



## Black History Month

Charles and Nancy Alexander came to Fort Victoria as free Blacks in 1858. Despite the discrimination they faced, they helped build the first school in South Saanich and later became the founders of Shady Creek Methodist Church, with Charles as its first preacher.

- UCC 100TH ANNIVERSARY: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
- EXTREME WEATHER EMERGENCY SHELTER UPDATE
- SOFT OPENING FOR THRIFT STORE'S NEW SALES DAY
- LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE

**WHAT'S  
NEW?**

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**FOLLOW US**



*“And this is it. This is the life we get here on earth. We get to give away what we receive. We get to believe in each other. We get to forgive and be forgiven. We get to love imperfectly. And we never know what effect it will have for years to come. And all of it...all of it is completely worth it.”*

— **Nadia Bolz-Weber, Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People**

The Newsletter cover reminds us of an important part of our history as Canadians and as members of the United Church. This is a story we should all know and celebrate in Black History Month. In 1858, a group of settlers arrived in Victoria aboard the steamer “Oregon” from what was then the bustling mining town of San Francisco, California. The new settlers included a number of black families, part of an immigration of about 700 black settlers who came to western Canada around that time at the invitation of Governor Douglas. Charles Alexander and his wife, Nancy, were originally from St. Louis and had journeyed by covered wagon west to California. On arrival in Victoria, the Alexanders and several other families decided to move to the Saanich Peninsula. They soon decided that a church was needed. And so, the Methodist Shady Creek Church was built.

Times have brought amalgamations and changes (sound familiar?) but some of the original pews built by Charles Alexander were still in use until recently! Their story continues to be important far beyond the Peninsula and Vancouver Island. Descendents of Charles and Nancy are members of the congregation to this day.

History is a thread that weaves through this early spring month. We are getting a real sense of the denomination’s 100th’s Anniversary and how we will be celebrating it here at BVU. Our history as a denomination is rich with both “hits and misses”, episodes and experiences that have continued to encourage us and times, actions and policies that we now lament. We will look at both the challenges and the successes as we have special services the last four Sundays in June (see page 5 and back cover for details). Can I encourage you to plan now to attend? We will kick off with a service presented by the Women of the United Church on June 3rd, rejoice in a Festival on the 14th and conclude with cake and ice cream on the 29th.

In these extraordinary days of early 2025, I find the writings of authors like Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber very important to my mental and spiritual sanity and balance. We are so grateful to have this community of faith, imperfect as we are, to offer support not knowing what the future holds.



**Shelagh MacKinnon**  
Pastoral Care Minister





# BROAD VIEW UPDATES

**February Worship Theme:** In February, each service will guide us in reflections and discussions on how our faith and understanding of racial justice relate to the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) community, especially in a time when regimes can exist without regard for social minorities and the vulnerable. While Black History Month is primarily observed in the U.S. and Canada, movements recognizing Black history and racial justice continue to grow in other countries, including France, Germany, and the Netherlands, even if not specifically in February. **Scripture: Acts 8:26-40**

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE & TIME	MESSAGE	LEADERSHIP	OTHER
<b>Feb 2nd</b> 9:30 am & 11 am	Layers of Celebrations	Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon Rev. Min-Goo Kang	Lunar New Year celebration with Chinese Happy Drum Group
<b>Feb 9th</b> 9:30 am & 11 am	Transcendence (2): The Gospel for the Marked	Rev. Ha Na Park	
<b>Feb 16th</b> 9:30 am & 11 am	Invitation and Belonging	Rev. Mark Green	
<b>Feb 23rd</b> 9:30 am & 11 am	Confronting Racism as a religious act	Rev. Mark Green	Chancel Choir

## LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE 2025

<p><b>MARCH 5</b> Ash Wednesday with Pancake Supper</p> 	<p><b>MARCH 9 - APRIL 6</b> Sundays of Lent</p> 	<p><b>APRIL 13</b> Palm Sunday</p> 
<p><b>APRIL 17</b> Maundy Thursday: A Day Marked by Love</p>  <p><b>6 pm</b> - Agape supper, hand &amp; foot washing, and spiritual practices.</p>	<p><b>APRIL 18</b> Good Friday</p>  <p><b>10:30 am</b> - Stations of the Cross concluding with Silent Communion <b>7 pm</b> - Jazz Vesper</p>	<p><b>APRIL 20</b> Easter Day</p>  <p><b>6 am</b> - Mt. Tolmie <b>9:30 &amp; 11 am</b> - services</p>

