

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S



ISSUE # 311

May 21, 2026

Open Church: Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Meditation Hour: Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

The Globe & Faith: The Gathering Room

Wednesdays at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Starts on Wednesday May 27th!

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

For Pentecost Sunday the sermon is entitled "Footprints at the Door." This sermon explores the wonder and vastness of God's work, while reminding us that every person is deeply loved and valued. Through moving stories and the witness of the early church, it asks how we can share Christ's love in ways people can truly understand. It offers a message about belonging, compassion, and the footprints of faith at one another's door.


- Rev. Wes Denyer

Announcements


 **FIRE DRILL:** Please note there will be a fire drill immediately after service on Sunday, May 24.


 **THE GLOBE & FAITH:** Are you interested in how current events and our Christian faith interact? Bring your thoughts and current events to the Rev. Wes Denyer's new weekly discussion group starting May 27th! We will meet every Wednesday in The Gathering Room from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Simple refreshments provided but special treats are always appreciated! Regular attendance is not required - everyone is welcome!. For more information, please contact the Rev. Wes at wesdenyer@gmail.com.

 **ACTIVITY GROUP SUMMER SESSIONS:** During June, July and August the Activity Group will continue to have "drop in" sessions on Thursday mornings. We have two summer projects we're working on: the Laneway Garden and the Jewelry & Jumble Sale. We've finished planting lots of vegetables that will be donated to James Bay's New Horizons food security programs. If you would like to help with the garden we would welcome your assistance. We are also collecting and pricing items left over from previous programs and events at St. Andrew's for the jumble sale in September. Many hands make light work so please consider dropping in to help.

 **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.





 **CELEBRATION OF LIFE:** It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of [Stewart Black](#), who was an active member of St. Andrew's for many years. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 13th 1:30 pm at Saanich Presbyterian Church in North Saanich, with Rev Irwin Cunningham officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations are invited to [Canadian Cancer Society](#) or [Cowichan Hospice](#).

 **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Please note there will be a Congregational Meeting immediately after service on Sunday, June 14.

 **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.

 **JEWELRY & JUMBLE SALE:** Stop by the Gathering Room on September 18 & 19 for St. Andrew's jewelry and jumble sale! All proceeds go towards supplies for the laneway garden. More information will be available soon!

Community Events

 **AROUND THE TABLE:** Join 'Inclusive Christians' at 5 pm Wednesdays at the UVic Multifaith Centre for a simple ecumenical communion service that includes scripture, prayer, song, contemplation and conversation. Worship is followed by a modest, free meal provided by local congregations. This special time together is hosted by Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Spiritual Care Providers. Everyone is welcome. Please contact the Rev. Laura Kavanagh at laurakavanagh@uvic.ca for more information or to donate a meal in the fall or winter term.

 **CELEBRATION OF STORY:** Presented by the Storytellers of Canada and Victoria Storytellers Guild. Join us for a celebration of story on June 5 at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. For more information as it becomes available please go [HERE](#).



Strawberry Tea & Bazaar

**Saturday, June 20, 2026
1:00-4:00 pm**

-  Strawberry shortcake and tea/coffee - \$8 (cash only)
-  Treasures
-  White Elephant
-  Books
-  Jewellery
-  Arts & crafts
-  Plants
-  Baking
-  Silent Auction

Knox Presbyterian Church
2364 Richmond Road
(between Lansdowne & Taylor Street)

In support of the
Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society

Contact:
victoriacatrescue@gmail.com
www.victoriacatrescue.com

Victoria Cat Rescue Corps Society is a charitable organization run by volunteers.
All donations go toward spay, neuter and medical costs for the animals we assist.



 **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.



A participating choir provides an extra flourish on our stage at the Choirburst event held at St. Andrew's over the long weekend.

Prayer Partnership

Thursday, May 21 We pray that God will guide our Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee as they foster understanding and cooperation across traditions. May we work together to build a world where peace and respect flourish.

