

THE



LINK

January, 2015

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**LOOK
INSIDE.....**

◆ Coming Events

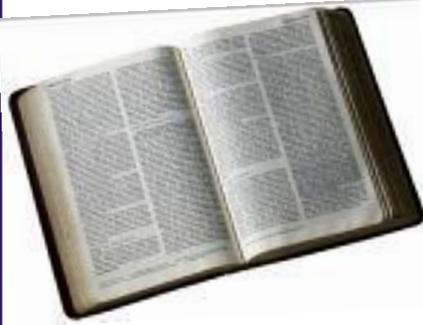
◆ Congratulations!

◆ Music Notes!

◆ Christmas Pageant

◆ Children's Page

◆ Around the Island



“A CATECHISM FOR TODAY”

Question 124. How do we summarize the last six commandments?

“You shall love your neighbour as yourself” (Matthew 22:39) is how Jesus summarized them in what he called the second commandment that is like to the first and greatest commandment. He noted, “On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:40).

Lev 19:18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people; but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

Mk 12:29-31 Jesus answered, the first [commandment] is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”

See also: Mt 22:23-40; Mk 12:28-34; Lk 10:25-28.

Question 125. What are the uses of the law?

The law, too, comes from the goodness of God and is for our benefit and freedom. It acts as a mirror to show us our sin, that we may seek our Saviour, Jesus Christ; it keeps our feet from wrongful or dangerous paths; it leads us to joy in knowing and following God’s way.

Ps 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right rejoicing the heart.

Deut 10:12 So now, O Israel, what does the Lord require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Rom 5:20 But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

See also: Deut 7:6-15; Ps 19; Ps 119; Mk 10:18-19; Lk 10:25-28; Rom 3:27-31, 7:7-13; Gal 5:1; Jas 1:25, 2:12.

Question 126. Can we fulfil the demands of the law?

No. We fall far short of what God requires. The good news is that “if we freely admit that we have sinned, we find God utterly reliable and straightforward - he forgives our sins and makes us thoroughly clean from all that is evil” (1 John 1:9 (J. B. Phillips)).

Ps 14:3 They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no not one.

Rom 7:22-25 For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

See also: Rom 3:10-20; Isa 64:6.

New Church Directory



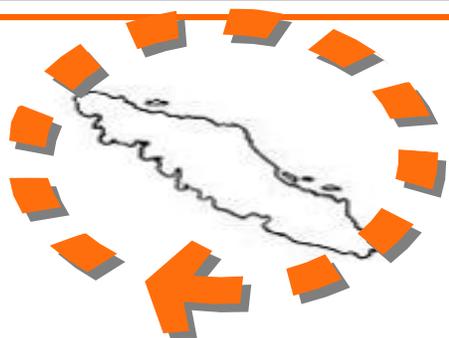
Are you having trouble finding people in the old church directory?

The directory is out of date and we all look a little older and wiser (?) and many new faces are simply not there.

John Mitchell has agreed to use his photographic talents and take pictures of all of us (in family groups) to use in the new photo directory. The photo shoots will take place on Sundays after services in the Kirk Hall starting January 18, 2015. If you wish a copy of your photo, it will be available for a nominal fee.

We will be asking everyone to provide up-to-date addresses and contact information at that time. We plan to develop a data base that will allow us to communicate important information in a timely manner.

We are hoping that everyone will participate. For more information, talk to Sabine or Colina.



AROUND THE ISLAND

The **BETHLEHEM RETREAT CENTRE** in Nanaimo was the site of Presbytery Meetings, November 25 to 26th. The time was spent discussing concerns at Knox, Port Alberni and at Knox, Sooke. I am asking for your prayers for these congregations as they face trying times in their future.

Presbytery's Outreach, "Cedar Tree Ministries" at the Cowichan Reserve in Duncan has established an accountability procedure and an accepted budget for 2015. Presbytery members are on their Board of Managers and Presbytery will provide \$16,000 in 2015. Presently the Congregations of Parksville, Nanaimo and Duncan are financially supporting Cedar Tree Ministries.

The Working Alone Policy was discussed. We then heard from our guest speaker, David Phillips from Toronto. He has been assigned by the Church to visit Presbyteries and review the importance of making certain no abuse takes place in any Church. His presentation was to the point and well appreciated.