## 100th ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION - Saturday June 14th from 3pm – 7pm

Come join us for an intergenerational and intercultural celebration of the United Church in a carnival like atmosphere. **There will be lots of interactive games, activities, trivia, and an international food fair.** There will be historical displays and opportunities to name both celebrations, laments and hopes for the future.



**Tickets are pay what you can \$2-20 each** with all proceeds going to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada. Available online [HERE](#).

**Admission includes access to both the event and various food vendors** with menu items from around the world. (Optional beer garden will also be available for those over 19 at an additional cost.

In addition, our June worship services will focus on a quarter century each week with a look back at trends, historic decision, challenges and laments as we look to where the church might be 25 years from now. The **BVU UCW** will also be holding a tea on **June 3th** for any women in the congregation who would like to attend.

**If you would like to be involved or help** out in some way, please let the office know and your name will be passed along to the co-ordinating committee.

## EXTREME WEATHER EMERGENCY SHELTER UPDATE

We continue to work at putting the various pieces into place to become an Extreme Weather Emergency Shelter. At the moment we are working with the fire department and architect to determine our fire rating capacity and also continuing to work with the city on a partner agency who will provide the staffing. As soon as we officially receive the Extreme Weather Shelter permit from the city, we will inform you through social media and the Friday BVU Bits and Bytes email.



We have had a number of folks express interest in helping with this project and we will be providing and orientation to all volunteers before we begin. While we are hopeful that we still might be able to get things up and running for this year, we are grateful that it has been a mild winter as it hasn't happened as quickly as we had hoped. **If you are interested in knowing more or in volunteering**, you can sign up [HERE](#) or on our website.



**THE INTERCULTURAL VISION CALLS US TO BE AWARE OF WHO IS AT THE CENTRE AND WHO IS AT THE MARGINS, AND TO EMPOWER THOSE AT THE MARGINS TO LEAD US INTO CHANGE.**

– from the United Church of Canada’s vision to become an intercultural church.

Here, we embrace a sense of belonging, foster friendships, and encourage mutual transformation. We invite you to explore our intercultural programs as we continue to grow in community. Everyone is welcome, and all are encouraged to participate.

## 🎉 Celebrate Lunar New Year with Us! 🎉

Join our vibrant and growing intercultural community at BVU as we welcome the Year of the Snake with joy, connection, and cultural traditions.

### 🌟 Lunar New Year-Themed Potluck

 **Saturday, February 1**

 **6:00 PM (We will meet 30 minutes before our usual time for Saturday Social)**

Bring your favorite dish to share and join us for a warm, family-style gathering! After the feast, enjoy traditional games and activities that are fun for all ages. Let Min-Goo know if you plan to attend!



### 🌟 Lunar New Year Services

 **Sunday, February 2**

 **9:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

Celebrate the spirit of Lunar New Year with inspiring services featuring a special performance by the **Chinese Happy Drum Group**, bringing rhythm and joy to both gatherings.

Led by **Guimei Yang**, a choreographer and traditional Chinese dance teacher from Northern China, the group will perform a **Northern Chinese waist drum dance** and a **Southern Chinese traditional dance**. After each service, we will hand out golden coins as a symbol of the fortune god’s blessings, wishing everyone health and happiness.

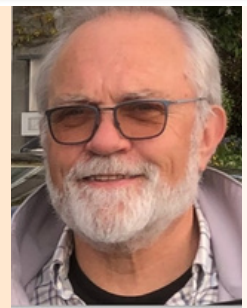
## Table Talks with GVAT on Feb. 8 at 7 PM (during Saturday Social)

Broad View United is a member of **GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together)**, a coalition of community organizations working together for the common good. GVAT wants to hear from us—the intercultural community at BVU—about the issues that affect us personally.

