



Broad View
— UNITED —

**OCTOBER 2025
NEWSLETTER**

*Happy
Thanksgiving*





TABLE OF CONTENTS



MINISTER’S MESSAGE	3
BROAD VIEW UPDATES	4 - 7
• Worship Outline for October 2025	4
• Pet Blessings	4
• Thanksgiving Service and Special Offering	5
• Celebrating Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon's Retirement.....	6
• Welcoming Our New Youth Group Leader	6
• New Operations Director	7
• Extreme Weather Emergency Response Shelter.....	7
• Legacy Circle Lunch.....	7
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT	8 - 9
PROGRAM UPDATES	10- 15
• BVU United Church Women.....	10
• Guys’ “Water into Wine” Pub Night	10
• Book Sale: Refugee Sponsorship	10
• The Art of Listening Deeply and Calling In.....	11
• Broad View Knitters	11
• Family Dinner and Messy Church	11
• Movie Night	11
• Circle CHAT	12
• BVU Meditation and Contemplative Practices Group	12
• Walking in a Good Way with Earth	12
• BVU Quilts for Survivors	13
• Celebrating Palestinian Women’s Resistance	13
• Kelsey’s Research Project.... ..	14
• Trans Family Dinner	14
• Queer & Trans Choir Nights — “One Night Choir”	15
• Affirm Team Monthly Meeting	15
EXPLORING JUSTICE	16 - 18
• Justice Fair Grows with Indigenous Mexican Food.....	16-17
• Justice Fair	18
INTERCULTURAL	19 - 21
SPIRITUAL CARE TEAM	22
THRIFT STORE UPDATES	23

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

This month, I'd like to use this space to give a bird's-eye view of what's new at BVU and highlight what you'll find in this Newsletter.

We are preparing to launch **our new website**, which I find very exciting. It will welcome you with five banners: Grounded in the Spirit (family and youth), At this Church, You Belong (worship), Cherished, Beloved Child of God (pride), Belonging Like Home (intercultural), and Walking Together on the Good Path (TRC).

We have also begun two new e-letters: The **BVU Youth Weekly** (sent every Thursday at 5 pm) and **BVU Young Adults E-ConXlon** (every other Thursday at 5 pm). These support growth, engagement, and streamlined communication.

We warmly welcome **Dalia Gonzales-Harney** as Operations Director, bringing vision, creativity, social imagination, and strong business-based strengths with an MBA. We also welcome **Molly LeBlanc** as Youth Group Leader, whose gifts and care for our Jr. and Sr. Youth will be a blessing to BVU.

This month's worship includes World Wide Communion and a **Pet Blessing** on Oct 5, and a **Thanksgiving Service** on Oct 12. On Thanksgiving Sunday, we will gather a **special offering for the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society**, the only Indigenous-led group on Vancouver Island dedicated solely to ending Indigenous homelessness. Learn more about ACEHS at its website: acehsociety.com. The special offering items are listed on page 5. If larger items are not possible, we will gratefully collect smaller but essential items such as **socks, underwear, jackets, and toques/hats**.

You'll also find in this Newsletter:

- **New study:** *The Art of Listening Deeply and Calling in*, with Mark Green
- *Water is Life* film screening
- Palestinian embroidery workshop to celebrate the resilience of Palestinian women
- Purchase Blanca's Indigenous Mexican food to support her dream at the Justice Fair (see menu on page 16)
- Intercultural Mentorship Program and testimonials
- 2SLGBTQ+ research project with Kelsey
- Queer and Trans Choir at BVU sanctuary
(for all ages; youth and young adults are free)

As the season of Thanksgiving begins,
may BVU bring good news to your life and faith journey.



Ha Na Park
Co-Lead Minister

Worship Outline for October 2025

DATE	SCRIPTURE	THEME	PREACHER	OTHER
October 5	John 2 The Wedding at Cana	Cosmic Christ	Shelagh MacKinnon	• World Communion Sunday • Pet Blessing at 2 PM
October 12		A Theology of Abundance	Mark Green	Thanksgiving
October 19		Change	Ha Na Park	
October 26		To Be Transformed	Mark Green	

PET BLESSING

• SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 2 PM •

A JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF THE ANIMALS WHO SHARE OUR LIVES.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Broad View United
3703 St. Aidan's St.

An illustration at the bottom of the poster shows a group of people and their pets in a lush green park. On the left, a woman sits on the grass holding a large golden retriever. Next to her, a man in a white shirt and red shorts is hugging a brown dog. In the center, a woman with short black hair and glasses holds a small brown cat. To her right, a woman with dark hair holds a black and white cat. On the far right, a woman with pink hair sits on the grass holding a ginger cat. The background features stylized green bushes and trees.



