

# THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 308

May 1, 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



## From the Pulpit

1 Corinthians 13 is often used at weddings, yet it is really about the “more excellent way” of living as mature Christians in community.

In this week's sermon, we reflect on how growing up in faith can mean losing childlike idealism and seeing God only “in a mirror dimly.” But the Apostle Paul insists the heart of Christian life is not impressive gifts, faith, or hope—it is *agape*, God's unconditional love.

Is it possible that love is already present in us, and people's lives are most changed by ordinary believers who embody it?

- Rev. Wes Denyer

## Announcements

**IN MEMORY:** It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Helen Gans, on Tuesday, April 21st, after a brief illness. She was a long time member of our congregation. You may recall Helen moved to Qualicum Beach three years ago to live with her daughter and grandson. Our sympathy goes to Janet and Tommy.

**ACTIVITY GROUP:** The shipment for [Compassionate Resource Warehouse](#) headed to Ethiopia at the end of the month is in urgent need of reusable, grocery type bags. Ethiopia has very recently instituted a ban on single use plastic bags so alternative packaging is required. If you have spare bags please drop them in the baskets in the narthex. Thank you!

**THE LINK:** Contribute to St. Andrew's monthly newsletter! **June's** deadline for submissions is **Sunday, May 31st**. To contact the editor or make submissions please email: [thelink@standrewsvictoria.ca](mailto:thelink@standrewsvictoria.ca).

**TEA FOR TUTU 'ALICE IN WONDERLAND':** May 5, 6, 7 at 2:00 pm in the Kirk Hall. Reserve your free seats - email [tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca](mailto:tea4tutu@balletvictoria.ca) or phone 250-380-6063. For more information about the program go [HERE](#).

**CHOIRBURST:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary from 10 am - 6 pm on May 15th & 16th. Local and visiting choirs & singing groups will share their music with the Victoria community! **St. Andrew's choristers are singing at 10:30 am on Saturday, May 16!** Each group will sing for 20 minutes, creating a vibrant showcase of voices throughout the day. A full performance schedule is available [HERE](#).

**PRESBYTERY MEETING:** on Tuesday, June 23 at 10 am in the Sanctuary and The Gathering Room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

**QUARTET FEST WEST:** Presented by St. Andrew's Music Outreach program on July 5th in the Sanctuary at 2 PM. Donations are appreciated, and support our music program, and our musicians! Quartet Fest West is one of the finest chamber music programs in North America! This concert features several participants from this year's festival.

## Community Events

**AROUND THE TABLE:** Join 'Inclusive Christians' on Wednesdays, from 5 - 6 pm, at the UVic Multifaith Center, for a simple Christian service of prayer, song, scripture, and contemplation. All are welcome. A free simple dinner is provided following the service. Hosted by the Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and United Spiritual Care Providers. For more information contact the [Rev. Laura Kavanagh](#).

**FREE PUBLIC LECTURES**

<b>APRIL 9</b>	<b>KELLY CARTER</b> <i>For the Church &amp; the Academy: The Theological Contributions of N.T. Wright</i> 7PM @ SHELBOURNE ST. CHURCH
<b>APRIL 16</b>	<b>LIZ SCOTT</b> <i>Mental Health for Parents</i> 7PM @ KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
<b>APRIL 23</b>	<b>HEIDI TEEL</b> <i>Children &amp; Faith Formation</i> 7PM @ SAANICH COMMUNITY CHURCH
<b>APRIL 30</b>	<b>ANDY WITHROW</b> <i>Reading Revelation Without Fear: An Introduction to the Bible's Most Misunderstood Book</i> 7PM @ SHELBOURNE ST. CHURCH
<b>MAY 14</b>	<b>MICAH SMITH</b> <i>Faith &amp; Technology</i> 7PM @ SAANICH COMMUNITY CHURCH
<b>MAY 21</b>	<b>MARK GLANVILLE</b> <i>Locally Rooted Worship</i> 7PM @ KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
<b>MAY 28</b>	<b>TIM STEWART</b> <i>1 Corinthians: Sources of Unity in a Conflicted Church</i> 7PM @ TBA

vancouver island school of theology and the arts

**FREE VISTA:** Free public lectures through the Vancouver Island School of Theology are happening on Thursdays in April and May at 7 PM. Go [HERE](#) for more information.

