

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 313

June 4, 2026

Open Church: Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Meditation Hour: Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

The Globe & Faith: The Gathering Room

Wednesdays at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Activity Group: The Kirk Hall

Thursdays at 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Worship Service: Sanctuary

Sundays at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm



From the Pulpit

This Sunday's sermon is entitled "*The Starting Point of Faith*," as we ask a profound question: Where does Christian faith truly begin?

Through Isaiah's temple vision and stories of everyday experience, we will uncover one of the central qualities necessary for a life of faith and the experience of the presence of God. In this discovery, we may be encouraged to see worship, prayer, and daily life with fresh eyes and a deeper sense of wonder.

- Rev. Wes Denyer

Announcements

THE GLOBE & FAITH: Are you interested in how current events and our Christian faith interact? Bring your thoughts and current events to the Rev. Wes Denyer's new weekly discussion group! We will meet every Wednesday in The Gathering Room from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Simple refreshments provided but special treats are always appreciated! Regular attendance is not required - everyone is welcome!. For more information, please contact the Rev. Wes at wesdenyer@gmail.com.


ACTIVITY GROUP SUMMER SESSIONS: During June, July and August the Activity Group will continue to have "drop in" sessions on Thursday mornings **in the Kirk Hall**. We have two summer projects we're working on: the Laneway Garden and the Jewelry & Jumble Sale. If you would like to help with either project we would welcome your assistance!


THE LINK: The last issue of *The Link* is out now! Dedicated editors Leona Johns, Debra Verwey and Fiona Ryneveld have decided to retire after many years of keeping the St. Andrew's community connected. They have done a tremendous job; please join me in thanking them for their efforts and wishing them a relaxing retirement! The church office will continue to publish TWASA, and as always, you are invited to send any articles this way for publication. I hope TWASA will be up to the task of keeping the church connected!
- Shannon




CELEBRATION OF LIFE: It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of [Stewart Black](#), who was an active member of St. Andrew's for many years. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 13th 1:30 pm at Saanich Presbyterian Church in North Saanich, with Rev Irwin Cunningham officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations are invited to [Canadian Cancer Society](#) or [Cowichan Hospice](#).


CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please note there will be a Congregational Meeting immediately after service on Sunday, June 14 to approve the expenditure of funds for the replacement of the Kirk Hall Roof.

 **PRESBYTERY MEETING:** on Tuesday, June 23 at 10 am in the Sanctuary and The Gathering Room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

 **SESSION MEETING:** The Session Meeting, scheduled for June 1, was postponed until June 29th at 7 pm in The Gathering Room.





 **QUARTET FEST WEST:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on July 5th in the Sanctuary at 2 PM. Donations are appreciated, and support our music program, and our musicians! Quartet Fest West is one of the finest chamber music programs in North America! This concert features several participants from this year's festival.

 **JEWELRY & JUMBLE SALE:** Stop by the Gathering Room on September 18 & 19 for St. Andrew's jewelry and jumble sale! All proceeds go towards supplies for the laneway garden. More information will be available soon!

Community Events

 **AROUND THE TABLE:** Join 'Inclusive Christians' at 5 pm Wednesdays at the UVic Multifaith Centre for a simple ecumenical communion service that includes scripture, prayer, song, contemplation and conversation. Worship is followed by a modest, free meal provided by local congregations. This special time together is hosted by Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Spiritual Care Providers. Everyone is welcome. Please contact the Rev. Laura Kavanagh at laurakavanagh@uvic.ca for more information or to donate a meal in the fall or winter term.

 **OUT OF THE BLUE:** Presented by the Storytellers of Canada and Victoria Storytellers Guild. Join us for a celebration of story on June 5 at 7:30 PM at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. For more information and tickets please go [HERE](#).

 **BLUE JEAN JACKET DAY:** on June 6 and raises awareness about missing and murdered Indigenous men and boys. It is meant to serve as a counterpart to Red Dress Day, which takes place on May 5. You can show solidarity and remembrance by wearing a blue jean jacket or denim shirt on this day.



Strawberry Tea & Bazaar

Saturday, June 20, 2026
1:00-4:00 pm

- 🐾 Strawberry shortcake and tea/coffee - \$8 (cash only)
- 🐾 Treasures
- 🐾 White Elephant
- 🐾 Books
- 🐾 Jewellery
- 🐾 Arts & crafts
- 🐾 Plants
- 🐾 Baking
- 🐾 Silent Auction


Knox Presbyterian Church
2964 Richmond Road
(between Lansdowne & Taylor Street)

In support of the
Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

Contact:
victoriacatrescue@gmail.com
www.victoriacatrescue.com

Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society is a charitable organization run by volunteers. All donations go toward spay, neuter and medical costs for the animals we assist.

 CAT RESCUE

 **THE BEST COAST BIG BAND:** Trinity Presbyterian's very own Bob Wicks is part of The Best Coast Big Band - check out their performance at The Coda (formerly Herman's Jazz Club) on June 23 at 6pm. Listen to classic big band tunes, pop songs and everything in between. Get tickets [HERE](#).