Broad View
— UNITED —

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND SPECIAL OFFERING

Sunday, Oct 12th, 2025
9:30 & 11 AM

On Thanksgiving Sunday, it is our tradition to bring an additional special offering as part of our spiritual practice of living out of gratitude and sharing from our abundance. We have been fostering a partnership with the **Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society** and are looking to deepen that relationship. In so doing we have asked what items their agency would find helpful as we move into the winter season. They have suggested the following:

- Socks
- Underwear
- Jackets
- Toques / Hats
- Sweaters
- Blankets
- Sleeping Bags
- Tents
- Wagons (for carrying belongings)
- Waterproof shoes



While some of these larger items may be something that you have around your home that you no longer use or need, some of the smaller items are always in short supply and are appreciated. An area in the Narthex will be a dedicated spot on Thanksgiving Sunday for you to bring these items.

CELEBRATING REV. SHELAGH MACKINNON'S RETIREMENT

We will celebrate Shelagh as she embarks on a new chapter with a tea held at Broad View United on **November 22 at 2:00 pm**. In order to plan the food for the event, you must preregister for the tea by October 26. There is no charge and no tickets will be issued. Priority will be given to those attending Broad View United. Please indicate if you have dietary restrictions we need to know about. The names of guests will be placed on a list and you will be asked to check in on arrival for the tea. To register, either register online

[HERE](#) or phone the church office at 250-590-3677. You may also **register on the following Sundays, October 5, 12 and 19 in the Commons** following the Bridge and ConXion services.

Shelagh will also be honoured at the 9:30 Bridge and 11:00 ConXion services on November 23. Community members are welcome to attend these services.



Shelagh MacKinnon

WELCOMING OUR NEW YOUTH GROUP LEADER

We are thrilled to welcome **Molly LeBlanc** as BVU's new Youth Group Leader! Molly brings creativity, warmth, and a genuine passion for supporting young people. What excites us most is her sincere care for the lives, passions, and interests of youth, which will guide all the fun, meaningful, and memorable activities we'll share together this fall.

Please see her bio below, and join us in giving Molly a warm BVU welcome!

About Molly

Molly (she/her) is a fourth-year student at UVic, majoring in Religion, Culture, and Society. She grew up in St. Albert, Alberta where she was involved in musical theatre, including writing, composing, and acting. After living in Texas for a year, she moved to Victoria in 2021 to go to school in the beautiful environment of Vancouver Island. Molly also attends AbbeyChurch in Victoria, where she is the new poet-in-residence. When she's not learning about religion, she enjoys reading, playing the piano, and video games.



Molly LeBlanc

NEW OPERATIONS DIRECTOR INTRODUCTION:

This spring the BVU board discerned that an Operations Director was needed at BVU as we have grown to a size where day to day operations of the facility, finances and social enterprises now exceed what is possible for the co-leads to manage and for them to attend to other matters of spiritual and organizational leadership. A search was initiated in the summer, and we are pleased to announce that Dalia Gonzalez-Harney will begin in this position effective Oct 15th. Dalia has worked as a manager with Island Health, Camosun College and UVic. She has a broad set of skills and is both personable and approachable. She holds MBA and a number of other leadership certificates. We are excited for her to join our BVU staff team where she will work with various teams and have oversight in areas related to operations.



Dalia Gonzalez-Harney

EXTREME WEATHER EMERGENCY RESPONSE SHELTER:

All the paperwork and contracts were submitted before the deadline of Sept 30th with BC housing. We are confident that we will be able to go ahead this year and be an Extreme weather emergency response shelter. Those that signed up to help last year will be contacted and brought together for a meeting in late October for an orientation. We are responsible for hospitality and volunteers are needed for food prep, welcoming and serving at one of two different shifts... evening and early morning. If you would like your name added to the list of volunteers, please sign up [HERE](#) or phone the office (250) 590-3677.



LEGACY CIRCLE LUNCH NOVEMBER 2025

November 9, 2025 | 12:15 PM | The Hub at BVU

There is still time for you to join the BVU Legacy Circle! This lunch is an opportunity for you to come and learn about what it means to leave a lasting legacy for the Ministry of BVU into the future. This can be done through your Will, a life insurance policy or annuity or in a number of other ways while you are still an active member at BVU. Come and hear a bit more about what the future holds and how you can be a part of it. Register [HERE](#) or call the office and BVU will contact you with details about the lunch and offer you a personal invitation to attend.



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

BVU YOUTH WEEKLY: EVERY THURSDAY AT 5 PM

At BVU, our Junior Youth (Grades 6–8) and Senior Youth groups are all about creating a space where teens feel safe, welcomed, and at home. Each week, we look forward to gathering for a time that’s relaxed and fun, with room for learning, friendship, and laughter. It’s a place where youth can grow together and feel free to invite their friends along.