He also reviewed for us the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee. Its first report, which was presented in September, 2013, was made available to us. I have placed a copy of "They Came For the Children" in our Library.

As Presbyterians and Canadians this information will be with us for Generations to come.

Blessings to All, Respectfully Submitted, Peter Lewis

In Loving Memory, 2014

And God shall
wipe away all
tears from their
eyes; and there
shall be no
more death,
neither sorrow,
nor crying,
neither shall
there be any
more pain....

Rev. 21:4



**Violet Flumerfelt
December 6**

**Marion Featherstone
December 25**

**Reverend Dr. Ian
Victor
December 26**



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, 2014



Ushering Teams Reminder

January, 2015:

John A, Parkinson
 Stewart Black
 Bill Duke
 Nancy Duke
 David Smith

February, 2015:

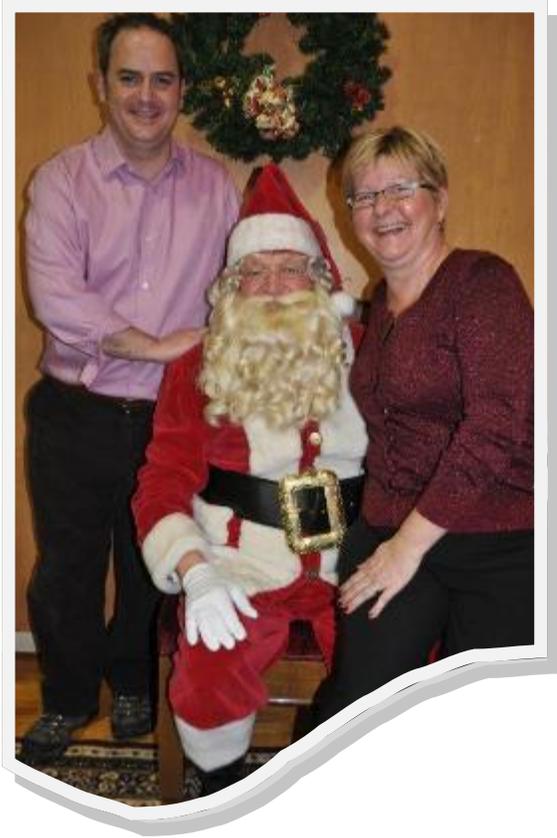
Kathleen McKinnon
 Laura Richards
 Betty Parkinson
 John Parkinson

THRIFT SHOP

*Open first and third
 Tuesdays
 10 - noon.
 Donations welcome.*

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, 2014





SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY

fotos by Mitchell



“Friendly Conversations”

Supporting your English Language Learning (ELL)

Sunday, January 11

through

Sunday, February 15

There will be another set of six ESL classes, held on Sundays after the Worship Service.

" English Conversation Classes" take place in the Kirk Hall from about 12 to 1:15 p.m.

Anyone who wishes to further their English understanding and conversation, or who need help with grammar or essays are free to come for help. This is a 'free' program. For those in the congregation who wish to help in any way, please let me know. Please invite any potential ESL students to Coffee Hour and tell them about our program—they will be very welcome. **We always have fun!** *Submitted by Dorothy Reimer*

In addition to **St. Andrew's 8th annual Christmas Carol Sing** in which some **250 visitors graced our sanctuary** we had 6 other mid-week sanctuary openings.

On December 3, 24 people came in for Sandra Fletcher's noon time concert (preceded by one hour of 'open door sanctuary'). The other 5 occasions (approximate numbers of visitors in brackets) were:

December 10 (24), 17 (37), 22 (88), 23 (42), 24 (126).

Chimes were played, broadcast outside, each day from the bell tower. Music was also played in the sanctuary, either live by Sandra as she practiced, or by music from our sound system. Having to keep the doors shut on inclement days detracted from our open door image.

We hope to resume our **'open door sanctuary'** at 11 am on the 1st Wednesday of each month starting in February, just prior to Sandra's proposed noon time concerts which will start at 12:15 pm.

We may also have some open church door events during Holy Week which starts with Palm Sunday March 29th and ends with Easter Sunday on April 5th. If you are interested in assisting, **please contact our church office or Bruce McCowan.** We will have a sign-up sheet outside of the church office.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE THANK YOU's!!

