

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE # 256 April 1, 2025

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: The Gathering Room
Thursdays at 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

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

Music Notes

Prelude

"If ye love me" by Thomas Tallis

Choral Anthem

"Ubi Caritas" by James Syler

Musical Reflection

"Merciful Jesus" by Gabriel Faure

Postlude

"Be Thou My Vision" arranged by Christine Purvis



A Celebration of Music

Please join us **this Sunday April 6th** for a special Coffee Hour after the worship service in the Kirk Hall for a celebration of music at St Andrew's.

We will recognize and celebrate the hard work and great joy that Christine has brought to St. Andrew's over the years. We will wish Christine a happy retirement! (It will be an 'early thank you and goodbye' as Christine will be with us until Sunday, April 20th.)

It will also be a time to celebrate choral scholars Eva, Noah and Darby's graduation from UVic!

Together we can express our appreciation for the four choral and our choir members who contribute so much to our weekly worship service.

The Easter Service on Sunday April 20th will be **Christine Purvis'** final day with us as Director of Music Ministry at St. Andrew's.

Two local organists, **Steven Benson** (DC, B.sc) and **Norma Kobald** (B.Mus.), will be our interim Sunday organists through until at least the end of August, possibly longer. Steven and Norma will play the organ for hymns and the prelude and postlude and accompany the choir anthems; they will not be responsible for leading the choir.

Our four choral scholars - **Darby Howard, Eva Smith, Noah Mellemstrand and Dylan Syrnyk** will continue to sing in the choir. Darby is excited to become our interim choir director; she will lead Thursday choir practices and select the music in collaboration with our guest ministers.

The church choir will continue through **June** and then, as they did last year, the choral scholars will lead the congregation's hymn singing during the summer months.

- Colina Titus

Announcements

✝ LENT STUDY: At Knox Presbyterian Church on Monday April 7, 14 from 1:00 – 2:15 pm. You are invited to attend Lent Study at Knox! Please sign up through the church office or with Rev. Laura Kavanagh.

🌍 METCHOSIN LENTEN CHALLENGE 2025: A yearly challenge from St Mary's church to all the community to live better by being more aware of the issues facing our world, so we can be empowered to act to make our world a better place. It takes place, in person and on Zoom, on Tuesday evenings from March 11 to April 15 at 7 PM at St. Mary's Anglican Church on 4125 Metchosin Rd. Go [HERE](#) to see the challenge schedule!

🎭 THE WAY OF THE CROSS: You are invited to join us for a dramatic reading of '[The Way of the Cross](#)' at St. Barnabas Church Hall on April 4 at 7pm. Donations are gratefully received.

🎻 SO LONG FOR NOW: Our Choral Scholar, Noah Mellemstrand, is giving a [violin recital](#) Saturday, April 5th at 4:30 pm at UVic. This concert will also be available as a [live stream](#).

🎵 A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC: On Sunday April 6th, we are having a special coffee hour after worship service in the Kirk Hall to recognize and celebrate our Music Director and Choral Scholars. We hope that you will join us!

📅 APRIL SESSION MEETING: is Monday, April 14 at 7:00 pm in The Gathering Room **in person**.

✝ MAUNDY THURSDAY: A shared service with members from Knox, Trinity, and St. Andrew's on Thursday, April 17 at Knox Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm. St. Andrew's choir practice is cancelled this evening to allow choir members a chance to attend!

✅ ADVANCED POLLING STATION: From 9 am to 9 pm on April 18, 19, 20, and 21 is advanced polling in St. Andrew's Kirk Hall for the federal election.

✝ GOOD FRIDAY: A shared service with members from Knox, Trinity, and St. Andrew's on Friday, April 18 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 10:30 am.

✝ EASTER SUNDAY: A regular Easter service on Sunday, April 20 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 10:30 am.

🍪 ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP: On Thursday April 24th from 10:30am - 12:30pm in The Gathering Room for a special Activity Group meeting! Dorothy Reimer invites you to learn the art of Zentangle - an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Paper and pencils provided for free, with the small cost of \$5 for a Zentangle pen. Please register with the church office or with Dorothy directly.

🐞 VIP WOMEN'S RETREAT: at Camp Imadene on Fri/Sat/Sun, April 25 - 27. Guest speaker Rev. Dr. Mona. Register before March 16 for \$230! Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/29ndlyoy>. For more information please contact Camp Registrar at (250) 668 3299 or vipladiesretreat@gmail.com

🍔 CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH & MEETING : You are invited to join us for lunch on Sunday, April 27, after service. The meeting will commence after lunch. Rev Dale Woods from the Presbytery of Westminster, will be conducting a session in search of vitalities of the congregation, with the members of the Congregation, in preparation for the completion of the Church Profile document. This document, when completed and approved by the Presbytery, will enable the congregation to call a minister. It is Session's hope and prayer, that as many as could attend, will do so and that we as a Congregation can move forward in search of a Minister in tune with our vision and mission.