If your child or a family member is in Grade 6 or older, BVU’s Junior and Senior Youth would love to welcome them. To stay in the loop, sign up for the BVU Weekly Email (arrives every Thursday at 5:00 p.m.)—you’ll get invitations and details for each Friday gathering and any upcoming youth adventures.

THIS month

K-Pop Demon Hunters Talk

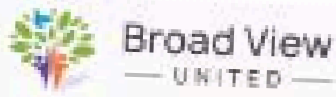
Trips to Galey Farms

Halloween



Sign Up for BVU Youth Weekly Newsletter

and find out all about this month!



BVU Youth Weekly

Hi Youth Families!

This Friday, our Junior Youth are gathering for a K-Pop social night! We'll have Korean snacks, chat about *K-Pop Demon Hunters*, and enjoy some fun K-pop-themed activities together.

Throughout October, we'll also get into the Halloween spirit with trips to Galey Farms and activities like pumpkin carving later in the month.

Our Senior Youth will meet at Galey Farms on Friday, October 10th. Please meet staff and friends at the Root Cellar at 7 PM so we can walk over together. Pick-up will be at the tables near the show area—we'll be waiting with hot cocoa after the farm fun!

For Junior Youth, we'll check in with families this Friday about whether Friday, October 17th at 6:30 PM works for a Galey Farms night. Meeting point: Root Cellar.

There are still details to work out for the Galey Farms trips, so please watch your email and listen for updates in person or by email.

To make sure we can get group tickets (before they sell out!), please email Molly at Molly@broadviewunited.com as soon as possible if your child plans to join. The church will buy all the tickets. Families are welcome to send along \$10 in cash when youth come to Galey Farms or e-transfer \$10 in support. We don't want any child to experience a financial barrier.

Thank you!

~ co-written by Molly (Youth Group Leader) and Ha Na

Email Molly

Meet Molly LeBlanc!

Molly (she/her) is a fourth-year student at UVic, majoring in Religion, Culture, and Society. She grew up in St. Albert, Alberta where she was involved in musical theatre, including writing, composing, and acting. After living in Texas for a year, she moved to Victoria in 2021 to go to school in the beautiful environment of Vancouver Island.



SIGN UP FOR BVU **YOUNG ADULTS** E-CONXION — JOIN US ANYTIME!

**YA Sunday Lunch:
Let's Eat Together!**

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, after the 11 AM ConXion Worship, we gather in the Commons to share lunch, check in with one another, and enjoy conversation.

Beginning this month, we'll also be sending out the BVU Young Adults E-ConXion every other Thursday whenever a Young Adults Sunday Lunch is coming up. It's the easiest way to get invites and updates about our gatherings and other opportunities—all in one place.

**Sign Up for Young Adult
Weekly Newsletter**



Sun, Oct 5

**Hot Pot with Tina:
(vegan option too!)**

12:15 pm, after ConXion service



**Haunted Manor Indoor
Mini Golf: Fri, Oct 24 (6pm)**

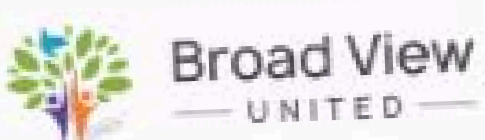
711 Yates Street

Get tickets: Email Micia or call:
250-590-3677 ext 209

**Queer & Trans Choir
Night: Oct 29 (7pm)**

At BVU Sanctuary

and find out all about this month!



You'll find Broad View United at 3703 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC—on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples.

Hey, Friends!

A warm welcome to all Young Adults at BVU!

YA Sunday Lunch: Let's Eat Together!

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after 11 AM ConXion Worship, we hang out over lunch in the Commons. Our gatherings include a check-in and a "question of the day," followed by conversations that naturally grow from there.

October 5 This Sunday: We're Making Hot Pot!



Have you ever had stone soup as a child? We'd like to share that same spirit by making a hot pot together—everyone bringing something from their fridge to add. BVU will provide the meal, and you're invited to bring some veggies (only if you'd like!) There will also be a vegan and gluten-free pot available.

You're warmly invited to join our 11 AM ConXion service, then stay for lunch around 12:15 PM in the Commons. See you this Sunday—and bring a friend!

Next YA Sunday Lunch Schedules



Oct 5 (This Sunday)
Oct 19
Nov 2
Nov 16

Every food has a story. What food tells yours?

