

THE LINK

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



March 2023

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Victoria, BC



Reflections

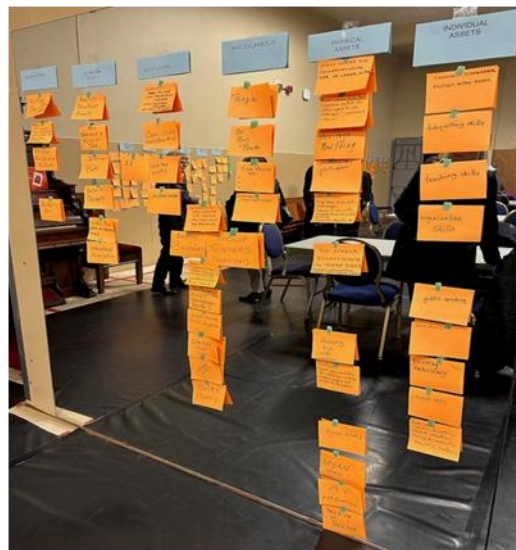
I would like to share a photo that I recently took in our backyard. The yard was dark with no lights to illuminate. Suddenly we were surprised that not only was

our yard flooded with light, but it revealed a scenic image of our apple tree highlighted on our work shed. But the apple tree is over 4.5 metres from our shed! We then realized the neighbour's spotlights were manifesting the limbs onto the side of our shed. It looked as if the tree was directly in front of the shed, but the reflection magnified the tree limbs far from where the tree stands.

The reflection of the image was much more beautiful than the actual tree itself!



A few days later, a similar reflection occurred during a Sunday afternoon exercise at St. Andrew's. Thirty-two persons had just completed a discovery process by naming various resources in which participants challenged themselves to see beyond their



knowing and recognize new discoveries about what is usually right in front of us on a regular basis. Their reflection magnified new possibilities that we had previously not been able to see. New light emerged!

I am reminded of the well-known imprint on our automobile side-view mirrors; "Objects in mirror are closer than they appear." What images might God be reflecting in our lives and our church that we might potentially see if we remain open?

Lenten Blessings,
Pastor Mitch

February Session Report

Session is pleased to announce the appointment of a new session clerk: T. (Jerry) Verwey.

Session received a progress report from our webmaster, Martin Perez, about our new proposed website and web-hosting provider. This will increase our web capacity from 1Gb to a possible 10Gb and therefore allow more content and more user-friendly interactions. Martin hoped to have a beta copy available by April for our comments and input.

Our Administration Committee chair informed us that arrangements have been made for a temporary office administrator with the resignation of Shannon. We will explore the possibility of a shared office administrator with our sister congregations during this time as well as other functions such as treasurer.

Our asset mapping exercise was reported to have produced three working groups with the hope that during the three months, encouraging results will become apparent.

Rev. Coggins informed session of his planned vacation from March 6th - 12th to visit family and we wish him godspeed.

Session is looking to add to our numbers with the request going out at the AGM that was held on Sunday Feb 26th.

Property Committee has reported that parapet remediation funds may be available through the heritage committee and is pursuing that with the objective of making our parapets earthquake safe. A further report will become available once an engineering study has been done.

The lecture room has been fully returned for St. Andrew's use and plans to upgrade the area were proposed. Funds will be coming from various sources as approved at the AGM. One item sorely needed is a suitable dishwasher.

T. Verwey,
Session Clerk

Mission and Outreach Committee

Tseshah First Nation findings at the former site of Alberni Indian Residential School (AIRS)

On February 21, 2023, Tseshah First Nation announced that it was able to verify the deaths of 67 students at the former site of the Alberni Indian Residential School. Geophysical research and ground penetrating radar has identified 17 possible unmarked graves. The Presbyterian Church in Canada acknowledges these findings and the harm it has caused and renews its commitment to reconciliation, healing and redress.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada operated 11 residential schools for indigenous students in Canada, with the first of these opening in the 1880's. The Alberni Indian Residential School was operated by the Presbyterian Church until 1925, and thereafter the United Church of Canada. The church offered its official apology to Indigenous peoples in 1994 for its role in operating these schools. Emotional trauma and scars continue today; these are reopened each time new information is recovered from discoveries at residential schools. Our role is to continue to learn and listen with compassion and understanding to residential school survivors, their families and communities. <https://presbyterian.ca>

As this new information can be difficult, there is support available to indigenous peoples.