📄 THE LINK: May's deadline is Sunday, April 27. Please send your submission to theLink@shaw.ca

✅ ELECTION DAY POLLING STATION: From 7 am to 7pm on Monday, April 28th, is election day polling in St. Andrew's Kirk Hall **AND** in The Gathering Room.

📅 MAY SESSION MEETING: is Monday, May 12 at 7:00 pm in The Gathering Room **in person**.

☀ CHOIR SUMMER BREAK: St. Andrew's Choir practice and Sunday performances will continue as usual until the end of June. From July to August, our choral scholars will lead congregational singing. Choir will resume in September.

🍌 CAMP VIP: This year's VIP camp dates are as follows: Little Qualicum Falls June 9 - 13, Goldstream July 3-7, Rath Trevor August 11 - 18. For more information contact the Camp Registrar at jermareng@outlook.com.

PCC Webinars

Go [HERE](#) to register for these webinars, or check out other upcoming webinars!

Recognizing Disinformation and Misinformation

April 2, 2025 12:00–1:00 p.m. (Eastern)

This free one-hour webinar will explore the concepts of disinformation and misinformation. How are they being used in our society and media? Who is impacted? Why is it important for us to pay attention? What can we do if we encounter it in our faith life and community? The presentation will be hosted by The Presbyterian Church in Canada and facilitated by Sara Speicher, Deputy General Secretary of the World Association for Christian Communication.

Preparing for Pastoral Listening about LGBTQI2+ Inclusion

April 10, 2025 1:00-2:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Having conversations about gender and sexuality can make people nervous about the possibility of judgment or conflict. As The Presbyterian Church in Canada continues to navigate changes to our understanding of marriage, ordination and the inclusion of LGBTQI2+ people in the church, pastoral listening is an important practice that can help people feel heard and improve the outcomes of congregational discernment. This webinar will focus on equipping ministers, elders and other pastoral care providers to plan and carry out processes for gathering input about LGBTQI2+ inclusion from their congregations. Participants are invited to bring questions for the Q&A that will follow the presentation. This webinar will be hosted by Carragh Erhardt, Program Coordinator, Sexuality and Inclusion, PCC.

Making Space: Neurodiversity in the Church

April 30, 2025 1:00-2:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Creating space in the hearts of others for neurodiverse people is the first step in making any physical changes to a building of worship. Join Allie Atchison, the Director of Children and Family Ministries at New Hope Presbyterian Church, Castle Rock, Colorado (PCUSA) as she shares ways we can make space for the neurodivergent people in our faith communities.

Concerts

RCCO International Organ Day Event

*Presented by The Royal Canadian College of Organists
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary
Saturday, April 26 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

The [RCCO](#) aims for Victoria to become the Pipe Organ Capital of Canada for 2025 by providing the public the rare opportunity to play many local organs for free! Professional pipe organists will be your guides to an afternoon of learning and discovery at St. Andrew's and other venues!

Spring Concert

Presented by The Pandora Chorus

*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary
Saturday, May 3 at 7:00 pm*

The Pandora Chorus is a fun and welcoming non-auditioned community choir. We will be singing songs from our Winter-Spring repertoire, including songs by Chappell Roan, Fleetwood Mac, The Beatles, Bill Withers, The Magnetic Fields, and more! Advance tickets are available [online for \\$20](#). Tickets will also be available at the door for \$25 (cash only). Children under 12 are free!

Tea for Tutu: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Presented by Ballet Victoria

*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Kirk Hall
Tue/Wed/Thu, May 6, 7, 8 at 2:00 pm*

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

Wings

Presented by Ensemble Laude

*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church's Sanctuary
Saturday, May 10 at 7:00 pm*

Ensemble Laude takes flight with Wings, a curated selection of breathtaking pieces from around the world. For more info and tickets please go [HERE](#).

Seattle Children's Choir Concert

Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach Program

*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Sanctuary
Sunday, May 25, 12:00 pm*

The Seattle Children's Chorus, a performance and educational choral music organization, performs the finest choral music with a unique commitment to sacred literature. Forty young choristers in grades six to twelve will be performing. Donations are appreciated and support both our music outreach program and musicians!