



June 2018

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Victoria, BC

THE LINK

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Have a Safe and Relaxing Summer



As we get ready to start a new chapter
at St. Andrew's

Notes from Session

Our May meeting was primarily spent discussing St. Andrew's proposed Bullying and Harassment Policy. In order to meet WorkSafe BC Standards, as an employer, St Andrew's church is required to have documented policies and procedures that outline how a complaint of bullying or harassment will be dealt with. The draft Workplace Bullying and Harassment Policy, reporting and investigating procedures were forwarded to Presbytery for its feedback regarding its role prior to finalizing the policy. When the report is finalized, we will share it with the congregation of St. Andrew's.

In early 2018, the Presbytery of Vancouver Island struck a committee consisting of the Reverend Doctor Gordon Kouwenberg - clerk of Presbytery, Mr. Roy Napier - moderator of Presbytery and the Rev. Laura Kavanagh - interim moderator of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, to appoint an interim minister to St. Andrew's. One of the qualifying credentials of the successful candidate was that the minister be experienced in interim ministry. The number of such ministers in Canada is limited and the committee started looking to the USA for possible candidates. The committee corresponded with the Reverend Mitchell Coggin, an interim minister and teacher of interim ministry of the Presbyterian Church USA, presently serving in Tennessee. The Reverend Coggin expressed interest and he was invited to Victoria by the committee for an interview and an opportunity to meet the available session members. Both the committee and session felt that the Reverend Coggin was indeed a good candidate. Since this is a very major move for the Coggins, Rev. Coggin requested that his wife, Linda, have an opportunity to visit Victoria. The Coggins were here May 22-24 and met with the heads of the major committees and toured Victoria. A two-year contract has been signed between the Reverend Coggin, the Presbytery of Vancouver Island and the Session of St. Andrew's Victoria with a tentative start date of July 15th.

We ask that the congregation pray for the swift completion of the steps required for immigration and that housing will be found for the Coggins family. Let us all give thanks for God's care as we look forward to the future as God's church in Victoria.

Respectfully submitted,
the Session of St. Andrew's

In Loving Memory



Peggy Freethy - May 19

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....

Revelations 21:4

Usher Teams

June

Laura R.
Patricia R.
Jerry V.

July

Peter L.
Bruce W.
John W.
Arthur M.

August

Colina T.
Elizabeth B.
Miles C.

Prayer Chain



Although the June Link will be the last one before the summer break, nonetheless, the Prayer Chain will still be active over the summer. Our members and friends will undoubtedly experience events in their lives which they will want to be shared in prayer by the members of the Prayer Chain.

There are a number of people in the present Prayer Chain who faithfully pray for the concerns shared with us. Sometimes we pray for healing or God's comfort, and sometimes we rejoice for answered

prayers.

Being part of the Prayer Chain is an important ministry for lay people in the congregation. It is a way in which we can help carry each other's burdens, and share each other's grief and hopefully give comfort in time of need. It is a way in which we can express our love for one another as God commanded us to do. We can do it privately from our homes at any time of the day or night.

It has been said: "Praying is one of the most ancient of human practices, and to this day, billions of people still believe in its power. Prayer transcends religions, denominations, sects and belief systems of all kinds. It's used in a multitude of ways: to seek comfort, make a request, ask for guidance, heal and restore, express sorrow, celebrate joy or give thanks. At its most elemental level, with everything else stripped away, praying is simply talking to Someone (importantly, Someone who's always happy to listen)."

Praying as a group also fulfills another of our basic human needs: to connect, both with a power greater than ourselves and with one another.

This chain has seen wonderful answer to prayer and many have received blessing and encouragement from knowledge that others are praying for them and sharing their burden with the Lord.

We encourage other members, of our congregation, regardless of age or circumstance to join our prayer team. Prayer is something everyone can do. It is a blessing to be able to pray for others in intercessory prayer. We do not need to take a course, we do not need specific training, we simply need to speak to God in our own voice and lift up our friends and fellow members to God. Won't you join us?

