



International Holocaust Remembrance Day

On January 27, 1945, the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp – where more than one million people were sent to gas chambers and to their agonizing deaths during the Holocaust – was liberated.

In 2005, that day was designated as the annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

Each year, Canadians and individuals all over the world take this opportunity to remember the victims of the atrocities of the Holocaust and reflect on the dangers of anti-Semitism.

As we are witnessing an alarming rise of **antisemitism** and **genocide** around the globe, it is more important than ever for us to recognize the critical lessons of Holocaust history as we commemorate the victims and honor the survivors.

What can I do?

- Light a candle in remembrance.
- Read the [ID cards](#).
- Visit our local [Holocaust Memorial](#).
- Read local [Stories of the Holocaust](#).
- Report hate to [Canada's Anti-Hate Hotline](#).
- Visit the [Jewish Community Centre of Victoria](#).
- Support the PCC's [Social Action Hub](#).
- Support UVic's [Multifaith Center](#).
- Support [PWS&D's](#) efforts abroad.

We will never forget...

Week at a Glance

Open Church: Sanctuary
Wednesdays at 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Meditation Hour: Sanctuary
Wednesdays at 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Activity Group: Gathering Room
Thursdays at 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Worship Service: Sanctuary
Sundays at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Worship Service

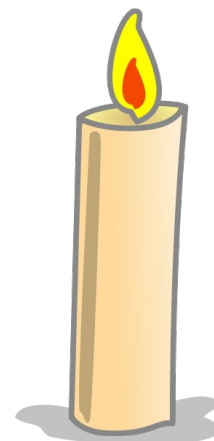
Lectionary Readings: Psalm 71:1-6, Jeremiah 1:4-10, Luke 4:21-30.

Prelude: "Fantasia in C" by Johann Sebastian Bach

Choral Anthem: "Cantate Canon" by Donald Moore

Musical Reflection: "My faith looks up to Thee" by Keith Osterland

Postlude: "How brightly shines the morning star" (part 2) by Dietrich Buxtehude





Guatemala Learning Tour 2025

Good morning PWS&D Champions,

I am reaching out to you today with a reminder that from May 5-16, we are hosting a Learning Tour to Guatemala. This is a great opportunity to get a sense of the work that our church is doing to support Indigenous communities in Guatemala, through interactions with our local partners and PWS&D program participants.

More information is available at WeRespond.ca/Guatemala-2025.

We would love to have a cohort of Champions on this trip. If you are considering applying, but have questions about what to expect, please reach out to me and I'd be happy to arrange a call this week.

Please also feel free to share information about the trip with others in your congregation.

Applications are due as soon as possible, using the application form I have attached to this email.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Emma Goldstein (Clarke)
Communications Assistant (Public Engagement)
Presbyterian World Service & Development
(PWS&D)
416-441-1111 or 1-800-619-7301 x245
WeRespond.ca



2025 Vancouver Island Presbytery Summer Camps

(A program of the Presbyterian Church in Canada)

Location and Dates:

Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park June 9th-13th

Goldstream Provincial Park July 3rd-7th

Rathrevor Provincial Park August 11th-18th

For Enquiry Contact: Camp VIP
registrar.jermareng@outlook.com

Camp Website <https://vipresbytery.net>

VIP WOMEN'S RETREAT 2025

A PROGRAM OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

CAMP IMADENE

APRIL 25 - 27

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. Guests will be housed in two large lodges, providing plenty of space to relax.

More information to follow!

Contact ringmybellsmith@gmail.com with questions.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:
<https://vipresbytery.net/>



PWS&D Sunday

On PWS&D Sunday, February 2nd, 2025, we recognize the work that Presbyterian World Service & Development is doing to support marginalized communities around the world. PWS&D aims to build a more sustainable, compassionate and just world. We pray for our global brothers and sisters who are struggling with basic access to adequate food and shelter.

