

# THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

ISSUE # 257 April 8, 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

**Communion Worship Service: Sanctuary**

Sundays at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

## Holy Week

**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!

**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.



## The Activity Group's Laneway Garden

Spring is here and the Activity Group has begun a new project.

In the next few weeks we will be making use of various pots, containers and raised gardening beds to plant vegetable seeds. Our vegetable garden will be in the laneway and will join with the flowers that Grant grows there each year.

We welcome others to join us to prepare the "beds", plant the seeds and care for the "crop" as it grows.

At the end of summer we'll collect our "crop" and donate it to local food-aid groups. If any folks at St. Andrew's are planting their own family gardens you may find that by the end of summer you have extra produce. You will be welcome to bring your donations to share also. Over the summer, be sure to stop in the laneway to see how the vegetables are growing and in a few months let's see what has grown.

Additionally, we will continue to repurpose the materials that have been donated to us. Much thanks to those of you who have shared, and continue to share, your fabrics with us. You will have read in our recent Annual Reports that we have created hundreds of articles which were donated to Compassionate Resource Warehouse and then shipped to Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Papua-New Guinea and other countries. The needs are great and these projects will continue.

The Activity Group has been blessed by our participation in these repurposing projects and we hope that others, here and abroad, have also been blessed.

As a final note, please check out the information regarding our special event on April 24th. This is an opportunity to learn the art of Zentangle. We are grateful to Dorothy for sharing this with us. All are welcome!



## Social Action Spotlight

### Taking action for climate justice during Lent, and beyond

At this time of year, many of us are starting to anticipate the return of more daylight, warmer days, getting outside more often and perhaps a break from work or school. At the same time, others are thinking about and preparing for seasonal environmental events that can invoke anxiety, such as storms, flooding, drought, heat warnings, or wildfire events made more severe by climate change.

During the season of Lent, Christians are invited to prepare for Easter by reflecting on the life and teachings of Jesus. Lenten traditions vary, but the practice of “giving something up” during Lent is common for many Christians. Give it up for the Earth! is a campaign organized by the faith-based groups Citizens for Public Justice and For the Love of Creation (of which the PCC is a member). It invites us to make a personal or household pledge to reduce, or “give up,” greenhouse gas emissions and to advocate for greater supports from the federal government to mitigate and cope with the impacts of the climate crisis. During Lent, we can take steps to care for God’s creation.

### How can I get involved?

- Participate in the Give it up for the Earth! campaign, found online here: [cpj.ca/fortheearth](http://cpj.ca/fortheearth)
- Learn more about PWS&D’s response to the climate crisis, and how you can support this work: [presbyterian.ca/pwsd/climatejustice](http://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/climatejustice)
- Learn more about how we can direct climate anxiety toward hope and action by watching the webinar posted on the PCC’s Social Action Hub under “Educational Resources” at [presbyterian.ca/justice/social-action/ecologic](http://presbyterian.ca/justice/social-action/ecologic)

[al-justice](#)

### What can I do after Lent?

Give it up for the Earth! also invites us to support the year-long global ecumenical 2025 Jubilee campaign to cancel unjust development-related debt for low-income countries in the global South. The term Jubilee is from the Book of Leviticus in the Old Testament. It references a year of celebration—a time associated with release from different forms of oppression, including debt.

Why is this needed? For decades, rich countries in the global North have granted loans to low-income countries in the global South for various humanitarian and economic reasons. The terms of these loans have been predatory—favouring the priorities of rich countries with little regard for the interests or priorities of low-income countries, including the ability to address the climate crisis. In 2000, Christians around the world successfully advocated for the cancellation of billions of dollars of unjust debt for low-income countries. However, the systems that created the unjust debt still exist. Your support is needed! More information can be found online at [kairoscanada.org/jubilee-2025-canada](http://kairoscanada.org/jubilee-2025-canada).

## Announcements

**PCC WEBINARS:** “Preparing for Pastoral Listening about LGBTQI2+ Inclusion” on April 10, 2025 1:00-2:00 p.m. “Every day is Earth Day” Tuesday, April 23, 2025 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.. “Making Space: Neurodiversity in the Church” on April 30, 2025 1:00-2:00 p.m. Go [HERE](#) to register!

