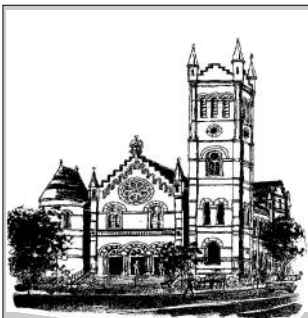


# THE LINK

## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



“Preserving Your Heritage” is a handbook written by the Committee on History of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to assist congregations to write and maintain the history of their church. To understand the “Why History”, the handbook details...

*Since time immemorial people have celebrated the stories of the past. Whether informally around campfires or kitchen tables, ritually in churches or temples, or formally in class-rooms or lecture halls, humans have recollected the events that define them as a family, tribe, community, or nation. For centuries, parents and relatives, schools and universities have placed the study of family, local, national, and global histories as central in the learning process. Similarly, the Christian Church has always assigned great importance to remembering the past. It does so because it is rooted in history.*

*The Psalmists certainly appreciated the necessity of knowing the past. The lengthy, but exuberant, psalm of Psalm 78, for instance, stresses the importance of telling young people of “the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord”. Its message is stridently clear, to know the past actions of God is to know Him. Again, to understand the church and, for that matter, a congregation, one must know the origins of its practices, its traditions, its culture.*

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One of the most important steps in the transitional process at St. Andrew's will be to examine our history in order to remember and to celebrate who we have been so that we can learn who we will become. Over the coming months, we need a dedicated group of “helpers” with historical knowledge of St. Andrew's that can assist us in previewing our archives, cataloging historical documents that are in danger of becoming lost or forgotten, and helping us prepare a historical timeline to be used in our Remember Our Heritage Town-Hall Meeting to be led by Pastor Mitch in the Kirk Hall in September. With the recent resignation of our Archivist, we are at a crossroads with record-keeping and management of historical documents at St. Andrew's. It is vitally important to our present and our future that we address the immediate retention of records and the long-term keeping of our history. We need your help. Over the summer months, would you consider joining me in looking more deeply into our archives to see what is there, what present and future retrieval can be done and how can we plan for a historical timeline to be used at our church-wide town hall meeting in September?

Our heritage is too important to not address. Our history is rich and vital and must be carefully maintained for present and future generations. Recently a granddaughter of former pastor, Rev. Luttrell was perusing the incomplete gallery of former pastor's portraits outside the Lecture Hall following a Sunday worship service. She identified herself and her grandfather's picture. Who should happen to walk by but another “preacher's kid”, David McLean, whose own father's portrait hangs adjacent to Rev. Luttrell's? The stories and memories they were able to share that day were valuable. Twenty-one years from now, on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Andrew's, I want that generation to be able to beam with pride that we managed our history well so that they will be able to reflect upon their heritage while dreaming their future.

Please let me know if you will be willing to help with this project.

Blessings and Love,  
**Pastor Mitch**

Victoria, BC

## Notes from Session

An important part of the transition process that Rev. Coggin is leading us through, is to consider our history. Having an understanding of our history will help us to understand who we are as we consider and seek God's plan for our future. One part of this process is a review of what is contained in the archives. Plans are in place to begin this task. In addition there will be opportunities to talk about our history; we are fortunate to have members of the congregation who have a long history and will certainly have valuable stories to share.

Christine has been our 'temporary Director of Music Ministry' for almost 2 years. We appreciate and thank her for her continuing hard work, her leadership of the choir and her gift of music which adds to our worship services. Christine is enjoying her time at St Andrew's and would very much like to continue. The congregation is in a period of transition, and not yet ready to commence a search to fill the position permanently. Session made the decision to extend Christine's contract (currently ending 31 December 2019) through until such a time that we are ready to proceed with a search for a permanent Director of Music Ministry. This will likely tie in with the end of the transitional ministry led by Rev. Coggin and the call of a permanent minister for St. Andrew's. Session has committed to keep Christine well informed of plans and to give her a minimum of three months notice of the end of her current contract. We are pleased that Christine has agreed to this rather open-ended extension of her contract.

