

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 315

June 18, 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 is National Indigenous Peoples Day, and the sermon is entitled, *Healing Old Wounds*.

In this sermon, we reflect on truth, reconciliation, and the healing work God calls us to share. Through personal story, honest confession, and the witness of Scripture, it invites us to consider the legacy of residential schools, the need for humility, and the hope of restored relationships.

Join us as we listen for God's truth, grace, and guidance on the path toward healing and reconciliation.

- Rev. Wes Denyer

Announcements

🎹 GUEST ORGANIST: We welcome Steven Benson of the [Royal Canadian College of Organists](#) as our guest organist while Susanne is on vacation.

📅 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.


 **NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY CELEBRATION:** Join us at Royal Roads University on Friday, June 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a day of fun and community connection on the traditional Lands of the Lekwungen Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. Co-hosted by 18 regional partners, the free event attracts upwards of 6,000 people, offering a vibrant showcase of Indigenous cultural heritage, music, food, activities and opportunities for connection. Go [HERE](#) for more information.

 **STRAWBERRY TEA & BAZAAR:** Stop by Knox Presbyterian Church on Saturday, June 20, from 1 - 4 pm and show your support for the Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society by enjoying tea and strawberry shortcake! You may even find a hidden treasure at the bazaar... enjoy the hunt!

 **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](#).

 **VICTORIA PRIDE 2026:** Several Pride events are taking place across Victoria during the month of July, culminating with the Pride Parade on July 12! Check out the full schedule of events [HERE](#)!

 **CAMP VIP SUMMER 2026:** A program of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. This year's locations and dates are as follows: 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.

 **SING THE NORTH:** World-leading choral recording artists, soprano Andrea Haines and countertenor and conductor Danile Taylor invite you to enjoy a unique performance by Sing the North's Consort Project's choristers on Sunday, August 2 at 7:30 pm. More information and tickets are available [HERE](#).



Mission Moment

No one chooses to be a refugee; however, today there are over 42 million refugees and many more who are internally displaced—forced to leave their homes due to conflicts or ethnic persecution. PWS&D's refugee ministry responds to Christ's call to serve and defend those who are persecuted. Churches continue to demonstrate their support by sponsoring refugee families, helping them rebuild their lives safely and with dignity. In 2025, 61 sponsored refugees arrived from 8 countries, including Iraq, Sudan, and Afghanistan. This ministry is not only about offering hope but also about living out the biblical call to love and serve others, showing Christ's love to those who are experiencing persecution and suffering.

Children Remembered

A National Residential School Crisis Line has been set up to provide support to former students. This 24-Hour Crisis Line can be accessed at: 1-866-925-4419

The Presbyterian Church in Canada ran a number of residential schools for Indigenous children beginning in the mid 1880s through to 1969. The PCC turned over all documents regarding residential schools in their possession to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and through them to the [The National Center for Truth and Reconciliation](#).

Five residential schools existed on Vancouver Island. The Ahousaht and Alberni Residential Schools were run by the Presbyterian Church. The Christie and Kuper Island Residential Schools were run by the Catholic Church. St. Michaels Residential School was run by the Anglican Church. The two schools run by the Presbyterian United Church will be highlighted in this article. You can find out more about these and other schools at the NCTR's [National Student Memorial Register](#).

The Ahousaht School



The Ahousaht School was located on Flores Island, on the western side of Vancouver Island. Originally a Presbyterian-run day school, it received federal government

funding starting in 1904. It was taken over by the United Church in 1925. It was “an offence to speak either Chinook or Siwash” at the school. An inspector’s report from 1936 noted that every staff member carried a strap and that the children “never learned to work without punishment.” When the school was destroyed by fire in 1940, a decision was made to replace it with a United Church day school that opened in June of that year.

Please note that the list of students has been updated since the first time this article was published in 2025. Sadly, more children have been found since that time.

Remembering the Following Students:

Name	Date of Death (Year/Month/Day)
Bella Peter	1910-05-30
Carrie George	1916-04-06
Dora Noshkey	1908-03-13
Edward Arnold	1909-06-28
Katie Manulth	1910-08-10
May Harris	1910-03-04
McKay Titian	1908-06-15
Sophie Noothlenu	1910-09-03

The Alberni School



In 1893, the Presbyterian Church built the Alberni Girls Home on Vancouver Island a few miles outside Port Alberni. It was taken

over by the United Church in 1925. The school was destroyed by fire in 1917, 1937, and 1941 and rebuilt following each fire. The West Coast Council of Indian Chiefs campaigned for the school’s closing in the 1960s, charging that children in need of care were being dumped into the school. The school was eventually closed in 1973. In 1995 Arthur Henry Plint, a former supervisor at the school from 1948 to 1968, was convicted of 18 counts of indecent assault against Aboriginal students and sentenced to 11 years in jail.

Remembering the Following Students:

Name	Date of Death (Year/Month/Day)
Annie Jack	1903-11-12
Bertha Fred	1937-02-14
Burt Humchitt	Unknown
Cyril Mussell	1946-10-04
Dalton Silver	1941-06-13
David Thomas	1972-11-11
David Thompson	1905-05-23
Dorothy Ross	1925-12-03
Edna Mack	1925-05-29
Ivan Wilson	1973-11-10
Jack Williams	1905-11-19
Jackson Daniel Peter	1962-11-18
Jimmie Jackson	1929-11-23
John Racalmo	ca. 1918-11
Katie Taylor	1908-12-12
Katy Ross	1936-04-20
Lily Pearl Smith	1945-12-03
Maggie Barney	1924-05-09
Maisie Shaw	1946-12-26
Mary Bob	1937-02-14
Mary Elaine George	1964-10-05
Mary Taylor	1908-10-01
Matilda Ross	1926-09-27
Maud Jackson	1908-11
May Ross	1928-12-09
Minnie Ross	1929-05-13
Mitchell Joseph	1969-05-26

Nellie Klutesi	ca. 1912-05-23
Norman Bob	1942-04-07
Pauline Sam	1932-08-17
Shirley Leslie Williams	1963-05-17
Taylor Santo	1906-08-13
Theodore Mckay	1941-05-22
Unknown Blackie	ca. 1946
Vincent Paul	Unknown
Violet McKay	1937-02-14
Virginia Moses	1946-03-15
William Mitchell	1920-05-30
Yinnito Taylor	1899-07

There are still more children to be found:

[Ahousaht First Nation releases findings from search for missing residential school children - CBC](#)

[The Tseshaht Nation says it found historical records showing 67 children died at the school - CBC](#)

In response to the devastating confirmation of unmarked graves on the grounds of former residential schools, and in honour of the children who were lost and all people living with the consequences of that legacy, The PCC has established the [Honouring the Children: Reconciliation and Residential Schools Fund](#).

This fund will support initiatives associated with searches for unmarked burial sites in communities where schools were operated by The PCC. The PCC has committed \$1 million from national funds, and [invites congregations and individuals to make additional contributions to this important work](#).