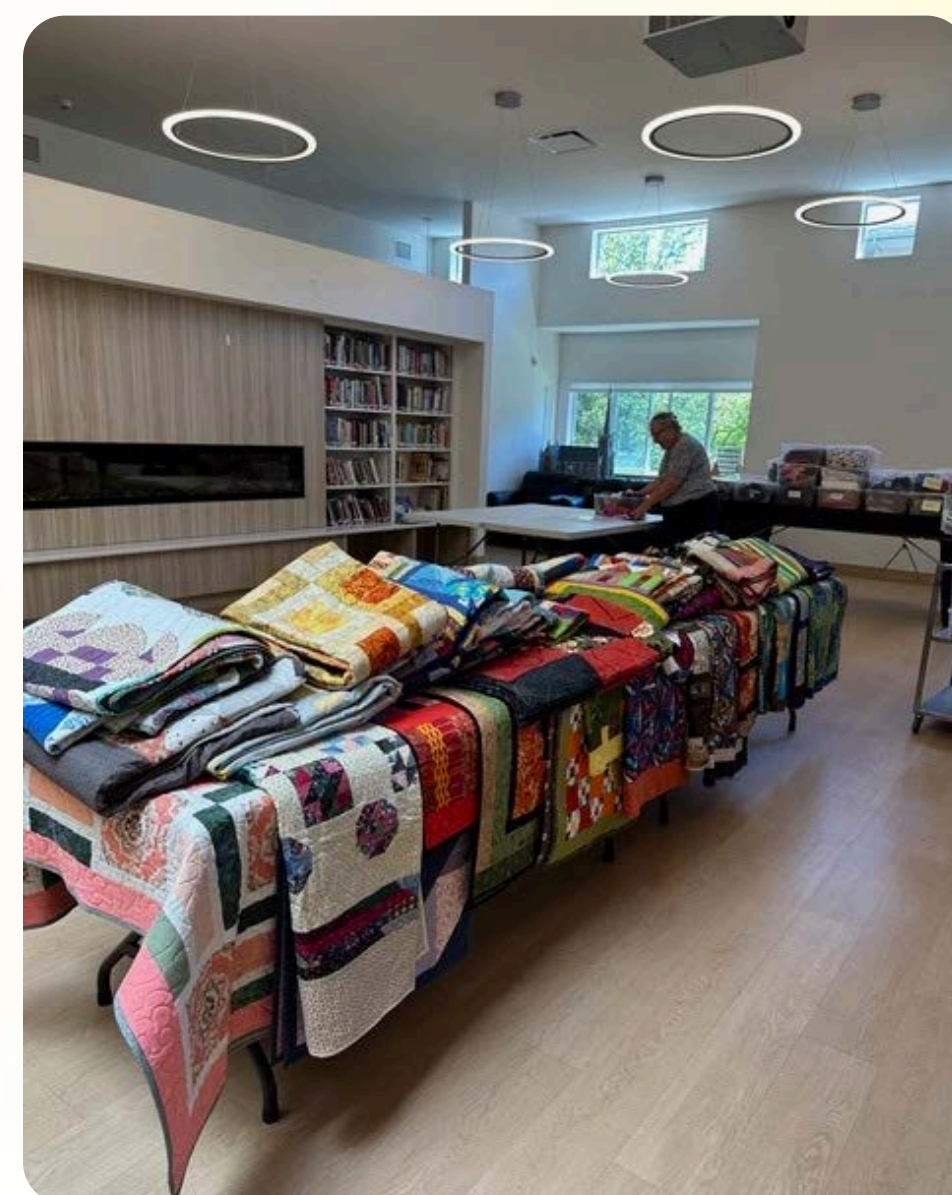
Quick Bite Survey – Just 30 Seconds!

PROGRAM UPDATES

BVU UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Tuesday, October 7 at 11 am

BVU UCW invites you to our meeting on October 7 at 11am in the Narthex. We will hold our Opening Devotional, a brief Business meeting and then welcome our special guests, Vivian Skinner and Joan Sherwood to tell us about the “Quilts for Survivors” program. We will discuss ways UCW and UCW members can be involved. Bring a bag lunch. Tea, coffee and goodies provided. All are welcome.



GUYS’ “WATER INTO WINE” PUB NIGHT

Tuesday, October 14 at 7 pm:

