



Message from Share the Joy of Christmas

You may have noticed a small white tree with two red baskets on it at the front of the sanctuary this past Sunday. The Mission and Outreach Committee is using the tree as a visual reminder about St. Andrew's Share the Joy of Christmas Campaign 2021.

This year all donations to Share the Joy will go to fill Christmas hampers for needy families in Greater Victoria, through the auspices of the Mustard Seed Street Church. We hope to raise enough money for 15 hampers.

Each hamper costs approximately \$142 which covers turkey and "all the fixings" for a Christmas dinner for 4-5 persons. Also included in the hamper are Christmas morning breakfast, fresh produce and vegetables for the week, two toys per child and a few stocking stuffers. The Mustard Seed Street Church has a registry for those in need at this time of year, uses its partnerships with local grocery stores and farmers to increase the buying power of the donations and delivers the hampers in a timely fashion to each family on the list.

Every time we have received enough money for another hamper, there will be another little red basket hung on the white tree.

There are many ways that you can donate money to Share the Joy:

Go to St. Andrew's-Victoria website: standrewsvictoria.ca, and click the Donate tab at the top of the page. There are instructions there to help you donate by e-transfer or by using the Canada Helps app to make a donation by credit card. Indicate that your donation is for Share the Joy.

You can also donate via your church envelopes. Write "Share the Joy" on the line where you enter the amount of your donation. As you come into the narthex of the church off Douglas Street, there are white steel boxes marked Collection where you can deposit your envelope. (The ushers are not collecting the offering during the Sunday service because of Covid-19 restrictions.)

To mail in your donation, send it to:
c/o Treasurer, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 680 Courtney St, Victoria, BC, V8W 1C1

If you have any questions about our Share the Joy of Christmas campaign, please call Debra Verwey at 250-383-1009

Pastor Mitch and Linda are away for a couple of weeks as they are finally able to get back to the USA to visit their family! If you have a pastoral care need, please contact any church elder or email the church office or the clerk of session. We send our prayers for safe travel and a good trip for Mitch and Linda!



Please note that some folks have been using an outdated email to reach Colina (our clerk of session). The correct session clerk email address is session.clerk@standrewsvictoria.ca Please double check that you have this updated version in your address book!



See the "Share the Joy of Christmas" tree in the sanctuary



In the Community: CBC Radio and Our Place present A Christmas Carol

This annual performance that benefits Our Place Society (outreach for the under-housed community) will be held safely online this year. [Click here](#) for more information.

"It's the Christmas message full of hope, redemption and . . . ghosts. Featuring the vocal talents of CBC Radio personalities, including Gregor Craigie and Shelagh Rogers, CBC and Our Place present a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol on Friday., Dec. 10. This special online event promises to be a heart-warming evening for the whole family."

We Need You!

With the combined objectives of holding a Christmas Eve service that is as open as possible and yet keeps people safe for a service that typically draws many visitors to our city (and the occasional hockey team!), we are aiming for a service (with masks) for those who can show proof of vaccination or a medical exemption.

Unfortunately, we are lacking enough ushers at the moment to make this possible. Are you willing and able to assist? If so, please contact Bruce Wasylick (bwasylik@shaw.ca) as soon as possible. We will assess the situation on Monday (Nov. 22) and may have to revert to a video service (as last year) if we do not have the volunteer capacity to ensure the safety of all who come or who are involved in making this service possible.

Also, the ushers and greeters who faithfully make Sunday in-person worship possible are needing additional assistance - if you can help, this would also be greatly appreciated! - please speak to Roger Bernard or Sheelagh Garson. In closing, our thanks to the many people that make in-person and live-streaming worship possible - their faithful service is greatly appreciated!

WE PRAY FOR THE WORLD COMMUNION OF REFORMED CHURCHES AS IT SEEKS TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF GOD'S RECONCILING LOVE ON RACISM WITHIN MEMBER CHURCHES AND OUR NATIONS.

 The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Reservations for Sunday

We are still asking for congregants to register for attendance at the Sunday service. We know that many have stopped pre-registering. However, as more people attend (and we get closer to reaching our capacity of 70 attendees) we need your help to let us know if you'll be there in-person on Sunday. Please help us to prepare for worship by [clicking here](#) for the form to register for Sunday.

Read From Your Bible This Week

- 2 Samuel 23:1-7
- Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)
- Revelation 1:4b-8
- John 18:33-37