It is good to have Grant Shepard around the church again, looking after our building as he completes his return to work following his injury. He is gradually working toward assuming full duties. His lengthy absence showed us just how important he is to the functioning of our church.

Membership or adherent? Is this important? Maybe you are already a member and have questions. There will be ongoing opportunities to join a session with Rev Coggin to talk about these questions. We hope that you might attend a session. You might also like to share your questions with your elder

As noted in the bulletin, effective immediately, Colina Titus has assumed the position of Co-Session Clerk together with David MacLean through to the end of

June 2019, when she assumes the role of Session Clerk until June 2020.

As a church family, let us join together in prayer for those among us who are ill and hurting, those in pain and those who mourn. Please pray for Rev. Coggin as he leads us in this period of transition for our congregation.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29.11.

### The Session of St. Andrew's

#### Contacting Pastor Mitch

Pastor Mitch's email is:

**[pastor@standrewsvictoria.ca](mailto:pastor@standrewsvictoria.ca)**

It is the best and most direct way to reach Pastor Mitch. The email is a private account and maintained and read only by Pastor Mitch. Please feel secure that all correspondence to him is viewed and responded to privately and promptly. Thank you.

#### Government House Tours...

The Tour of Government House is planned for Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>. Government House offers public tours on the first Saturday of each month from May through to October. On occasion, private tours are arranged for organizations such as St. Andrew's. The visit on June 13<sup>th</sup> is an opportunity to tour Government House and learn a bit of the history and early days of British Columbia. BC is celebrating its sesquicentennial in 2021. The history and development of BC is closely matched to the early years of St. Andrew's. Please let Jim know if you would like to join us on this visit to Government House on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm.

Jim can be contacted at [jpfergus@gmail.com](mailto:jpfergus@gmail.com), 250-415-3687 or at coffee hour after worship.

Join us at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
at Douglas & Broughton

*for a*

# Summer Afternoon Recital Series

**Wednesday, June 5th ~ 12:15 to 12:45**

*Serena Jack, violin & Michelle Hoskin, piano*

**Wednesday, July 3rd ~ 12:15 to 12:45**

*Jorge Carrizales, piano*

**Friday, July 12th ~ 3:15 to 3:45**

*Ben Parker, trumpet & Christine Purvis, organ*

**Friday, August 9th ~ 3:15 to 3:45**

*Christine Purvis, organ*

**Friday, September 6th ~ 3:15 to 3:45**

*Jorge Carrizales, piano*

*Donations gratefully accepted at the door with proceeds going to the St. Andrew's Music Program*

# Mission & Outreach

## PRESBYTERIANS SHARING AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

When the 145<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada meets in the first week of June, Jerry Verwey will attend as a commissioner from the Presbytery of Vancouver Island. About a quarter of the General Assembly report that he and others will consider is devoted to the work of the *Life and Mission Agency*, which accounted for about 63% of the national church's expenditures in 2018. This section of the report describes in detail the work done by *Presbyterians Sharing*.

Much of Presbyterians Sharing's budget is spent in Canada for the collective work of our national church. The *Assembly Council* section of the General Assembly report states: "*Thanks to the generous contributions to Presbyterians Sharing [\$6,344,330 in 2018]... the denomination is able to carry on mission and ministry throughout Canada and around the world.*" Through Presbyterians Sharing, which provides "*the majority [91%] of the operating budget of The Presbyterian Church in Canada*", St. Andrew's "*participate(s) in the mission and ministry of our church in many different ways across the country and around the world*".