This is a chance to share your own stories of concern or frustration so we can explore solutions together. We will hold a **Table Talk on February 8 at 7:00 PM, led by Stephen Tyler**, a long-time Broad View member and GVAT Board member. Stephen grew up in Calgary and has lived in Edmonton, California, Sweden, and Singapore before settling in Victoria 27 years ago.

Come share your story—what issues are you or your family facing right now?

🍕 **Pizza will be served at 6:30 PM.** Please let Min-Goo know if you plan to attend so he can order accordingly.



## 🎉 Saturday Social – A Place That Feels Like Home

📅 **Every Saturday, 6:30–8:30 PM**

📍 **The Hub & Commons**

Spend your Saturday evenings connecting with others through **ping pong, games, singing, dancing, and sharing food**. Our Saturday Socials are a space where everyone—regardless of cultural background or language—can feel at home. At BVU, “home” is not just a place; it’s a feeling.



📣 **Follow us on Instagram (NEW!) and Facebook** and check out storytelling videos from our intercultural members sharing **why they love** Broad View United’s Saturday Socials - created by **Saule**, our Intercultural Community Animator!

📷 [Instagram](#)

📘 [Facebook](#)

Not on social media? No problem! You can watch our latest videos on YouTube via the **BVU channel**, including the **X-mas Fiesta** video.

📺 [YouTube](#)



## In Memoriam

### **Lloyd Friedrich**

Died January 3, 2025  
A family gathering took place January 9, 2025

### **Mavis Smales**

Died January 12, 2025  
Celebration of Life will be held February 7, 1 pm at BVU

### **Ronnie & Mervin Scott**

Brothers of Rev. Larry Scott. Both of Larry's brothers passed away the same week, and were buried in Brampton, Ontario.

### **Patty Jeffs**

Died January 19, 2025



We give thanks for the lives of Lloyd, Mavis, Ronnie, Mervin and Patty. We acknowledge and lift up the magnitude of gifts they shared with us during their lives. Our love and prayers remain with their families and closest friends.

## **Prayer Connection**

Did you know that Broad View United has a dedicated group of individuals who are committed to praying on behalf of you, someone you love, or any situation that is heavy on your heart. All requests are held in utmost confidence.

**Please note: Between Feb. 1 and March 20,** Confidential requests can be sent to Anne Sikstrom [anne.sikstrom@gmail.com](mailto:anne.sikstrom@gmail.com), via [prayer@broadviewunited.com](mailto:prayer@broadviewunited.com), and also from the Broad View United web site.

Requests can also be passed along to staff members Shelagh MacKinnon and Margaret Harper.

**CONNECT CARDS** Are you recently new to the BVU Community? We'd love to be able to welcome you. Please fill out a connect card which are found in the area beside the coat rack as you come in the Sanctuary Doors, or speak to any of the greeters on a Sunday Morning. Thank you.

**NEW TO BVU?**

**FILL OUT THE  
CONNECT CARD**

**Connect Card**

 Broad View  
UNITED

**Welcome to  
BVU!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kids Names & Ages: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\* Connect Cards are available at the Bulletin Board by the  
Commons and Narthex**



# THRIFT STORE UPDATES

Happy February from the thrift store and our volunteers.

We have many cute and loveable things on sale for Valentine's day. Sales continue on pink tagged items. 50% off of these items will be on our sale table and sale racks during the month. As well as selected items. There will also be a book sale happening in store from the 5th to the 12th. **We will have a soft opening for our third day of sales**



**on Thursday February 20th from 4 pm to 8 pm** please come in to shop. Your support is a valuable part of our church operation. Proceeds from the store go to support church programs. We bring in an average of 20,000 per month to support operations and programs. These programs are available to the community. Please ask at reception if you are interested in participating.

Please come in to the thrift store if you would like to volunteer with us. **we are always accepting volunteers.** If you would like to be part of our community. We especially have a need for volunteers who are able to do some heavy lifting.

