

# THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE #176

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 25, 2023

## PARABLE OF THE PASTOR

Last week I was blessed to serve on the teaching faculty of a transitional ministry training for Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist and Mennonite clergy from a broad spectrum of the United States and even from Canada. I am confident that I learned as much as I was able to teach!

Derek is a transitional minister from Southern California who told us of his challenges. He accepted the role of interim in late 2019 prior to the beginning of COVID. He expected a two-year interim process as the church was ready to move forward after paying off the church mortgage and calling an associate minister.

COVID brought a bitter reality that the church would not fare well during or following the pandemic. Members who were unable to attend worship during COVID have not returned to church-life following COVID. Giving dramatically decreased and the church is facing drastic cuts in staff and programs as a result. The elders are discouraged and have begun to look to blame someone – anyone that the church has not rebounded as expected.

Derek has found strength in maintaining two beliefs and practices in recent months. Those beliefs are; remember that something is always working, and reclaim the best part of the past and carry that forward into the future. How did Derek and his church find strength in these two strange concepts?

**Remember that something is always working** is difficult to do if all you see around you are shrinking budgets and attendance. There seems to be more that it not working than is working. But, when Derek, his Session and his congregation looked more inquisitively and honestly, they saw new visitors showing up for worship and some presenting themselves for membership. The new associate had connected with nearby university students asking for a Seekers Class for new and struggling believers. Several bequests had been given by grateful families of long-term members which had eased the monthly deficit enough for Session to see beyond the shortages to a more positive view of the immediate future. Finally, Derek was encouraged by many in his congregation that his preaching was finding a home in their hearts and their faith was being strengthened. Derek was led to see the things that were working far outweighed the negativity that had gripped many in the congregation...even himself!

**Reclaim the best part of the past and carry that forward into the future** was the 2<sup>nd</sup> belief that Derek and his congregation came to rely upon. With careful consideration, the congregation remembered their past which had included regular social events which brought them together for meals, for small gatherings outside the church building and for mutual projects such as volunteering at the home(s) of their most homebound members. They decided to plan one social event regularly that would begin to rebuild relationships that had begun to suffer.

Derek found these new beliefs and practices to be pivotal in reframing minds and hearts. What could similar beliefs do for us at St. Andrew's? Think on these things.

Blessings, Mitch



## NEW READING ROOM

Introducing the Broughton Reading Room!

Please check out this new addition at our Broughton entrance. This room can be booked and used for various events that take place in our sanctuary but it is also available for all of us to make use of as a quiet place to spend a few minutes, to check out the selection of books available to be borrowed, or to meet for conversation.

Booking of this room will take place through the office and specific bookings will be listed on the door. If there is no booking listed then please, come in, and sit a spell.

- Sheelagh Garson

EVERYONE WELCOME!

# PICNIC IN THE PARK

Join members of Knox, Trinity, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for an afternoon of visiting with old friends and making new ones!



SUNDAY AUGUST 27 2023

WORSHIP AT REGULAR TIMES

PICNIC AT 11:45-1:45PM

ESQUIMALT/GORGE PARK, KINSMEN PAVILION  
(ENTRANCE OFF TILlicum ROAD)

Please bring your own picnic lunch, items to share, place settings, and chairs!

# TRUTH HEALING & RECONCILIATION WORKSHOP

07 SEPTEMBER

STARTS AT 3:00 PM



Presbyterian Church in Canada is inviting presbyters, elders and church members to attend a workshop about trauma, intergenerational trauma and becoming trauma informed in the context of Truth, Healing and Reconciliation.

REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.PRESBYTERIAN.CA](http://WWW.PRESBYTERIAN.CA)





## MUSIC NOTES

Kiara Hosie, an oboe player, will be our guest soloist this Sunday. She played in the concert "Cathedral Tunes" a week ago and we are pleased she is able to come on Sunday to play for our worship service.

Kiara Hosie recently completed her BMus in Musicology and Sound Studies at the University of Victoria. Although she began her musical career as a clarinetist, Kiara has been playing oboe for nine years, with her notable teachers including Russell Bajer and Anna Betuzzi of the Victoria Symphony. In addition to performing as a soloist, Kiara is an active performer in student and amateur ensembles in the Greater Victoria area, and experienced with a range of musical styles including musical theatre, wind band, orchestra, and chamber music.

Kiara will be playing a Marcello concerto and Gabriel's oboe, which we have played before in our services on flute.

- Christine Purvis

BALLET VICTORIA PRESENTS

# TEA FOR TUTU

*Ballet Rocks!*

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
OCTOBER	OCTOBER	OCTOBER

**2:00 PM AT 680 COURTNEY ST.**

TO RESERVE YOUR FREE TICKETS  
CALL: 250-380-6063  
EMAIL: TEA4TUTU@BALLETVICTORIA.CA

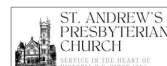
**29**  
OCTOBER  
2:00 PM



# SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
924 DOUGLAS STREET  
ACCESSIBILITY ENTRANCE ON BROUGHTON  
FREE PARKING AT LIBRARY PARKADE

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO  
250-384-5734  
OFFICE@STANDREWSVICTORIA.CA



# ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR

OPEN CHURCH WED. AT 1:00 PM

MEDITATION HOUR WED. AT 4:30 PM

SUMMER SOCIAL THU. AT 2:00 PM

WORSHIP SERVICE SUN. AT 10:30 AM

<b>RENOVATION MEETING</b>	<b>July 26</b> Wednesday 10:00 am	Held in the Sunday School room upstairs in the Kirk Hall. Discuss the renovation plans for the Lecture Room. Everyone is welcome to attend!
<b>NEW ZEALAND STRING QUARTET CONCERT</b>	<b>July 31</b> Monday 7:00 - 9:00 pm	The New Zealand String Quartet will be playing works by Haydn, Cresswell, Shostakovich, and Schubert at St. Andrew's as part of their North American tour. More details to follow.
<b>PICNIC IN THE PARK</b>	<b>August 27</b> Sunday 11:45 - 1:45 pm	Picnic in the Park with our friends from Knox and Trinity churches at Esquimalt Gorge Park. Please bring your own picnic lunch, items to share, place settings, and chairs!
<b>RECONCILIATION WORKSHOP</b>	<b>September 7</b> Wednesday 3:00 - 4:00 pm	Presbyters, elders and church members are invited to attend a free zoom workshop about reconciliation. Register <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>DUO CORVI &amp; FRIENDS</b>	<b>September 29</b> Friday 7:30 - 9:00 pm	The Early Music Society presents Duo Corvi & Friends at St. Andrew's; return of the international award-winning ensemble, Duo Corvi, with Occitan and Galician music from the 13th Century.
<b>TEA FOR TUTU</b>	<b>October 17 - 19</b> T/W/TH 2:00 PM	Highlights of 'Ballet Rocks' and light refreshments in the Kirk Hall. Reserve your free tickets by calling 250-380-6063 or emailing <a href="mailto:tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca">tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca</a>
<b>HALLOWE'EN CONCERT</b>	<b>October 28</b> Saturday 2:00 pm	The Royal Canadian College of Organists brings you a spooky performance just in time for Halloween!
<b>SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES</b>	<b>October 29</b> Sunday 2:00 pm	Details to be announced. Admittance by donation. Everyone welcome!

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