

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!***

**God knows our weaknesses and blesses us with love just the same.
Can we, as stewards, do any less for others?**

Sunday, June 13, 2021

Sunday with Pacific Mountain Region

Today is the Worship service and Celebration of Ministry for the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada.

All United Church congregations are invited to join in a joint YouTube service at 10:00 a.m.

[CLICK HERE FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE](#)

If you have never attended a service in which someone was ordained or commissioned, this is a great opportunity – and one of the most well-known preachers in North America, Nadia Bolz-Weber, will be preaching! (I have heard Nadia speak, and she is always down to earth and very inspiring. ~Rev. Heidi)

Annual Regional General Meeting June 13

- Registration is open - for all, visitors and voters alike: [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

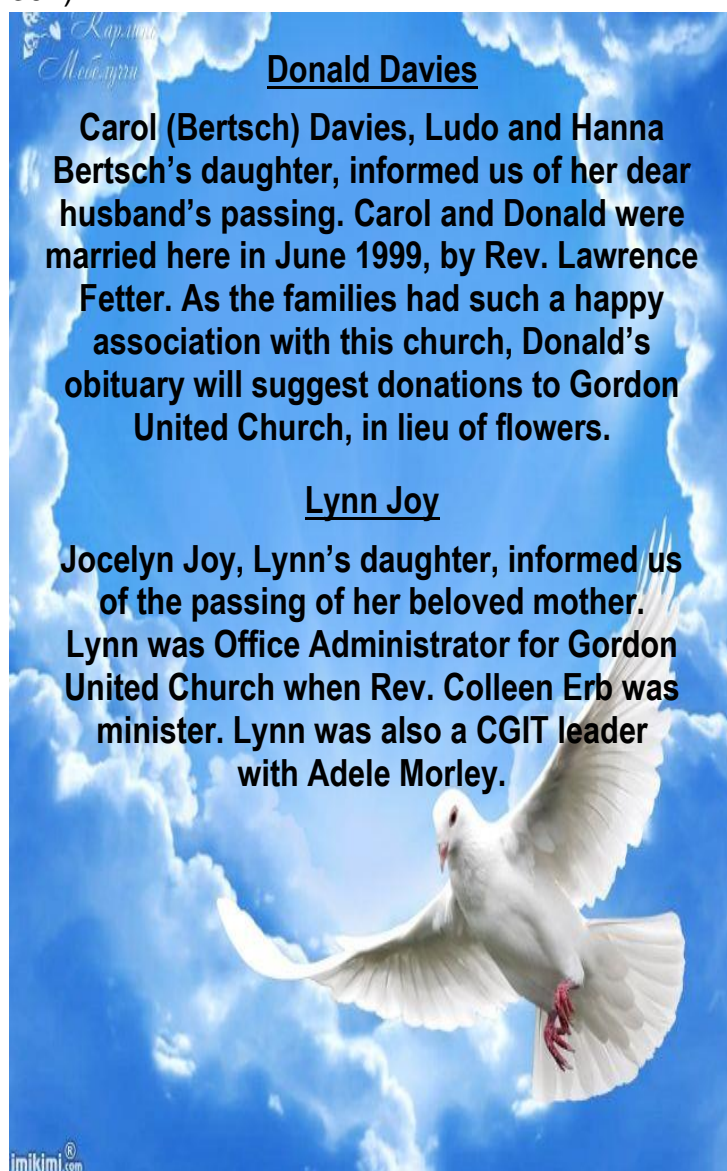
Sunday Zoom Meetings

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

Sunday, June 20th and June 27th

Rev Heidi is on holidays and we welcome Melanie Ihmels back to lead worship online at the regular 10 a.m. Sunday premier time. (Please note that

the Rev. Alanna Menu will be available for emergency pastoral care from June 15th to June 30th).



Donald Davies

Carol (Bertsch) Davies, Ludo and Hanna Bertsch's daughter, informed us of her dear husband's passing. Carol and Donald were married here in June 1999, by Rev. Lawrence Fetter. As the families had such a happy association with this church, Donald's obituary will suggest donations to Gordon United Church, in lieu of flowers.

Lynn Joy

Jocelyn Joy, Lynn's daughter, informed us of the passing of her beloved mother. Lynn was Office Administrator for Gordon United Church when Rev. Colleen Erb was minister. Lynn was also a CGIT leader with Adele Morley.

Summertime Plans

Online worship will continue to be available through June on YouTube. As of July 1, online worship will be suspended. Services will be held outdoors, rain or shine, at 10 a.m. starting July 4th, with 54 people allowed to attend.

Please save your spot for the service by phoning the church office at 250-478-6632. You will be asked how many in your household will be attending, and whether you intend to remain in your car or sit outside for the service. You will be able to connect to the service via FM radio in addition to regular audio. Bringing your own chair is encouraged. Don't forget to dress for the weather!

We want to hear your feedback – if you would like online services to continue in some form in the fall, or you find outdoor and/or indoor services meet your needs. Print copies of the service will continue to be delivered or mailed upon request. Audio recordings may also be made available.

