



## *St. Andrew's United Church*

*33077 Second Avenue,*

*Mission, B.C. V2V 1J7*

*Church Office: 604-826-8296*

*E-mail: [mission.uc@shaw.ca](mailto:mission.uc@shaw.ca)*

*Website: [www.saintandrewsunited.church](http://www.saintandrewsunited.church)*



### **DECEMBER 2018**

**Minister:** Rev. Tim Bowman

**Music Director:** Deborah Handley

**Musician:** Jacob Greenan

**Bookkeeper:** Angela Darychuk

**Church Administrator:** Eileen Arnold

#### **DECEMBER READERS**

Dec. 2 – Loa

Dec. 9 – Myrna

Dec. 16 – Beate

Dec. 23 – Christmas Pageant

Dec. 24 – Bernice

Dec. 30 – Lessons & Carols Service

#### **DECEMBER GREETERS**

Dec. 2 – Dennis & Russell

Dec. 9 – At Gladwin Heights UC

Dec. 16 – Dennis & Russell

Dec. 23 – Lyle & Barbara

Dec. 24 – Lyle & Barbara

Dec. 30 – Dennis & Russell

#### **MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEES WITH GLADWIN HEIGHTS UC**

**Joint Board** – Judith, Myrna, Beate

**Joint M & P** – Cherie, Lyle

**Joint Worship** – Linda, Deborah

#### **MEMBERS OF LIAISON COMMITTEE WITH ALL SAINTS**

Linda, Myrna

## DECEMBER LECTIONARY

### December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10 [VU 752]  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

### December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Isaiah 12:2-6 [VU 880]  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

### December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Christmas Eve  
Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96 [VU 816]  
Timothy 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)



### December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

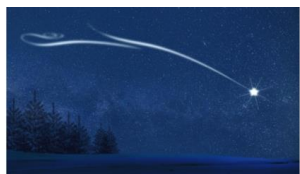
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79 [VU 900]  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

### December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:47-55 [VU 898] or  
Psalm 80:1-7 [VU 794]  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45, (46-56)

### December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Christmas  
1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm 148 [VU 871]  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52



### **All is Calm Luncheon Concerts** **Free noon hour concerts**

**Wednesdays through the Advent season**  
**from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm**  
**in the church sanctuary**

Bring your lunch and enjoy an hour of music in our sanctuary.  
Tea and coffee will be provided.

Come and join us.

**Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>** – Medieval carols from England & Spain  
with Deborah Handley & Mina Lee Saas

**Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Folky, Funky, Bluesy Seasonal songs  
with Jennie Bice & Tony Ivan O'Hara

**Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>** – Music for the Soul with Cathy Hardy

## EVENTS & MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>** - 9:30 am – Mid-Fraser Cluster Workshop at Gladwin Heights UC, Abbotsford
- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 10:45 am – Coffee & fellowship time – Downstairs Hall  
- 11:30 am – The Advent of Hope Worship Service and White Gift Sunday with Sunday School  
- 3:30 pm – Fraser Presbytery Celebration at Trinity Memorial UC Abbotsford
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>** - 11:30 am – Anglican Church Women’s Christmas Lunch at Ricky’s Restaurant (all our ladies are invited)  
- 1:30 pm – Interfaith Sip & Stitch at Carrington House
- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>** - 12 noon – All is Calm Luncheon Concert - Sanctuary  
- 7:00 pm – Choir Practice – Sanctuary  
- 7:00 pm – Christmas Carols in Abbotsford at Trinity Memorial UC
- Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>** - 7:30 am – ROMEO Breakfast at JoJo’s Bana Restaurant, Abbotsford  
- 9:00 am – Centering Prayer & Lectio Divina Service – Sanctuary  
- 11:30 am – Meet & Eat Lunch at the White Spot
- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** - **10:30 am** – The Advent of Peace Joint Worship Service with Communion at Gladwin Heights UC, Abbotsford  
- 11:30 am – Christmas Potluck Lunch following the service  
- 11:30 am – Gladwin’s Christmas Mini-Bazaar  
- 3:00 pm – Serenata Singers Concert at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>** - 1:30 pm – Interfaith Sip & Stitch at Carrington House  
- 3:00 pm – Festival of Trees begins in Downstairs Hall & runs until Saturday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** - 12 noon – All is Calm Luncheon Concert - Sanctuary  
- 7:00 pm – Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>** - 9:00 am – Centering Prayer & Lectio Divina Service - Sanctuary
- Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** - 7:00 pm – Dramatic Reading of “A Christmas Carol” –Downstairs Hall
- Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>** - 10:45 am – Coffee & fellowship time – Downstairs Hall  
- 11:30 am – The Advent of Joy – Worship (no Sunday School)  
- 6:30 pm – Annual “Wassail” – Downstairs Hall
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** - 1:30 pm – Interfaith Sip & Stitch at Carrington House
- Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>** - 12 noon – All is Calm Luncheon Concert - Sanctuary  
- 7:00 pm – Choir – Sanctuary
- Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>** - 4:00-8:00 pm – LINC Community Christmas Dinner – Downstairs Hall



## EVENTS & MEETINGS IN DECEMBER (cont'd)

- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** - 7:30 am – ROMEO Breakfast at JoJo's Bana Restaurant, Abbotsford  
- No Centering Prayer & Lectio Divina Service
- Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - 10:45 am – Coffee & fellowship time – Downstairs Hall  
- 11:30 am – The Paper Bag Christmas Pageant at our Advent of Love Worship Service
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** - 9:00 pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service
- Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>** - No Centering Prayer & Lectio Divina Service
- Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>** - 10:45 am – Coffee & fellowship time – Downstairs Hall  
- 11:30 am – Lessons & Carols Worship Service



### WHITE GIFT SUNDAY – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

We will be having our White Gift Sunday on December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
We ask that everyone who can bring a non-perishable food item and an item for a Christmas gift (**must be a new item**) to the church service on Sunday morning. Suggestions for the gifts: Toys, hair accessories, books, gift cards, bubble bath, etc., jewelry, cash that can be given to the Christmas Bureau to purchase items they are in need of.

