

THE LINK

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



Do you remember the Sunday afternoon Asset Mapping exercise at St. Andrew's on February 19? Thirty-two persons completed a discovery process by naming various resources in which participants challenged themselves to see new ministry possibilities that we had previously not considered.

At the end of the exercise three major projects were identified: the Sanctuary, the Kitchen, and Planning Teams. Three teams committed to developing a strategy for linking our newly named assets with a new mission idea and endeavour.

Success! The Kitchen Team under the leadership of Elder and Mission and Outreach Chairperson, Patti Jackson, formed the following mission strategy:

We would like to show hospitality to a group within our building, AA, thus we propose providing muffins/cookies on a regular basis for their meetings.

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The Kitchen Team double-checked with the AA group that baking and providing muffins for their meetings would be acceptable, and they replied: "AA appreciates being able to use the space at St. Andrew's and we appreciated it in the past when we received the gift of food from St. Andrew's."

Do you see what happened? The goal and purpose of Asset Mapping was designed to allow each of the three teams to envision the 200+ assets that were named on February 19 and create a new and innovative mission opportunity for using those assets to serve others.

What a remarkable idea that allows St. Andrew's to see beyond those who are present on Sunday! Pray for the team of Patti Jackson, Christine Clark and Dorothy Reimer who have volunteered as the Muffin Makers!

Asset Mapping is working, and we anxiously await the Sanctuary Team and the Planning Team as they create their own innovative mission opportunities!

I will be away from May 15 - May 21 to teach at the Encouragement Conference at Presbyterian College in Montreal. The Presbyterian College annual conference for pastoral leaders is designed to encourage and renew ministry leaders through scriptural teaching, worship, artistic exercises, and time spent as a community. The presenters for the conference will be professor and author **Rebekah Eklund**, visual artist **Steve Prince**, and transitional pastor **Mitch Coggin**.

A link that describes the conference is below:

<https://www.presbyteriancollege.ca/2023/01/26/encouragement-2023/>

Linda and I will remain in Montreal Friday - Sunday to explore the city!!

Rich Blessings to all,
Mitch

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thelink@shaw.ca

Victoria, BC

Session Report

At the April session meeting it was reported that there were no new elders coming forward. This is indicative of a 'Crisis in Leadership' in our congregation. We are without a regular treasurer, envelope secretary, Sunday school (Youth) teachers and nursery minders as well as back-ups for those that have volunteered such as coffee group, ushers, readers, open church volunteers and AV/sound operators. All of these including your elders are needed to make the congregation viable. Session asked that you give prayerful consideration if you could assist in even a small way so that we avoid a time when we need to stop doing what we as a congregation wish we could do.

The ministers' gallery should be up by printing time. Check out the photos of our past ministers and assistants/students/ stated supply as you go down to coffee.

Session received an update on our new proposed website (still in beta form) which is well underway to completion, thanks to our webmaster Martin.

The first proposal coming out of our Asset Mapping exercise, providing muffins to the AA group, was approved by session. This will be handled by Patti Jackson as lead of the group.

Session is proceeding with a collaborative approach with our sister congregations by first meeting with a facilitator to provide us with a better insight of our needs and expectations before meeting with the other sessions.

Prayerfully submitted,
T. Verwey



Betty Cowper would have turned 100 on April 27, but died earlier in the week. This photo was taken a few days before she moved to Mount St. Mary. Her daughter, Robin, tells us that Betty loved being a part of St. Andrew's and she especially found comfort in the prayer shawl she had been given.

In Loving Memory

And God shall wipe away all tears from
their eyes; and there shall be no more
death, neither sorrow, nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain....

Revelations 21:4



Stella Higgins - April 9

Betty Cowper - April 25

Mission and Outreach Committee

WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN UNDER TALIBAN CONTROL

The Afghanistan school year recently started without millions of teenage girls in attendance. Since the 2021 takeover by the Taliban, only girls 12 years and younger are being allowed to attend school. In December 2022, Taliban leaders also banned women from attending university and furthering their education. This excludes young women from pursuing an education so that they can ultimately obtain jobs, or become doctors or teachers. In addition, many women have been removed from their places of employment. Afghanistan is the only country in the world where girls are prohibited from going to secondary school. This hard-line stance has been condemned by The United Nations and several other nations.