Volunteers will be needed to help screen and sign people in, handle offering and communion, direct traffic and monitor activities in and out of the building on Sunday mornings. Training will be provided. If you would like to help, please leave your name with the office.

Council Update

AGM Update: July 4th there will be a brief Annual Meeting following the outdoor worship service. Agenda:

1. Any questions regarding the Annual Report for 2020;
2. Nominations and Elections: John Nanson has been nominated for the position of Trustee. Other important positions we need to fill: Vice Chair of Council, Communications Liaison, Spiritual Leadership Liaison, and Pacific Mountain Regional Council Rep. All of these position (excepting the Trustee position) involve a seat on Council, which meets monthly. Please contact any member of Council or Rev. Heidi for a position description. We would also love to have volunteers to help with managing the sound board on Sunday mornings; and if there are people who would be interested in learning how to videorecord, edit, and post services online, we would be thrilled to hear from you!

COVID-19 Update: The church building and office will remain closed until after Labour Day. Please call the office if you need to come by.

Camp Spirit Correction

Volunteers willing to lead a craft, share a story or experience about a service project, teach a skill, lead a game, etc for the kids at Camp Spirit for an hour or two are encouraged to make themselves known to Rev. Heidi. You do NOT need to have a Criminal Record Check, as all activities involving the children will be supervised by Camp Spirit staff. Our theme is the Promise of the Rainbow, and is focused on inclusion and diversity.

Upper Room Daily Devotional Booklet

Hello friends, it's time to order your annual subscription to The Upper Room or to consider starting one! Unfortunately, we have lost a few of our subscribers over the past year as you know and, as we have to have a minimum of 10 to get the discounted rate, we need more folks who would like to have that daily time of meditation and prayer to join us.

As of this year, with the increased costs of production and US exchange rate, the cost to subscribe individually has gone up to \$28.30 CAD. If we can maintain the minimum of 10 issues bimonthly, we can still subscribe for \$15.00 CAD each. Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you will be joining us!!

MAY 26th UPDATE- 4 OF THE MINIMUM 10 SUBSCRIBERS HAVE COMMITTED SO THAT THEY CAN GET THE PRICE REDUCTION OFFERED TO GROUPS. WE NEED 6 MORE - WILL YOU BE ONE OF THEM?

My contact information is available through the Gordon United Church office if you don't already have it.

Linda DiMambro

Fairway Cards

As most of you know by now, we will no longer be doing the Thrifty Foods fund raising cards. Instead, the Property and Finance Committee would like you to consider the Fairway Cards. We receive 5% of what you spend. You can use your credit card to load the gift card so will also earn points. Please email Pat Larre at : larres@telus.net if you want a card, one will be mailed or dropped off for you. Thank you.

Pat Larre

Withdrawing from Thrifty's Smile Card Program

For several years we have enjoyed rebates from Thrifty Stores through their Smile Card program. Thrifty Stores is changing this program on June 15th whereby pre-loaded cards are to be purchased and sold by GUC. Due to the increase in administration and cost to GUC, we are

withdrawing from the Smile Program. Your current Smile Cards can be used after June 15th until depleted so be sure to load them up before June 15th so Gordon United Church can get benefits. Thanks!

Property & Finance: Ken McDougall & Ray Green

Hymnbooks

You are encouraged to sign out a set of hymnbooks so that you can follow along during worship services, both online and in person. Please call the office to arrange for pick-up. (We cannot distribute books in the usual manner due to COVID-19 restrictions)

Pastoral Care pastoralcare@gordonunitedchurch.ca

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

Two Poems submitted by Rev. Heidi:

W.H. Auden (1907–1973)
Epitaph on a Tyrant

Perfection, of a kind, was what he was after
And the poetry he invented was easy to understand;
He knew human folly like the back of his hand,
And was greatly interested in armies and fleets;
When he laughed, respectable senators burst with laughter,
And when he cried the little children died in the streets.

Walter Brueggemann (b. 1933)
Dreams and Nightmares
On reading 1 Kings 3:5-9; 9:2-9

Last night as I lay sleeping,
I had a dream so fair . . .
I dreamed of the Holy City, well ordered and just.
I dreamed of a garden of paradise,
well-being all around and a good water supply.
I dreamed of disarmament and forgiveness,
and caring embrace for all those in need.
I dreamed of a coming time when death is no more.
Last night as I lay sleeping . . .
I had a nightmare of sins unforgiven.
I had a nightmare of land mines still exploding
and maimed children.
I had a nightmare of the poor left unloved,
of the homeless left unnoticed,
of the dead left ungrieved.
I had a nightmare of quarrels and rages
and wars great and small.
When I awoke, I found you still to be God,
presiding over the day and night
with serene sovereignty,
for dark and light are both alike to you.
At the break of day we submit to you
our best dreams
and our worst nightmares,
asking that your healing mercy should override threats,
that your goodness will make our nightmares less toxic
and our dreams more real.
Thank you for visiting us with newness
that overrides what is old and deathly among us.
Come among us this day; dream us toward
health and peace,
we pray in the real name of Jesus
who exposes our fantasies