Donations can be made to PWS&D by cheque, e-transfer, or cash in your church envelopes, indicating PWS&D. We will be sharing stories of the humanitarian work of Presbyterian World Service & Development during the month of February. More information can be found @ <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd>

- Patti Jackson, Mission & Outreach



Blankets for Bunnies

I am collection blankets in support of [Amy's Bunny Barn](#), who I volunteer for. Donated blankets should be new or gently used, made of fleece material and approx. 50 x 60 inches in size. You can drop your blankets off in the donation box by my office. I will deliver the donations to the bunny barn at the end of every month. Thank you!

- Shannon Cummings & "Peanut" the Rabbit

WARM TOES



WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF SOCKS!

DONATION BIN LOCATED IN THE GATHERING ROOM.

Donations will be delivered to The Mustard Seed at the end of each month.

Thank you for your donation!



WASHCLOTHS FOR HOPE



I am collecting handmade washcloths in support of Soap for Hope, a local charity that provides access to hygiene products and linens for vulnerable people.

Soap for Hope distributes washcloths all year long. They pair them with repurposed organic soap for our Seniors Program and special projects.

Washcloths should be:

- Knitted or sewn
- Made of 100% cotton material like flannel, yarn, etc.
- 9 x 9 inches in size

You can drop your washcloths off in the donation box in The Gathering Room. I will deliver the donations to their warehouse at the end of every month.

With many thanks,

Shannon Cummings

Community Events Calendar

Community Dinner

Knox Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 9

Gather to prepare a meal (Super Soups + Heart-shaped Biscuits with jam;) and eat together. Please [email](#) Laura to sign up so we can plan to have plenty of food.

Huehuetenango

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary

Saturday, February 15 at 7:30 pm

Tenor Jonatan Alverado and Ariel Abramovich on vihuela explore a 16th Century Guatemalan manuscript, reflecting early colonial musical influences in South America. For more info and tickets please go [HERE](#).

Beyond Neoclassical

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary

Saturday, February 22 at 7:00 pm

An amazing musical journey beyond space and time with internationally acclaimed cellist, composer and multilingual vocalist Ian Maksin! For more info and tickets please go [HERE](#).

Coldest Night

Saturday, February 22 from 4 - 7 pm

The popular walkathon campaign will return to Victoria [Downtown](#) and [Westshore](#). For more info and to sign up, please follow those links!

Community Dinner

Knox Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 16

Gather to prepare a meal (Baked Potatoes with toppings + Rainbow Rice Krispie Treats.) and eat together. Please [email](#) Laura to sign up so we can plan to have plenty of food.

Tea for Tutu: Carmina Burana

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Kirk Hall

Tue/Wed/Thu, March 11, 12, 13 at 2:00 pm

To reserve your free seats email tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca or call 250-380-6063

St. Andrew's Events Calendar

Book Discussion

At 982 Linkleas Ave every Wednesday

January 15 - February 4 from 3:00 - 4:30 pm

A book study about 'An Altar in the World' by Barbara Brown Taylor. In-person and Zoom meeting options available. Hosted by Linda Coggin. Please sign up at lindacoggin@gmail.com or 250-880-0932.

Guitar Recital

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary

Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 pm

Featuring guitar students from the class of Simon Farintosh, Music Performance Instructor at the University of Victoria. Donations are appreciated and support both St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's music outreach program and young emerging musicians!

Session Meeting - Hybrid

Monday, February 17 at 7:00 pm

Farewell to Rev. Wayne Stretch

Sunday, February 9 following worship services

Please join us to say thank you and goodbye to Rev Wayne Stretch who has been out Interim Moderator for more than 3 years!

Farewell to Pastor Mitch & Linda Coggin

Sunday, February 23 following worship services

Everyone is invited to a light lunch to say thank you and goodbye to Mitch and Linda Coggin.

The Link - March Deadline

Sunday, February 23

Please send your submission to theLink@shaw.ca.

Congregational Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 9 at 12:00 pm

The Link - April Deadline

Sunday, March 30

Please send your submission to theLink@shaw.ca

Choral Singers Celebration

Sunday, April 6 following worship services

Everyone is invited to celebrate St. Andrew's choral singers who are graduating from UVic!