

Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community

5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3

Office: 902-423-4294 ftmassey@eastlink.ca

Minister: 902-333-3123 minister@fortmasseychurch.com

www.fortmasseychurch.com

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God

Clergy: Rev. Beth Hayward

Music Director: Jenny Trites, Guest Musician: Garry Williams

Office Administrator: Tamara Mugford

Sexton: Emily Kiley Lawlor

Church School: Sancia Knorr, Nursery: Lilli Knorr

Section Leads: Laura Johnston, Lisa Thornhill

Greeter: Alison McDonald

Liturgical Assistant: James Robertson, Scripture Reader: Diane Gillis



Transfiguration Sunday
February 11, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



United against Racism



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

Dr Burns left big shoes to fill. According to Rev. Sinclair's 1971 centenary history, "The problem of replacing Dr Burns was no easy one, and many candidates were considered for the pulpit of Fort Massey. One such was found very acceptable as to his preaching, his doctrine, his delivery, his accent, his appearance; all these came up to Fort Massey standards of the day, and many wanted to call him, until following his second Sunday in Halifax, he was seen on a Barrington Street horse car [horse-drawn streetcar] smoking a long black cigar with evident enjoyment. He did not get the call." Who was this unsuccessful applicant? Dr Burns's legacy was to make Fort Massey famous throughout The Presbyterian Church in Canada. His successor, inducted on 19 October 1893, would be even more celebrated, despite a short (seven-year) pastorate: Alfred Gandier.

** Indicates rise in body or spirit
(please stand or remain sitting according to your comfort.)*

Prelude

Introit: "A Light Is Gleaming" (*refrain*) VU 82

Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Call to Worship

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Hymn:** "For the Beauty of the Earth" (*tune VU 81*) VU 226

Announcements

Passing the Peace One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

***Hymn:** "God Is the One Whom We Seek Together" VU 283

Offering

Response: "What Can I Do?" MV 191

Scripture: Mark 9:2-12

*Offered as wisdom for the journey.
May we walk in its light.*

Ministry of Music: "Common Ground, Holy Ground"

Sermon: "Tents"

***Hymn:** "O God We Call" VU 411

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" VU 684

*Blessing and Sending Forth

***Sung Blessing:** "May the Peace of God Be Your Peace" MV 222

Postlude

Happy birthday to Martina Sommer today and Kathy Evans on February 12.

Blessings and our best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or other milestones this week.

Likewise, if you're walking through some difficulty this week: grief, anxiety, challenge, we hold you in prayer.

A special welcome to all who are worshipping here for the first time. We strive to notice you and make you feel welcome.

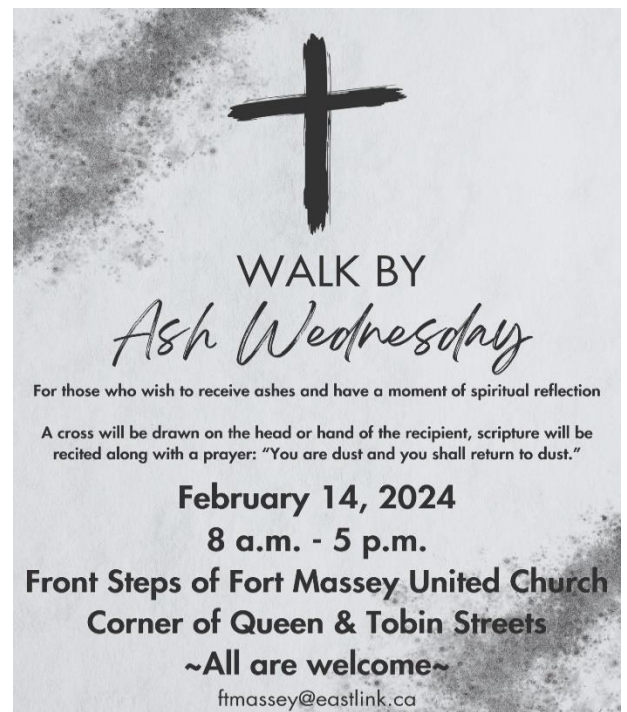
Do let us know if we fall short of our aspiration. We know that stepping into a new church can be daunting.

If, after you leave, you find questions, curiosities, or insights arising, you are most welcome to reach out to our minister Rev. Beth (minister@fortmasseychurch.com).

Please feel comfortable to sit, stand, stretch, move for your own self-care and comfort. Our services are generally an hour in length. When the Postlude begins, please feel free to get up and chat. We offer a pretty great coffee hour. Following the service, make your way to the front of the church and down the stairs and you'll be greeted by warm hospitality and terrific snacks!

Why do we encourage name tags be worn?

In a spirit of **radical welcome**, we encourage **everybody** to wear a name tag today. **Name tags** help us recognize and remember each other. They are a small gesture appreciated by those learning many names at once; those who are deaf or hard of hearing; or those who struggle to match names with faces. If you are **comfortable** doing so, consider adding your **pronouns**. Sharing **pronouns** is a signal that we welcome those of **all genders** and we appreciate knowing how to speak of each other **respectfully**.