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

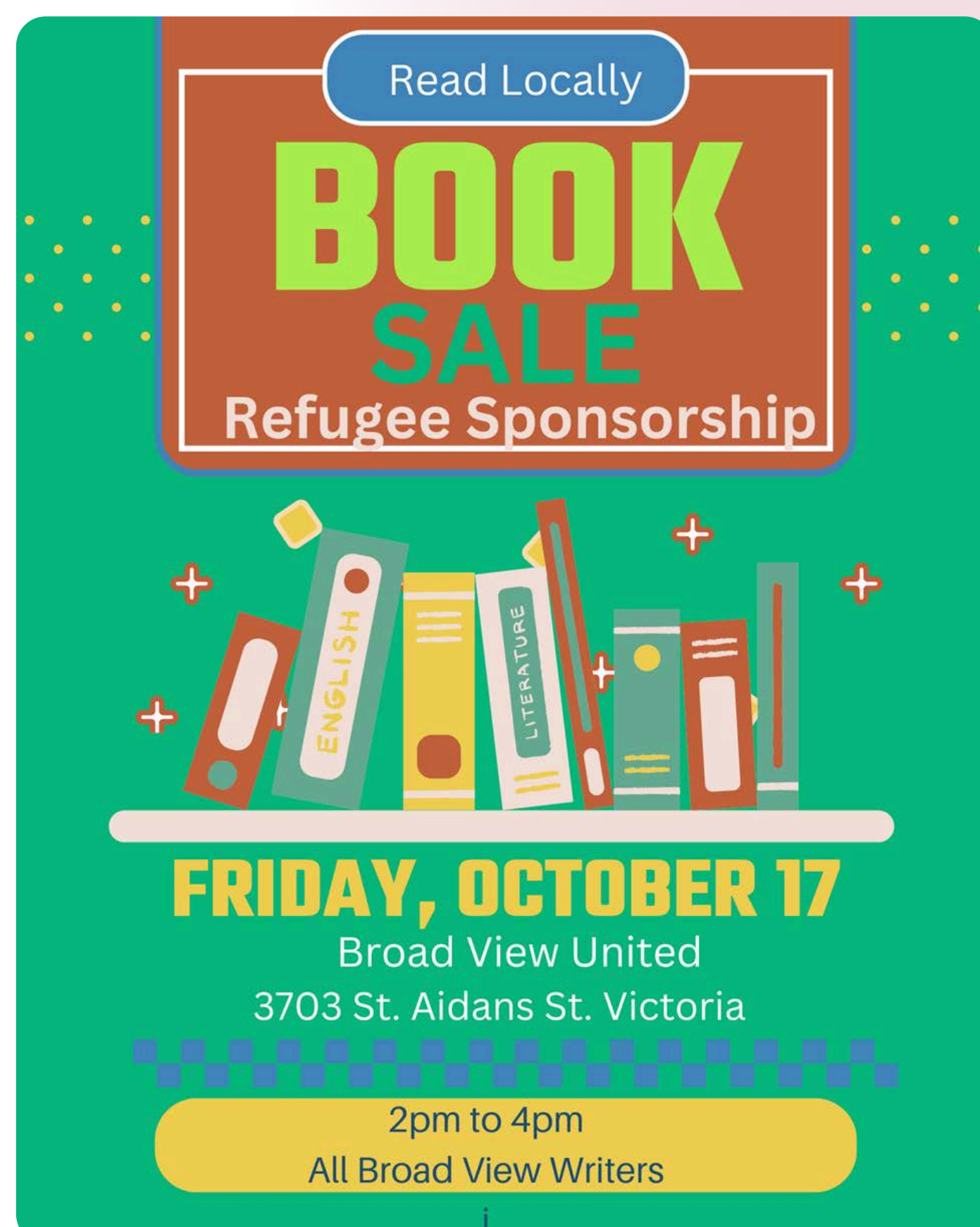
Join with men of all ages who simply want a chance to connect with other men in the congregation for a time for conversation, sharing of life stories and an exchange of ideas. Order a beverage of your choice (and a bite to eat if you wish), pull up a chair and enjoy a time of fellowship and camaraderie.



BOOK SALE

Friday, October 17 at 2 pm at Broad View United

You are invited to this event that is so much **more than a Book Sale**. Broad View writers Edeana Malcolm and Gisela Ruebsatt will be reading from their work and speaking on the theme of “**Immigration.**” They will be selling and signing some of their books and ALL proceeds of the sales will go to the Broad View refugee sponsorship fund. So, please come and bring a friend.



PROGRAM UPDATES

THE ART OF LISTENING DEEPLY AND CALLING IN

4 Tuesdays, October 14 – November 4, 2025

Facilitator: Mark Green

To listen deeply without formulating what our next response is or being reactive can be a challenging thing. In our increasingly polarized world such a skill will become necessary and important for us to not only find common ground but to push us forward toward a set of shared values for the common good. Join others as we explore both the concepts and the skills together.

This class is offered in two different time slots. **(2:30-4:30 or 7-9pm)** You can only register for 1 time slot and there is a maximum of 20 people per class. For more information or to register see the program guide or click [HERE](#).