**\$ E-TRANSFER REMINDER:** Just a reminder to please include a description of what the transfer is for when you send any money via e-transfer to [treasurer@standrewsvictoria.ca](mailto:treasurer@standrewsvictoria.ca). If it is a payment or some kind, please indicate what it is for, such as ‘Concert Rental Payment’. If it is a donation to the general church fund, please write ‘Church Donation’. If you want it to go to a specific church fund, please specify the fund, such as ‘PWS&D Donation’. Jack and Shannon thank you for taking a bit of extra time to do this, as it makes our job much easier in the finance office!

**GVPAF:** During the month of April, Knox is pleased to be hosting [Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival](#) for woodwind, speech, classical guitar, and brass sessions. Please see the website for

their session schedule and ticket prices! The **Speech Arts Highlight Concert** is on Thursday, May 1 at 7:00pm. Concert tickets can be purchased at the door. Family Rate is \$30 (4 admission in the same family.) Single Admission is \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors/students/children. Children 5 and under are free!

✝ **LENT STUDY:** At Knox Presbyterian Church on Monday April 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!

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

✅ **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.



🎨 **ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP:** On Thursday April 24th from 10:30am - 12:30pm in The Gathering Room for a special Activity Group event! 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](mailto: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](mailto:theLink@shaw.ca)

🌟 **HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY:** All are welcome to attend the annual remembrance of *Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust Remembrance Day), which will take place on Sunday, April 27th, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, at the Victoria Jewish Cemetery on Cedar Hill Road (south from Hillside Ave.). This year's theme is "Survivor Stories from Victoria's Jewish Cemetery". E-mail: [victoriashoahproject@gmail.com](mailto:victoriashoahproject@gmail.com) for more information.

✅ **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.

🎉 **TRINITY'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** You are invited to celebrate Trinity Presbyterian Church's 111th anniversary of being a part of the Gorge-Tillicum neighbourhood! Gather in the upper hall Sunday May 4th from 11:00am-12:30pm for a community offering of hot dogs, juice, cake and conversation. **Please come and invite friends, family and neighbours!**

☀ **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 go [HERE](#) or contact the Camp

Registrar at [jermareng@outlook.com](mailto:jermareng@outlook.com).



## Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration

All are welcome to attend the annual remembrance of *Yom HaShoah* (Holocaust Remembrance Day), which will take place on **Sunday, April 27th, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, at the Victoria Jewish Cemetery on Cedar Hill Road** (south from Hillside Ave.).

This year's theme is "**Survivor Stories from Victoria's Jewish Cemetery**". We will tell the story of several survivors who came to Victoria and are buried in our historic cemetery. These individuals demonstrated the strength and resilience needed to try and overcome the traumas of their past. The stories of these few individuals can connect us to the memory of the many victims of the Nazi-inspired genocide.

We honour the memory of those that suffered and perished through the Shoah by remembering their stories, and by being aware of the social and political events that made such a catastrophe possible and the resonances of those events today. This is particularly important given the rise of antisemitism in Canada and around the world. We know that for the safety of all people, the lessons of the Shoah and events leading up to that tragedy cannot be forgotten.

The ceremony will also include music from that now-vanished world, music that can both move us and remind us of the flourishing cultures tragically upended by the Shoah. Memorial prayers and reflections can help us to not only reflect on this tragic chapter of history but also help us think about how we can and should act today.

E-mail: [victoriashoahproject@gmail.com](mailto:victoriashoahproject@gmail.com)

<https://www.victoriashoahproject.ca/>

<https://www.facebook.com/victoriashoahproject/>

## 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*

Drop by and try the pipe organ to help Victoria become the Pipe Organ Capital of Canada! Your friendly organist or RCCO host will share their knowledge and raise awareness of the pipe organ, its music and the Royal Canadian College of Organists training programs and scholarships. This is a FREE event, so bring your kids or grandkids to create some awesome sounds! For more information, please visit [www.rcco-victoria.org](http://www.rcco-victoria.org).

### 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](mailto: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!