In addition to this ban on education and employment for women, the Taliban regime's treatment of women has led to a very grim, dangerous and oppressive situation. Women are banned from freedom of public movement, restricted from accessing legal help, and being forced into marriages. In addition there are public beatings, new tortures and deterioration of human rights.

A recent online panel on March 30th facilitated by Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), Community World Service Asia (CWSA), and Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan (CW4WAfghan) had as guest speakers three young

Afghan women, one living in Afghanistan and two in Pakistan. They gave their first hand accounts of the reality of living under this new regime.

How can we help?

Write to your local MP's and call on the Canadian government to act. Although Bill C41 was just passed to hopefully allow the movement of humanitarian funds to those in need in Afghanistan, the concern is still large for the welfare of women. Canadian learning institutions can provide access to higher education through providing scholarships to Afghan students and accepting more transfers of international students. More options for virtual learning can be provided.

Continue to support the work of Presbyterian World Service & Development. PWS&D along with CWSA and CW4WAfghan recently implemented a new digital project supporting the education of Afghan refugee children living in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Keep the spotlight on the situation in Afghanistan. Learn more about human rights and the work of Canadian Women 4 Women in Afghanistan.

Patti Jackson

We know that coffee and conversation is an important part in the life of St. Andrew's and we are pleased to see so many people at the coffee hour after the worship service.

But, we are in great need of some more helpers.

Could you spare an hour to help out our coffee teams occasionally? We would love to have some names on a 'spare list' so that we can call on you when we need help with serving, set up or clean up.

Please contact **Dorothy Reimer** at 250-592-5051.



Life is a journey...lessons learned

Since I retired almost 15 years ago, I have spent time as a volunteer in support of elderly people. Sometimes as a volunteer advocate through the Seniors Entitlement Services of Quadra Village, as a driver for the James Bay Community Project and most recently as a dishwasher at the Thursday luncheon for Seniors at the James Bay School.

My rationale was that if I could make life easier for older people, then when the time came I needed similar services, people would be available to help as need be. My faith was not unfounded.

Most recently one of our family members was diagnosed with cognitive decline. It is risky to put a label on the specifics as it can lead one down the wrong path and thus the wrong resolution, treatment or understanding.

I won't share any health or medical details but wanted to share these lessons with you.

One of my (volunteer) associates used the phrase "get on the bus with her". It took me a while to understand this concept. What it means is, if someone is in cognitive decline and says something which may not make sense, "get on the bus with them" and become part of the conversation.

In the examples below, both parents have been dead for over 15 years.

Example:

(A) *Have you seen my mother?*

(J) *Not today, but I saw her at the golf course yesterday.*

Another example:

A visit by a home care worker...

(A) *Where are my mom and dad?*

(W) *They are out for a walk.*

(A) *It is a great day for a walk...*

In other words, become part of the conversation in an accepting way, rather than in a corrective manner. My point is we don't know what choices life may present us with, but along the way we meet people who have words of wisdom, which at the time might not make sense, but when we put them in context, gives us a better understanding of how to respond to life events.

Another discovery...

I found helpful information on the VIHA web site and in particular the Long-Term Care Access Guide [long-term-care-access.pdf \(islandhealth.ca\)](https://www.islandhealth.ca/files/long-term-care-access.pdf)

The information provided in the document is helpful in terms of preparing for such a move.

And "here's the rest of the story"

With respect to Paul Harvey the originator of the term "here's the rest of the story" I wanted to share this with you.

At the beginning of this piece I mentioned my volunteer work as a dishwasher at the James Bay School Thursday lunch for seniors. At the lunch on Thursday, April 6, I shared the update with a couple of other volunteers, who also had experience with long-term care homes. My confidence in the care and attention was further validated by their comments. Although it may not be "the rest of the story" it will continue and I'll share updates on the journey.

The lesson I learned in this exchange was, it's okay to share your story and concerns and you may find the people listening have had similar experiences and can share how they resolved issues or found comfort and support.

It is okay to talk with others as to what we are experiencing, it enables them to share their experiences while at the same time enabling you to clarify your own. It is important to acknowledge the support we have received from agencies such as VIHA, VICPD, members of St. Andrew's, friends, and family. We are in this together.

