

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 314

June 11, 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 we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and the sermon is entitled 'The Broken Cookie Jar.' This sermon invites us to see God's grace in the places we often try to hide - our cracks, scars, and imperfections. Through the story and the witness of Christ's broken body, we are reminded that God does some of God's most beautiful work through broken things. This sermon offers a message of honesty, healing, and hope that may help us to see our own story - and our church family - in a new light.

- 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.



GUEST ORGANIST: [Dr. Steven Benson](#) will be joining us on Sunday, June 21 & 28 as a guest organist while Susanne is traveling. Please make him feel welcome!

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.

UVIC SUMMER ORCHESTRA: Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on September 6th in the Sanctuary at 2 PM. Donations are appreciated, and support our music program, and our musicians! More information will follow.

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!

HYMN FESTIVAL: Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on September 27th in the Sanctuary at 2 PM. Donations are appreciated, and support our music program, and our musicians! More information will follow.

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.

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](#).

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

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 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.

Friday, June 12 We give thanks for the community and support that church members provide for one another, in a world where people are becoming more and more isolated.

Saturday, June 13 We pray for countries threatened with invasion and aggression from other countries that seek to illegally expand their borders and take resources.

Sunday, June 14 We pray for the generosity to respond to God's call to share what we have with those in need.

Monday, June 15 We pray for students as they go out to summer placements. May they and the communities that they serve be richly blessed.

Tuesday, June 16 We pray for people facing persecution because of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. We give thanks for organizations around the world that provide assistance and advocate alongside LGBTQI+ refugees.

Wednesday, June 17 We pray for summer students working at Crieff Hills Retreat and Conference Centre this season, that they would be blessed with safety, friendship and a deep appreciation for God's creation.

Thursday, June 18 We pray for all those who grieve, that they will be comforted.

Friday, June 19 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Lambton-West Middlesex.

Saturday, June 20 (World Refugee Day) We pray that God protects the dignity of families forced to flee from conflict and persecution. We give thanks for those who welcome the stranger through refugee sponsorship.



The Ng'ambi Family's Journey to Food Security and Resilience

In rural Malawi, in Mwanyesha Village, 30-year-old Vincent Ng'ambi lives with his wife and five children. Until recently, the family shared a small, dilapidated house that offered little shelter from the weather.

"Life had been hard, living in a poor thatched house. Sunlight could hit us, and during the rainy season the house leaked, leaving us with an unbearable life," he shared.

The effects of climate change meant that the farming methods the family had traditionally relied on were no longer enough to provide enough food, leading to shortages that had to be endured until the next harvest.

Vincent explained that excessive dry spells had affected crop production, and they could harvest only four bags of maize, which was not enough to feed the family until they were able to harvest again. The family needed to engage in low-wage labour to meet basic needs, such as the children's school development fund, clothing and food.

Their situation started to change when the family participated in the Lupembe food security project, implemented by PWS&D's partner, the Synod of Livingstonia Development Department (SOLDEV).

The program introduced and trained Vincent in climate-smart agriculture technologies, self-help groups and household visioning as a way to fight climate change. During the household training with the Community Agent who encouraged them to articulate their dreams and aspirations for the future, Vincent and his family identified improving

food production, increasing income, and constructing a safe, better house as the key goals.



Vincent Ng'ambi and his wife highlight how the Lupembe food security project has transformed their lives.

Using what he had been taught, Vincent adopted the technologies right away. With the project staff's extensive technical know-how in agronomic practices, maize production increased significantly, and he also diversified the crop by growing sesame, which he harvested.

Referring back to the family's household visioning plans and the goals they set out, including constructing a safe home, Vincent moulded 6,000 bricks for the construction of the three-bedroom house with a seating room. With the money from crop production, more materials were bought to finish the house.

The remaining profit from the crop sale allowed the family to buy clothes for themselves and save for the self-help group.

"We are so grateful and proud of what we have achieved today. Thanks to the household visioning training we were able to dream bigger and set goals for our family. Our new house, made with strong bricks and covered with iron sheets, is a symbol of our hard work and determination. It is not just a place to live, but a sign of the better future we are building for ourselves. We shall be living in it and finish next year with cement flooring and windows," he explained with tears of joy.

Future Plans

Today, the family plans to expand their climate-smart agriculture practice to 0.8 hectares

and is exploring opportunities to secure loans from the Tikolerane self-help group to start a small business.

For the Ng'ambi family, the project's impact goes beyond one season's harvest. The new farming practices, savings habits, and family goal-setting are becoming part of everyday life, lessons their children can grow up with and carry forward from [generation to generation](#).

Click below to learn more and respond with us.



Mission Moment

One of the eight Indigenous ministries supported through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church is among the oldest Presbyterian Indigenous ministries on a Canadian reserve. It stands on a foundation of rich history and faith, dating back to the 1870s, when Chief Mistawasis helped establish the first church there. Today, the congregation is renewing this sacred space for the future, adding new shingles, aluminum siding, and their first air-conditioning system to make the building welcoming and strong for generations to come. Recently, they celebrated several new baptisms and anticipate more, as they nurture faith, knowledge of the Bible, and Indigenous traditions within their congregation. Though building trust with the wider community is a long journey, they move forward with hope, guided by God's Spirit and strengthened by prayers and support.