KUU-US Crisis Line Society

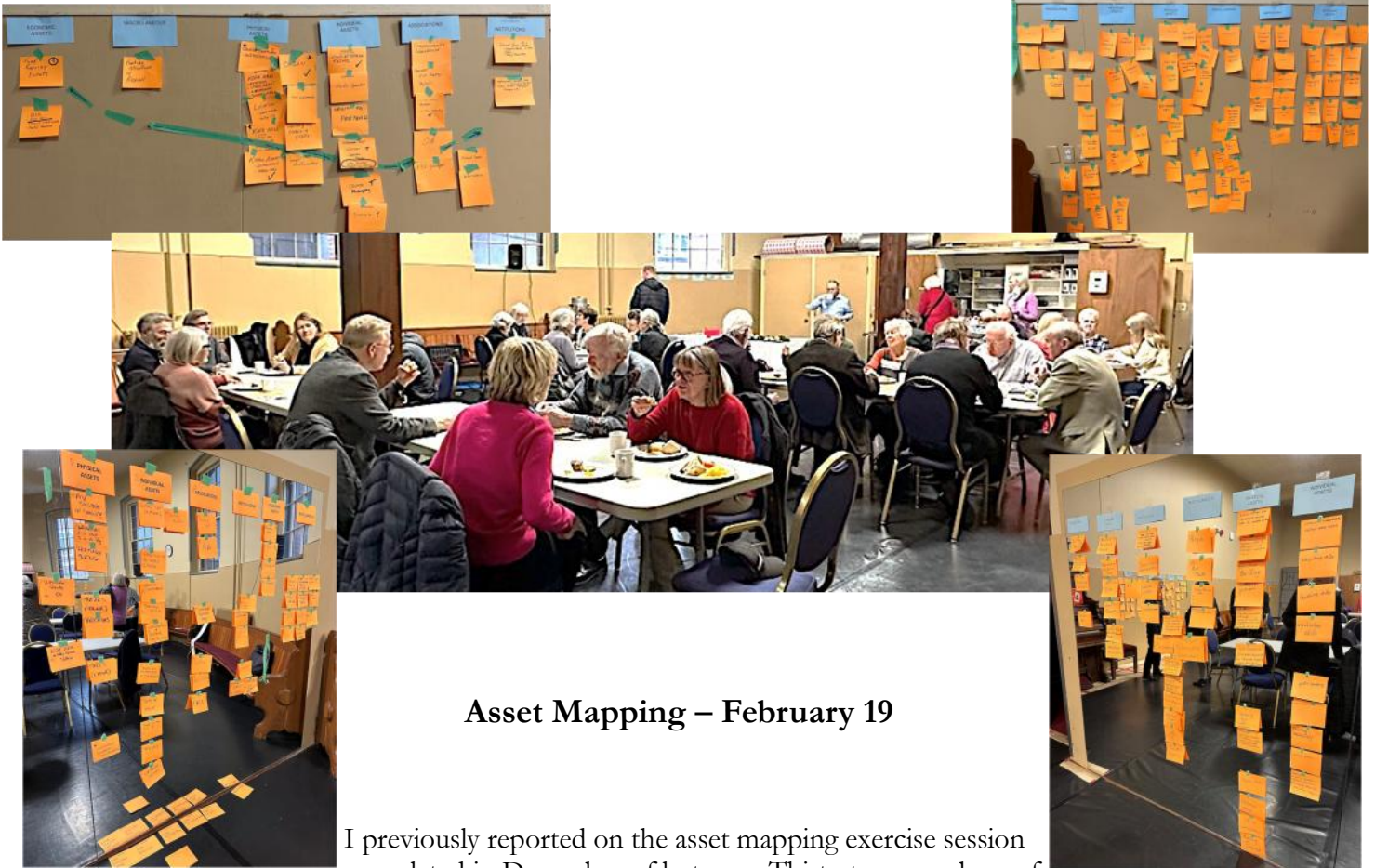
KUU-US services are for First Nations, by First Nations who are certified and trained.