If you want to be part of our prayer chain, please let **Fiona Ryneveld** know so that she can add you to the email list. She can be reached at ryneveld@telus.net or by phone at 250 386-4142.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ **Link Deadline** ★
 ★
 ★ Next Link Deadline will ★
 ★ be Sunday, August 26. ★
 ★
 ★ Wishing everyone a safe ★
 ★ and happy summer. ★
 ★ Link Editors ★
 ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**Inter-Presbyterian Church
 Gym Games Night** in the
 Kirk Hall at 680 Courtney
 Street

Upcoming gym night will be
 held on Saturday, June 16th
 (instead of the first Saturday
 of the month) from 6:30 -
 8:30pm.

For more information please
 email vtan.cpc@gmail.com

Congregational Picnic

JUNE 10, 2017

BEACON HILL PARK - AFTER THE SUNDAY SERVICE



This year the picnic will be slightly different. It will still
 be catered but a new menu. The only decision you will
 need to make is what folding chair to bring from home
 for yourself and someone else.

Come and enjoy the start of the Summer season!

June 2018

Our elders invite us to pray together!

If you have items you would like included, please contact Whitney in the church office:

office@standrewsvictoria.ca
250-384-5734

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12



Please pray for...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					¹ All those with Birthdays and anniversaries in June	² Mission partners supported by Presbyterian Sharing
³ Those involved in music ministry who give of their time and talents	⁴ For all those who gather at General Assembly to discern for the denomination	⁵ Our families and for being part of the family of God.	⁶ Peace for all suffering in the midst of conflict	⁷ Families of people in the armed forces and for the people serving	⁸ Our neighbors in need and the St. A's team serving them breakfast on Saturday	⁹ Compassion and courage to welcome and care for strangers in need
¹⁰ Ministers, church staff and many volunteers	¹¹ PWS&D supported clubs in Haiti teaching children about food security/ environmentalism	¹² Wisdom for elders who guide and decide at St. Andrews	¹³ Those enjoying Little Qualicum Falls this week with the Camp VIP camping escape	¹⁴ The Boards of Managers and Property/ Finance Committees in the Presbytery	¹⁵ Congregations preparing for summer camps, Sunday school and VBS programs	¹⁶ The words to invite people to know God in fellowship with believers
¹⁷ Youth, children and young families	¹⁸ Thanksgiving for everyone who participated in Car Free YYJ yesterday	¹⁹ Any friends or family who are sick or hurting	²⁰ All refugees fleeing violence and oppression	²¹ Those speaking out against hatred and injustice	²² People in hospital and those who visit them	²³ God's healing and restoration for all who need it
²⁴ Christian Education committee volunteers and all teachers	²⁵ That the church may be a home where everyone feels welcomed as God's children	²⁶ Agricultural workers who grow our food	²⁷ All who will attend Canada Youth this summer	²⁸ God's help to practice the virtue of love.	²⁸ Thanksgiving for the fellowship found in our congregation	³⁰ Ministry students serving in remote congregations

Birthday Prayer for Elsie Maxwell

Elsie received this prayer in her birthday card from her sister.

Today, dear Lord, I am 90, and there's much I've left undone.

So I hope that in your mercy, you'll let me live until I'm 91.

If by then I haven't finished everything I want to do,

Would you let me stay awhile? Until I'm 92?

There're so many places I want to go, so much yet to see

Do you think that you could manage to make it 93?

The world is changing very fast, with so much yet in store,

It would be interesting to be around and live 'til 94.

And then, if by your grace, I'm allowed to stay alive,

Could you stretch a little point, and make it 95?

Missing the wonder of your world would put me in a fix,

So I'd like to see what might happen if I live to 96.

I know, dear Lord, that I'm pushing it - twill be fun to come to heaven.

But if you need the room up there, I'll wait 'til I'm 97.

I know, by then, I might be frail and my memory in a state,

But I'd not be a nuisance, if I could stay 'til 98.

By then I will have seen so much, and had a super time,

And be quite ready to come if called at 99.

But maybe by then you could find it in your grace and power,

To let me reach my century then take it hour by hour.

Author Unknown



Elsie with a group of friends.

**Happy birthday Elsie
from your friends and
family at St. Andrew's.**



With granddaughter Ellice Maxwell

Government House Tours

We have not arranged Government House specifically for St. Andrew's and friends. Tours are available on Saturday July 7th and August 4th at 9:30am and again at 11:00am. The tea room and costume museums are available on Tuesday thru Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm until Labour Day weekend. Reservations for the tea room can be made for groups.



