THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE #188

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 7, 2023

PARABLE OF THE PASTOR

Fiona Prince, who teaches writing skills through her own company and Royal Roads Professional & Continuing Studies submitted an article in the Times Columnist entitled, Kindness in today's difficult world goes a long way. She encourages: Be kind. Your kindness here and online will spread around the world and give us all hope and strength to make it through these challenging times.

Ms. Prince tells of the CBC comedy series *This Hour has 22 Minutes* and her favourite segment called *Talking to Americans*. In it, comedian Rick Mercer travels throughout the US, talking to Americans, telling them fictitious things about Canada, and asking them to congratulate us on accomplishments. He also asked Americans to sign petitions about fictitious issues, such as "ending the seal hunt in Saskatchewan."

Ms. Prince knew the issues weren't real in the comedy series. Today we are being asked to decide what is truth and what is fiction in an ever-changing narrative about current issues and conflicts around the world. Each of us carry our own story and our own truth. She concludes, "Instead of arguing about what is truth vs fiction, focus on what's good and right in the world. Be kind to others. Be kind to yourself. Spend more time watching joyful moments and good news stories than you do watching sad news stories.

The legendary basketball coach of Indiana University, Bobby Knight, died last week following a long illness. An article in today's Los Angeles Times refers to Coach Knight as a bully. Certainly, his reputation was salty, and his antics were often over the top. Still one of his most trusted friends, was Bob Hammel, longtime sports editor, and sports columnist of the local paper in Bloomington, Ind. Bob was an elder at the church I served in Bloomington and a dear friend. Coach Knight entrusted Bob to co-author Knight's autobiography and a book about his coaching style entitled, "The Power of Negative Thinking."

The Times article details a banquet in Hamel's honor which Knight attended as one of the featured speakers. Coach's speech is derailed, however, when he uses his speaking time to confront the other sportswriter's rather than honour the Guest of Honour. Bob Hammel ended the evening offering kindness and appreciation to all present who had made his successful career possible, especially, his dear friend, Coach Bobby Knight.

Ms. Prince offers the best method for operating in a world that too often lacks the kindness we would like to see around us; Let's focus on what's good and right in the world. Be kind to others. Be kind to yourself. Spend more time watching joyful moments and good news stories than you do watching sad news stories.

With Kind Blessings, Pastor Mitch

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER

St. Andrew's Christmas Fundraiser is quickly approaching! Come out to show your support for our church and get in the Christmas spirit!

You can purchase your tickets for our Christmas Fundraiser in person this Sunday, November 12th, after worship services. You can also reserve tickets through the church office.

Ballet Victoria will be performing highlights from 'The Gift of the Nutcracker.' Door prizes will be announced at the end of the performance!

After the performance, tea and treats will be served - extra seating will be available in the Lecture Room if needed - and vintage jewelry will be for sale. We look forward to seeing you there!

PROGRAM

- 1:30 Doors Open
- 2:00 Welcome by David Garson
- 2:20 Ballet Introduction by Paul Destrooper
- 2:30 Ballet Performance
- 3:30 Tea & Treats Served / Door Prizes Announced
- 4:00 End of Event

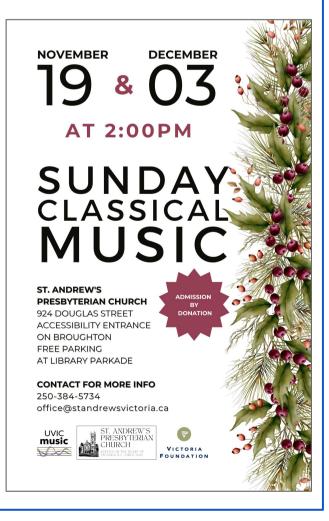
A Celebration of Life for Marilyn Bullock



May 23, 1944 to October 5, 2023

At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Friday, November 24, at 1:30 pm Reception to follow in the Lecture Room





COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

Our Place will once again be an important part of the Coldest night of the Year campaign that happens in February, across Canada. This popular walk raises money and awareness of issues of poverty and homelessness that so many of our neighbours face. We will be holding a walk downtown and partnering with Pacifica Centre Family Services Association to host a walk in the WestShore.