1-800-588-8717

<http://kuu-uscrisisline.com>

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line
24 hours 1-855-242-3310

Patti Jackson,
Mission & Outreach



Asset Mapping – February 19

I previously reported on the asset mapping exercise session completed in December of last year. Thirty-two members of the congregation participated in a similar process on Sunday, February 19th after a light lunch in the Lecture Room. Many thanks to Jean Watt and her team for preparing the lunch!

We followed a similar process with five groups of 5 - 7 people and began the process of 'idea creation' under the different groupings of physical assets, individual assets, associations, institutions, economic assets and miscellaneous. In effect, it enabled us to brainstorm without limits on the various assets, connections and associations we have both within St. Andrew's as well as within our broader community.

At the end of the exercise three major projects were identified: the Sanctuary, the Kitchen, and Planning. Three teams were formed and members of the teams have committed to developing a strategy. They will report back to the congregation in a 3 - 6 month time frame on the success of each of the initiatives. Some people were not able to participate in the February 19th exercise, so we are extending an invitation to those members who would like to join one of the three teams.

The contact persons are: Patricia Shuckburgh for the sanctuary project; Patti Jackson for the kitchen project; and Laura Richards for the planning project. Please contact any one of these team leads if you would like to be a part of any of these projects.

As the teams gel and move forward, you can expect updates on a regular basis as to what is planned and what is accomplished.

Please take advantage of the invitation and contact Patricia, Patti or Laura to make your contribution to the continued success of St. Andrew's.

Respectfully,
Jim Ferguson

Nomination of Elders

- A number of elders have retired over the past couple of years.
- It is important that we plan for succession so that when elders retire, resign, or take a leave of absence, we have elders prepared to move into leadership roles as they become vacant.
- The session is inviting members of the congregation to prayerfully consider who they might nominate to be an elder, and to submit nominations for consideration.
- An elder must be a professing member of the congregation and must be “an example to the believers in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).
- Submission to be made in writing, addressed to Clerk of Session and delivered to the church office, or submitted by email to session.clerk@standrewsvictoria.ca
- Submissions must be received no later than Sunday, March 26, 2023

For more details of the roles and responsibilities of an elder, please refer to Articles 105 through 134 in the Book of Forms, downloadable at <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/>

Process for Election of Elders

Refer to articles in the Book of Forms (download at <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/>)

109.3 The session is responsible for the election and admission of elders. It is the duty of the session to judge the qualifications of those nominated and/or elected by vote of the congregation to the office of elder and, by its own resolution, to admit them to eldership.

132. Election to the eldership is the call of God, through the congregation, for service in Christ's Church. Since the eldership is a spiritual office concerned with the rule and pastoral oversight of the congregation, only suitable men and women should be considered. They should be committed Christians, in regular attendance at public worship, persons of sound judgment and upright character, and either knowledgeable or prepared to learn of the government of the church. (See sections 106–106.2 and 449–449.4)

132.1 The right of electing elders is vested in the professing members of the congregation.

132.2 When the session has resolved to add to the number of elders, it gives notice to the congregation. A ballot is prepared using one of two procedures:

Ballot of Nominees or by Ballot of Members (see Articles 132.2.2 to 132.2.2 to 132.4). The practice at St Andrew's is by Ballot of Nominees.

132.2.1 Ballot of nominees

a) The session, or a nominating committee of the session, as well as professing members of the congregation, nominate members.

Nominations from members must be in writing and made by at least two persons, either separately or together.

b) The nominating period must be spread over at least three successive Sundays.

c) The session approves the nominees as to their suitability for eldership (see section 132) and their willingness to serve as an elder if elected.

d) The names of all those deemed suitable and willing to serve are placed on the ballot

The process and timeline beginning February 2023:

- February 2023, session agrees that we need new elders to join St. Andrew's session.
- Announcement at the AGM that session is seeking nomination for elders.
- Announcements to follow in TWASA March 2, 9 and 16.
- Announcements in worship Sunday 5, 12 and 19 March.
- Submissions to be addressed to Clerk of Session and delivered to the church office, or submitted by email to session.clerk@standrewsvictoria.ca.