One important task of the General Assembly is to consider the proposed budget for 2020, which affects how our contributions for 2019 will be spent to further the church's work of ministry to the world. The proposed breakdown for Presbyterians Sharing is:

*"Together as a church we equip, support and encourage leaders — lay and clergy — to do effective ministry ... As we encourage and equip one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel."* By what we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we and other congregations put our collective faith into action by:

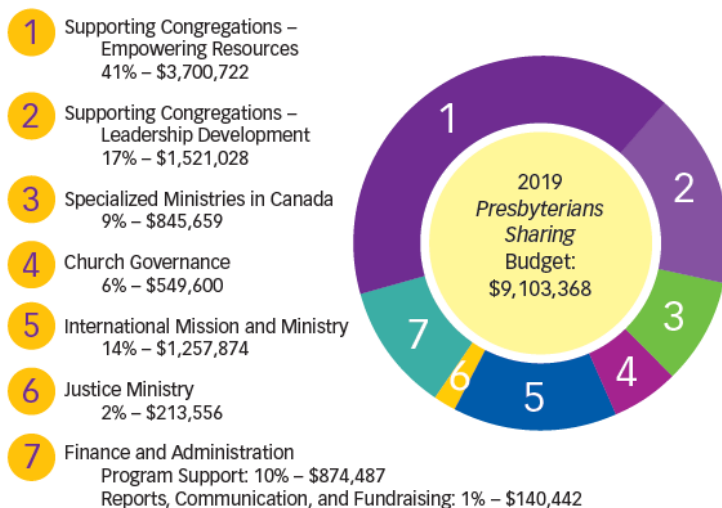
- ♦ *equipping congregations, ministries and presbyteries;*
- ♦ *engaging in evangelism, outreach and discipleship;*
- ♦ *embracing local, national and international mission;*
- ♦ *providing tools for faithful ministry and worship;*
- ♦ *creating and supporting new faith communities;*
- ♦ *engaging in healing and reconciliation;*
- ♦ *supporting biblical and theological reflection and dialogue;*
- ♦ *discerning, preparing and supporting visionary leadership;*
- ♦ *encouraging spiritual renewal;*
- ♦ *living out God's call to justice; and*
- ♦ *empowering youth.*

It is easy to lose sight of the Presbyterians Sharing work that we contribute to because we give through a single line item in our annual budget, voted on at a relatively short meeting. Similarly, commissioners to the General Assembly have a host of issues to consider, of which a national budget that drives much of our ministry is only one relatively small part of a busy 3½ days of meetings. Consider spending some time browsing through the informative Presbyterians Sharing web pages at <https://presbyterian.ca/sharing/> or, for more details, take a look at the General Assembly report at <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/ga2019/> to learn more about how your regular givings to St. Andrew's are changing lives, and changing the church.

**Brian Titus**

Mission and Outreach Committee

### Where does the money go?





### Prayer for General Assembly The Presbyterian Church in Canada

The 145th General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada will take place at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario from Sunday, June 2 to Thursday, June 6. The opening worship will be at St. Andrew's Church, Kitchener on Sunday at 7:30pm. Approximately 250 commissioners representing 45 Presbyteries will meet to discern the work of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Our elected commissioners from The Presbytery of Vancouver Island are Rev. Christopher Clarke, Duncan, Roy B. Napier, Victoria, Rev. Jennifer L. Geddes, Comox and Tjeerd (Jerry) Verwey, Victoria. The Commissioners will be asked to pray the following prayer at the opening worship on Sunday. I invite those of us not physically present at General Assembly to pray with and for the Commissioners and for General Assembly as well.

*Let us pray: O Lord, our God, how great is your name in all the earth! In your gracious mercy, you have come to us and redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. By your Spirit, you have baptized us into one holy, catholic, and apostolic church to be sisters and brothers in Christ. Help us, gracious God, to love one another, to forgive one another, to serve one another, and to listen to one another with openness and respect, so that in all we say and do, we may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and proclaim him to the world, to your glory. As we seek your face, give us wisdom in discernment, courage of spirit, integrity of purpose, clarity of speech, kindness in our interactions, and openness to your grace. We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, belongs all honour and glory, now and forever. Amen.*

### Link Deadline

Next *Link* deadline will be Sunday,  
August 25.

This will be our last *Link* for the summer.

If you have any special celebrations or special trips planned during the next 3 months, please save your photos and share them with the congregation in September so that we can celebrate with you.

