

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE #193

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 12, 2023

PARABLE OF THE PASTOR

Christmas Eve at St. Andrew's Presbyterian, December 24th, 7:00 PM

One of the two most significant and meaningful services of the church year is on Christmas Eve. Besides Easter morning, Christmas Eve is a celebration of our Lord's birth in music, candlelight, and scripture. We are reminded that no matter how dark the world may sometime seem, Jesus is still the Light of the World and nothing has ever been able to extinguish that light.

For Christmas Eve 2023, Come and Worship Christ the Newborn King. Sing the carols of Christmas. Celebrate the joy of the musical talents of Darby Howard as she sings *O Holy Night* and Annika Sauser as she sings "Be Born in Me". Be Born in Me is a powerful song upon which the meditation will be based. I would encourage you to preview the song on YouTube at this address before Christmas Eve...
<https://youtu.be/cC9eaZT8ZRg?si=TEp3Kvpvt2Jd-pbY>

Be careful of incorrect pastor email...

I received a call from an elder this week asking if I was aware of the medical situation of one of our members. He indicated that I was included in a group email to my St. Andrew's email address. Unfortunately, the email used was an incorrect email and related to a spam email that was previously used to elicit fake donations. The correct email for myself is pastor@standrewsvictoria.ca

Please check your contacts list and make sure this is the only email you use to contact me and delete any others that are different from the above. Also please notify me by phone, text or email at any time we have an emergency at St. Andrew's of this type. Please never assume that it is someone else's duty to notify the pastor. I would rather have multiple contacts than to have none at all.

My correct email is pastor@standrewsvictoria.ca

Thanks so much for your understanding.
Advent Blessings
Mitch

ourplace
Hope and Belonging

PACIFIC CENTRE
family services association

Coldest
Night of the
Year

February 24, 2024

Registration begins Thursday, November 2nd.
Sign up a team, promote the walk, donate and step up
for your neighbours in need.

For more info. call 250-940-5064 or go to our website.
www.ourplacesociety.com



SHARE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

Donations continue to flow in to our Share the Joy of Christmas 2023 campaign.

All money that is collected goes to fund food hampers, put together by the Mustard Seed Street Church. Mustard Seed runs a food bank and has contacts that enables them to stretch each dollar to its fullest to provide good nutritious items for financially struggling families in the Greater Victoria area. A food basket that feeds 4 persons costs \$360 this year. Small Christmas gifts are also included with each hamper.

As of Sunday, December 10th, there has been \$2090 donated to Share the Joy! This will fill 5 Christmas hampers and almost *a sixth*! Look for 5 red baskets on our small white tree in the sanctuary next Sunday. This is our visual reminder about the Share the Joy campaign.

You can make a donation to Share the Joy via your church envelopes or by using the Donate tab on St. Andrew's website at standrewsvictoria.ca. Please indicate that the donation is for *Share the Joy*.

For more information, contact Debra Verwey at 2250-383-1009.

THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT

Get in the Christmas spirit this Thursday, December 14th, at 12:00 PM (noon) in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary for an afternoon of classical Christmas music.

Admission is by donation, light refreshments are provided, and everyone is welcome to attend!

Special carol requests will be taken from the audience during certain points in the program, and everyone is encouraged to sing along!

This generous gift to our community is made possible by St. Andrew's Music Outreach Program, The Victoria Foundation, numerous volunteers, and the many talented performers.

Christine Purvis, Director of Music at St. Andrew's, welcomes guest soloists:

- ★ David Barss, trumpet
- ★ Kiara Hosie, oboe
- ★ Darby Howard, soprano
- ★ Tau Vannophat Kaploykeo, cello
- ★ Sophia Camilla Kozlov, guitar
- ★ Ryan Qu, piano & organ
- ★ Eva Smith, soprano
- ★ Lauren Steinmann, soprano

If you've attended other St. Andrew's Music Outreach concerts, some of these names may be familiar to you, but if you have not, treat yourself to a new experience!

We look forward to seeing you, and singing with you, there! Merry Christmas!