**The thrift store is also looking for a donation of a small mirrored vanity** to display our jewellery. please send photographs of anything you may want to pass on to us to our thrift store email. [broadviewts@gmail.com](mailto:broadviewts@gmail.com) we will be grateful to receive it. All other donations are accepted 6 days a week Mon, Tues & Thurs, Fri between 9 am and 3 pm. Wednesdays and Saturdays during operating hours from 10 am to 5 pm. thank you volunteers, donators and patrons alike.

**Sarah McConnell** - Store Manager.



## **RETAIL HOURS**

- **Wednesdays** 10 am - 5 pm
- **Saturdays** 10 am - 5 pm
- **Thursdays** 4 pm - 8 pm (Soft opening February 20th)



## **DONATION HOURS**

- **Mondays to Fridays** 9 am - 3 pm
- **Wednesdays to Saturdays** 10 am - 5 pm



Contact Us  
**+250-590-1750**



Website  
[www.broadviethriftstore.com](http://www.broadviethriftstore.com)



3703 St Aidan's St., Victoria, BC  
Entrance off of Palo Alto Street

## WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THE COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

Please support our walkers with your donations to the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser for Our Place who supports the too many in our neighbourhoods who are experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness.

Last year the Broad View United team was among the top teams in Victoria by raising over \$10,000. **For 2025, Broad View United has set a goal to raise \$11,000.** But we need your help to meet that goal.



### To donate:

1. Open your browser and go to [cnoy.org](http://cnoy.org).
2. On the homepage, find and click on the "Donate" button.
3. A search box will appear. In the search box, type "Broad View United" and click "Go!".
4. You'll see the Broad View United team listed at the top of a list of teams. Click on "Broad View United".
5. Once on the team's page, click the "Donate to Team" button.
6. On the next page, you will be given the option to either donate to a specific team member or to the team as a whole.
7. Follow the prompts to finish your donation.

donate

**Note: Donations for Broad View United will continue to be accepted even after the Coldest Night of the Year walk on February 22.**



*Demonstrate your support and inspire others by walking with the Broad View United team. Our team will be walking a 5-km or 2-km route on February 22 that starts and ends on Pandora.*

Also, many of our walkers decide to participate by self-organizing with friends or individually to walk on their chosen path any time in February. Regardless of where or when you walk, we ask all our walkers to register with the Broad View United team at [www.cnoy.org](http://www.cnoy.org) so your fundraising adds to our Church's total donation.

For more information, please contact Brian McConkey or Adele Heise by phone at 250 883-0033 or by email at [brianmcc306@gmail.com](mailto:brianmcc306@gmail.com)

### LEGACY GIFT TO BE CELEBRATED

The partnership with Our Place has been an important one for all three founding congregations at Broad View United. The gift of First-Metropolitan's Manse Fund will be a tremendous opportunity! As a result of that Congregational decision, made a while ago now, we are able to act at the close of the 2024 financial year. As a result, **Broad View United will celebrate on March 2nd** as this donation is the focus of a very special service of worship, at both the Bridge and ConXion services. It is our joy



to be funding three transformative projects, each offering hope, security, stability, and safety for women at different stages of their recovery journey.

First, the **Women's Therapeutic Recovery Community (WTRC)**, opening in early 2025, will be the first long-term therapeutic recovery community for women on Vancouver Island. With Broad View's support, a Healing Garden will be created as a sanctuary of safety and renewal. In a life marked by addiction's unpredictability and danger, the garden will offer space for yoga, meditation, cultural activities, and moments of connection with children, symbolizing peace, healing, and hope.

Second, for women graduating from the recovery program without children, **new second stage housing** will provide a safe, stable, and sober environment with light support. This housing will help women transition into independent living while managing mental and physical health needs and maintaining sobriety. The growing shortage of post-treatment recovery housing in the community increases the risk of relapse and instability for program graduates.

Finally, the **Family Reunification House** will offer a supportive home where women who have completed WTRC can reconnect and live with their children. This safe, nurturing space will allow families to rebuild their lives and lay a foundation for a brighter future. Research confirms that trauma-informed, sober living homes with transitional support lead to better long-term outcomes, including sustained recovery, stability, and community connection. Our Place's Family Reunification House will fill this critical gap, providing the care and stability women and their children need to heal together.