**Car-Free
Day...
June 17**

Car Free Day is fast approaching – Sunday, June 17th. This is the third year we will have participated. For those not familiar with Car Free Day, depending on the weather, we can expect 50-70 thousand people pass by our door on a sunny summer afternoon.

This is an opportunity for us to put a public face to the Presbyterian Churches in the Capital Region. Invitations have been extended to Knox [Victoria & Sooke], Saanich Peninsula, Grace, Chinese and Trinity Presbyterian Churches to join us.

If you would like to be part of this outreach please let me know at jpfergus@gmail.com or 250-415-3687.

124 Years of Happily Ever After

July 17 is a very special date for three couples at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and we are very blessed to celebrate their unions - the love you share is one of the best gifts of all.



photobymitchell



57th Wedding Anniversary

Bill and Nancy (née Buchan) Duke
July 17, 1961
New Bridgegate Church of Scotland
Glasgow, Scotland

42nd Wedding Anniversary

Rodger and Dianne (née Haines) Penner
July 17, 1976
St. Matthias Anglican Church
Victoria, British Columbia

25th Wedding Anniversary

Saul Preston and Paula McHerron
July 17, 1993
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Montague, Prince Edward Island

*1 Corinthians 13:13 - And now abide faith, hope, love, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.*

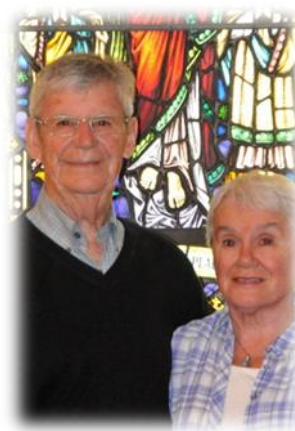
*You have shared in our lives with your friendship and love
and are invited to celebrate with us on*

*Sunday, July 22, 2018
Coffee and Cake
(following the service)*



Happy Anniversary!

Bill and Nancy Duke



Rodger and Dianne Penner



Saul Preston and Paula McHerron



Where are They Now?



Over the years, the Link has featured some of our young people who have moved on to other places after leaving St. Andrew's.

This month we are pleased to update everyone about Michelle Verwey, the daughter of Tjeerd (Jerry) and Debra Verwey. Michelle grew up in Victoria and attended St. Andrew's for many years. As many of you know, Michelle served in India under the auspices of the national church as a nurse and teacher. She was married in St. Andrew's and is now living in Saskatoon with her husband, Anderson, who is a doctor specializing in respiratory issues.

Michelle and Anderson are thrilled to be expecting a baby in July. Jerry and Debra are pretty pleased too.

Recently her Victoria friends treated Michelle to a baby shower. You can tell from this photo, taken by Jean Marcellus, that this lovely expectant mother was very pleased with celebrating the anticipated birth of her baby.

Christian Education News

Nursery:

During the months of July and August, the nursery will NOT be staffed. This will give the volunteers a break. However, we still only have six volunteers, which means there is not enough staff to cover four Sundays each month. As well, when any of these volunteers are on holidays, there are even fewer Sundays that we can cover. Please consider becoming a volunteer. This is an extremely easy way to provide service to the congregation, as there is no preparation needed, and volunteers can easily take part in the service if not needed in the nursery. As well, the sound system in the nursery has been upgraded, making it easier to hear what is happening in the sanctuary.

Sunday School:

On June 10, the children will be given certificates to commemorate another year of "worshipping, learning and serving together". This is the same day as the Congregational Picnic.

Over the Sundays of the summer vacation (June 17 to September 2) Casual Summer Sunday School will be offered each week. This program is provided for children aged 3-13, but older students can take part



foto by dianne penner



Lunch-Time Organ Recital

Join us for a lunchtime organ recital on June 6, 12:15 - 12:45. Christine Purvis will be performing a summer recital with music by Bach, Stanley, and Healey Willan.

Admission is by donation with proceeds going to support the music ministry at St. Andrew's. Bring your lunch, bring a friend, and help support the music at St. Andrew's.

