



Gordon United Church Announcements

<http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca> office@gordonunitedchurch.ca
935 Goldstream Avenue, Victoria BC, V9B 2Y2 - Phone 250.478.6632

- ❖ Please join us after the service in the CE Hall for refreshments. If you are new or visiting, you can fill out one of the cards in the pews and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate.
- ❖ Please speak to an Usher if you need large print bulletins or hearing assistance equipment.
- ❖ There are children's activity sheets & books available at the back of the church & in the upstairs loft.
- ❖ 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 GREEN). We would be happy to add you to our weekly email distribution list and/or update our church directory.
- ❖ Gordon United Church strives to be fragrance free.

Sunday services begin at 10:15 am

A memorial service for Ken Kelbough will be held Sunday afternoon, September 26th at 2:00pm in the Sanctuary, followed by a short reception in the Hall.



Please be aware that space is limited, with a total of 70-80 in the sanctuary. If you have not been directly invited by the Kelbough family, you are still very welcome to attend. If we reach the capacity for the sanctuary, the alternative will be to listen in your car on the FM channel 87.9, and we also hope to have sound available in the Hall. Any overflow from the reception can be seated in the sanctuary. Thank-you to all those helping with and hosting this service!

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.

The way you live your life is a sign of how you steward the gospel!

HELP NEEDED

Nothing makes you feel you belong more than getting really involved! There are many opportunities, with training and mentorship available: **Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read details in the previous announcements:**

- Reading Scripture on Sundays
- Children's Ministry
- Nursery care
- Coffee servers
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Council positions

From Rev. Heidi

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

From the Church Council & Safety Committee

Gordon United Church Council is very concerned about the rising number of cases tied to the Delta variant of COVID19. In order to comply with provincial safety regulations and still be able to offer ministry in-person and indoors, and to safeguard the well-being of the vulnerable among us as our faith demands, some requirements were

adopted by the Gordon United Church Council on September 7, 2021.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read details in the previous announcements, or [CLICK HERE](#) to see the list on our church website home page.

We recognize that this will add another layer to the work of ushers, hospitality folk, greeters, group leaders, etc. We will need folk to step up and take part. We would especially like to hear from individuals who are comfortable asking for the health info and who would be ready to interact with any folk who may be distressed or angered by the restrictions.

What's Happening at GUC

Gordon United Choir practices Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the sanctuary and gathers in the CE Hall before worship services on Sundays to warm up our voices. Welcome to anyone who would like to join the choir. No experience needed!

Yes! Yoga is coming back SOON!

Beginning October 13, yoga will be back in the CE Hall – all are welcome! Dress warmly, as the doors will be open to promote better ventilation. Classes will be 45 minutes long, Wednesdays at 10:00am.

Creative Community Wednesdays noon to 3:00pm in the CE Hall. For more info, contact: Artist / Leader: Jane Palliser (250) 213-1982 Email: lifespiritart@gmail.com

Thursday Coffee Chats

Please join us every Thursday morning at 10am for coffee, tea & fellowship in the CE Hall!

But wait, there's more! If you have the time and would like to come earlier to help the work party with odd jobs around the church, come at 9am.

GOD'S MISSION OUR GIFTS

September 26: **Wondering What More You Can Do to Become Anti-Racist in your local community?** You aren't alone. [40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism](#) may be the next step you are looking for.

Moderator Prayer Videos: Get them all [here](#).

♥♥♥ 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

Hello from Anne Appleton!

I have joined the United Church here in Duncan, and find the people very open and friendly, but it will take me a while to get to remember faces and names. This fourth bout of covid hasn't helped any. We had a couple of coffee get togethers and now it's been put on hold again. We had a fair planned for Sept. 25 and a modified version is still going ahead but it's smaller and all being held outdoors. Interesting times! I enjoy reading the announcements and keeping up with what is going on at Gordon United Church. Take care! **Anne**

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

A Prayer for Orange Shirt Day

Today we wear orange to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools. Today we wear orange and we pray for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling. Today we wear orange and we are thankful for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice. Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

Help us, God, to remember and act on this this every day.

Amen.

**This prayer was inspired by Honarine Scott's Orange Shirt Day [blog](#).*

For more information on Orange Shirt Day, please read this GUC Announcement sheet online [HERE](#).

ORANGE SHIRT DAY (Cont.)

On September 30, people all across Canada will wear orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential schools. The summer of 2021 was a summer of orange shirts as Indigenous communities across the country shared the truth they have always known: that many of the children who never returned from residential schools remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children.

This Orange Shirt Day is also the first observance of a **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. For non-Indigenous Christians in particular, this is a time when we can reflect on our role in colonialism and the residential school system, and our ongoing responsibility to make reparations.

Indigenous Ministries and Justice at The United Church of Canada encourages everyone to participate in [Orange Shirt Day \(opens in a new tab\)](#)

Why orange? Because of Phyllis Jack Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, who went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis wore an orange shirt that her grandmother had given her. It was immediately taken away, and that marked the beginning of Phyllis's long separation from her family and community, a separation caused by actions of the church and federal government.

Orange Shirt Day is a time for us all to remember those events, their ongoing impact, and just as importantly the continuing strength and resilience of Indigenous peoples. Former Healing Programs Coordinator Honarine Scott has written a [powerful reflection](#) on this.

You're invited to wear ORANGE for worship on September 26th (some of you will read these announcements before Sunday morning).

Wear an orange shirt on Thursday, September 30

Whether you're at work, at school, or at home, get out that orange shirt! Make sure you take a picture to share on Facebook and Twitter (include the hashtags #OrangeShirtDay, #EveryChildMatters, and #UCCan), and challenge your friends and family to do the same. You can also send your pictures to Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator Sara Stratton (SStratton@united-church.ca ([opens in a new tab](#))) for use on our social media pages. Also on September 30, join Indigenous Ministries and Justice Executive Minister Murray Pruden for a candlelight vigil at 7:00 p.m. Eastern on the [Indigenous Ministries Facebook page \(opens in a new tab\)](#).

Familiarize yourself with the United Church's history of residential schools at <https://thechildrenremembered.ca/>

Read and commit to the Calls to the Church from our own Indigenous United Church elders : <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/indigenous-ministries/calls-church#downloads>