We will welcome **Lee Sundquist** as a special speaker from our Place. Mark and I will be joined by **Julian Daley** and **Allan Saunders** in the leadership of this wonderful service, followed by a time of fellowship in the Commons.

Shelagh MacKinnon

## FLATLANDERS WALK

**- Saturday, February 1 at 1 pm,  
meet at the Cenotaph on the front lawn**

The Flatlanders walking group will meet Saturday, Feb. 1, at 1:00 pm for an outdoor walking tour of the BC Legislature grounds. Meet at the Cenotaph on the front lawn, corner of Belleville and Government streets. We'll take in gardens, statues, fountains and more than a dozen sites of historical and special interest, plus views of the Inner Harbour, as we stroll the expansive property. Refreshment afterward at a nearby coffee shop. All are welcome for what we hope will be a pleasant afternoon. For information: [davidbray@shaw.ca](mailto:davidbray@shaw.ca)



*A drizzly Flatlanders walk along the Breakwater last January!*

## YOUNG ADULTS EVENTS IN FEBRUARY



Young adults aged 18 – 30ish meet on the first and third Sunday of the month for lunch and activities and at other times throughout the month as the group discerns. Watch newsletter for upcoming activities or have your name added to the email distribution list by contacting [info@broadviewunited.com](mailto:info@broadviewunited.com).

**Feb 2nd 12:15 pm** - Lunch and check-in.

**Feb 16th 12:15 pm** - Lunch and check-in, followed by an open-mic, young adult-led worship experience.

## BIBLE STUDY INVITATION

There has been an expression of interest by a few people to have a semi regular bible study on either Sunday morning at 9:30 (like an adult Sunday School class) or on a Wednesday evening. The purpose of this class would be to engage with others in conversation and study to deepen our knowledge, one book of the bible at a time. No previous knowledge or experience is necessary. Leadership to be provided by Mark Green and Shelagh MacKinnon.



Please register [HERE](#) if you are interested and indicate which times would suit you best.

## **BVU - UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

**- Tuesday, February 4 at 11 am**

In recognition of Black History month we've invited Karen Hoshal, from Central Saanich United Church, to speak about "Black Pioneers in B.C." We will meet on **Tuesday, February 4 at 11am in the Commons**. Join us for this special presentation.



Watch for information about the "World Day of Prayer" service in March.

## **THE HEALING PATHWAY**

The Healing Pathway Group is continuing to offer healing sessions on Mondays in the Chapel . The schedule is as follows: **Monday, February 3: 7:00 pm; Monday, February 10: 1:00 pm; Monday, February 17:1:00 pm; Monday, February 24: 1:00 pm**. The Practice session for healers is on **Saturday, February 22 from 9:00 am – 11:am**. If you would like to book a treatment contact Eileen Campbell at [eileen.c.campbell@outlook.com](mailto:eileen.c.campbell@outlook.com)



## **BVU CHAIR YOGA CLASS with Elaine Duke**

Join Elaine Duke for Yoga at Broad View United. Elaine, an experienced teacher specializing in Adapted Yoga and Bhakti Yoga, invites you to experience a blend of meditation, song, philosophy, poetry, and intention.

Please click **HERE** for more information.



## **BROAD VIEW KNITTERS**

Broad View Knitters will be meeting on **February 11th from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Cedar room**. A selection of knitting needles, yarn and advice are available. Everyone is welcome.



## **GUYS' "WATER INTO WINE" PUB NIGHT**

**- Tuesday, February 11 at 7pm,**

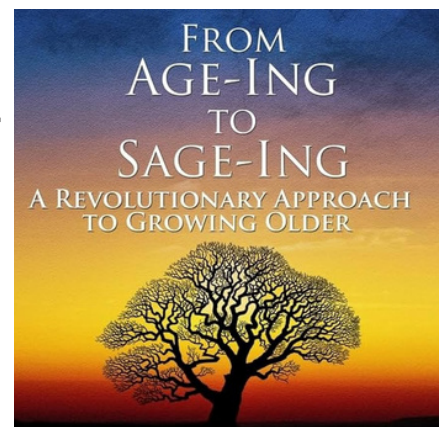
**The Monkey Tree, 4025 Borden St. (near McKenzie and Quadra)**

Join with men of all ages who simply want a chance to connect with other men in the congregation for a time for conversation, sharing of life stories and an exchange of ideas. Order a beverage of your choice (and a bite to eat if you wish), pull up a chair and enjoy a time of fellowship and camaraderie.