**ILLUMINARE: WINGS OF SILENCE:** At Christ Church Cathedral on May 2 at 3 pm & May 3 at 7:30 pm. Shedding light on beauty, fragility, and the silenced voices of our natural world. Capriccio Vocal Ensemble & the Emily Carr String Quartet Featuring: Christopher Tin's The Lost Birds – an elegy for vanished species and a powerful plea for the earth's fragile future. For more information and tickets click [HERE](#).

**THE PANDORA CHORUS SPRING CONCERT:** Join The Pandora Chorus for their Spring Concert on Saturday, May 2 at 7:00 pm in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary. They will be singing songs from our Winter-Spring repertoire, including songs by HUNTR/X, Radiohead, Jacob Collier, Joni Mitchell, Fleet Foxes, Paul Simon, and more! Doors open 6:30pm, Show 7:00pm. Tickets: [\\$20 advance online](#), no ticket needed for children ages 12 and under. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$25 (cash only).

**HEART CALLED & FORMED:** Join us Friday and Saturday May 8 and 9 for a conference on theology with Mark Buchanan and Gordon T. Smith through the Vancouver Island School of Theology. [Tickets Available Here!](#)

**THE VILLAGE CHAMBER CHOIR INAUGURAL CONCERT:** Join The Village Chamber Choir on Saturday, May 9 at 2 pm in St. Andrew's Sanctuary. This concert features a more challenging and traditional choral repertoire. From French to Latin, Fauré to Whitacre, classical to pop, it is sure to be a beautiful afternoon of choral favourites. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#). Ticket Cost: \$20 Adult, \$15 Student, \$10 Child.

**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@gmail.com](mailto:jermareng@gmail.com).



## Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, the Presbytery of Assiniboia's Messy Church meets eight times a year across three congregations: First (Regina), Trinity (Grenfell), and Knox (Weyburn). Coordinated by the synod's Youth Coordinator, the Rev. Devon Pattemore, each session features crafts, a themed story, worship, and a shared meal. Designed to engage families unable to attend Sunday worship, it has revitalized struggling congregations, built confidence, and drawn both church members and local families. In some locations, attendance now surpasses traditional services. Messy Church offers flexible, informal faith formation, strengthens community connections, and provides a creative, welcoming space for intergenerational ministry.



**SHELBOURNE  
Community  
KITCHEN**

## SPRING INTO ACTION FOOD DRIVE

**MARCH 24 - MAY 7**

CONSIDER DONATING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS!

- CANNED FISH & MEAT
- CANNED PLAIN BEANS
- PASTA SAUCE
- GRANOLA BARS
- JUICE BOXES

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT:  
101-3787 Cedar Hill Rd. (pink doors)

- Tuesdays 4 PM - 7 PM
- Wednesdays 10 AM - 1 PM
- Thursdays 10 AM - 1 PM




## Prayer Partnership

**Thursday, April 30** We pray for wisdom and strength for members of the National Indigenous Ministries Council as they work to advise committees and courts of the church about the critical work of truth, healing and reconciliation.

**Friday, May 1** We pray for congregations concerned about finances, that God will provide the resources they need to continue the ministry they are called to do.

**Saturday, May 2** We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a relationship, that they will re-learn to trust themselves and others as they move towards healing.

**Sunday, May 3** We pray for congregations offering programs like Messy Church that connect with families in a fresh and creative way.