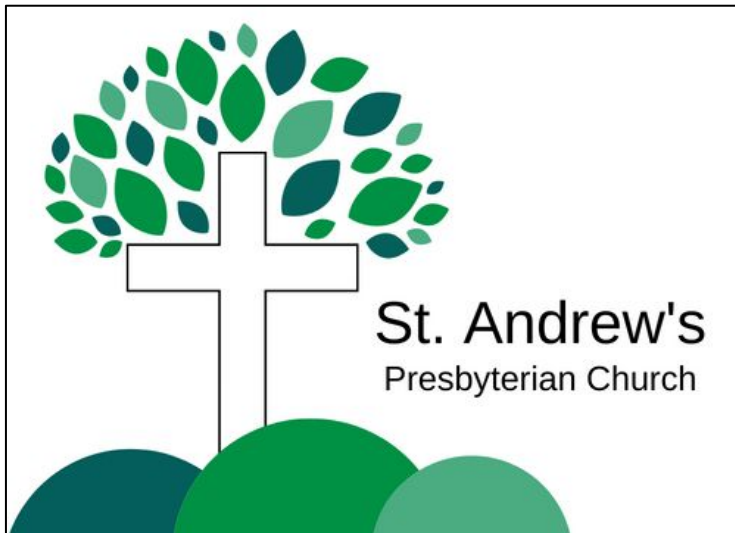
NEW CHURCH LOGO

**New Branding Logo for St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church, Victoria, BC**
Launch Date: January 1, 2024

By approval of Session, a Branding Task Group was formed in June 2022. The members were Jean Marcellus, Colina Titus, Sabine Teetzel, Cathy Mackenzie and Susie Henderson.

A new logo for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Victoria BC was approved by Session at their March 2023 meeting. Our Launch Date will be January 1, 2024.

We present to you:



RATIONALE for the CHOSEN DESIGN:

The design approved by Session will mean different things to different people. Each time the Task Group looked at the design, they saw different things in each segment of the three components. Here are some of the examples the Task Group saw:

• **Green Hills at the Bottom:**

- o Our Journey with Christ as a Group
- o Walking Towards Christ
- o The Trinity
- o People Coming Together and Growing
- o A Personal Journey Towards Christ
- o A Journey from Different Backgrounds
- o Past, Present, Future
- o Two Criminals on Either Side of Christ
- o Represents Different Places of Origin Coming Together
- o In Hebrew, the word 'three', [shelosh](#) [f.l.] [sheloshah](#) [m.] means harmony, new life, and completeness.

• **Tree:**

- o Tree of Life
- o The Cross
- o Continued Renewal
- o Different Seasons
- o Growth

• **Leaves on the Tree:**

- o A Modern Symbol or Connection to St. Andrew's Stained Glass Windows
- o The People Within Our Congregation
- o New Growth
- o New Beginnings
- o Our Community
- o We All Come From Different Walks of Life

The best thing about the new Branding logo is that it was created by one of our own – Finlay Henderson, elder son of Susie and Angus Henderson. Thank you, Finlay!!!!

The new Branding Logo will be placed on all the following:

- Letterhead
- Envelopes
- Business Cards
- Epilogues
- Service Bulletin
- Posters & Handouts
- The Link
- TWASA
- Website
- Facebook
- YouTube Channel
- Annual Report
- Sandwich Board for outside the Church each Sunday
- Sandwich Board for outside the Church for Open Church and Wednesday Meditation
- Pew Book Marks
- Pew Offering Envelopes
- Parking Passes

DECEMBER

14

12:00PM

ADMISSION
BY
DONATION

THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

WITH CAROL SINGING!

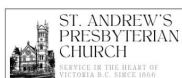
Featuring organ, trumpet, oboe, cello,
and guitar music! Muffins, coffee, & hot
chocolate available for everyone!

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



LECTURE ROOM RENOVATION UPDATE

We expect to start on this project in the first week of January 2024.

The current kitchen will be removed, plumbing and electrical for the kitchen will be out of service. New flooring will be installed and the room will be repainted.

Depending on a number of factors, it may be some time in March before the new kitchen is in place and available for use. Until then, please treat this room as a construction and refrain from using this room.

If you have any questions, contact Dave Garson.



The Early Music Society
of the Islands



GOthic VOICES

A medieval Christmas celebration by the ensemble that, probably more than any other, has defined the modern approach to performance of vocal music of the Middle Ages. A gathering of music-lovers during the Christmas season today will often result in a hearty carol singing evening, with its focus on the wonderful melodies of the past.