## **AGE-ING TO SAGE-ING SUPPORT GROUP**

We are a spin-off from the basic course with Annie Klein looking for 3 or 4 more people to join us. While having done the course or read the book could be an advantage, **it is NOT a prerequisite**. We are happy to welcome anyone who has curiosity and enthusiasm for age-ing in the best way possible.



We meet once a month on a Thursday morning from 10am to 12 noon. We have decided to start this year by reviewing the exercises at the end of the book - the challenges of age-ing, harvesting the wisdom of our years, mentoring, how and what we can contribute to our community, how to set boundaries and forgive ourselves and others, getting our affairs in order, writing letters of appreciation.

**Our next meeting is Thursday February 20th at 10am in the Seminar room at Broad View United.** If you are interested in joining us, please contact Betty Doherty at [bdoherty1@telus.net](mailto:bdoherty1@telus.net) for more information.

## **BOOK STUDY - LIFE AFTER DOOM:**

**Wisdom and Courage for a World Falling Apart - by Brian McLaren.**

**6 sessions Tuesdays evening 7 – 9 pm Mar 4 - Apr 8, 2025  
Led by Mark Green**

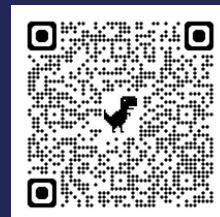
As we live into the chaos Trump creates each day south of the boarder and we see the ways it is affecting us on so many levels in Canada, we can be left feeling overwhelmed with the real issues that need addressing that trump and others seem to be exacerbating. Blending insights from philosophers, scientist and theologians, Brian McLaren explores the complexity of hope, the necessity of grief and the need for new ways of thinking, becoming and belonging in these turbulent times.



Please register **HERE** and read significant portions of the book in advance of the start of the course.

Weekly Friday e-mail  
***Bits & Bytes***

**SIGN UP!**



After signing up, confirm your subscription by clicking the link on the email sent to your registered email address.

## MOVIE NIGHT

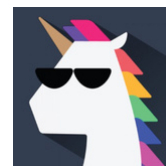
- **Saturday, February 22 at 7 PM**

**This month's movie is Conclave:** a 2024 political thriller starring Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow, Sergio Castellitto, and Isabella Rossellini. Conclave follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events -- selecting the new Pope. In the film, Cardinal Thomas Lawrence (Fiennes) organises a conclave to elect the next pope and finds himself investigating secrets and scandals about the major candidates. Snacks and beverages are provided. Discussion follows.



## TRANS FAMILY DINNER

There will be no trans family Dinner in February. Will resume in March.



## INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE - Sunday, Feb 23

BROAD VIEW UNITED IS PROUD TO SPONSOR THE  
**INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN  
CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE**

*Facilitators: Linda Mulhall and Henri Lock*

Sunday, February 23 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Broad View United

3703 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC V8P 2V7

A training event for new and experienced Christian contemplatives, to support and grow skills in Letting Go and Opening the Heart to the Presence of God within.



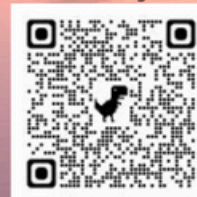
**Christian Contemplative Practice:**

- Allows us to rest in God in the present moment
- Teaches us to Let Go of regrets and worry
- Helps us to live out of the fullness of who truly are

**In this event, you will learn and practice:**

- The prayer of silent meditation (Centering Prayer)
- Lectio Divina (contemplative reading of scripture)
- Practicing mindfulness in daily life (letting go of regrets and worry and being fully present)

Scan to register:



*This event is offered by the  
Contemplative Practice  
Network of Greater Victoria  
in association with BVU*

To register, please scan the QR code above or email name to [contemplativenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:contemplativenetwork@gmail.com). For the fee, you can pay from the Heart, as you are able (\$0 - \$25). For more information, email [henrilock@gmail.com](mailto:henrilock@gmail.com) or [l.mulhall@shaw.ca](mailto:l.mulhall@shaw.ca). All are welcome, regardless of experience.