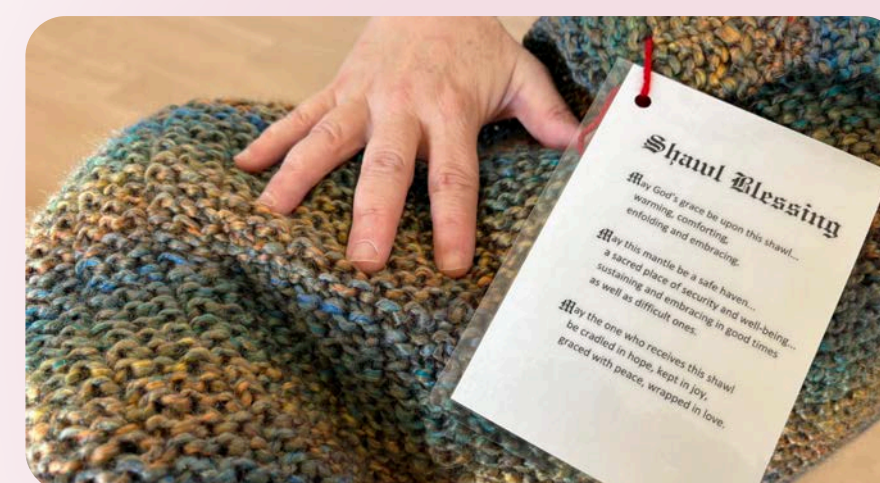
The Art of Listening Deeply and Calling In

[REGISTER NOW](#)



BROAD VIEW KNITTERS

For those of you who have been knitting items for the Broad View Knitters annual donation to the Compassionate Warehouse, the Cridge Centre for the Family and Our Place, please bring your finished products to our **October 14 knitting and crocheting get-together from 1 pm to 3 pm** in the Cedar room. A selection of knitting needles, yarn and advice are available. If you are not available that day, please bring your knitted donations into the office during the week of **October 6 to 10**.



FAMILY DINNER AND MESSY CHURCH

Friday, October 10 at 5:30 pm

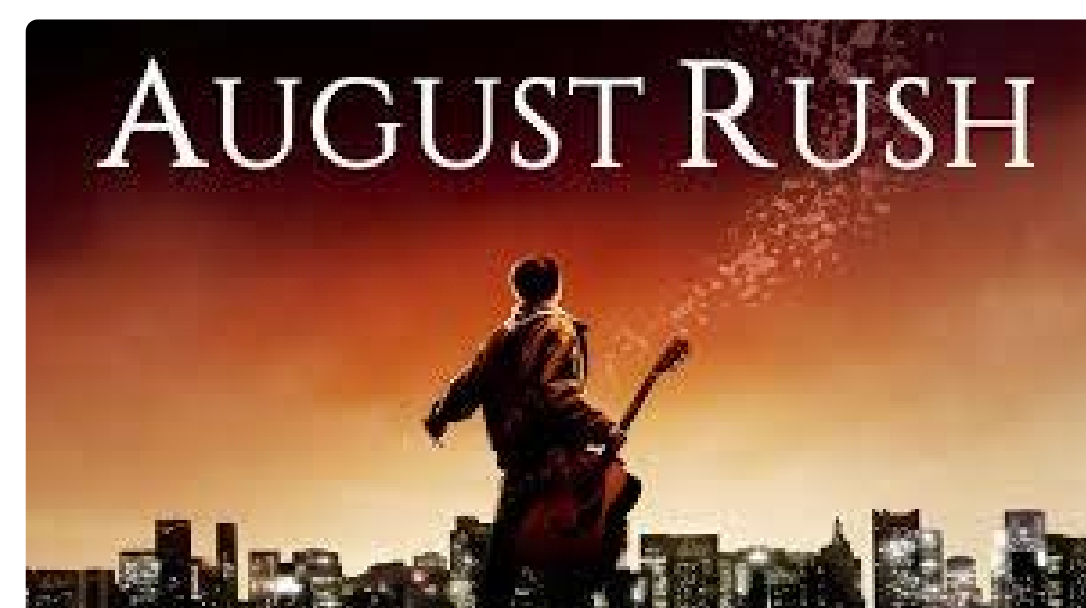
This event invites families with children to connect with other BVU families through a meal, crafts, activities, and story time with songs. A child-friendly meal will be provided, accommodating special dietary needs when possible. Please register [HERE](#) to assist us in planning.



MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, October 25 at 7pm

August Rush is the story of a musically gifted orphan, Evan, who runs away from his orphanage and searches New York City for his birth parents. On his journey, he's taken under the wing of a homeless man who lives in an abandoned theater. Beverages and snacks provided. Discussion follows the film.



PROGRAM UPDATES

CIRCLE CHAT

Wednesday, October 8 at 1:30 pm

Circle CHAT will meet Wednesday, October 8 at 1:30 pm in the Cedar Room. Circle CHAT is a drop-in group for Women Elders. Come for coffee, conversation and spiritual nourishment!



New Initiative!!!

BVU MEDITATION AND CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES GROUP

Dates: First and Third Wednesdays of each month 10:00-11:00 am

Location: CHAPEL

Upcoming sessions: October 15, November 5 & 19, December 3 & 17

Have you been longing to begin or resume a meditation practice? Are you hungering for peace in our world of chaos and confusion? If so, this is your invitation to join with others with similar longings at BVU.