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(Continued from page 4)

- Submissions must be received no later than Sunday, March 26, 2023.
- Only names of proposed elders with at least 2 nominations will be considered (Book of Forms Article 132.2.1A).

Next steps:

A list of all nominees will be compiled.

Rev. Coggin and an elder will meet with nominees to determine suitability, discuss with them the role of elders and enquire whether they are willing to be ordained as an elder.

Only nominees who received two or more nominations (see Article 132 and 1 Timothy 4.12) will be considered.

Even if you do not know anyone to nominate, please pray for this important process that is essential if we are to grow the leadership within our congregation. Pray for wisdom for the session in the nomination process and pray for those who are nominated that God will prepare them to accept the call to eldership.

If you have any questions about the election of elders please speak with an elder or Pastor Mitch.

Session

Christian Education

LENTEN DEVOTION OPPORTUNITIES

Christian Education would like to draw your attention to two Lenten Devotionals:

St. Andrew's Hall, a college of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, has created a 2023 Lenten Devotional. The daily devotionals are written by staff, professors, and students. It is available at <https://www.standrews.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Lenten-Devotion-2023-Final.pdf>

For a second year, Linda Coggin has gathered Lenten reflections written by members of St. Andrew's family. These will be shared through a link placed in TWASA.

Those who do not have access to TWASA will receive it with our newsletter, *The Link*.

Sabine Teetzel

Building Community Together - Part Two

St. Andrew's Spring Market - Lecture Room

Friday, May 12th, 11- 4

Saturday, May 13th, 10 - 4

Featured will be jewelry, crafts, attic treasures and a silent auction. Lunch, treats, muffins and coffee will be for sale in the Kirk Hall. (see poster p. 8)

In the past months there have been many changes as to how we use our spaces at St. Andrew's. The room we call the Lecture Room is in desperate need of renovating to make it more usable, not only for us but so that we can share it more effectively with our community.

At our AGM, we agreed to assign, and reassign, funds for these renovations as well as use the money raised from our Spring Market.

When the renovations are complete it will provide a better, accessible, usable space for after service coffee hour, or other activities.

Now the Spring Market planning team needs everyone's help.

First, we need volunteers to help in many ways, each day of the sale. Each sale area has a lead and if you can help, speak to one of the following, or leave a message with the office (250-384-5734) and you will be contacted:

Dave Garson - Monitoring Entrances/Exits

Dawn McLean - Jewelry

Jean Watt - Attic Treasures/Crafts

David McLean - Silent Auction

Sheelagh Garson - Lunch Sales

Second, mark your calendars, distribute posters, share the event, and then plan to attend, and bring your friends and families to shop. In the weeks following the Market, we'll begin looking at what needs to be done and how it can be accomplished. There will be opportunities to gather information, and then to help with decisions as we continue to **build community together**.

S. Garson

on behalf of Property Committee

First Sunday in Lent – February 26, 2023



Alberta Brown, Flute & Christine Purvis, Organ *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* by Lani Smith
Alberta & Christine also played a musical reflection by Stephen Brown, *Come, Creator Spirit*.



Choral Anthem: "A Prayer for Ukraine"

Lord, oh the Great and Almighty,
Protect our beloved Ukraine,
Bless her with freedom and light
Of your holy rays.

With learning and knowledge enlighten us,
your children small,
In love pure and everlasting
Let us, oh Lord, grow.

We pray, oh Lord Almighty,
Protect our beloved Ukraine,
Grant our people and country
All your kindness and grace.

Bless us with freedom, bless us with wisdom,
Guide into kind world,
Bless us, oh Lord, with good fortune
For ever and evermore.



Photo by D. Verwey

The flowers and table décor at coffee time on February 26, reflected the colours of the Ukrainian flag. We are grateful to Dorothy Reimer for the thoughtful table decorations and flower arrangements.

