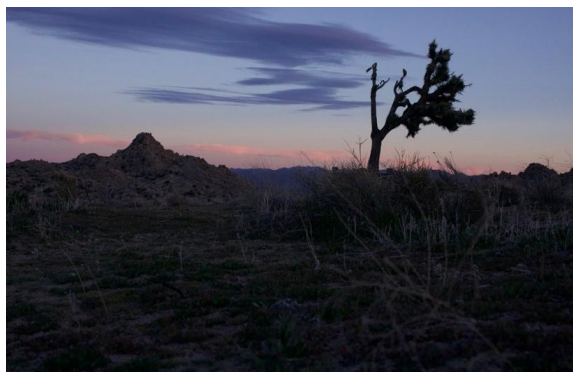


This Week At St. Andrew's

Parable of the Pastor



Last week Linda and I were blessed to spend time in the California desert with our son. We enjoyed the incredible beauty among the vast nothingness. Miles and miles of rock and mountain surrounded us. But the beauty of the Joshua tree captivated us!

The Joshua tree is an important part of the desert ecosystem, providing habitat for numerous birds, mammals, insects, and lizards. The Joshua tree tells a story of survival, resilience, and beauty borne through perseverance. Joshua trees were named for the biblical figure Joshua by 19th-century Mormon settlers who felt the outstretched tree limbs guided them along their westward journey.

Last week without computer or the internet (most of the time), I was able to refrain from work related duties. But the legend of the Joshua tree spoke to me about sustainability. What sustains this beautiful creation of God in such extreme conditions?

I spent considerable time last week meditating on what sustains Linda and I and the answers are obvious; love, faith, friendships, family, and meaningful relationships.

What sustains us as a family of faith and the congregation we know as St. Andrews? The lesson of the Joshua tree reminds us of God's outstretched limbs growing in every direction toward the heavens. What sustains us at St. Andrews:

Worship – the regular practice of maintaining a Sabbath to listen to voices other than our own

Prayer – the opportunity of asking for hope and help, offering thanksgiving and providing support and encouragement for others

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.

Leadership, Vision and Wisdom – The collective vision of St. Andrew's is contained in the lives and leadership of our members throughout our history. Narratives of hardship and survival, renewed purpose, failed ventures and new beginnings. Through the years God has guided and provided through the commitment of those have served in leadership roles.

St. Andrew's needs the sustainability provided by strong leadership. St. Andrew's needs new leaders to bring new energy, vitality and wisdom to our Session. On Sunday, February 26 and in subsequent publications since, we have made the call for nominations from our congregation for new elders. To date the response has been minimal at best. Would you pray about our desperate need for additional leadership? Would you consider nominating persons as elders who would be willing to be asked, interviewed and consider this important decision?

May the sustaining peace and presence of God keep you. Pastor Mitch



Music Notes

The choir anthem this Sunday is "Give ear unto me" by Italian baroque composer Benedetto Marcello. It is in two parts with the sections sometimes together and sometimes following each other in antiphonal style.

The postlude is a Toccata by Johann Jacob Froberger who was born in Stuttgart in 1616. His father was court chapel master in Stuttgart. . Very little is known about Johann Jacob's early life but we know he trained in Stuttgart and then Vienna. He probably worked at the Viennese court . There is an interesting article on his life and work in wikipedia. The word toccata comes from the word touch. It is written in a free style with full chords and rapid runs designed to show the performers' "touch"

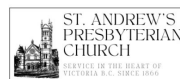


**SUNDAY
CLASSICAL
MUSIC**

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



Requesting 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).

Submissions 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

Only nominees who received two or more nominations will be considered

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.

The names of all those deemed suitable and willing to serve are placed on the ballot and presented to the congregation.

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/>

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.

Online Lenten Bible Study

Not able to attend the sessions at Knox?

We invite you to join the online study (via Zoom). Rev Cathy Victor, Rev Laura Kavanagh and Pastor Mitch Coggin will, in turn, participate in the Zoom sessions

When: Mondays @ 7pm: February 27, March 6, 13, 20 and 27, April 3

A Zoom link for all 6 sessions will be provided.

What you need to do:

- Watch the movie 'Chocolat' (available free on Prime, copy in GVP library)
- Read the study book: 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' by Hilary Brand (eBook available on Amazon \$4.25)
- RSVP to Colina session.clerk@standrewsvicoria.ca (with any questions, and to let us know you will 'be there')
- BYOC ('Bring your own chocolate' to enjoy at the introductory session on 27 February)



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.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SILENT AUCTION!

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

Spring Market

It's time for a Spring Market so mark your calendars. May 12th 11 - 4 and May 13th 10 - 4 in the Lecture Room there will be jewelry, crafts, attic treasures and a silent auction. Lunch will be for sale in the Hall. A planning group has been working hard to organize the market but we'll need lots of help. If you can spare a couple of hours on either day speak to one of the planning group:

Dawn McLean - Jewelry

Jean Watt - Attic Treasures/Crafts

David McLean - Silent Auction

Sheelagh Garson - Lunch

Dave Garson - Monitoring/Security

You can also call the church office and one of the planning committee will be in touch! The money raised from our Spring Market will be used for a special project and you'll hear more about that in the coming weeks.



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!

Coffee Hour

Your coffee hour team enjoys the fellowship we all share each Sunday after Worship. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to join a second team.

Each team would be responsible for coffee every other week. If you are interested in volunteering your assistance is most appreciated.

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.

THURSDAY APRIL 27 AT 12 NOON

Spring Recital



FEATURING:

Antonia Mahon, flute
Christine Constabel, flute
Christine Purvis, organ

MUSIC BY BACH, PACHELBEL, BERLIOZ, AND MORE!

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
924 Douglas Street

Broughton Street Accessibility Entrance
Admission by donation in support of the Church's Music Program!

Church Calendar

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| 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. |
| ZOOM LENTEN BIBLE STUDY | March 6 to April 3 Weekly on Mondays 7:00 pm | An online Zoom class for those unable to attend the 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' bible study in person. Call or email the church office to let us know that you would like to sign up! For online readers, you can join the zoom meeting here |
| SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC | April 2 Sunday 2:00 pm | 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. Entrance by donation. |
| CALIFORNIA CHOIR CONCERT | April 16 Sunday 12:00 pm | The choir is visiting Victoria and will be performing at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 16th, at 12:00pm in the Sanctuary, after regular service is held. |
| CONCERT OF THE BIRDS | April 23 Sunday 7:30 pm | Presented by The Early Music Society. Composers have long been inspired by the beauties of birdsong, among them Caix d'Hervlois, Couperin, Rameau and Purcell. Performing on recorders, flageolets, flutes with viola da gamba and theorbo one of France's leading early music ensembles brings to life this charming music. |
| TEA FOR TUTU | April 25, & 26 Tuesday & Wednesday 2:00 pm | Join Ballet Victoria In the Kirk Hall for afternoon tea and entertainment! See what Ballet Victoria is working on and meet the dancers. Call to reserve a free seat at 250-380-6063. |
| SPRING CONCERT | April 27 Thursday 12:00 pm | Entrance by Donation. Presented by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Music Program in the Sanctuary. Featuring two flutes and the organ. Music Bach, Pachelbel, Berloiz and more. |