



Exploring Amalgamation

# Life & Work of St. Aidan's

December 22, 2019 [www.staidansunited.ca](http://www.staidansunited.ca) | 250-477-2089

**"Once in our world a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." ~ C.S. Lewis**



*The poinsettias on display in the sanctuary today were donated in memory of loved ones. Thank you.*

<i>Donor</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of</i>
Julie & Richard Ng	Steven Ng, Julie's Dad
Paul & Linda Cobb	Robert Leung, Richard's Dad
Ken & Wendy Patterson	Alan & Olive Cobb, Ron Davies Son, Jeff
Carol Beardsell	Derek Beardsell, Sam Horton
Jan Boyd	Dad
Betty Lee Sinclair & Shirley Rainey	Mom
John Brenner	Wife, Maisie & Brother, Ron
Hieke & Jack Miller	Bill & Ann Van Leusden Jack & Jean Miller
Marion Newson	Family
Katy Nelson	Jim, Al & Ruth
Charles MacLean	Ruth, Parents & family
Jean & Alan Margison	Our parents
Vivian Skinner	Esme & Jack Skinner Lindsay & Blanche Carnegie
Don Craigmyle	Alec Craigmyle
Lavonne Wirtanen	Alec Craigmyle
Mary Kennedy	Parents, Dorothy & Leslie Copland Husband, James Kennedy
Valerie & Blair Barman	Our parents, the Barmans & Macphails
Carol Sidhu	Ev Smith
Pat Ridgers	Husband, Art & son, Craig
Clarence Gray	Birdie & Jim Sarkany Suzanne & Len Elaschuk Auntie Helen Rioux
Bruce Paterson	Joyce Paterson
John & Moira Wightman	Graeme, Jessie, Parents & friends
Marlene Stiven	Husband, Bob
Gloria Gillingham & Jim Grant	Loved Ones
Dawn Faris	Don
Judith Boulden	Ted Boulden & Lee Gould
Louise Crumrine	Ross Crumrine

*Journey to Christmas @ St. Aidan's*

**Dec. 24 7 pm All Ages Christmas Eve Service**  
**Dec. 25 10 am Jesus' Birthday Celebration**  
**11 am Christmas Lunch Potluck**  
 (R.S.V.P. in library by Dec. 22)

### Notes from our Treasurers

- Offering Envelopes are ready to pick up in the narthex or office.** If you would like to be an envelope or PAR (pre-authorized remittance) giver, please contact the office. Envelope and PAR givers receive a tax receipt at the year end.
- Please submit **2019 expense claims** no later than **Dec. 31**. This will help us finalize 2019 financial statements in a timely manner.
- 2019 Offerings** - To be eligible for inclusion in 2019 Income Tax receipts donations must be received in the office by Dec. 31 (*office will be open from 10am – 3 pm on Dec. 31 to accept donations*). Thank you!
- Please submit any **2020 Budget requests** by **Jan. 12, 2020**

### YOUR LETTERS ARE IN THE MAIL

Thank you to all who participated in **Amnesty's Write for Rights**. And, a big thank you to Andrea Hubbard and Doug Koch for their assistance with this event. St. Aidan's congregation plus 4 people from the neighbourhood, wrote 58 letters! This week, around the world, millions of people will be writing on behalf of the 10 profiled young people. Authorities will not be able to ignore this massive attention. This action is a Xmas prayer. This is how we live into the Sacred.

### Holiday Office Hours and Pastoral Care Coverage

The Church office will **close Dec 24th at noon** and will **reopen at 10 am Dec. 30th**. Cheryl Black will be on call over the holidays for any pastoral emergencies. She can be reached at 778-678-8550. Betty Anne Dempsey is on call from Jan. 1-6 at 250-208-4394.

