

This Week At St. Andrew's

The Parable of Possibility

Congregations throughout North America are living in times of shrinking budgets, aging facilities and sagging ranks of volunteers. Less people are trying desperately to perform the same functions for the church that we have faithfully performed for years.

But there is help and hope on the horizon. Jesus set the scene for us by seeing the best in everyone and feeding the five thousand with a minimal amount. He even had plenty left following the meal.

Sunday 30 persons from St. Andrew's are registered for an exercise called Asset Mapping. It starts with our interests (listing the resources within our congregation that we may have overlooked as resources) and moves us into action by forming clusters of ideas of how we might become involved in using our resources differently.

These 30 persons will move from the worship service into the Lecture Room for a catered meal followed by our participation in the Asset Mapping exercise.

As Isaiah 43 reminds us, "See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up: do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."

Thank you in advance to those who have registered for this powerful experience of discovery and possibility on Sunday! May the Lord bless and guide us!

Blessings
Mitch



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church acknowledges and thanks the Lekwungen People – WSÁNEĆ, Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations – on whose traditional land we meet and worship.

Take a Risk!

In this past Sunday's sermon, Mitch asked, "What does our worship lead us to do?"

So what do you do during worship or during the week to strengthen your personal relationship with God and one another?

How does your faith "show up" in the regular routines or surprise you during the week?

I realize that sharing our own story can be scary. And yet, sharing gives us an opportunity to think deeply about your own connections with grace and love. Your experience is uniquely your own, however, we reveal our similarities and bridge differences when we are open with one another.

I read that anything we do is prayer if we are consenting to God's presence and action in our lives. This is true when I cook a meal in gratitude or look out in wonder at God's provisions for me in this day.

Each of you experience moments that are prayerful reminders of God's presence; sometimes in the midst of difficult circumstances and often in the middle of our daily routines. Each of us both struggle and find joy as we attempt to know God.

We invite YOU to share those moments in any way that you choose: a description, an example, a story, poem, (handwritten or typed) or photograph that can be included in our daily guide for the season of Lent.

Send to Linda Coggin or drop your submission by the Church office by February 19, 2023.

lindacoggin@gmail.com
250-880-0932

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

QUIET MEDITATION
SACRED MUSIC
IMPOSITION OF ASHES

ALL ARE WELCOME!



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY!

CHRIST AND THE CHOCOLATERIE

Sponsored by Knox, Trinity and
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



AT KNOX CHURCH 2964 RICHMOND RD
THURSDAYS 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 30

Purchase 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' by Hilary Brand in
paperback or Kindle, or call the office to order a copy.

Based on 'Chocolat', the 1999 novel by Joanne Harris, and 2000
movie directed by Lasse Hallström.



California Chamber Choir Concert

The Rubidoux High School Chamber Choir, from Jurupa Valley, California, is known throughout Southern California for their 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 Paris. 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 their festival and tour performances, the choir is well known for their 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 1:00pm in the Sanctuary, after regular service is held.

Prayers and Support for our brothers and sisters in Pakistan and Syria-Turkiye

After the devastating earthquake in Syria-Turkiye Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) along with their partners in the ACT Alliance are on the ground and have begun to assist those affected by the disaster. The need is so great in Syria-Turkiye as well as in Pakistan.

You can donate via your church envelopes or directly on the Presbyterian Church of Canada website at <https://presbyterian.ca/donate/donate-to-pwsd>.

On the website you can indicate that your donation goes to where monies are needed most or to Pakistan relief or Syria-Turkiye relief. The phone number to donate is 1-800-619-7301.

Each and every donation to Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) truly makes a difference in the lives of others.

Farewell to Shannon

Shannon Cummings, our Church Administrator, will be leaving the employ of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church as of February 28, 2023. She has accepted a full-time position elsewhere.

Shannon has enjoyed working in our Church Office. She says, "St. Andrew's is a wonderful place to work."

For seven months, we have appreciated Shannon's dedication to her work, her enthusiasm, her organizational skills, her smiling face and we will be very sorry to see her depart. Shannon, we wish you nothing but success in your future endeavours.



THURSDAY SOCIAL

ALL ARE WELCOME!

2:00 TO 4:00 PM

Drop by the Lecture Hall
Tea and Coffee Served

A TIME TO MEET NEW PEOPLE
AND VISIT WITH FRIENDS!

We Need Your Ideas!

God has blessed St Andrew's richly, in more ways than we realize. How might we put those riches to use for God? This is your time to come forward with your ideas. Come and join us.

When: Sunday 19 February

Where: Lecture room

Lunch: a light lunch will be provided for participants.

