



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
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<https://www.saintandrewsunitied.church>
St. Andrew's is a member church of Affirm United

Announcements for February 1, 2026



**We look forward to seeing you
this Sunday at 11:30am!**



Naida Motut – February 3
Dennis Larson – February 17

February Birthdays

Our Prayer List

Please hold these people and families in your heart and prayers.

Ted ♦ Maggie ♦ David ♦ Barb ♦ Matthew & Karlee
John W. ♦ Cathie Ireland & Family

Blessings, Pastoral Care Team

**Please contact Beate Pothmann to be included or removed
from the list**

Minister's Message

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

- Matthew 4:18-20

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.”

- Matthew 16:16-18.

Siblings in Christ,

What does it mean to be a member of the United Church? It's a more complicated question than it seems. It's like the word “friend.” A friend is someone I feel mutual affection and concern for. I enjoy their company. But in the social media age, it also means someone whose posts I want to see, and vice versa. There is significant overlap, to the extent that unfriending someone in the second sense can be fraught because it feels like rejecting them as a friend in the first sense.

Similarly, to be a “member” means to belong, but it also means to be on the Historic Roll of the congregation and entitled to serve on the Board and perform other roles. Again, the overlap can be fraught. If you have been making cookies for the Church bake sale for the last thirty years but I say you’re not allowed to serve on the Board because you’re not a member, it can feel like I am saying you don’t belong – despite your long history with the congregation.

When did the Church begin? The “proper” answer that we learn in Sunday School may be Peter’s confession of Jesus as Messiah. But the Church as the collection of Jesus’ disciples began earlier, when Jesus said to them, “come, follow me.” For the Reformers in particular, that affirmation of faith (“you are the Messiah, the Christ”) is critical, and thus our policy is that you become a member when you make an informed profession of faith in Jesus Christ. However, this occurs *in the context of worship*, or to put it another way, as a disciple in a community of disciples. So, our current policy is a compromise between those two understandings.

For this reason, as it currently stands, our denominational policy is that only members can serve in certain roles. It’s also true that each of us understands membership and a profession of faith differently. To some, to profess faith in Jesus and become a member means that you are at or near the end of your faith journey. Others understand it as a first step on the journey and a commitment to keep walking it. Some understand a profession of faith as an assent to the literal meaning of every word; some understand it as the embrace of a mystery to be contemplated and wrestled with. All of which is a long-winded way of saying, if you are not yet a member, I invite you to have a conversation with me about how you understand membership, and how you might join the church in a way that celebrates the ways you already belong, and uses language that you can speak with integrity.

Yours in Christ,
Tim

Weekly Worship Elements

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 138

Luke 5:1–11

1 Peter 1:3–9

HYMNS

VU 82 – “A Light is Gleaming”

VU 79 – “Arise, Your Light is Come” v 4

“Christ Be Our Light”

VU 960 [Ecumenical Version] - The Lord’s Prayer

“These Gifts We Bring”

VU 577 – “Peace Like a River”

“Hymn to Freedom” by Oscar Peterson

Current Events at St. Andrew’s

SHROVE TUESDAY Join us for a pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday **February 17th at 6pm** in the hall downstairs. Admission by donation, proceeds will be donated to a local charity.

Ongoing Events at St. Andrew’s



LECTIO DIVINA (BIBLE STUDY) **Wednesdays** at **11am** in the chapel.



CHOIR PRACTICE **Sundays** after service. Check with Deborah for full schedule



MEET & EAT DATES & LOCALS

Feb 10 - Boston Pizza

Mar 10 - Maharaja

Cluster & Shared Announcements



ROMEO Retired Old Men Eating Out:

Next ROMEO Breakfast is **February 6th at 7am.**
at JoJo's Restaurant. Wives and partners are invited.

ASH WEDNESDAY Please join us as we gather as a Cluster to begin the journey into Lent. The worship theme is "Reconnecting With an Unhurried God." Wednesday, **February 18, 11am** at Aldergrove United Church 101-27336 Fraser Hwy.

TRINITY'S COLDEST NIGHT FUNDRAISER

What: Walking event to raise funds for the homeless with groups across Canada. The recipient organization in Abbotsford is the Cyrus Centre. Tax receipts are available for any donation of \$20 or more.

When: Feb 28th at 10pm

Where: Meet at the Gladwin Heights United parking lot

Needed: Walkers with sponsor forms/donations. Team sign up and donations can be done online at www.cnoy.org, and then searching for the registered group "Fraser United Church Walkers." For any questions or issues accessing the online resources, please contact Sophie in the TMUC office at 604-853-2591 or tmucabb@gmail.com

A link will also be posted on the church homepage. Printed pledge forms are also available.

Purpose:

- 1) To partner with other city groups and the city in a common purpose of making a positive difference.
- 2) Reach out to your friends and families to form a team for sponsorship.
- 3) To strengthen the mandate of each of our United Churches in common purpose.
- 4) To live out our mandate as followers of Jesus.

Please Note!

ZOOM St. Andrew's has discontinued indefinitely. Please join Reverend Tim online at Gladwin at **9:30am** via [Facebook](#)

HEALING THROUGH ART PRESENTATION February 23rd at 9am there will be a presentation of the art pieces created by Indigenous Elders through the Healing Through Art partnership at Edwin S. Richards (ESR) school gym. Our congregation has been invited to attend. We contributed to this project through our Legacy Funds.

Church Reception Hours

St. Andrew's Office

Monday 8:30am-4:30pm

Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm

Gladwin's Office

Tuesday 8:30am-4:30pm

Thursday 9am-12pm

Reverend Tim

10am-5pm