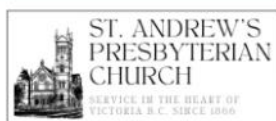


SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC

CELLISTS FROM THE UVIC STUDIO OF PAM HIGHBAUGH-ALONI, THE LEAD CELLIST IN THE LAFAYETTE QUARTET, WILL PERFORM CLASSICAL SELECTIONS.
CELLISTS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY UVIC SCHOOL OF MUSIC PIANISTS.

March 5 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Corner of Broughton and Douglas
Broughton Street Accessibility Entrance
Free Parking at Library Parkade
Doors at 1:30pm / Concert at 2:00pm
Donation Boxes

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
PHONE: 250-384-5734
EMAIL: OFFICE@STANDREWSVICTORIA.CA



Program

Welcome - Patti Jackson, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Suite for Unaccompanied Cello No. 3 in C Major (J.S. Bach) - Tau Kaploykeo, cello

Suite for Unaccompanied Cello No. 5 in C Minor (J.S. Bach) - Tau Kaploykeo, cello

In Manus Tuas (2009) for Solo Cello (Caroline Shaw) - Aline Th  vard, cello

Fantasy for Cello and Orchestra, op. 52 (Mieczyslaw Weinberg) - Tau Kaploykeo, cello

SILENT AUCTION!

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SPRING MARKET



PROCEEDS TOWARDS LECTURE HALL RENOVATIONS!

MAY 12 FRIDAY 11- 4 PM

MAY 13 SATURDAY 10 - 4 PM

CURIOSITIES FOR SALE	REFRESHMENTS FOR SALE
JEWELRY	COFFEE AND TEA
HANDICRAFTS	MUFFINS AND BARS
ATTIC TREASURES	SOUP AND A BUN

 **BROUGHTON STREET ENTRANCE
AT THE LECTURE HALL** 



California Chamber Choir Concert

The Rubidoux High School Chamber Choir, from Jurupa Valley, California, is known throughout Southern California for its detailed musicality and dedication to music outreach in the community.

The choir has performed all across the United States in places like San Francisco, Las Vegas, Seattle, New York, and has also performed in Paris, France. Receiving a number of superior ratings in festivals across Southern California, the Rubidoux High School Chamber Choir has come to be the “go-to” choir in their small town of Jurupa Valley, CA.

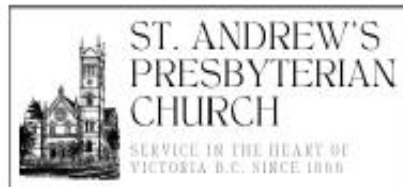
In addition to the festival and tour performances, the choir is well known for its participation in numerous city events. From tree-lighting ceremonies to volunteer performances at City Hall, the Rubidoux High School Chamber choir is committed to spreading the joy of choral music throughout the community and beyond.

The choir is visiting Victoria and will be performing at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 16th, at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary, following the worship service.

STRINGS STUDENTS FROM THE CLASSES OF THE LAFAYETTE STRING QUARTET AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA WILL PRESENT A CONCERT OF BELOVED WORKS FOR VIOLIN, VIOLA AND CELLO.

*April 2 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Corner of Broughton and Douglas
Broughton Street Accessibility Entrance
Free Parking at Library Parkade
Doors at 1:30pm / Concert at 2:00pm
Donation Boxes*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
PHONE: 250-384-5734
EMAIL: OFFICE@STANDREWSVICTORIA.CA



SPRING CLEANING?

The Jewelry stall is looking for
JEWELRY, SCARVES and PURSES

in good condition for St. Andrew's Spring Market May 12 and 13! (See poster p. 8.)

Please bring your donations to the church office or to coffee hour. Contact: Dawn McLean.



Are you thinking about helping with our coffee time after Sunday service, **but** you may not have helped in the kitchen before? Maybe it's been a while since you worked in the kitchen and you've forgotten where things are and who does what? In the weeks to come we will hopefully be able to once again have shared meals at St. Andrew's and helping in the kitchen will be essential.