St. Andrew's Children's Page

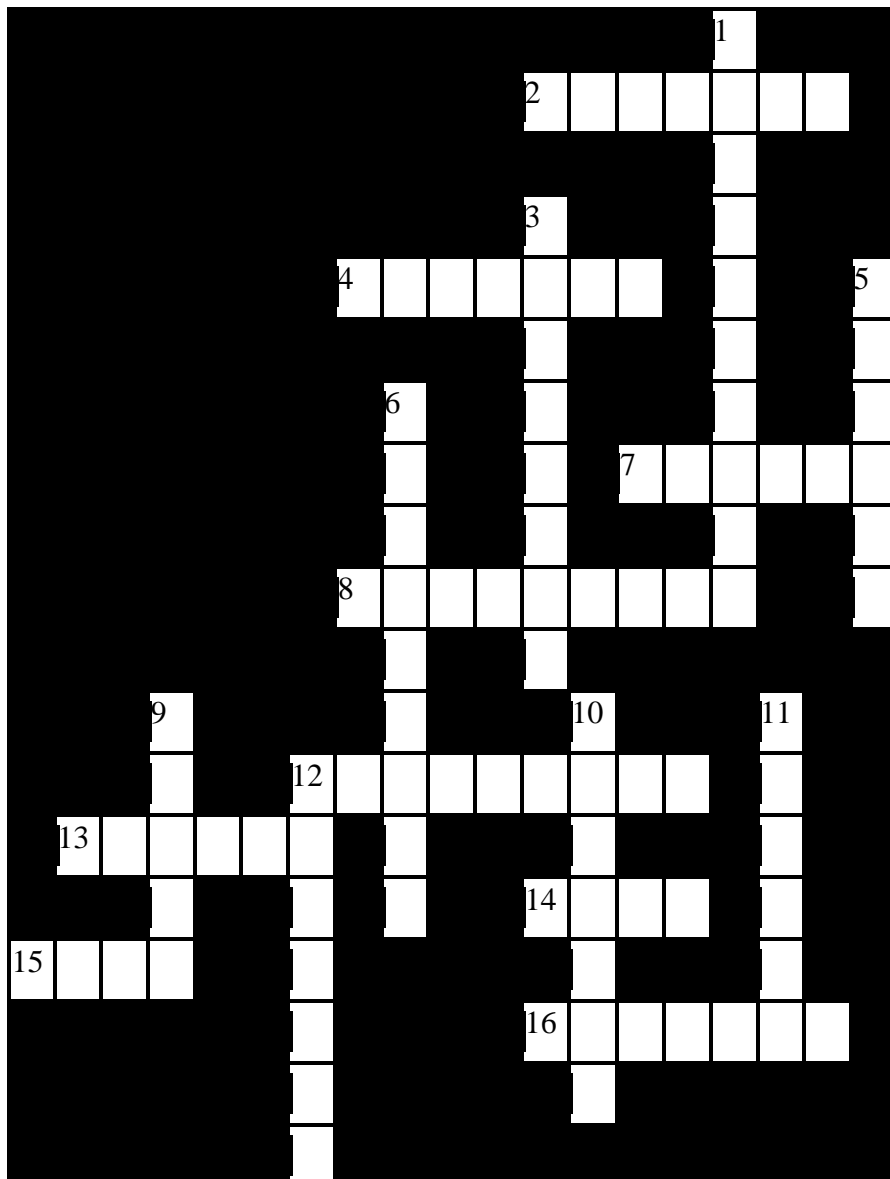
Bible Verse of the Month: Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. I Timothy 6:18

Martha and Mary

Luke 10:40

When Jesus and his disciples traveled to Jerusalem, they always visited Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary who lived in Bethany, a village close to Jerusalem. Martha went to a great deal of trouble to prepare a tasty meal for Jesus at their home. She was annoyed because her sister, Mary, did not help her. Instead, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to His teachings about God. Martha asked Jesus whether or not He felt it was unfair that she was doing all the work while her sister just sat there. Jesus replied that although Martha was worried and upset by these things, there was really only one thing worth being concerned about. He pointed out that Mary had discovered how important it was to listen to God's word, and that being able to do this should not be taken away from her.

See if you can find words from the story in the crossword puzzle.



Across

- 2 Answered
- 4 Brother of Mary and Martha
- 7 Excited to prepare a meal for Jesus
- 8 Worried, troubled, anxious
- 12 Things to learn
- 13 Female sibling
- 14 Preparation
- 15 Sat at Jesus' feet to hear God's word
- 16 Village near Jerusalem

Down

- 1 Learned
- 3 Went to another place
- 5 Not proper
- 6 Valuable or significant
- 9 Delicious
- 10 Irritated
- 11 Give one's attention to sound
- 12 Effort