Each session will last for one hour and will include meditation and contemplative practices designed to nurture personal connection to Spirit and inner healing, while building a community of contemplative practice. No experience needed! For more information, please contact Henri Lock (henrilock@gmail.com) or Rick Mickelson (rick.mickelson@telus.net)



WALKING IN A GOOD WAY WITH EARTH

Thursday, October 30 10:30-11:30 am

Location: Horner Park, across from BVU

Join us for our second walking meditation practice at Horner Park. Together we will open all our senses to recapture and reawaken our feelings of love, connection and sacred responsibility to our earth mother. Even in the midst of a city, Horner Park is teeming with our more-than-human siblings who long to be in communion with us!



In the words of Richard Wagamese: *We are part of Creation. We exist on one Sacred Breath. We are Sacred. We are all one energy. We are all one soul - and the degree to which we forget this is the precise degree of separation that divides us.*

Please bring: a small cushion or campstool to sit on if you are not comfortable standing or sitting on the ground and weather appropriate clothing. Session will go ahead, rain or shine. For more information, please reach out to Susan Draper (graceful@shaw.ca).

PROGRAM UPDATES

BVU QUILTS FOR SURVIVORS

At **Broad View United**, we are making quilts and gifting them to Survivors of the Residential School System through the **QUILTS FOR SURVIVORS** Project (<https://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca>).

All are welcome - no experience necessary!
We all learn as we have fun creating...

Join us for quilting workshops at **Broad View United**:

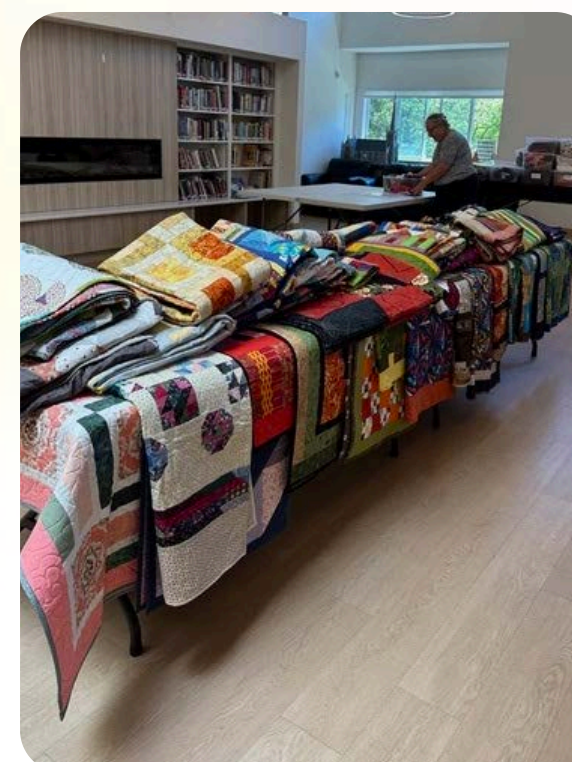
Drop in: **Mondays** anytime between **9am - 12pm**

Drop in: **Fridays** anytime between **11am - 2pm**

Drop in: **Saturday, October 18 10am - 4pm**

For more information, contact:

Vivian Skinner (vivianskinner@shaw.ca)



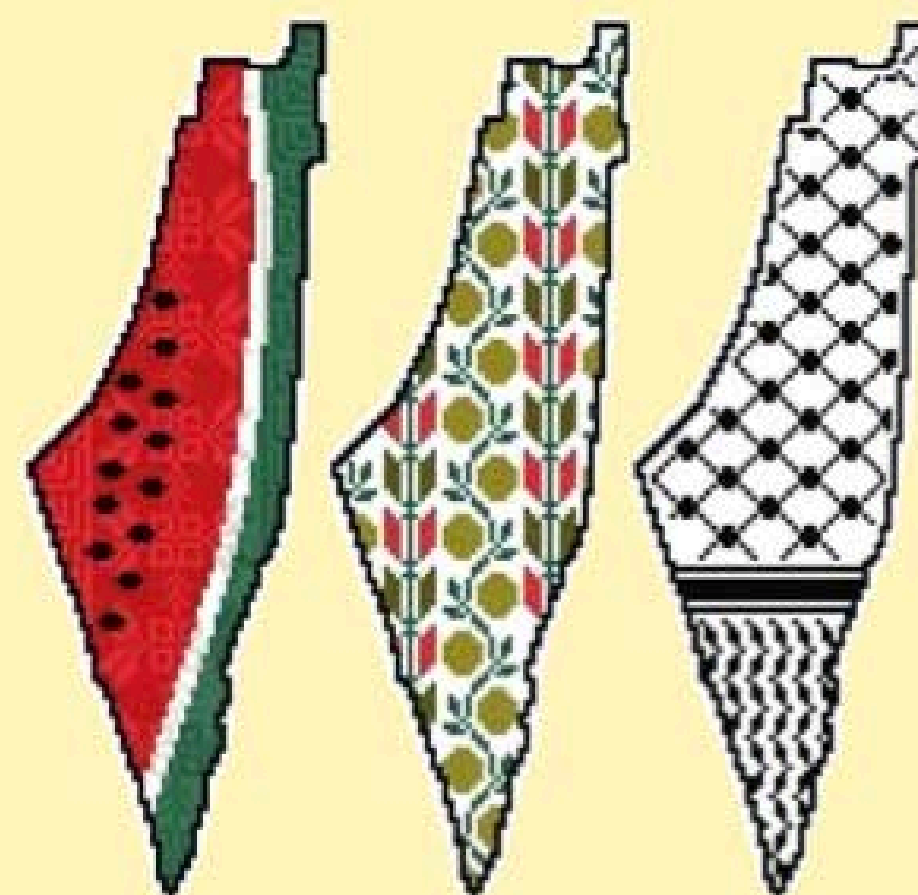
Celebrating Palestinian Women's Resistance

