be in place. If you need your items picked up from your home, please contact Rev. Heidi.

Council News

Get involved in Gordon United!

With the publishing of Annual Reports come **Nominations** to the various Teams and Groups within the congregation. Council is inviting you to consider if you or someone you know has the gifts for any of these positions. All terms are two years renewable three times (ie a maximum of 6 years). Orientation will be organized for any of these positions by the Ministry & Personnel Team.

Vice-Chair of Council – someone willing to join Council with the intention of taking over as Chair in 2023. Good communication skills, ability to moderate a meeting and complete tasks in a timely manner, willingness to learn UCC policies and procedures, familiarity with the United Church of Canada, strong interpersonal skills, and love of the church are all appreciated. Should not be in conflict with or have a close personal relationship with any member of staff to avoid conflict of interest.

Communications Liaison – sits on Council, responsible for assisting groups within the congregation to communicate with others through a variety of means: website, Facebook, posters, announcements, advertising, etc. Keeping the flow of communication open within the congregation. Adheres to GUC's communications policy. Council meets monthly.

Council News (cont.)

Spiritual Leadership Liaison – checks in regularly with all teams and groups in the congregation related to worship, faith development, fellowship and service, to ensure good two-way communication between Council and congregation. Sits on Council.

Chair of Stewardship Team – with an enthusiastic team, coordinates stewardship, philanthropy and fundraising activities for the congregation. Willing to access materials provided by the UCC. Energy and enthusiasm for Gordon United Church, The UCC and the Mission and Service Fund. Sits on Council, which meets monthly. Team meets as needed. Others are welcome to join the team, and all ideas are very welcome, especially on how to maintain church finances in pandemic times!

Representative for the Region – this person attends the yearly Regional meetings (currently held online) as well as keeping informed about what is going on regionally (Pacific Mountain Region includes B.C., Whitehorse and Banff) and sharing relevant information with the Council and Congregation. May be invited to participate in other Regional work. Sits on Council.

Members of Ministry and Personnel Team – part of the Team that works with staff to ensure the well-being of staff and congregation, combines support and evaluation, and helps to maintain a healthy pastoral relationship. Willingness to learn policies and skills, effective communication, good listening and some experience of the United Church of Canada are helpful. Members of M and P should not be in conflict or close personal relationship with any member of staff so as to avoid conflict of interest. Meets as needed.

Ad Hoc Safety Team – this team does the work of organizing policy and recommending adaptations to Council in response to the COVID19 pandemic. Trains others in safety procedures. Meets as needed. New members needed and welcome.

Outreach Team Chair – coordinates the present outreach work (Community Dinner, Messy Church, Compassionate Resource Warehouse, Our Place and Community Resource Warehouse Collections, Affirming Ministries Team) and works with others on new projects in the area of social justice and community support.

Council News (cont.)

Affirming Ministries Team – takes leadership in the study and conversation process involved in becoming an officially LGBTQ2S+ welcoming congregation. New members welcome.

O Live Newsletter editor – accepts submissions and compiles a quarterly newsletter

Prayer in A Minute – receives email prayer requests through the prayerinaminute@gmail.com account and forwards them to those who request to be on list to receive them

Pastoral Care Team – member of team responsible, along with the minister, for the spiritual support and care of the congregation. Members each have a list of people whom they contact regularly. Training is available, and the ability to maintain confidentiality is essential.

If you would like to put your name forward for any of these positions or have spoken to someone about their interest, please contact Anna Mary McIlwain at annamarymcilwain@gmail.com

Note: Currently most meetings are occurring by Zoom, and we realize some may not be able to participate using that technology. We hope that by the Fall at the latest, we will be able to meet in person. Until then, we will work hard to include those who wish to serve but cannot use the technology. Thank-you for your involvement in this ministry we share!

Terms renewed at the last Council meeting:

Anna Mary McIlwain as **Chair of Council**
Ken McDougall as **Treasurer** (and member of Property and Finance, Council and Memorial Teams)

Waiting for confirmation:

Deanna Robb as **Chair of Memorial Committee**
Ralph Gonyea and John Davies as members of **The Board of Trustees**
Leona Richards as **Secretary of Property and Finance Team**

Terms ended:

Carolyn Matheson as **Communications Liaison** and **Co-Chair of Safety Team**
Beverly Stewart as **Regional Rep**
Janice Woods as **Chair of Stewardship Team**

Council News (cont.)