## **BVU FAMILY DINNER - Friday Feb 14th at 5:30 to 7:30pm**



Opportunity for families with children up to 11 years of age to come for a Friday evening time of activities and conversation shared over a kid friendly meal that is provided. This event happens every second Friday of the month. Family activities to start, dinner shared together and then some time following supper for the children to engage in activities while parents have a chance to connect and share about their lives.

At 7:15 we gather for story time and a few songs as we wind up our time together. Our theme this month is Valentines Day and we will be serving Pasta with a variety of kid friendly options. Click [HERE](#) to register.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR - "QUEER SPIRITUAL COLLECTIVE" RETREAT - May 24**

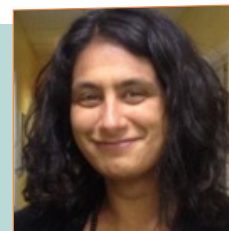
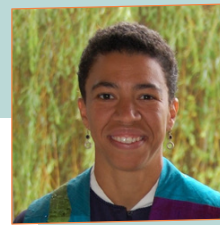


*Queer Spiritual Collective presents*

### **A HALF-DAY ECUMENICAL RETREAT**

*- Centred on belonging, calm, and connection.*

At a time when **the queer community and especially our trans siblings** are under duress and increasingly marginalized, we are coming together to offer support. What spiritual resources of resilience are needed in these times? How can we offer one another a space and place where we feel and know we belong? How can we calm our agitated nervous systems?



This intergenerational retreat transcends denominational boundaries.



**SATURDAY, MAY 24**

**First Unitarian Church of Victoria  
(5575 W Saanich Rd)**

#### SCHEDULE

- 9:30 AM Doors open (coffee, snacks, fruit)
- 10 AM Restorative Yoga with Gagan Leekha (poetry & teachings)
- 11:30 AM Lunch & activities of choice
- 1 PM Singing
- 2 - 2:30 PM Closing with wisdom



**REGISTER NOW**





## GVAT (GREATER VICTORIA ACTING TOGETHER)

**Fundamentals of Anti-Oppression** – Broad View members have free access to G VAT’s upcoming training **Fundamentals of Anti-Oppression, Feb 12 6:45-8:45 pm online**. This course will help participants to understand how privilege and oppression are expressed in our work and our lives. We will learn more about how to reduce our role in perpetuating oppression, how to expand inclusivity in various settings, and how to develop practices that foster diversity and build a culture of belonging. For more information and to register: <https://www.gvat.ca/events-training>



## IMAGINE: CHILDREN’S RETREAT AT CAMP PRINGLE 2025 (AGES 8-11)

**- February 28 - March 2, 2025**



A United Church of Canada event, all people of diverse faith expressions, gender identities, and ways of being family are warmly welcome! Together, we become a multi-age and intercultural community sharing playfulness, meals, and connection with one another in a safe and welcoming setting.

Come wonder about and explore faith through stories, worship, music, drama, and more, and deepen your relationship with God.

**Bursary funded discounts are easy to access; please don't let the cost keep your child(ren) from attending! [Learn more and get the registration link here.](#)**

**SHROVE TUESDAY / ASH WEDNESDAY**

Join us for Pancake Supper with a short Ash Wednesday ritual to follow

**Wednesday, March 5**

Broad View United  
3703 St. Aidan's St.

**BVU SUMMER DAY CAMP FOR KIDS (Ages 6-11) - August 18-22, 2025**

# Creating Camp Spirit Together!



When: August 18 -22

Where: Broad View United

Time: 9am - 3pm

Mark your child's calendar for an unforgettable week at Camp Spirit! We're bringing together **children (ages 6-11)**, Youth Crew, and Camp Spirit summer students and staff for a week filled with fun, connection, and meaningful learning.



**Inclusive, intercultural, and engaging** - together, children and leaders will explore what it means to be Change Makers!



