

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE # 205 MARCH 12, 2024

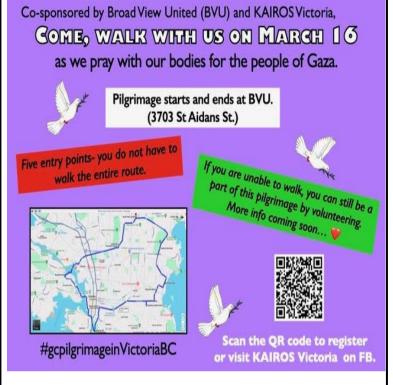


PARABLE OF THE PASTOR

Today is the 24th day of Lent. We began our 40 days of Lent on February 14, Ash Wednesday (Valentine's Day) as we march (or trudge) our way toward Holy Week. How is your Lent preparing you for the agony of Good Friday in preparation for the Celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday?

Hopefully, you are using the Lenten Reader as one of the spiritual practices that is allowing us to pray and think deeply about our lives and our faith. Today, I read a submission to the Reader from Dorothy Reimer in which she remembers her baptism as a young girl in Kijabe, Kenya. Dorothy explains the practical concerns of baptism with the preparation of her red and white dress with coins sewed into the dress hem. The baptismal cistern was but a cattle watering trough, yet it is where she heard the words, "I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit." What a significant memory of this important spiritual event that Dorothy shared with us to mark our own spiritual passages before, during and after this Lenten Season! Thank you, Dorothy and to all who shared so personally to help each of us make this Lent indeed a holy experience.

Linda and I just returned from visiting my sister Faye and son Danny. It had been 16 months since we had seen her last and feared that her health had drastically deteriorated over those months. Her oxygen needs have increased considerably.



J SUNDAY'S MUSIC **J**

Prelude

"Two Lenten Preludes" by Neil Harmon

Choral Anthem

"O for a closer walk with God" by Charles Stanford

Musical Reflection

"Sursum Corda" (Lift up your hearts) by John Ireland

Postlude

"Toccata in d minor" by Johann Jakob Froberger

LECTIONARY READINGS

SUNDAY MARCH 17

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 OR Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

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Her caregiver(s) are godsends doing for her what she cannot do for herself during the daytime hours while Danny works. Friends from her Methodist Church family regularly bring treats, Bible study and conversation. The Hospice chaplain and a Deacon from her church provide prayers and communion. Her bed is surrounded by pictures and cards she has received that have been memorable to her.

Our visits were light-hearted and filled with laughter. She and my brother, Mike, shared stories of our growing up – both pleasant and others, not as easy to remember. In-spite of her current health situation, her hugs, laughter and "I love you" reminders caused us to remember as we prayed, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me." Faye is indeed comforted. She comforted me and we comforted one another...in the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

As we continue to move closer into Lent and make our way toward Holy Week, please make Maundy Thursday on Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 PM at Knox Presbyterian and Good Friday, on Friday, March 29 at 10:30 AM at St. Andrews a priority in your preparation for Easter. We cannot truly know the joy of Easter morning unless we truly experience the agony of Holy Week.

Finally, TODAY I want to invite you to the documentary being played tonight at Cinecenta (UVic Movie theater) for a 5:00 or 7:00 PM showing of Sitting with Grace, an unconventional sculpture of a beautiful woman in an elegant gown crafted from raw and humble materials, gathered from the streets of Victoria. Her symbolism runs deep, touching on themes of addiction, mental health struggles, poverty, and mortality. The powerful documentary features a glimpse into the lives of 8 members of the Victoria street community. Created by Tanya Bub, the artist, who will be present at tonight's screening to answer questions about her vision that provided a safe space for our street community to share their stories. You will be deeply impacted by this film!

Lenten Blessings, Pastor Mitch



VIP WOMEN'S RETREAT

This year's retreat topic is 'Identity: what is God calling you to be?' with guest speaker Dr. Mona Scrivens.

Rev. Dr. Mona Scrivens has been the Lead Minister at Amberlea Church since October 2012. Mona has a passion for every configuration of family and believes that it is through families that the church extends its reach in nurturing faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Her doctoral thesis focused on family ministry outreach and nurturing faithful disciples of Jesus Christ with special attention on pregnancy, spirituality, and the faith growth of first-time mothers.

The retreat will be held at Camp Imadene at Mesachie Lake in Cowichan on April 26th, 27th, and 28th.