With the utmost appreciation,
Jim Ferguson



Confidential prayer requests can 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.

A MUSICAL SOIRÉE

As part of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Music Project (a partnership between the UVIC School of Music and St. Andrew's) funded by the Victoria Foundation, the strings students from the studios of Ann Elliott-Goldschmid, Sharon Stanis, and Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni performed in the sanctuary on April 2 at 2:00 pm. The students performed on violin and cello.



Luke Kim (cello) accompanied on the piano by his mother
Yoomi Kim, a concert pianist.



Theodore Latta (violin)
Cindy Xu (piano)



Jade Chu (violin)



Libby Wyse (violin)



Joyce Tsai (violin)



Megan Bibby (violin) and Theo Kim (piano)



Nicole Phanichphant (cello) and Easton Roy (piano)

The next music event will be on **Sunday, July 2, 2023** in the sanctuary at 2:00 pm. Fest West will be a two-week workshop for quartets studying at UVIC. Students will attend from Western Canada and will be instructed by members of the Lafayette Quartet. The July 2nd performance is the only downtown performance venue during Fest West. Last year's event, held in the sanctuary, was a highlight for the Fest West program and especially those students visiting Victoria for the first time. Mark your calendars!

Submitted by **Dawn McLean**

St. Andrew's Tapestry

Spring Market

A tapestry can be defined in many ways, but it always involves a weaving together of shapes, sizes, colours, gifts and talents.

Our church community proclaims God's love to the world, and our actions create a tapestry. We worship and pray together, we plan together, we put plans into action, and together we weave a tapestry - the tapestry that is our Christian community at St. Andrew's and indeed, greater Victoria.

It has been a very busy few weeks for our Spring Market Planning Committee, and for the many others who have stepped forward to donate, pick up, deliver, create, sort, price and prepare for our market sale days - May 12 and 13.

Thank you to each and everyone of you. You've gotten us to this stage, now there is just the final stage to complete. Those who have volunteered to help on the days of the sale, and also with set up and take down, will complete our project. If you have offered to help with welcoming, sales, or supplies, we're counting on you.

Then lastly, be sure to come to the market on one or both of the days, check out the items for sale, bid on auction items, stop in for lunch or a snack and bring your friends and family members.

Each of us, whether long-time participants at St. Andrew's or new that day, are all part of our tapestry and we welcome each and everyone.

Sheelagh Garson

PROCEEDS TOWARDS LECTURE HALL RENOVATIONS!

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SPRING MARKET



MAY 12 FRIDAY 11- 4 PM

MAY 13 SATURDAY 10 - 4 PM

CURIOSITIES FOR SALE

JEWELRY
HANDICRAFTS
ATTIC TREASURES

REFRESHMENTS FOR SALE

COFFEE AND TEA
MUFFINS AND BARS
SOUP AND A BUN



**BROUGHTON STREET ENTRANCE
AT THE LECTURE HALL**



**Multispecies Families on the Streets:
Dogs and Their Homeless Guardians**

A Full-Day, In-Person Symposium,
Thursday, May 25, 2023, 9am-4.30pm
University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada

Join us at this in-person event for a one-day, educational, interactive symposium exploring the well-being of dogs and their homeless guardians.

TICKETS: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/multispecies-families-on-the-streets-dogs-and-their-homeless-guardians-tickets-601027638847>

Through a keynote address, expert panel presentations, Q&As, and group breakout sessions, we will endeavour to expand our knowledge and challenge our preconceptions about homelessness and animal guardianship. As a group, we will identify potential changes that might be made in local animal and human services, as well as in municipal policy and practices, to better serve all members of homeless multispecies families.

A plant-based lunch and coffee and snacks will be served.

\$20 for the employed and \$5 for students
Free for anyone who cannot afford the registration fee.
(Registration IS required for free tickets. To get a free ticket, "buy" a \$0 ticket.) Registration required and opens at 8.30 AM.

Keynote speaker:

Leslie Irvine, PhD - professor of Sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder, and author of *My Dog Always Eats First: Homeless People and Their Animals*, a study of the experiences of homeless animal guardians in five U.S. cities.

Panelists include:

Individuals with lived experience of animal guardianship while homeless.