**Nutritious meals** provided



**Flexible registration fees** - making camp accessible for families



**Registration opening soon!**



Broad View United  
3703 St. Aidan's St.

Curious to learn more? We'd love to hear from you! Reach out to Ha Na ([hana@broadviewunited.com](mailto:hana@broadviewunited.com)), Jake ([jake@broadviewunited.com](mailto:jake@broadviewunited.com)), or Min-Goo ([min-goo@broadviewunited.com](mailto:min-goo@broadviewunited.com)).



**GOLDSTREAM CONGREGATIONAL CAMP (all Ages) - August 13-18, 2025**

BROAD VIEW UNITED INVITES YOU TO THE

# GOLDSTREAM CONGREGATIONAL CAMP

CAMPFIRE | STORIES | SONGS

**AUGUST 13 - 18**    **FREE EVENT**    **ALL AGES WELCOME**

**RSVP TO:** [jake@broadviewunited.com](mailto:jake@broadviewunited.com)

Broad View United  
3703 St. Aidan's St.

## **JUSTICE FAIR - Sunday, February 9**

Broad View folks are active in many ways that contribute to a better community and a better world for all. On the second Sunday of each month we have an opportunity to learn more about those actions at the Justice Fair in the Commons after each service. Come, grab a coffee, talk with the people at the various tables and see what is on offer – each month it is a bit different. Learn what is already happening and find something that stirs your passion!



The Justice Fair in February is strategically scheduled just before Valentine's Day! We will have 'Peace By Chocolate', Brenda's wonderful baked goods or amazingly juicy medjoul dates from Palestine to tempt your True Love's taste buds, and special handmade cards by Gayle in support of the indigenous-led Moose Hide Campaign. Sign up to donate cookies for the Stolen Sisters' Walk Feb 16 at the Reconciliation Table, purchase a certificate that provides farmers in Palestine with olive tree saplings or buy a bottle of the superb Olive Oil – all are expressions of love and compassion appropriate for any season!

Do you want to display your Justice actions? If you have a passion that you're already involved with – whether it's working locally, nationally, globally – and you would like to tell people about it, please get in touch with the Broad View office to let them know you would like to join the next Justice Fair.

## **PALESTINIAN SOLIDARITY FILM SERIES At Broad View United 2025**

The Palestinian Solidarity Film Series is back! The struggle for Palestinian justice and liberation continues! So, our solidarity work at BVU continues as well.

Feb 23, 2025, Sunday 7-9 pm Ghassan Kanafani Night (3 videos)

Join us for a stimulating and informative evening of videos, analysis and conversation about the life and work of Ghassan Kanafani- the Palestinian revolutionary, political thinker and leading writer, who was assassinated by the Mossad in July 1972 at the age of 36.

Mar 23, 2025, Sunday 7- 9 pm A Stone's Throw

Apr. 27, 2025, Sunday 7-9 pm Deception

May 11, 2025 Sunday 7-9 pm A film about the Nakba (Title TBA)

Free admission/Donations welcome/Concession/Doors open 6:30pm

Poster coming soon!



# BROAD VIEW UNITED CELEBRATES

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CANADA  
100 YEARS

**JUNE 14: COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**  
**3PM - 7PM**

Interactive  
Games

Activities

International  
Food Fair

Trivia

Ticket Price  
\$2 - \$20

**SUNDAYS: 10AM - 11AM**

Through the month of June, we will be celebrating our history with a look back at where we have come from, milestone decisions and directions, laments and what has brought us to this point in our history.

**JUNE 8 (1925 - 1950)**

Foundations and Vision

**JUNE 15 (1950 - 1975)**

Boomer Growth and  
Theological Clarity

**JUNE 22 (1975 - 2000)**

Coming to terms with human sexuality  
and apology to indigenous  
communities

**JUNE 29 (2000 - 2025)**

Living Into Lament and Restructuring  
**with the Very Rev. Jordan Cantwell**  
(UCC Moderator, 2015-2018)

Scan to register:



**JUNE 3: 11AM - 2PM**

**11AM - 2PM**

BVU United Church Women:  
Celebration, Program, and Tea



Broad View  
— UNITED —