If you'd like to participate in leading the Walk by Ash Wednesday ritual, please sign up in the Tobin Street lobby. We need volunteers to come for one-hour slots to offer ashes to anyone walking by the church that day. You'll be provided with a script and training. Please consider coming out to meet our neighbours!

Brunswick Street Mission – Thank You for the Ongoing Support

At the end of "Peanut Butter Month", Fort Massey was able to donate not only 50 jars of peanut butter, but also more than 50 tubes of toothpaste, 40 empty egg cartons and a host of other items. **February is "Tinned Tuna Month"** but, of course, all sorts of contributions are welcome. There's a list of suggestions on the contribution box in the Tobin Street lobby.

The AGM of the congregation has been set for Sunday, March 17, with a storm date of March 24.

Annual Reports (e-copies please) are due to the church office by no later than February 21. (Earlier is always appreciated.)

Easter Flowers

We will again be collecting donations for Easter flowers. The names of the donors and who they are remembering will, as in the past, be printed in the Easter Bulletin. Please send in the names to the office, and donations by March 18th.

Congratulations to Barry Cahill, who has just published a biography of the late Judge Lorne Clarke. For those interested in purchasing a copy for \$30 (cash or cheque), please see Barry.

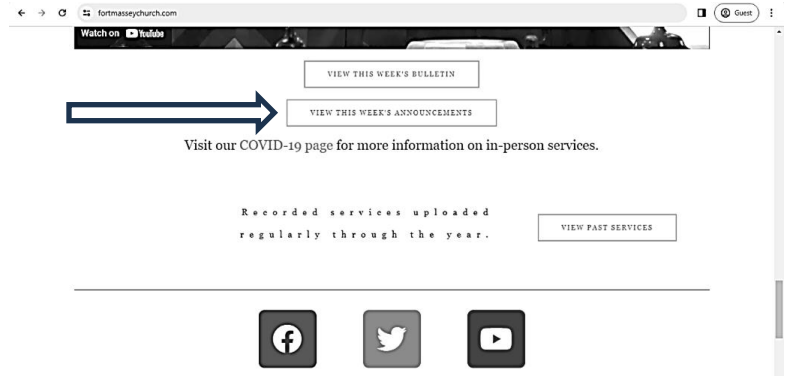
Help Wanted 🙏

Fort Massey is looking for a new treasurer. The position of treasurer is not as onerous as it once was since many of the tasks are done by others. We aim to have the position as a three-year term. Anyone who is interested please speak to Alison McDonald or Kathy Evans from the Nominating Committee.

Weekly Announcements

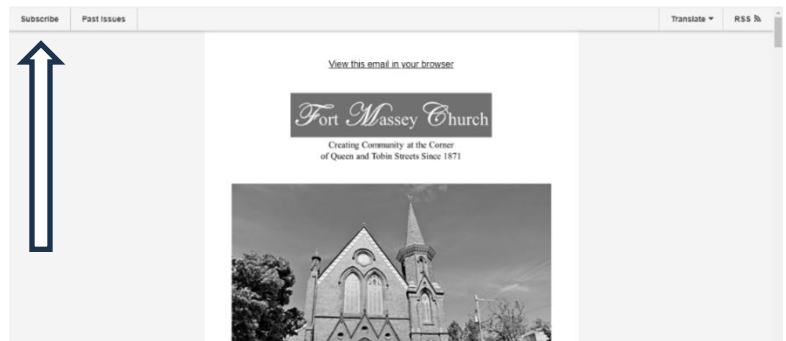
The weekly announcements are now available online; they may be found on the church's website.

To **read** them online, please visit our church's homepage at: <https://fortmasseychurch.com/>



If you are wishing to **subscribe** to the announcements, please click the "Subscribe" button.

In the form that opens, please fill in your email address and first name, and then click "subscribe".



Thank You for Your Financial Support

We thank you for your financial support of Fort Massey. Whether using e-transfer to fmchurch@eastlink.ca, PAR, cheque or envelopes, all are so appreciated. Donations may also be made through the following online charity donation websites: CanadaHelps - <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/fort-massey-united-church/> or Charitable Impact: <https://my.charitableimpact.com/charities/fort-massey-united-church>. In the sanctuary, donations can be made as you leave after worship. Offering plates are located by the font, if exiting to Tobin Street, or in the aisle as you exit into the Queen Street lobby.

Fort Massey Vision Statement

At Fort Massey, we live into being a vibrant and evolving community where tradition is honoured, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged, where everyone is welcomed, needed, valued and belongs. Following Jesus' example of expansive love, we aim to provide a safe, nurturing environment where everyone is free to be themselves. We celebrate and encourage people of every age, health situation, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family configuration, background, ability, interest, culture, economic circumstance and faith journey into the full participation and leadership of ministries in the life and work of Fort Massey United Church.

Welcome to Fort Massey. We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing', just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Moderator of the United Church of Canada or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, hockey dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organized religion.' (We're not that keen on it either!) We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to the ol' Kirk. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost on the Armdale roundabout and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters... and you!

(adapted and used with permission, Coventry Cathedral, England)