Presently we are looking for:

- 1. People who would like to join our event planning committee.
- 2. Sponsors who would like to show care and support for the most vulnerable members of society and showcase your business's core values to a very wide audience. <u>Click here</u> for the Coldest Night sponsorship package.

If you are interested in sponsoring or becoming a committee member, <u>please email</u> Steven Seltzer, Manager of Community and Corporate Partnerships

Once registration opens in November, visit one of the following websites (those planning to walk virtually may visit either website):

Victoria Walk:

https://cnoy.org/location/victoria/Pandora

Westshore Walk:

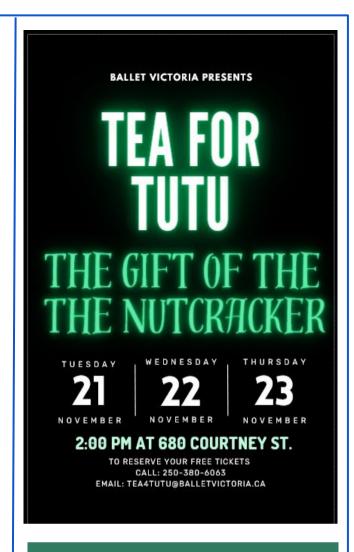
https://cnoy.org/location/victoriawestshore

Please keep checking back for more information about the 2024 Coldest Night of the Year walk.

<u>Click here</u> and <u>here</u> for a couple media features about last year's walk.

PRESENTATION AT KNOX

Everyone is invited to gather at Knox Church at 1:00 p.m on Thursday, November 30th, for an afternoon of information, conversation and refreshments. There will be a presentation by Guy Smagghe, Director of PWS&D.





ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR

OPEN CHURCH WED. AT 1:00 PM

MEDITATION HOUR WED. AT 4:30 PM

WORSHIP SERVICE SUN. AT 10:30 AM

ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER	November 18 Saturday 2:00 pm	Enjoy a performance by Ballet Victoria and tea & biscuits served by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Reserve your tickets by contacting the church office!
LA CIGALE	November 18 Saturday 7:30 pm	The Early Music Society presents La Cigale, performing music of the Renaissance and Baroque eras on period instruments.
SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES	November 19 Sunday 2:00 pm	Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach, The Victoria Foundation, and Uvic Music. Free admission, donations accepted. Everyone welcome!
TEA FOR TUTU	November 21 -23 2:00 PM	Highlights of 'The Gift of the Nutcracker' and light refreshments in the Kirk Hall. Reserve your free tickets: call 250-380-6063 or email tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca.
FUNERAL FOR MARILYN BULLOCK	November 24 Friday 1:30 pm	Everyone is invited to celebrate the life of Marilyn Bullock, a long time member of St. Andrew's. Reception to follow in the Lecture Room.
SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES	December 3 Sunday 4:00 pm	Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach, The Victoria Foundation, and Uvic Music. Free admission, donations accepted. Everyone welcome!
JS BACH ADVENT CANTATAS	December 4 Monday 7:00 pm	Featuring the Victoria Cantata Ensemble. Admission is \$10 cash at the door.
VISIONS	December 9 Saturday 2:00 pm	Presented by Ensemble Laude. Tickets \$25,\$30 door, \$15 students, under 13 free. Go <u>HERE</u> for more information and tickets.
THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND SINGALONG	December 14 Sunday 12:00pm	Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach and The Victoria Foundation. Light refreshments. Free admission, donations accepted. Everyone welcome!
GOTHIC VOICES	December 16 Saturday 7:30 pm	The Early Music Society presents Gothic Voices, a medieval Christmas celebration. Go HERE for more information and tickets.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church acknowledges and thanks the $l \ni k^w \ni \eta \ni n$ People – $W_S \land NEC$, Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations – on whose traditional land we meet and worship.