## Weekly Activities at St. Aidan's

- Sundays 9 am Guided Meditation in Chapel (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)  
10 am Worship Service  
11:15 am Congregational Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
11:30 am Intercultural Lunch (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday)  
11:30 am Intercultural Lunch & Workshop (3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)
- Mondays 9:30 am Caregivers & Tots  
10:30 am Monday Morning Discussion Group
- Tuesdays 10:30 am Christian Meditation  
1:30-3 pm *On the Go Again* (Free Seniors Program by S.V.S. Society)  
Movie & Dinner (last Tues. of Month)
- Wed. 10am-2pm & 4-8 pm Thrift Shop Open  
2-3 pm Happy Hour (Senior's Gathering)  
5:30-6:15 pm Sunshine Kids Choir
- Thursdays 10am-12 pm Craft Connections  
2:30-4 pm English Conversation  
2:30-5 pm Ping Pong Fun Time  
5:30 pm Cantamus Choir Practice  
6:30 pm Ted Boulden Singers Practice
- Fridays 10 am Folding & Fun
- Saturdays 10am-2pm (last Sat.) Thrift Shop Open

*Church activities take a break over the holidays  
and resume week of Jan. 6, 2020*

## Dates to Remember

- |         |       |                                                            |
|---------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dec. 24 | 7 pm  | Christmas Eve Service                                      |
| Dec. 25 | 10 am | Jesus' Birthday Celebration                                |
|         | 11 am | Christmas Potluck Lunch<br>(sign up in library by Dec. 22) |



**OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 10 am – 3 pm** (closed Stats.)  
**CLOSED Dec. 24 (noon) – OPENS Dec. 30**

Email [office@staidansunited.com](mailto:office@staidansunited.com) to receive our weekly email.  
*It's full of church and wider community news.*

*Submit Life & Work submissions to the office by Wednesday*

## **Christmas Lunch Potluck @ St. Aidan's**

Following the Christmas Day Service, Betty Anne Dempsey is hosting have a Potluck Lunch for all who wish to stay and eat in community. Turkey, tofu-turkey, ham, coffee, tea and mulled apple juice is provided by St. Aidan's, The rest is Potluck – so bring your favorite dish to share. We encourage you to plan to stay and help with dishes and cleanup – many hands make light work and we'll all be homeward bound by 1:00 p.m. Sign up for the lunch in the library or by contacting the office by Dec. 22.

*And don't worry if your plans are not quite clear –there will be extra for last minute drop-ins.*

## **A big thank you to all who provided Angel Gifts this year!**

Our Place collected almost 700 gifts, which were distributed this week. St. Aidan's donated 50 specific Angel gifts, plus a number of "extra gifts" which were greatly appreciated. To receive a gift individually chosen and bought especially for you is a rare treat for Our Place family members and for many, Angel Gifts is a highlight of their year. Warm jackets, toques, socks, gloves, and insoles for shoes and boots are still needed throughout the wet season. Donations at 919 Pandora Ave. Victoria. Visit our website at: [www.ourplacesociety.com](http://www.ourplacesociety.com).

## **WANTED:**

Used laptop computer in good working order. St. Aidan's community has been assisting a Syrian family who have recently settled in our community. The oldest child is in need to a laptop computer for his school work but they are unable to afford to purchase one. If you are getting a new one for Christmas or have a spare one collecting dust in a cupboard, please give me a call.

Judith Boulden – (250) 382-3220

## **Small Group Inventory is now ready!**

The short survey will help us begin the process of sorting folks into initial groups as we prepare to launch this ministry in early 2020. We are excited at the possibilities this will provide as we continue to build relationships of care and connection, trust and transformation. Filling out the survey will indicate your desire to be placed into a small group. The survey link was emailed to the congregation on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> and can be found at: <https://surveymonkey.com/r/SmallGroupInventory> **Hard copies** are also available in the library. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch with any one of us. We are happy to engage with you, as we begin this journey together. Thank-You!

Margaret Harper [margaretaharper@gmail.com](mailto:margaretaharper@gmail.com)  
250-477-2715

Val Bauld (St. Aidans) [valbauld@shaw.ca](mailto:valbauld@shaw.ca) 250-721-5962  
Adele Heise (CBUC) [aheise@live.ca](mailto:aheise@live.ca)

## **The Friendly Octopus**

EVERYTHING will be 50% off next Wed., Dec. 18. That is the day we close for the holidays. We reopen on Jan. 8, 2020. Happy Christmas and have the best year ever in 2020!



## **WALK FOR THE HUNGRY, HURTING & HOMELESS**

The Coldest Night of the Year is happening on February 22. This year, the Holy Walkamolies are registered as an umbrella group to include all United Churches in the Victoria area. Watch for more information in the New Year.