Friday, May 22 We thank God for all who lovingly serve children and youth, guiding them with patience, wisdom, and compassion as they help shape hopeful, faithful futures.

Saturday, May 23 We pray for people and organizations that seek a just and lasting peace in Palestine and Israel.

Sunday, May 24 (Day of Pentecost; Healing & Reconciliation Sunday) We pray for the healing and wellbeing of all people harmed by residential schools. We pray for Indigenous organizations and nations supporting healing work for Survivors, intergenerational Survivors, their families and communities.

Monday, May 25 We pray for the healing and wellbeing of people served by each of the eight ministries of the National Indigenous Ministries Council.

Tuesday, May 26 We pray for authors and writers within The Presbyterian Church in Canada who work to help us understand our past and imagine our future in light of the inexhaustible gifts of God.

Wednesday, May 27 We pray for those facing famine in war-ravaged Yemen and for the PWS&D partners providing aid to those vulnerable to malnutrition and disease.

Thursday, May 28 We thank God for generous gifts of time, talent and treasure—freely given with grateful hearts to serve God and bless others.

Friday, May 29 We pray for the youth, young adults, and youth leaders who have registered for the Collective 2026 gathering. May they experience travelling blessings and renewed faith while gathered from August 12-15, 2026.



Mission Moment

Yemen has been devastated by over a decade of conflict, disrupting food systems and causing hunger. Yahya, a father of four with a disability that makes walking difficult, worries about his malnourished daughter. “We strive to obtain food, but the situation remains tough,” he shares. “When you entered our village with the food basket distribution, it changed my life significantly. Thanks to your support, my situation began to improve. I was able to save some money through the food basket and decided to buy a water tank. This step was important for my family, as we finally have clean water.” PWS&D works together with Canadian Foodgrains Bank and local partners to deliver vital food assistance to families like Yahya’s who are facing worsening food insecurity.



From left to right: Arthur Marcellus, John McVie (Choirburst’s organizer), and Elizabeth Gichimu greeting guests at Choirburst this past weekend.



May 24th is Healing and Reconciliation Sunday

Healing and Reconciliation Sunday was designated by the 2006 General Assembly, recognizing the need for healing and relationship building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada.

This recognition comes with the difficult but necessary acknowledgment that The Presbyterian Church in Canada is complicit in colonial racism, especially through the church's participation in the residential school system, which took generations of Indigenous children from their homes and families. The intergenerational trauma that the schools created continues to cause significant harm to Indigenous people today.

The work of truth, healing and reconciliation is a collective responsibility across all parts of the church and Canadian society. Congregations can observe Healing and Reconciliation Sunday in different ways. Here are some ideas:

- Read the church's Apology for colonization and residential schools at church. Guidance for worship leaders planning to read the apology in church are [online here](#)
- Mark Healing and Reconciliation Sunday in [worship](#)
- Consider [contributing to the Honouring the Children Fund](#) which makes funding available for healing events, memorials, and searches of the grounds of former school sites to nations and groups impacted by residential schools run by the PCC.
- Learn more about [ministries with Indigenous peoples](#).
- Learn more about the church's commitments to [healing and reconciliation](#).



June is Indigenous History Month

June is Indigenous History Month, and June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day. It is an opportunity to celebrate and learn more about the diverse cultures, traditions, governing systems, histories, spiritualities, and gifts of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people.

The best way to learn is directly from Indigenous people:

- read Indigenous authors,
- listen to Indigenous musicians and podcasters,
- view art and film made by Indigenous artists,
- seek opportunities to learn from Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers and teachers
- attend events organized by Indigenous nations, organizations or Friendship Centers in your area.

Centering Indigenous voices and experiences, honouring Indigenous identity and resilience contributes to building up a society that actively addresses anti-Indigenous racism, and where all people may flourish.

Learn more about ministries with Indigenous people [here](#). Learn more about the church's work for Indigenous justice and healing and reconciliation [here](#).