Here are some things that may help:

- Coffee urns are on the shelf in the copy room. Coffee is in the cupboard in the kitchen. Coffee takes approximately one hour to brew.
- Kettles, teapots, tea cozies, tea, coffee, sugar, sugar substitutes and serviettes are in the kitchen. If you notice that more supplies are needed please contact me and I will ensure that more are purchased. Extra supplies are kept in the storeroom off the gym.
- Please do not leave leftovers in our fridge unless they are labeled and you have made arrangements for their use. There is a freezer in the storeroom that can be used also to store "extras" that are labeled and dated.
- The treats (cookies, cakes etc) are donated by the coffee teams and others.
- When it comes to cleaning up, the dishwasher is easy to use and I'm happy to show you how. There are clear instructions posted for the dishwasher. Just remember, there needs to be a person on the *clean* side and a person on the *dirty* side.
- There are spray bottles with cleaning solution for use on all the tables and counters. Please make use of them each time you use the kitchen for food prep and serving.
- Cutting boards are available on the shelf. Please use them appropriately according to the color chart.
- Linens are in the cupboard for our use. Whatever you use should be taken home and washed (bleached & ironed if necessary) and returned to the cupboard in a timely fashion.

- If you need coloured table cloths, there are some in the store room off the gym and there are also many plastic tablecloths in various colours, in the store room on the second floor.
- Cupboards are labeled, so most equipment is easy to find.

All of this is much easier to do or to show, than to write about, so please don't hesitate to volunteer, or to ask questions.

Sheelagh Garson

Convenor, Kitchen Committee

Confidential prayer requests should be sent to:

ryneveld@telus.net.

If you need us, the prayer chain is here, ready and willing to pray with you or for you.



SOME LITERARY COLLECTIVE NOUNS



Some Literary Collective Nouns - a cartoon by Tom Gauld. Reprinted with permission from Tom Gauld.

Submitted by **Brian Titus**

Born Again!

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3 (NIV)

Based on John 3:1-17 (NIV)

*New Life in
Christ*



U J O W H I D P E K A V N D Z
 G K U T D L O V E D S N I T D
 E N R R I B V A T C A A C E Z
 T I F F N S A G R A H Y O A G
 B D T L K H D A U B T L D C M
 V H J G E I D I T V V W E H H
 N K Q Y D S N N H Y G P M E M
 B V N L H F H G B D S N U R H
 B O R N O Q M R D R J L S S R
 M O F S O N A Q C O A P I A A
 W A T E R P N H H N M W J M B
 F X S L I F E I R G E H C O B
 J P H A R I S E E J S T I M I
 M J E S U S T N I G H T I W B
 F A I C Y E S P I R I T K P G

BIRTH
 PHARISEE
 BORN
 JESUS


TRUTH
 AGAIN
 WORLD
 LOVED

SPIRIT
 ETERNAL
 KINGDOM
 TEACHER

NIGHT
 MAN
 NICODEMUS
 LIFE

JEWISH
 RABBI
 FLESH
 WATER

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church - March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Drop-in Social 2-4 Lecture Room Lenten Bible Study 3pm - Knox Choir 7:15		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir 9:30 Communion Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour Musical Concert 2pm	Zoom Lenten Bible Study 7pm	Tea for Tutu Mar. 7 & 8 - 2pm	Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Drop-in Social 2-4 Lecture Room Lenten Bible Study 3pm - Knox Choir 7:15		
12	13		15	16	17	18
Spring Forward! Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	Zoom Lenten Bible Study 7pm		Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Drop-in Social 2-4 Lecture Room Lenten Bible Study 3pm - Knox Choir 7:15	St. Patrick's Day 	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	Zoom Lenten Bible Study 7pm	Session 7pm	Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Drop-in Social 2-4 Lecture Room Lenten Bible Study 3pm - Knox Choir 7:15		
26	27	28	29	30	31	April 1
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Link Deadline	Zoom Lenten Bible Study 7pm		Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Drop-in Social 2-4 Lecture Room Lenten Bible Study 3pm - Knox Choir 7:15		

If you would like additions, updates or