Camp Imadene offers a serene and natural retreat from the busyness and noise of our day-to-day. Prepare to enjoy the outdoors, eat excellent meals, and fellowship with friends new and old. Rooms are double occupancy (dorm style). Guests will be housed in two large lodges, providing plenty of space to relax.

Space is limited so register early! If you register before March 1, the fee is \$230, if you register afterwards, the fee is \$250. Registration ends on March 22, 2024.

If you would like to attend but may need financial assistance, the Bursary Committee may be able to assist!

To get a registration for, or if you have any other questions, please contact: Meredith Reems, Camp Registrar at (250) 668 3299 or meredithreems@gmail.com

EASTER SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY MARCH 28, 2024

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT 7:00 PM 2964 Richmond Road Led by Rev. Coggin

GOOD FRIDAY MARCH 29, 2024

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT 10:30 AM 924 Douglas Street Led by Rev. Kavanagh

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31, 2024

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT 10:30 AM 924 Douglas Street Led by Rev. Coggin

> KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT 10:00 AM 2964 Richmond Road Led by Rev. Kavanagh







SUNDAY CLASSICAL MUSIC

MARCH 10 & APRIL 7 AT 2:00 PM DOORS OPEN AT 1:30 PM



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary 924 Douglas Street

The March 10th performance features students of Pam Highbrow-Aloni of UVic's School of Music.

The April 7th performance features students of Anne Elliott-Goldschmidt at UVic's School of Music.

Accessibility entrance is available on Broughton Street.

Free parking on Sundays and holidays at the Library Parkade at 745 Broughton Street.

Admission is by donation.

CONTACT: 250-384-5734 office@standrewsvictoria.ca

UVIC **music**







YOUTH STREAM: 14-18 YEARS OLD

YOUNG ADULT STREAM: 18-25 YEARS OLD

LEADERSHIP STREAM: **CHURCH LEADERS 18+**

JULY 3-7, 2024

BROCK UNIVERSITY ST. CATHARINES

REGISTER APRIL 15-MAY 31

Partnering with the United Church of Canada to offer this event



highlighting Audacious Hope

Scan for more info uplift@presbyterian.ca





ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR

OPEN CHURCH WED. AT 12:00 PM MEDITATION HOUR WED. AT 4:30 PM WORSHIP SERVICE SUN. AT 10:30 AM

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LENTEN LUNCH & LECTIO	KNOX March 12, 19, & 26. Tuesdays 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Members of St. Andrew's and Trinity are welcome! Each Tuesday we will use the ancient spiritual practice of lectio divina to listen to each of the Lenten passages for the coming Sunday. Bring a bag lunch and engage in spiritual listening to scripture as we prepare for the Sundays in Lent.
KNOX CAFE	KNOX CHURCH March 21 Thursday 7:00 pm	Join 'The Cafe Trio' for an evening of songs of hearth and home! Admission is \$10 which includes light refreshments. Donations are accepted to support the work of PWS&D.
THURSDAY MEET UP	LECTURE ROOM March 21 Thursday 2- 4 pm	Begins March 21 and occurs every Thursday thereafter. Come for a visit and a snack in our newly renovated Lecture Room! Let's talk about our plans and projects for 2024 - bring your ideas!
VIP WOMEN'S RETREAT	REGISTRATION DEADLINE March 22	Register early for the retreat on April 26-28 at Camp Imadene! Contact Meredith Reems, Camp Registrar at 250-668-3299 or meredithreems@gmail.com
MAUNDY THURSDAY	KNOX CHURCH March 28 7:30 pm	St. Andrew's and Trinity Church members are invited to attend the Maundy Thursday service at Knox church. Led by Rev. Mitch Coggin.
GOOD FRIDAY	ST. ANDREW'S March 29 10:30 am	Knox and Trinity Church members are invited to attend Good Friday service at St. Andrew's Church. Led by Rev. Laura Kavanagh.
EASTER SUNDAY	KNOX OR ST. ANDREW's March 31	Everyone is invited to attend Easter Sunday service! The service at Knox begins at 10 am and is led by Rev. Kavanagh. The service at St. Andrew's begins at 10:30 am and is led by Rev. Coggin.
JOHN PRINE TRIBUTE CONCERT	SANCTUARY March 30 Saturday 7:30 pm	Presented by Beacon Ridge Productions. For more information and tickets please go to https://beaconridgeproductions.com/2023/11/in-spite-of-ourselves-john-prine-tribute/
THE LINK	DEADLINE March 31 Sunday	Please send your submission to theLink@shaw.ca.

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.