



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 in God's Great Outdoor Church (a.k.a. our parking lot)

If you do not receive our emails, we would love to add you to our weekly email 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 **ORANGE**). We would be happy to add you to our weekly email distribution list and/or update our church directory. **WELCOME!**

**Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit;
good stewardship is practicing good self-care.**

**Sunday service time is 10 am
until further notice.**

Worship services will be held outdoors for the duration of the summer, as previously decided by Council. Remember that you can sit in your car with the windows up, air conditioning on, and **tune your car radio to 87.9 FM**

Sunday, September 5th

Communion and a celebration of essential workers. Rev. Heidi is collecting names to include on a roster for thanksgiving. Email names to RevHeidi@gordonunitedchurch.ca, phone the church or drop something through the letter slot at the top of the wheelchair ramp.

Choir News

Choir is back! Our first rehearsal in nearly 18 months(!) is scheduled for **7:30 pm, Wednesday, September 8th**, in the church sanctuary. Things will be a little different, though, and subject to adjustment as we return to singing and being together indoors. A few things will be required:

- 🎵 Masks must be worn while singing (and are strongly recommended from arrival through departure, too).
- 🎵 We will be spacing singers out.
- 🎵 We will be limiting our rehearsal time to 45 minutes, maximum.
- 🎵 Attendance and contact info will be taken.
- 🎵 Hand sanitization and self-symptom checks will be required upon arrival.

If you can't remember all this, that's okay — we'll remind you! We all look forward to seeing — and hearing! — everyone again. If you've never joined the choir before, you're welcome, too... there's no audition and no pressure, as is our Gordon United Church way!

**Council meets on Tuesday, September 7th
in the Lounge at 7 p.m.**

Help Needed



**THURSDAY, September 9th, 9:30 a.m.
Setting up the Sanctuary**

Volunteers are needed to help get the Sanctuary ready for worship on the 12th. Able-bodied workers are needed to set-up chairs, re-arrange the chancel area, replace hymnbooks and Bibles and have things ready for our first indoor worship service of the Fall. Coffee and goodies to follow!

After-church refreshments - We are looking for groups of 4 people who will sign up on a monthly rotation to set-up, host and clean-up coffee, tea, juice and sometimes a bit of a snack after worship on Sundays. This can begin as soon as we have people willing to sign-up! Stations will be self-serve and people will be asked to sanitize or wash hands before their refreshments.

From Rev. Heidi

A reminder that Gordon United Church strongly encourages and requests that all eligible people become fully vaccinated as soon as possible. This is the only way to ensure the maximum safety for all of us to worship and work together, including those not yet eligible for vaccination or who have allergies to vaccine ingredients.

Some congregants may be concerned about **registering for the BC Vaccine Card** just announced. If you do not have a smartphone, aren't sure how to register for your card, or need to print it out and don't have a computer or printer, Rev. Heidi would be glad to help once the process is in place. Just call the office or send an email to RevHeidi@gordonunitedchurch.ca Help is also available for those who want to learn how to use Zoom, Facebook, or YouTube more comfortably. (Rev. Heidi is not familiar with Apple products but can probably help you figure it out!) If others are willing to volunteer to help people with some training and troubleshooting of technology, please let Rev. Heidi know. Let's help each other out while we are able to sit down together safely!

September 12th - Service of Lament and Thanksgiving for experiences during the pandemic. If someone you love passed away during the pandemic or you were unable to hold a service due to COVID restrictions, you are invited to bring a favourite candle and a small picture to place at the front of the worship space. If there was a birth, marriage, or other significant celebration in your family during the pandemic that you didn't get to celebrate as you would have liked, please bring a picture and perhaps a small vase with a flower to place as well. If you only have digital pictures, please send them to the office so we can download one for you.

Federal Election ~ Monday, September 20, 2021

The United Church of Canada will never tell you how to vote. What we can do is help you to ask questions about some of the issues at stake for vulnerable people in the world and for the world itself. Here are some related links:

[Faith and Politics | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

[KAIROS Election 2021 Resource](#)

From Rev. Heidi (cont.)

Here's the link for the Cowichan/Malahat/Langford All-Candidates Debates on the Environment, Health and Climate:

[100 Debates on Climate & Environment in Cowichan-Malahat-Langford Riding Tickets, Wed, 8 Sep 2021 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

For Esquimalt/Saanich/Sooke link, or for more information, email: 100DebatesMetchosin@gmail.com



100 DEBATES
on the **ENVIRONMENT**

Esquimalt - Saanich - Sooke Federal Riding
All Candidates Debate on the Environment,
Health and Climate
September 8th 7-9 pm
Register on Eventbrite for 100 Debates webinar
Or livestream on facebook



See you in September!



Creative Community begins **Wednesday, September 15 from noon to 3:00pm in the CE Hall.**

This is an exciting new group, a

“Community of Art & Spiritual Care”.

For more information, contact Jane:

Artist / Leader: Jane Palliser (250) 213-1982

Email: lifespirtart@gmail.com

Jane writes, “We are a ‘Creative Community’ of Art makers who love to paint, draw, create & meet together weekly. Our day begins by getting a warm drink, settling ourselves at our tables, listening to inspirational music, a prayer/ meditation, a poem, conversation/ checking in, or small group creative activity. We then move into individual self-directed work or group activity. Each Artist is responsible

for set up & clean up. We provide a friendly, safe studio space, where confidentiality, respect for our differences & respectful conversation are valued. Coffee, tea, is available & we take turns bringing a snack in to share, as needed. Bring a lunch and your own supplies.”

Sunday Reminders

Masks are strongly encouraged, especially when in close contact with others and while singing. Anyone leading singing, preaching or public speaking is required to wear a mask if unable to maintain a 3 to 4 metre distance from those they face. Visiting before and after the service is also permitted.

Print copies of the service can be made available to those unable to attend. Audio recordings are also possible. Call the office to arrange yours!

Should anyone need to come inside for health reasons, they may sit in the CE Hall at appropriate physical distance.

While pre-registration is no longer required, we will be asking for names and contact numbers for COVID19 tracing.

Zoom Chat will be discontinued over the summer as the majority of people who normally “chat” are attending worship services.

Memorials/weddings will be allowed to be held indoors and outdoors with restrictions as listed in the Safety Plan, updated July 8, 2021, and posted on the website.

Sanitization of hands and high-touch surfaces will still be required at least until September.

All groups are requested to avoid crowding or gathering in hallways, office, or rooms – allow people to have their space.

Church and rental groups will be returning to the building with appropriate measures in place.

Please ASK before you hug, shake hands, or offer any other physical contact. Our desire is to keep us all safe until all those eligible are fully vaccinated. Thank-you for your patience and understanding.

Should any of this need to change, e.g., moving inside due to heat/smoke/torrential rain, etc., it would be a decision of Council.

On Sundays: 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.

~ The COVID19 Safety Team

GOD'S MISSION OUR GIFTS

Support for the People of Haiti



[Photo credit: Tearfund Canada, 2021. All rights reserved]

Saturday, August 14 was a shattering day for the Haitian people. A devastating earthquake struck that morning, destroying homes, community buildings, hospitals, and precious lives. And Tropical Storm Grace hit Haiti on August 16, making an already bad situation even worse. Join us [in prayer](#) for the people of Haiti, and find out what Mission & Service partners say [you can do to help](#).

♥♥♥ Pastoral Care ♥♥♥

We invite anyone who needs Pastoral support to contact one of us by phone, or email pastoralcare@gordonunitedchurch.ca

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