Kim Monteith, Manager of Animal Behaviour and Welfare for the B.C. SPCA. Ms. Monteith has been actively involved supporting and advocating for unhoused and marginally housed multispecies families in Vancouver and across Canada.

Dr. Chloë Roberts, a veterinarian who volunteers with Vets for Pets, a non-profit veterinary clinic offering free veterinary care to the dogs and cats of homeless and low-income animal guardians in the Victoria area.

Dr. Jim Crosby, a former police officer of over 20 years and the former head of animal control in Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Crosby has extensive canine behavioural training and expertise, holds a PhD in veterinary forensics, and is an internationally recognized authority and court-approved expert on canine attacks and aggression.

Attic Treasures

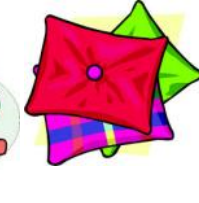
Downsizing? Spring Cleaning?



The Spring Market at St. Andrew's would welcome your gently-used items, small appliances or anything that might be useful to others.

Please leave your articles in the Cloak Room located near the Kirk Hall entrance.

Questions? Please contact the church office.



The Jewelry stall is looking for
JEWELRY, SCARVES and PURSES

in good condition for

St. Andrew's Spring Market

May 12 and 13.

Please bring your donations to the church office or to coffee hour.

Contact: **Dawn McLean.**



Healey Willan: the first Canadian to write a coronation anthem

Did you know that a Canadian, Healey Willan (1880-1968), was the first non-British resident to be asked to write music for a coronation? Specifically he was commissioned to write the anthem sung during the feudal “homage” to Queen Elizabeth. While his “O Lord our Governour” was sung, the senior representatives of the Lords Spiritual (the Archbishop of Canterbury) and of each of the degrees of the Lords Temporal (dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts and barons) paid individual homage, with those of equal degree doing likewise in their own places within the abbey (Torrance 2023).

The original footage of the 1953 homage, with a descriptive commentary overlaying Willan’s anthem, can be found on YouTube, as can a modern recording of “O Lord our Governour” sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey. (Healey Willan’s original handwritten score and letter explaining the origins and writing of the anthem are in the Queen’s University archive and can be viewed on-line.)

Who was Healey Willan? After arriving in Canada in 1913, his career included over 40 years as music director and organist at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene (Anglican) in Toronto (1921-68); he was also a teacher (1913-20) and vice-principal (1920-36) of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and a member of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto (1937-50). He played an active and sometimes leadership role in a number of musical associations and organizations in Canada and was made a Companion of the Order of Canada (1967) in recognition of his contribution to music.

He “composed operas, symphonies, concertos and music for band, piano, organ, choir and solo voice - some 800 works in all” (Canadian Encyclopedia) – and wrote and arranged a large number of hymn tunes, many of which are still sung today. Our current PCC hymnal contains four of his tunes and six of his arrangements of older hymns. Christine Purvis often plays organ pieces that he composed.

Healey Willan has been described as a “dominant figure in Canadian musical life for over half a century” that “influenced several generations of composers, organists, choir directors, singers and audiences through his teaching and example” (Canadian Encyclopedia).

While I listen to the music performed at the coronation of King Charles III, I will also be reflecting on the coronation held 70 years earlier at which a Canadian composer was honoured by the commission of an anthem – a composer whose contribution to hymns

and organ music still enriches our worship at St. Andrew’s in the present day. Thanks be to God for the gift of music, and how it touches our daily lives in so many ways, especially in corporate worship!

Brian Titus

- Biography of Healey Willan (Healey Willan Society)
- Biography of Healey Willan (Canadian Encyclopedia)
- Healey Willan: Life and Music (biography by F.R.C. Clarke)
- “O Lord Our Governour” - live broadcast from 1953, with commentary
- “O Lord Our Governour” - Choir of Westminster Abbey, modern recording
- “O Lord Our Governour” - handwritten sheet music in Queen’s University archives

Hymns in PCC Hymnal composed or arranged by Healey Willan

Original composition:

“Eternal, Unchanging, we sing to your praise” (337)

“Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour” (541)

“Lord, have mercy upon us” (552)

“Lord, in this broken world” (723)

Arrangement:

“Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel” (122) Gregorian plainsong

“The first nowell” (136)