Link Editors: Fiona, Debra & Leona

## Worship Committee

The worship team would like to remind the congregation that June 9th is the Day of Pentecost and we encourage each one to consider wearing some red or a touch of red. In recent years we have done this to enhance unity and the significance of this time in the church year which will continue until Advent.

We also thank the Elders who participated in serving communion to 171 persons on Easter Sunday. The next communion will be June 2, Ascension Sunday, and the following, World Communion Sunday, October 6.

Submitted by  
**Laura Richards**

photobymitchcoggin



Cathedral Grove - Vancouver Island



## Car Free Day...

We are still looking for volunteers to help on Car Free Day to welcome people to St. Andrew's on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> after worship.

You may be asked to answer questions about St. Andrew's. We have handouts with information about what it means to be a Presbyterian as well as what St. Andrew's does within our community.

We also expect to have an 'Open Church' format where people will be given the opportunity to visit the Sanctuary, take a moment to get an appreciation of our building, our windows, our history and find a quiet place for reflection.

Please let Jim know if you can spare an hour or two on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> to share your pride of belonging to St. Andrew's with our local community.

Jim can be contacted at [jpfergus@gmail.com](mailto:jpfergus@gmail.com), 250-415-3687 or at coffee hour after worship.



Happy 90th Birthday to Peter Lewis! Celebrating with Peter and Jane are daughters, Cathy from Brockville, and Stephanie from Toronto, and son, Christopher from Brockville.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> Isabelle and Alex Murray will be celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. What a wonderful milestone for this lovely couple!

According to their daughter Suzanne Murray-Aronson, Isabelle was born in Paisley, Scotland and Alex was born in

Johnstone, about four miles away. They met in August 1949, at a dance in Rothesay. They were both on holiday at the same time and were the ripe old age of 17. As they continued their courtship, they were told frequently that they were "too young"! When Nat King Cole released the song, "Too Young" it became their signature song. This has always been a humorous story in the Murray family.

They became engaged on August 15, 1953 and were married the following year, on June 25, 1954 in Paisley. In the ensuing years they welcomed three daughters, Suzanne, Christine, and Jacqueline to their family.

On June 25, 1966, which was their 12<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, Alex and Isabelle along with their three daughters immigrated to Canada. They lived in Ontario for two months, and then headed west to Victoria. Since that time the family has grown to include 3 sons-in-law, 7 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren with one on the way. Plans are that the family members who live in distant places are intending to come and celebrate this special occasion with them.

The Murrays have been stalwart members and attendees at St. Andrew's and the congregation rejoices with them at this happy time!



**Alex & Isabelle Murray**  
**65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**



# Please come to the Congregational Picnic

in the Kirk Hall  
on Sunday, June 9



**hot dogs** and **ice cream**  
and fun activities for all.



fotosbydawnmclennan



Watching the Victoria Day Parade.  
Open Church at St. Andrew's



fotosbyjeanmarcellus

The two new faces in St. Andrew's choir are: soprano Maribel Flores & tenor, Martin Perez. Maribel & Martin hail originally from Peru and we welcome them both to St. Andrew's!

**Lisa Jackson**, of our congregation, is a member of *The Chorus* which is performing along with *The Choir* at the Alix Goolden Hall on Saturday, June 8, 7:30pm. Both the Choir and The Chorus perform their own repertoire which includes original arrangements of pop, folk, and indie music such as Simon & Garfunkel, U2, and Jimi Hendrix. The proceeds from this performance will support Jazz on View and the Victoria Brain Injury Society. Tickets \$23 at the door.

## St. Andrew's Children's Page

### Bible Verse of the Month:

May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. John 17:23



THAT ALL  
MAY BE  
ONE

### WORD SEARCH

H	P	R	A	Y	E	R	M	B	A	J	K	D	O	Y
C	O	M	P	L	E	T	E	K	B	E	V	U	F	C
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KNOW  
ALONE  
LOVED

GLORY  
COMPLETE  
PRAYER

ALL  
BELIEVE  
ONE

MESSAGE  
SENT  
ALSO

THEM  
UNITY  
WORLD