 **VIP SUMMER CAMP 2026:** A program of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. This year's locations and dates are as follows: Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park (June 8-12), Rath Trevor Provincial Park (July 25 - 30), and Rath Trevor Provincial Park (July 30 - August 3). For more information go to our [website](#) or contact the registrar at jermareng@gmail.com.

Prayer Partnership

Thursday, June 4 We pray for the congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Thornbury, Ontario, as they participate in the PCC's New Beginnings Renewal Program. May they discern God's guidance with clarity, courage, and hope for the future.

Friday, June 5 (World Environment Day) We pray for the health of biodiverse ecosystems and the flourishing of all life on Earth, our shared planetary home.

Saturday, June 6 We pray for stewardship and mission committees as they work to inspire their congregations and generate enthusiasm for the ministry God is doing through them.

Sunday, June 7 (General Assembly Sunday) We pray today for the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada as it begins its meeting this evening at York University, Toronto.

Monday, June 8 Loving God, rescue us from competition and ambition, that we may work together for the building up of your church and the healing of the world.

Tuesday, June 9 We pray that God will protect all who suffer hate because of their faith, and that we will be united across traditions to stand for dignity and love.

Wednesday, June 10 We pray for The Presbyterian Church in Canada as it marks its 151st anniversary. In recognition of God's continuing faithfulness, may we walk boldly in faith, love deeply, and press forward in hope.

Thursday, June 11 We pray for safe journeys for the Commissioners, Young Adult Representatives, Student Representatives, staff, and resource persons as they travel home from this year's meeting of the General Assembly.



Mission Moment

The Presbyterian Church in Ghana, through the Garu Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program, supports people living with disabilities as they use their gifts and pursue their goals. "I was really in a very challenging situation before I connected with the CBR. I could not move and was totally helpless. Besides, I had nothing to do to earn a living. I depended on the benevolence of some family members, but it was not possible for them to provide for me all the time. They equally had their lives to live. The CBR program and its partners came to my rescue. Today, I am mobile because of the tricycle that I received from the CBR. I now own and run a business to earn a living," shares 41-year-old Awini Agnes. PWS&D helps to fund this program.

A graphic titled "VICTORIA PRIDE 2026" listing five events. The events are: July 1 - Memorial Drag Ball Game (purple bar), July 4 - Pride in the Word (yellow bar), July 8 - Big Gay Dog Walk (pink bar), July 12 - Victoria Pride Parade (green bar), and July 12 - Victoria Pride Festival (orange bar). The graphic includes a small logo at the top left and decorative swirls. At the bottom, it says "Save the Date!".

VICTORIA PRIDE 2026	
July 1	Memorial Drag Ball Game
July 4	Pride in the Word
July 8	Big Gay Dog Walk
July 12	Victoria Pride Parade
July 12	Victoria Pride Festival

Save the Date!



Promoting Food Security in Quetzaltenango

“I learned how to prepare nutritious foods to eat healthier, taking advantage of the food produced in my community.”

Margarita carries a lot of responsibility in her home. A single mother, she also cares for a half-sister with a developmental disorder, as well as her two nephews. “There are quite a few of us in the house and we don’t have much land to cultivate,” she shares.

In the Quetzaltenango region of Guatemala, where Margarita lives, many Indigenous farmers experience food insecurity. Households seek to grow their own food on farms that are too small to meet their daily needs. Even where space is available to plant their usual varieties of corn, beans, squash and herbs, often the soil is degraded due to overuse and the effects of climate change and does not produce good yields.

Like many of her neighbours, Margarita must travel to access enough productive land to grow food for her family. “What we harvest is not enough for the whole year. For this reason, we have to go out to look for work with the neighbors and we also go to the coast to plant corn on land that we pay to rent.”

Her peer Regina Delgado Vásquez also takes part in seasonal migration, leaving her home to go to the coast and plant corn. A wife and mother of adult children, all members of her family of five engage in agriculture on their one-hectare plot of land.

Both Margarita and Regina were selected to lead their communities towards food security, through a PWS&D program with partner Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas. The agriculture and

livelihoods project, which will begin a new phase in September, trains women ecological promoters in sustainable agriculture techniques.



Margarita is an ecological promoter in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. By passing on what she has learned about caring for her small farm, she is increasing the food security of her community.

For Margarita, participating in PWS&D’s food security project resulted in having consistent food for her family, and sharing her newly learned techniques with others. “Now I plant my vegetables, even if it’s only a few, because Fraternidad is training me. The technician and the educator have taught me how to grow vegetables. I planted my fruit trees that the project gave me, and now I can vaccinate my chickens.” Regina explains the difference being involved in the project made in her life: “With the little land I have around the house I have been able to plant some vegetables and herbs for my consumption. I have learned to take care of my chickens that are useful for my consumption.”

Through the program, both Margarita and Regina also learned about food safety. Now, they boil the water their families consume to avoid diseases. Margarita also grows medicinal plants in her vegetable garden which her family consumes to stay healthy.

Regina likes to sell what she produces, especially her surplus herbs. She is also engaged in other productive activities to improve her financial situation, with the dream of one day owning her own house.

Both Margarita and Regina have passed what they have learned about soil conservation, sustainable agriculture, livestock rearing and forestry techniques to others. This program is just one example of the work being done in local communities, that multiplies impact manifold.