

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 296 February 5, 2026

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

Mission Moment

For the past 112 years, the members of Zion Church in Charlottetown have had to make their way down the stairs to the main reception hall and up the stairs to the Youth Centre and Sunday school classrooms.



Thanks to a congregational loan from The Presbyterian Church in Canada, all three floors of this historic church will soon be accessible to anyone with mobility issues.

Finding a location that would structurally work for the installation of a three-storey lift wasn't an easy task. All those who made this badly-needed addition a reality are to be commended for their tireless efforts.

While fundraising efforts are now underway, it was the financial support of the PCC that allowed this project to come to fruition.

Activity Group News

Time to check your closets and cupboards! For February and March the Activity Group will be collecting any, or all, of the following for delivery to [Compassionate Resource Warehouse](#) for containers destined for overseas. Bring your donations on Sundays, Thursday mornings, or drop off at the office during office hours.


Here's what is needed:


- men's dress shirts
- belts
- men's neckties
- wallets/ change purses
- bars of soap
- towels, facecloths, dishcloths
- spools of thread
- toothpaste/ toothbrushes
- small scissors
- coloring books, activity books


Many thanks for your help!

- Sheelagh Garson


Announcements

 **IN MEMORY:** Lucy Stewart, a long time member of St. Andrew's died peacefully on January 27, 2026 at her residence at The Wellesley. Service to be announced at a later date.

 **CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Mitch and Linda Coggin on becoming Canadian citizens!

 **PWS&D SUNDAY:** On PWS&D Sunday, February 1st 2026, we recognized the work that Presbyterian World Service & Development is doing to support marginalized communities around the world. We will be encouraging donations to Somalia and Sudan during the month of February. Donations can be made to PWS&D by cheque, e-transfer, or cash in your church envelopes, indicating PWS&D. More information can be found [HERE](#).

- Patti Jackson, Mission & Outreach

 **THE LINK:** Contribute to St. Andrew's monthly newsletter! Next month's deadline for submissions is **Sunday, February 22nd**. To contact the editor or make submissions please email: thelink@standrewsvictoria.ca.



THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES-
SECTION DE VICTORIA CENTRE
OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SERIES
FREE EVENT

The Elixir of Song:

A Mini-Spa Afternoon for the Aging Voice

All are welcome for a time of vocal pampering to help improve tuning, breath control and vocal production.


Saturday March 7, 2026, 1:00 - 4:00 PM
with Dr. **KATHRYN WHITNEY**


Pre-Registration is required by:
Wednesday, March 4th at:
www.rcco-victoria.org for more information
email: rcco.victoria.news@gmail.com




ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (BROUGHTON/DOUGLAS)
Wheelchair accessible


 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The AGM meeting for our congregation will be held on Sunday, March 8th after Worship Service.

 **MUSIC OUTREACH CONCERTS:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on Sunday, March 8th at 3:00 pm and March 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. More information will be available soon!

 **PCC WEBINAR:** Wednesday, March 25th 6:00 p.m. (Eastern). Anti-Jewish sentiment is an ongoing global issue and a force that generations of Christian churches have grappled with. And, much to our dismay, the church at times has been complicit in perpetuating this sentiment, with devastating results. In light of the PCC's commitment to address and dismantle anti-Judaism we explore one vein of the complicated history of Judaism and Christianity with invited speaker Dr. Patricia Ahearne-Kroll, noted Judaism scholar. Her lecture will expose


the role of biblical scholars whose misinformed interpretation of New Testament passages stoked the flames of anti-Judaism. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

 **SEQUOIA ENSEMBLE CONCERT:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on April 19th in the Sanctuary. More information will be available soon!

 **CHOIRBURST PERFORMANCES:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program and [Podium 2026](#), in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary from 10 am - 5 pm on May 15th & 16th. These are short and informal performances given by choirs from across the country! More information will be available soon.



 **VIP WOMEN'S RETREAT 2026:** At Camp Imadene, Mesachie Lake, Cowichan on April 24 - 26, 2026. Join us for a variety of workshops and worship throughout the weekend! Register before March 16 for \$230 by filling out [THIS FORM](#). For other information please contact vipladiesretreat@gmail.com or 250-668-3299.

 **VIP SUMMER CAMP 2026:** A program of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. This year's locations and dates are as follows: Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park (June 8-12), 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@outlook.com.

Community Events



Memory Café

Where Memories Spark Joy!