DEC. 16
7:30 PM

ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
924 DOUGLAS STREET

Website: earlymusicsocietyoftheislands.ca

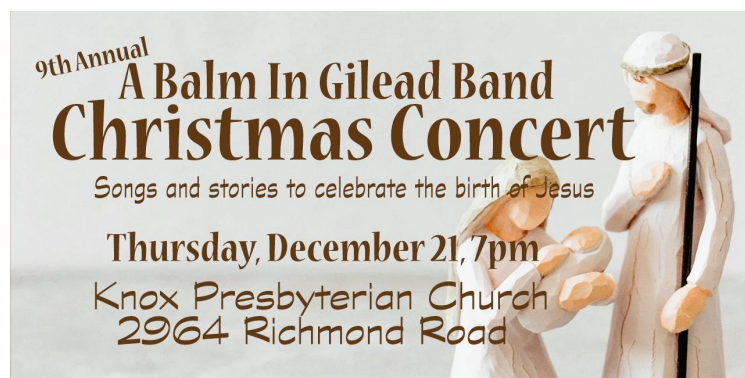
Phone: 250 882 5058

Email: boxoffice@emsivictoria.ca

PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY EVENTS

ADVENT SING & STUDY You don't have to be a great singer to enjoy the music of the season. Please let us know the songs you would like to explore and plan to attend this fun afternoon gathering with folks from Knox, Trinity and St. Andrew's. Many thanks to Elise Kennedy who has volunteered to play piano for us. The four sessions are on Mondays from 1:00 – 2:30pm beginning November 27th. Hope to see you there!

SONG AND PRAYER December 17 at 2:00 pm at Trinity. There will be hymns and carols, interspersed with spiritual poetry and meditative readings. People can join in singing, or simply sit and listen to the beautiful music and words.



CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT Steve Sturgess is once again offering to prepare a wonderful evening of story and song to celebrate the season. There will be a time of refreshment and conversation to follow. Please plan to attend on **Thursday, December 21st at 7pm**. **Invite all your friends and family! This is a fundraiser for PWS&D so be generous in your donations at the door.**

SUNDAY NIGHT DINNER This is an opportunity to cook and eat together with students from UVic Multifaith. I hope we have participants from St. Andrew's, Trinity, and Knox congregations. The idea is to make a quick soup or stew together – depending on what ingredients are brought to share. We can also make biscuits or another quick bread to enhance the meal. I am sort of making this up as I go along but there will be food and fellowship and fun so what can go wrong!?! Plan to be part of this community experience in the lovely Knox kitchen and lounge on the second Sunday of the month beginning **January 14, 2024 / 5-7:30pm**.

INCLUSIVE CHRISTIANS: *'Around the Table'* an ecumenical communion service hosted by Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United chaplains on Wednesdays at 5:00pm during the university term. The simple service focuses on reading and reflecting on the gospel, prayer, song, silence and sharing bread and wine. While this service is centered on students, all are welcome. After worship everyone is invited to enjoy a meal. We usually have 20-30 participants.

Lara Kavanagh needs help providing these meals. If you, or a group from your congregation, would like to help prepare a meal in the coming term, please be in touch with me as soon as possible. The dates she is responsible for are **January 31/March 13/March 27**. The meal is simple – vegetarian/vegan soup or chili, bread & butter, and salad, fruit or veggies. Thank you for supporting students and Inclusive Christians on campus in this way..

SAVE THE DATE April 26-28th, 2024 – VIP Women's Retreat. More details to follow.

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

ADVENT SING & STUDY AT KNOX CHURCH	December 18 Mondays 1:00 - 2:30 pm	You don't have to be a great singer to enjoy the music of the season. Please let KNOX CHURCH know the songs you would like to explore and plan to attend this fun afternoon gathering with folks from Knox, Trinity and St. Andrew's.
THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC & CAROL SINGING	December 14 Thursday 12:00pm	Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach and The Victoria Foundation. Light refreshment for everyone. Free admission, donations accepted. Everyone welcome!
GOTHIC VOICES	December 16 Saturday 7:30 pm	A medieval Christmas celebration presented by The Early Music Society of the Islands. For more information and tickets go to www.earlymusicsocietyoftheislands.ca .
CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT KNOX	December 21 Thursday 7:00 pm	Join A Balm in Gilead Band for seasonal story and songs. Refreshment and conversation to follow. Entrance by donation in support of the PWS&D.
ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE	December 24 Sunday 10:30 am	Come and join us for this last Sunday in Advent. Sing Christmas carols with the St. Andrew's community as we celebrate the season!
A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES	December 24 Sunday 2:30 pm	'A Child's Christmas in Wales' is a warm and nostalgic Vox Humana Christmas tradition. More info and tickets available at www.voxhumanachoir.ca .
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	December 24 Sunday 7:00 pm	Come and join us for this last Sunday in Advent. Sing Christmas carols with the St. Andrew's community as we celebrate the season!
VISIONS	January 13 Saturday 2:00 pm	Presented by Ensemble Laude. Tickets \$25,\$30 door, \$15 students, under 13 free. For more information and tickets go to https://ensemblelaude.org

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