**A HOLIDAY "THANK YOU" From OUR PLACE:** December can be a difficult month on the street. It's dark, and cold and the festive season can leave people feeling even more alone. Your faithful support, the warm socks and gloves, the toques and blankets, the toiletries and all the holiday extras you provide remind us what a caring place Victoria is! However you celebrate your faith this season – we wish you joy! A thousand thanks.

Visit our website at: [ourplacesociety.com](http://ourplacesociety.com)

## Christmas @ CBUC

2625 Arbutus Rd  
[cadbayuc.org](http://cadbayuc.org)

### December 14 @ 3pm - Family Advent Celebration

- 3-5pm: Crafts, Cookie Decoration and Sharing Stories  
- 5-5:30pm: Christmas Carol Singalong  
- 5:30-6:30pm - Semit-Potluck Supper  
(we supply chili and buns, you bring a salad or dessert & your own plates and cutlery)  
6:30-8:30pm: Christmas Movie Time!

### December 15 @ 7pm - Blue Christmas Service

"Because Christmas isn't always jolly" There are many reasons why this season can be hard; loss of a loved one, broken relationships, loss of health, loneliness, painful memories, feeling overwhelmed by the preparations for and busyness of the season, etc. This service features gentle readings, and reflections, music and candle lighting, giving and opportunity to acknowledge the power of ritual, we will have a chance to grieve and let go. This is a joint service with St. George's Anglican Church

### Christmas Eve Services

#### 4pm - Family Nativity Service:

An active way of retelling and entering into the Christmas Story that will engage children of all ages. Carols and candles help the story touch our hearts and leave you ready to return to your home in time for supper.

#### 7pm - Family Candlelight Service:

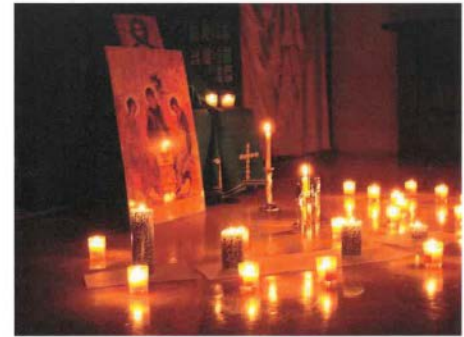
A service geared to families of all configurations and features a drama that reminds us of the deeper story of Christmas. Lots of carols singing and the lighting of candles whilst singing Silent Night bring a gentleness and magic ending to Christmas Eve.

#### 10pm - Candlelight Communion Service:

A gentle service of reflection with a smooth jazz feel brings Christmas Eve celebrations to an end. Through singing, readings, reflections and the sharing of communion, this service seeks to deepen our understanding of the Christmas story and bring a sense of mystery into being.

### Finding Our Way to Christmas

# New Year's Eve TAIZÉ



What a beautiful way to prepare to welcome the New Year! Everyone is invited to this simple candle-lit Taizé service with chant, prayer, anointing with oil, word and silence.

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**  
**7:00 - 8:00 PM**

**St. Philip Anglican Church**  
**2928 Eastdowne Road at Neil in north Oak Bay**  
[www.stphilipvictoria.ca](http://www.stphilipvictoria.ca) / [office@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:office@stphilipvictoria.ca)  
**250-592-6823**

## Programs in Earth Literacies

### I and Thou: An Encounter with Nature through Art

with Margaret Walters 4 Tuesdays, Jan 7 -28, 1:30 – 3:30 pm | \$75 or \$20 Drop in

Encounter the numinous presence of nature through visual art. We will look at landscape paintings and photographs and listen to the experience of artists such as Georgia O'Keefe and Emily Carr. We will make space for 'gazing' at works of art and sharing what they evoke. Finally, we will tap into our own inner artist through making our own mandalas

**Aging in the Anthropocene, with Jan Inglis** 4 Tuesdays, Feb 4 - 25, 1:30 – 3:30 pm | \$75 or \$20 Drop in

There is so much to navigate in the aging process, but our generation now also has the legacy of climate and social instability to consider which brings a whole other layer of existential questions and practical choices. What does it mean to become an elder during these times?

**Location:** Friends Meeting House, 1831 Fern St, Victoria

**Register:** [programs@earthliteracies.org](mailto:programs@earthliteracies.org),  
[www.earthliteracies.org](http://www.earthliteracies.org), 250-220-4601/250-888-7501