A social gathering for care partners and persons with memory loss



- ✓ A supportive community
- ✓ Make friendships with others who understand
- ✓ Participate in arts & creativity
- ✓ Laugh and learn

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR OPEN HOUSE
TRY US OUT FOR FREE!

Registration required:
limited to 6 couples

LOCATION:
New Horizons James Bay
234 Menzies, Victoria, BC

DATE & TIME:
Feb 3 or Feb 10, 2026 (Tuesday)
10:00 AM-12:00PM

Registration Reque

Register: debra@memoryconnections.org

This program is made possible with funding from the BC Ministry of Health through the United Way of BC and Memory Connections



AROUND THE TABLE: An ecumenical communion service hosted by Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United SCP's on Wednesdays at 5 pm during the university term. The simple service focuses on reading and reflecting on the gospel, prayer, song, silence and sharing bread and wine. While this service is centered on students, all are welcome. After worship everyone is invited to enjoy a meal.

SONGS OF LOVE & PEACE: A healing, multilingual musical journey across the globe with world-renowned cellist, composer, and vocalist Ian Maksin on Saturday, February 14 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information and tickets please go [HERE](#).

GTUF SEEDY SUNDAY: Save and sort your seed stash for sharing at this wonderful community event! On February 15 from 2 - 4 pm in the Bell Irving Room at Saanich Neighbourhood place (Pearkes Recreation Center.) Entrance is by a suggested donation of \$3. There will also be a plant and tuber

give-away table plus a snack potluck table, tea and a children's activity table. If you can volunteer for this event, or for more information, please [contact us!](#)

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR: [Our Place Society](#) is hosting The Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser on February 28th. It is a family-friendly walk that funds our expanding services. [Register your team now!](#)

TEA FOR TUTU 'RITE OF SPRING': March 10, 11, 12 at 2:00 pm in the Kirk Hall. Reserve your free seats! Email: tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca Phone: 250-380-6063. The performance includes an introduction to the dancers, the story of the work to be performed, a 45 minute dance performance, the opportunity for seniors, parents, and young children to enjoy the friendly, intimate atmosphere of the theatre, tea, coffee, and cookies offered while mingling with the dancers after the show.





Support Sunday Night Outreach

Who We Are

[QomQem Coastal Connections](#) has operated a weekly night outreach initiative for the past two years, bringing basic needs, hot and cold foods, harm reduction, and other supplies to the street family. We are in our third winter of this work. This Indigenous-and-lived-experience-led outreach model follows Coast Salish teachings that everyone should have a home, food to eat, and a role in the community.

Our Partnerships

Last year, we partnered with Abbey Church, North Park Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Solidarity for the Unhoused, and family members connected to the street community to deliver this service in a collaborative way. Together, we collected donations, prepared comforting foods, and delivered supplies to 150 individuals each Sunday night. During snowstorms, our partners at Peers Victoria joined us for late-night shifts, reaching up to 250 individuals.

Why It Matters

This weekly night outreach may seem modest compared to the clear need for expanded night-time services, and accessible housing, shelter and health care for those living outside, but this work is still deeply valued by those we serve, and by our dedicated volunteers. Each week, we are greeted with enthusiasm by unhoused community members who rely on these efforts for small comforts through the

challenging winter months. We know many, many people are looking for a way to help ease the discomfort for those who are outside during this poor weather, and donating to our program is one option to directly help.

How You Can Help

Here's how you can contribute:

Cash Donations to Support Weekly Costs:

- Food: \$500 (150 meals at \$3-4 per meal including hot and cold drinks) per week
- Supplies: \$500 (weather and shelter supplies) per week

Total Goal: \$7,000. We have funding for 12 weeks between Nov and Feb 2025, but your supports will enable us to operate until the end of March of 2025

Items Needed

- Non perishable foods used in the weekly menu : Gatorade/Powerade, juice boxes, fruit cups, pudding cups, smooth peanut butter and jam (large jars), flats of cup o' noodles, large bags of candy/baked treats

Supplies:

- Gloves, hats, (wool) socks, hand warmers, high-quality umbrellas that can withstand wind, raincoats, winter coats
- Tarps, winter weight sleeping bags, emergency blankets, batteries, flashlights, tents
- Inexpensive phones and pay as you go phone credits (Lucky, Koodo, Chatr)

Please help:

Donate funds or items to help us reach our goal. Every contribution makes a difference! You can donate online [HERE](#). Please email manager@qomqem.com for supply donation drop-off options.