

For Immediate Release

Sidney, BC, September 25, 2023

Child and Youth Programs Gearing Up at Sidney Church

St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Sidney is pleased to announce the fall start to its Child, Youth and Young Adult program. This multi-pronged program will feature Sunday activities to support, encourage and deepen participants' faith connections, an evening program for young people and a Sunday gathering with lunch. An emphasis will be placed on ensuring that all participants will feel safe, welcome and included. The program is aimed at anyone on the Saanich Peninsula or beyond. Being Anglican is not a requirement nor will the program seek to persuade anyone to become an Anglican, but information about church life at St. Andrew's will be available.

Aimed at youth in middle and high school, the Sunday worship program will focus on what it means to be a Christian and how biblical texts help connect people to everyday life. This program will be offered on the **first and third Sundays of the month at 10 am** at the church, during the regular service, which lasts just over an hour.

On **Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm** middle and high school students are welcome to meet for planned activities such as games, sports, crafts and, of course, food.

On **Sundays after church from noon-2 pm**, there will be a casual gathering with lunch provided.

The Thursday and Sunday programs will take place in newly-renovated and comfortable surroundings in the church hall.

There is no charge for any program but registration and parental/guardian consent is required for anyone under age 18.

Volunteers over age 18 with passion and youth experience are needed for all aspects of the program and will need to undergo some appropriate training.

To participate in any of the programs, attend church on Sunday, call or email the office, or contact the coordinator, Hayden Blair, via Instagram at youth_of_st.andrews.

St. Andrew's is extremely fortunate that Hayden Blair is part of St. Andrew's community as its Children and Youth Coordinator. With nursery and youth group experience in other churches and at the Sorrento Center, and a sincere interest in fostering the spiritual life of youth, Hayden, a second-year student at UVic, looks forward to welcoming students and young adults to St. Andrew's.

For further information:

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