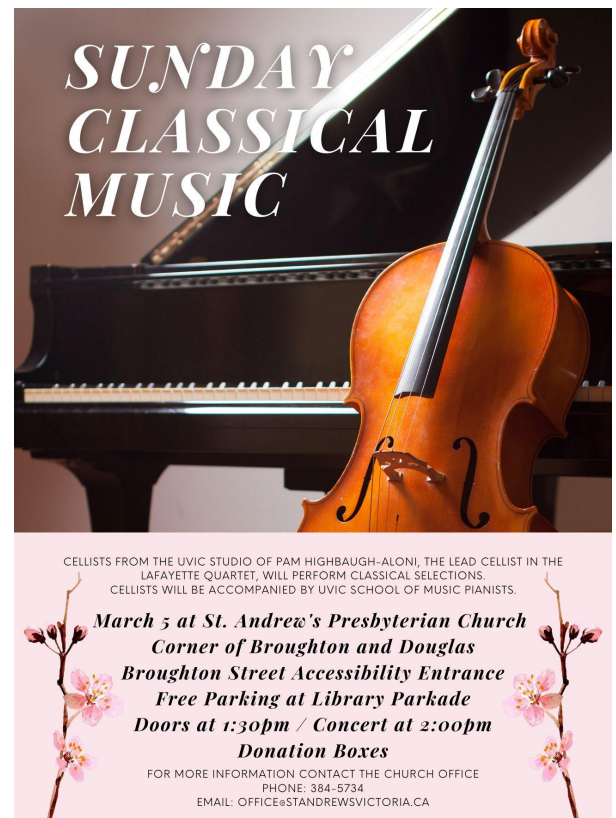
Please sign up in one of the following ways:

- Sign up sheet in the Kirk Hall on by Sunday, February 12
- call the office by Thursday, 9 February
- Email session.clerk@standrewsvictoria.ca by Sunday, February 12.

Not able to attend this session? Please contact us (as above) and we will try to schedule another time or a Zoom session.

Coffee Hour Volunteers

Your coffee hour team enjoys the fellowship we all share each Sunday after Worship. We are looking to get a second team of volunteers for coffee hour. Each team would be responsible for coffee every other week. Dorothy Reimer has offered to lead this second team. We have 2 commitments and need 3 more to form a team. Perhaps you would be willing to set up cups and snacks before church, or prepare the coffee and tea, help to serve or clean up at the end. It's definitely a fun way to participate in the life of St. Andrew's! For more information chat with any of us at coffee hour or contact Dorothy Reimer @ 250-592-5051 or the church office @ 250-384-5734.



Church Calendar

OPEN CHURCH	Wednesdays 12 - 1 pm	Weekly in the Sanctuary.
MEDITATION HOUR	Wednesdays 4:30 - 5:30 pm	Weekly in the Sanctuary.
THURSDAY SOCIAL	Thursdays 2 - 4 pm	Weekly on Thursday in the Lecture Room. Drop by for coffee or tea, or just pop in for a few minutes to say hello. All are welcome!
STRING QUARTET CONCERT	February 18 Saturday 7:30 pm	Presented by the Early Music Society. Featuring the Consone Quartet!
ASSET MAPPING MEETING	February 19 Sunday 1:00 pm	Explore the riches of St Andrew's; the people (you!), the skills, the resources, our connections in the community and our buildings (and everything in and about them). Participate in this opportunity for brainstorming, sharing ideas and creating plans for immediate action. Call the church office to register or sign up in Kirk Hall on Sunday. A light lunch will be provided in lieu of coffee hour.
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE	February 22 Wednesday 12:00 pm	Begin your Lenten season with this brief service of music and meditation at St. Andrews. The service will include musical reflections provided by Christine Purvis and the Ash Wednesday liturgy will be conducted by Rev. Mitch Coggin. The service will conclude at 12:30 with the imposition of ashes.
LENTEN BIBLE STUDY	February 23 to March 30 Weekly on Thursdays 3 - 4:30 pm	Based on the movie 'Chocolat', and the book, 'Christ and the Chocolaterie': A Lent Course Paperback by Hilary Brand. Co-sponsored, led and taught by Rev. Cathy Victor, Rev. Laura Kavanagh, Rev. Mitch Coggin. Held at Knox Presbyterian Church at 2964 Richmond Rd. Purchase the book via Amazon Kindle version for \$4.27! Call the church office to let us know that you are coming.
THE MCDADES CONCERT	February 24 Friday 7:30 pm	Presented by Beacon Ridge Productions. The McDades' Celtic-rooted music fuses the spontaneity of jazz improvisation and infectious global rhythms.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	February 26 Sunday	St Andrew's Annual Meeting immediately following worship. Please set aside time to participate in this important meeting.
MARCH LINK DEADLINE	February 26 Sunday	Send your contributions to thelink@shaw.ca .