We note the passing of Frango DiMambro, who was a faithful member of the Property and Finance Team and a past Trustee.

Thank-you to all for your faithful service



Pastoral Care

We invite anyone who needs Pastoral support to contact one of us:



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



Winter 2021: O Live "Light"



Last year's donations to the Food Bank totaled **\$475**. Our 2020 Angel Gift donations benefited **54 people** in need. So far, our GUC team has received **\$1,880** in donations for the Coldest Night of the Year walk and the donations continue to arrive. We also sent **\$14,541** in Mission and Service Fund donations in 2020. Thank you! 
Your generosity is inspiring in our communities, near and far, especially in times when money is tight. Big bags of new towels are arriving for the Towel Bundle Project. The Our Place and the Compassionate Warehouse donations continue, in spite of the pandemic. There are so many other stories of giving; this is just a few! Thank you!! 

SNOW!

Schnee

Neige



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Sneeuw



The single snowman is made by our 2 grandsons. Some of you may remember when they came to church with me as Preschoolers. They always enjoyed Sermon Time as that is when they got their treat of Lemon Bread. It worked - they were quiet!

Submitted by Judy Muir



Send in your O Live stories, thoughts, greetings for others, jokes, views, prayers, photographs... office@gordonunitedchurch.ca

KIDS SAY THE FUNNIEST THINGS...

Submitted by Karen Hicks

PAY ATTENTION TO THE WORDING AND SPELLING. IT COMES FROM A RC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEST. KIDS WERE ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ABOUT THE BIBLE WERE WRITTEN BY CHILDREN. THEY HAVE NOT BEEN RETOUCHEED OR CORRECTED, INCORRECT SPELLING HAS BEEN LEFT IN.

IN THE FIRST BOOK OF THE BIBLE, GUINESSIS. GOD GOT TIRED OF CREATING THE WORLD SO HE TOOK THE SABBATH OFF.

ADAM AND EVE WERE CREATED FROM AN APPLE TREE. NOAH'S WIFE WAS JOAN OF ARK. NOAH BUILT AND ARK AND THE ANIMALS CAME ON IN PEARS.

SAMPSON WAS A STRONGMAN WHO LET HIMSELF BE LED ASTRAY BY AJEZEBEL LIKE DELILAH.

SAMSON SLAYED THE PHILISTINES WITH THE AXE OF THE APOSTLES.

MOSES LED THE JEWS TO THE RED SEA WHERE THEY MADE UNLEAVENED BREAD WHICH IS BREAD WITHOUT ANY INGREDIENTS.

THE EGYPTIANS WERE ALL DROWNED IN THE DESSERT. AFTER WARDS, MOSES WENT UP TO MOUNT CYANIDE TO GET THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENTS WAS WHEN EVE TOLD ADAM TO EAT THE APPLE.

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT IS THOU SHALT NOT ADMIT ADULTERY.

MOSES DIED BEFORE HE EVER REACHED CANADA. THEN JOSHUA LED THE HEBREWS IN THE BATTLE OF GERITOL.

THE GREATEST MIRICLE IN THE BIBLE IS WHEN JOSHUA TOLD HIS SON TO STAND STILL AND HE OBEYED HIM.

DAVID WAS A HEBREW KING WHO WAS SKILLED AT PLAYING THE LIAR. HE FOUGHT THE FINKELSTEINS, A RACE OF PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN BIBLICAL TIMES.

SOLOMON, ONE OF DAVIDS SONS, HAD 300 WIVES AND 700 PORCUPINES.

WHEN MARY HEARD SHE WAS THE MOTHER OF JESUS, SHE SANG THE MAGNA CARTA.

WHEN THE THREE WISE GUYS FROM THE EAST SIDE ARRIVED THEY FOUND JESUS IN THE MANAGER.

ST. JOHN THE BLACKSMITH DUMPED WATER ON HIS HEAD.

IT WAS A MIRICLE WHEN JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND MANAGED TO GET THE TOMBSTONE OFF THE ENTRANCE.

THE PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED THE LORD WERE CALLED THE 12 DECIBELS.

THE EPISTELS WERE THE WIVES OF THE APOSTLES.

ONE OF THE OPOSSUMS WAS ST. MATTHEW WHO WAS ALSO A TAXIMAN.

OUR FATHER YOU AREN'T IN HEAVEN, HELLO, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?