“Of eternal love begotten” (163)

“Brightest and best of the stars of the morning” (175)

“O Holy Spirit, by whose breath” (402) Mechlin plainsong

“Lord, have mercy upon us” (547) Merbecke chant1

Coronation ceremonies: Torrance, D. 2023. The coronation: History and ceremonial. Research Briefing, House of Commons Library

Coronation music: The role and significance of traditional and commissioned music within coronations (Westminster Abbey web page)

Memory Cafe Victoria



APRIL 13 TO
JUNE 15
2023

10 WEEKS
\$100
REGISTRATION
PER COUPLE

Relax, unwind, and have some fun! The café is designed to allow you and your loved one to participate in creative activities together while socializing with others. Coffee, tea and treats are provided. The café offers a caring and welcoming community for both people with dementia and their caregivers.

PEARKES RECREATION CENTRE

3100 Tillicum Rd, Victoria
Youth Centre

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Debra Sheets, Ph.D, RN
School of Nursing
Univ. of Victoria
Ph: (250) 853-3947
Email: dsheets@uvic.ca

Support generously provided by





April 2 - Palm Sunday

Rev. Mitch Coggin - Time for the young and young at heart.



Easter Sunday - April 9, 2023



Alberta Brown (flute); Christine Purvis (piano)



David Barss (trumpet)



Bella Kershaw - soloist



St. Andrew's choir with handbells and organist, Christine Purvis

April 16, 2023 - Second Sunday of Easter

Rubidoux High School Choir - Jurupa Valley, California

**Thursday, April 27, 2023
Spring Recital**

Antonia Mahon (right) and Christine Constabel; Christine Purvis on the organ.

This is the first recital that St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Music Program has hosted since November 18, 2020 when COVID closed the doors on our Church and most businesses at midnight. It was exciting to be able to hold this event, which was very well received. The big question is, "When is the next one?"

Open Church

The following is an edited version of a recent incident related to *The Link* by Jerry Verwey who is an Open Church guide.

He tells us that one day when he was preparing the anthem template for the hymn "Seek ye first" he recalled a conversation he had with one of the Open Church visitors. A gentleman came in and sat down with bowed head and appeared to be perusing the green Living Faith booklet in the pew rack. After a while he spoke to Jerry and told him that he felt the presence of our Lord guiding him in this place. Although he appeared to be in his mid-forties, he explained that in his youth he was heavily addicted to heroin, cocaine and other drugs until he hit rock bottom. Once he had reached that point he said he kneeled and asked for help. He then said he felt a sense of lightness and his burdens being lifted from him. Jerry noted that he had asked, sought, and then received.

Jerry says, "the strength he got to overcome his addiction he attributes to the faith and trust he received from that still small voice. His trust in the words of the Bible as the word of God is humbling to one who has never had to deal with the problems this young man faced. It brings a whole new meaning to 'seek and ye shall find, knock and the door will be opened'. What do we seek where we are located? Will we find what God has given us?"

T. Verwey
Open Church guide

Choir Practice is serious business!



Charmander and Pikachu dropped into St. Andrew's for choir practice on Thursday evening, April 27th. It was too bad that regular members, Amanda Steinemann and Jorge Carrizales, were not present to meet them.

Location and Dates - MID WEEK CAMPING - Presbytery Camps

Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park June 5th-9th (self campsite registration - BC provincial parks)

Group campsite fees for 2 adults and 2 children


French Beach Provincial Park July 6th-10th - \$140.00 weekend

Rath Trevor Provincial Park July 31st- August 7th - \$250.00 week

For enquiry Contact Camp VIP Communicator campvip@outlook.com



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church - May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 30	1	2	3	4	5	6
Worship 10:30			Open Church 12 -1	Choir 7:15		
			Meditation 4:30-5:30			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour			Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Choir 7:15	Spring Market 11 - 4 Coffee/Tea & Light Lunch	Spring Market 10 - 4 Pandora Chorus 7pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour		Session 7pm	Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Choir 7:15		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour			Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30	Choir 7:15		
28	29	30	31	June 1	2	3
Choir 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour Link Deadline			Open Church 12 -1 Meditation 4:30-5:30			

If you would like additions, updates or changes to this calendar, please submit that information to thelink@shaw.ca

