



GLADWIN HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH
3474 Gladwin Road, Abbotsford, BC, V2S 7B4
P: 604-852-3984 E: ghuc@shaw.ca
www.gladwinheightsunitedchurch.org
Gladwin Heights is a member church of Affirm United

Announcements for February 1, 2026



We look forward to seeing you this Sunday at 9:30am!

Happy New Year



February Birthdays

Gladys Banks	February 2
Julia Rohan	February 9
Florine Lint	February 13
Nancy Ritchie	February 17
Jan Green	February 28

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 un-friending 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”

Gladwin's Events



YEE-HAW BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION Gladwin's western themed birthday celebration for our distinguished group (80+) is **February 21st**. Everyone is welcome! More info coming soon!



GARAGE SALE Our annual garage sale and soft good collection will be held Saturday **April 18th, 2026**. Unfortunately there is no storage at the church, please contact Ellen she can arrange something.



5/2 MINISTRIES WITH B’HAI we are making sandwiches to distribute to those who are homeless. We meet at the church on the **first Tuesday of the month at 2pm**

Cluster & Shared Announcements

 **RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT** Next ROMEO date is **February 6th at 7am** at JoJo's Restaurant.

CLUSTER MEETING Our next Cluster meeting is Saturday, **February 7 at 10 AM** at Aldergrove United Church. All are welcome to attend - #101- 27336 Fraser Hwy

 **GLORY** Gallery 7 Theatre proudly presents Glory, A Canadian-Inspired True Story, by Tracey Power. It's 1933 and four friends decide to show the nation that hockey isn't just for men. Based on the true story of Canada's own Preston Rivulettes, this highly entertaining and inspiring story incorporates jazz-inspired music and swing dance to create a theatre experience that proves everyone belongs on home ice. Running **January 28 – 31, February 4 – 7, 2026** **@ 7:30 PM with Matinees Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 7 & 8 @ 2:00PM** at the Abbotsford Arts Centre, 2329 Crescent Way, Abbotsford. Tickets and info: www.gallery7theatre.com or call 604-504-5940. Group rates available!

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

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 THE 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!

THANK YOU GLADWIN! I would like to thank those who participated in the 1964 Murder Mystery game. These talented bunch are Jan, Kate, Sheila, Tim, David, Carlene, Len and Daryl....who filled in for Laura who was ill. They did a fabulous job with lots of accusations and laughs.

Thank you to Len and Daryl for helping out Carlene and I with setting up, decorations and for BBQing! Also to our kitchen staff, Gayle, Rita, Elaine and Carlene. Thanks to our

resident baker extraordinaire Gladys for her delicious lemon meringue pies and to those who helped with clean up! I truly cannot say enough about my partner in crime, Carlene, who gets my vision and runs with it, putting the decor together. Such an incredible talented and resourceful lady whom Gladwin is so fortunate to have and that I am very fortunate to work alongside her for the past 6 years. And last but not least, Gladwin's congregation who supports us and allows us to do what we do and have some fun along the way! So thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,
Ellen Alstad

SAD NEWS FROM SUMMERLAND UC Reed MacWilliam passed away on Jan 16th. He was a beloved member of Gladwin Heights before moving to the Okanagan and he will be missed. A memorial is being held on Jan 31 at 2pm at Summerland Church 9311 Prairie Valley Road (the building is shared with St Stephen Anglican)



NAME TAGS Please wear your name tags during the service. If you do not have one, please inform Melissa in the office.



FACEBOOK SERVICE We broadcast our in-house service via Facebook Live, for those who are unable to make it in person. Visit the [Gladwin Heights Facebook Page](#) and look for the Service by date. It can be viewed online anytime.



**Gladwin Height is a
recipient of a Seeds of
Hope grant in support
of our redevelopment
plans**

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