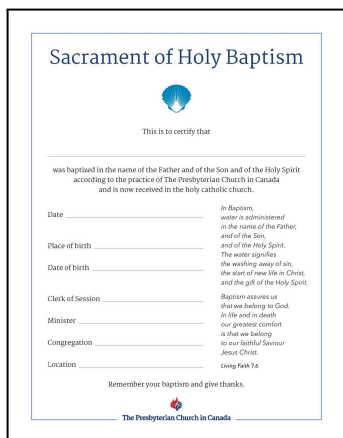
**Monday, May 4 (International Firefighters' Day)** We give thanks for career and volunteer firefighters who serve their communities, and for all who labour in tasks of danger and difficulty to protect and preserve life, property, and the environment.

**Tuesday, May 5** We pray for the participants in the PCC's Guidance Conference (May 4 – 8), where students certified for study have an opportunity to discern further their call to ministry.

**Wednesday, May 6** We give thanks for the faithfulness of congregations that participate in the mission of the church with prayers and financial gifts to Presbyterian Sharing.

**Thursday, May 7** We pray for Knox College and those graduating in 2026 as they prepare for the Convocation ceremony and events on May 13. We ask for a joyful celebration of academic inquiry and an affirmation of a call to serve.

**Friday, May 8** We give thanks and pray for interim moderators, who provide vital support and assistance to congregations that do not have a minister.



## Requests for Records

There has been an increase in requests for copies of baptism, marriage, and burial records. A recent change to Canada's Citizenship Act has resulted in increased requests from south of the border.

*Read more about Bill C-3, which removed the first-generation limit for citizenship and came into effect in December, in this [CBC article](#).*

In April, the Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives surpassed the yearly average of certificate requests that they typically receive.

If you are a researcher and want to know if our church can provide you with records, here is what you can do:

1. Confirmed that the individual in question is listed as Presbyterian on census records.
2. Use your cell phone to take a photo of the entry, especially for fragile registers; or provide a letter (on letterhead) confirming the details of the event.
3. Contact the church's office with your request and any additional information about the person in question.

As record keepers, churches do have the responsibility to share this information, but we ask that researchers understand that processing these requests are not our priority.

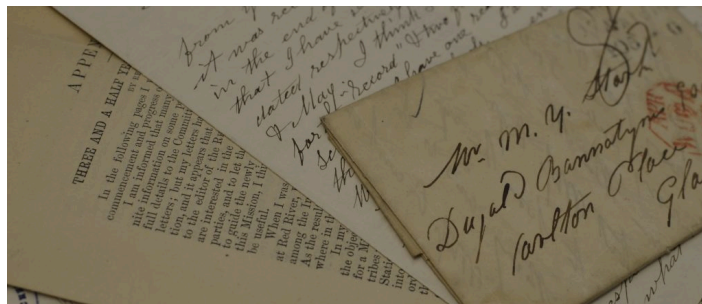
This is a list of Presbyterian churches in the city of Victoria that researchers can inquire with:

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
680 Courtney Street, Victoria  
Website: <https://www.standrewsvictoria.ca/>  
Email: [office@standrewsvictoria.ca](mailto:office@standrewsvictoria.ca)  
Phone: 250-384-5734

**Knox Presbyterian Church**  
2964 Richmond Road, Victoria  
Website: <https://pccweb.ca/knoxpcvictoria/>  
Email: [knoxpcvic@gmail.com](mailto:knoxpcvic@gmail.com)  
Phone: 250-592-6323

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
2964 Tillicum Road, Victoria  
Website: <https://pccweb.ca/trinityvictoria>  
Email: [trinitypcvictoria@shaw.ca](mailto:trinitypcvictoria@shaw.ca)  
Phone: 250-388-4525

**Chinese Presbyterian Church**  
816 North Park Street, Victoria  
Website: <https://pccweb.ca/victoriachinese/>  
Email: [vic.chinese.presbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:vic.chinese.presbyterian@gmail.com)  
Phone: 250-384-4911



Researchers can also try finding answers online at The Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives.

**The Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives**  
Website: <https://presbyterianarchives.ca/>  
Email: [archives@presbyterian.ca](mailto:archives@presbyterian.ca)

To submit a research request to The PCCA [please fill out this form](#). Please be aware that currently, it could take up to 30 days for a response to be issued.