We thought that people might be interested in knowing some of the 'behind the scenes' activities that took place in our church in December. Communion was served by **Rev. David Stewart and 12 elders** to 165 people on December 7. Not only do the elders serve, but they set up, prepare and clean up afterward. (This is 29 more people than we served at communion in December, 2013.) Also, the total number at all communions in 2014 increased over 2013. We have much Thanksgiving as well as "Hope" in our Advent season this year.

Thank you also for everyone who helped set up, provided and served refreshments or cleaned up after the coffee hours. Special thanks to **Dave and Sheelagh Garson** for decorating the narthex by the Douglas Street doors as well as the Kirk Hall for our socials. Special thanks to **John Mitchell and Dorothy Reimer** who helped decorate the window ledges and front of our sanctuary (**John and Sheila Mitchell** donated the Christmas tree to us this year since the old one was falling apart.)

Thanks each week also go to our minister, music director, special musicians and singers, choir, secretary, church officer, ushers, Sunday School teachers, Nursery volunteers and sound system operators.

There is much work that goes on that we often take too much for granted.

Thank you one and all!

May we all continue to be blessed by such support and good will in the years to come!



MUSIC NOTES

My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast. I will sing and make melody. Awake, my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn. I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the people; I will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens: your faithfulness extends to the clouds. (Psalm 57:7-10)

It's a new year, with new plans and new goals! If you are not yet involved in the music ministry at St. Andrew's but would like to be, please talk to me about it.



Here some dates to note:

The children's choir will resume rehearsals on **Wednesday, January 7 at 5:30** in the Lecture room (use Broughton Street entrance). They will sing in church again on February 1, as well as March 1.

St. Andrew's choir (adults) rehearse on **Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 9:00 p.m. starting again on January 8, in the Lecture room.**

The next organ recital will be on Wednesday, February 4, 12:15 to 12:45.

Sandra Fletcher
250-385-5670

standrewsmusic@outlook.com



**Children's Choir
Rehearsal
December 10, 2014**

*Fotos by
Mitchell*



MEN'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST

Get your New Year off to a great start and bring a friend or perhaps even make one.

January 17

February 28 (Note 4th Saturday)

March 21

April 18

May 16

June 20

**Bon Appetit Café
5th floor, downtown Bay Centre
10:00 a.m.**

For more details,
please call the Church Office.

The Shop and Give Back Initiative, sponsored by Ten Thousand Villages Store

in cooperation with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, resulted in a donation of \$29 to the Outreach and Mission Committee from Ten Thousand Villages Store. This was one-tenth of the purchases (\$290) made by members of St. Andrew's during December 12th, 2014 at the shop. Submitted by Don MacEachern

Editors' Note: Reviews and submitted articles are the personal opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the ministers, Link editors or the Presbyterian Church in Canada.



CONGRATULATIONS!! Pauline Burnett, was married to her best friend, Toni LaFauci, on **November 22, 2014**, in an intimate ceremony on Salt Spring Island. We are thrilled to officially welcome Toni into our family, as are Toni's parents, Susan and Joseph LaFauci, of Parksville, delighted to welcome Pauline into their family. Parents of Pauline are Jean and Arthur Marcellus and Ron and Teresa Burnett, all of Victoria. Mr. and Mrs. LaFauci will continue to live in Victoria, where Pauline is a Neuroscience Nurse at Victoria General and Toni is a Professional Photographer, owner of Cinderbloc Studio on Esquimalt Road.



St. Andrew's Children's Page A new year has just begun. Many people like to make plans to have a successful year. Hebrews 13:16 can help us with our own plans. It tells us, **"DO NOT FORGET TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, FOR WITH SUCH SACRIFICES GOD IS PLEASED."**

See if you can find the words in Hebrews 13:16 in the word search. Each word is used only once in the puzzle.

I	S	O	S	A	T	R	U	S	S
E	G	U	G	S	E	O	C	L	I
T	F	D	C	C	E	L	E	P	E
A	N	O	T	H	E	R	S	L	T
S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	S
H	N	I	C	G	O	O	D	A	O
A	D	E	F	T	E	H	R	S	E
R	S	S	G	W	I	T	H	E	S
E	A	A	O	I	E	G	O	D	D
G	H	T	R	F	O	D	D	E	P

WORD BANK

**DO
NOT
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TO
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Hebrews 13:16