### Joint Worship Service with Communion at Gladwin Heights on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, the Advent of Peace



**December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:30 am**  
**with a Christmas Potluck Lunch following.**

(Note the change in service time.)

Gladwin Heights will supply the turkey, ham, condiments & buns so bring your favourite side dish or dessert to share and join us for worship, food and fellowship.

### Gladwin Heights Christmas Mini-Bazaar

**Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> after the worship service**

There will be a Bake Sale, Crafts, Vintage Items  
and a Book Sale.

Come and buy your baking, jams and jellies for Christmas.





## WHAT SWEETER MUSIC CAN WE BRING THAN A CAROL FOR THE KING?

The **Annual St. Andrew's Wassail**  
will be held on Sunday, **December 16<sup>th</sup>**  
beginning at **6:30 pm** and continuing until 8:30 pm.



As usual, warm drinks, including tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mulled cider will be provided to keep us cozy. We ask that everyone bring a **small** plate of Christmas sweets or savories to share.

So gather your children, friends and neighbours  
and join us in the downstairs hall for an evening of carolling.  
If you have them, bring along your instruments  
to add to the joyful noise!

If you need a ride, please call the Church Office at 604-826-8296.  
See you there!

## THE PAPER BAG CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:30 am**

Gather up your children, grandchildren,  
and friends' and neighbours' children,  
and come and celebrate the birth of Jesus  
during our Advent of Love worship service.



## ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT and COMMUNION SERVICE – 9:00 pm

On Christmas Eve at 9:00 pm we will have our usual  
Candlelight & Communion Service in the Sanctuary.

Please join us – all are welcome!

## **“Christmas in the Valley”**

### **The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long at Trinity Memorial United Church**

(33737 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford)

**Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 pm**



This is a joint Trinity Memorial, Gladwin Heights & Mt. Lehman United Churches service. Get your voices in shape and into the Christmas spirit!  
Please bring a non-perishable food item or donation for the local food bank.



## **CHRISTMAS WITH SERENATA**

### **“Starlight and Snowfall”**

**at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 32550 – 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Mission**

This year set aside **Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm**  
& celebrate the joy of Christmas with the Serenata Singers,  
at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 32550 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Mission

“Starlight and Snowfall” offers an opportunity to come in from the busyness of the season and relax in candlelit warmth, listen to some wonderful Christmas music, sing some of the great carols of Christmas, and enjoy a festive reception. What more can you ask of an afternoon?

Tickets available now from Serenata choir members, at the Spark Art Collective (33071 – 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. in Mission), and at the door.



## **6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES and Dramatic Reading of Charles Dickens “A Christmas Carol”**

**Tuesday to Saturday, December 11 – 15, 2018**

Festival of Trees: Tuesday to Friday 3:00 to 8:00 pm;  
Saturday, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Dramatic Reading: Saturday at 7:00 pm  
**in the All Saints/St. Andrew’s Downstairs Hall**

Admission: Cash Donation – Vote for your favourite trees

## L.I.N.C. CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00-8:00 pm



The annual L.I.N.C. Society clean and sober Christmas dinner will be held in the downstairs hall of our All Saints/St. Andrew's church building.

This is a free event that is open to anyone in the community.

For more information contact Glen or Sherry Flett at 604-820-1015 or [seflett@telus.net](mailto:seflett@telus.net)

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

*For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.*

- 2 Timothy 1:11-14

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

From time to time over the last few years, in the United Church we have debated our theology: what we believe about God, and what we should believe. The last few years have also brought news of rising tensions abroad, and close to home: a rhetoric of fear and security in the United States, and the rise of dictatorial and violent leaders and actions in countries such as Russia and Saudi Arabia. At such a time, debating theology - debating *belief* - can feel somewhat irrelevant.

But I am reminded of Marcus Borg's discussion of faith and belief. We can believe a set of assertions: we can give our assent to them, such as the historic

creeds of our faith and the New Creed which we recite every Sunday. But we can also believe *in someone or something*: we can put our faith in them to be faithful. This is faith as *trust*.

I offer the following as a sort of mini-creed, a statement of my current belief, which resulted from thinking about these issues as I drove home from church one day.

"Do you believe in God?"

I believe in God the same way I believe in gravity, or in my family:

I trust in them to ground me and to orient me.

I trust in a divine presence

who animates and interpenetrates Creation,

who is neither limited to nor standing outside the world,

but rather includes and transcends it.

I trust in the Bible,

an anthology of encounters with the divine,

which the Wisdom of my tradition judges to be true.

In affirming its truth I neither confirm nor deny its literal historical-factual accuracy, but name it as the central interpreting narrative of my life.

I trust in the divine indwelling presence dignifying every human life,

and in Jesus of Nazareth its definitive revelation.

I believe in God.

If the main thing we believe *about* God is that we can believe (trust) *in* God, then maybe belief is not irrelevant when the world is consumed by fear.

Who or what do you believe in? Who or what do you trust?

Yours in Christ,

Tim