LEARN TATREEZ (EMBROIDERY) WITH US!

Sunday, October 26 from 2-4pm

@ Broad View United
3703 St. Aidan's St., Victoria

ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED
TEA & GOODIES
ADMISSION BY DONATION
(SUGGESTED: \$10)
REGISTER BY PHONE OR EMAIL:
250-590-3677
info@broadviewunited.com



If you need childcare for children under 6,
let us know when you register by Oct. 19. Thanks!

KELSEY’S RESEARCH PROJECT WITH BVU’S 2SLGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

Hello! My name is Kelsey Block (they/them) and I’m a PhD student at the University of Victoria. For my dissertation in Sociology, I’m conducting research examining understandings of gender and sexuality in Christian communities like BVU. The intention of this research is to discover how church communities can better support the sexual and gender diverse members in their communities. I myself am queer and non-binary and grew up in a Christian community, so this research is heavily inspired by my own experiences and passion to create a safe place for gender and sexual diverse individuals in these communities.



Please invite me to your groups or meetings, especially those involving 2SLGBTQ+ members and friends of BVU. If you are interested in a confidential interview, feel free to email me. I look forward to engaging with you at BVU. You can reach Kelsey at kblock@uvic.ca.

SAFER

SAANICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACE

OCTOBER 15

TRANS

FAMILY DINNER

SAANICH neighbourhood place

Broad View UNITED

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH
STARTING @ 5:30 P.M.
BROAD VIEW UNITED
3703 ST AIDANS ST.

OK

SCAN OR CLICK THE
QR CODE TO SIGN UP!

PROGRAM UPDATES

QUEER & TRANS CHOIR NIGHTS — “ONE NIGHT CHOIR” YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS — FREE, SPONSORED BY BVU

Broad View United is delighted to share **Queer & Trans Choir Nights** in our BVU sanctuary this fall, sponsoring Sweet Flag Voice Studio and the Gay4Nature Collective. Join us for one, two, or all three gatherings: **Oct 29, Nov 26, and Dec 10 (7–9 pm)**. Each evening includes vocal and heart warm-ups, community building, and learning a new song together. Every night will have a unique theme, and dressing up is always encouraged! To help you prepare, music will be sent out a week beforehand so you can get familiar with the songs.



Em Postl



Anna Bigland-Pritchard

Our partners and BVU look forward to working toward the dream of a regular queer and trans choir. In the meantime, we hope these one-night choir events offer a joyful way to keep the queer spirit singing. BVU is happy to sponsor **8 free spots each night for Youth and Young Adults**. Sessions are led by **Em Postl** with **Anna Bigland-Pritchard**, a queer, non-binary voice teacher specializing in welcoming beginners and offering gender-affirming coaching. Register via [Jotform](#), and [email Ha Na for any support or financial assistance—regardless of age.](#)

AFFIRM TEAM MONTHLY MEETING

Affirm Team Monthly Meeting — Conversation & Planning begins this month on **Thursday, October 30 at 6 pm**. This is a gentle, open space to share ideas, stories, and connection—and you’re warmly invited. This month we’ll be joined by **Kelsey Block (UVic, Sociology PhD)**, who is spending time with 2SLGBTQ+ welcoming and affirming faith communities like BVU.

Part of the agenda this month will be to meet Kelsey, hear a bit about their work and research, and be part of a meaningful conversation about queer and trans belonging in faith spaces. If you’re curious, care about queer and trans belonging, or simply want to listen and be part of the conversation, please come. **Register via [Jotform](#)** to receive monthly updates and any location or schedule changes.



JUSTICE FAIR EXPANDS WITH THE FLAVOUR OF INDIGENOUS MEXICAN FOOD

We are grateful that Blanca will be participating in the Justice Fair on October 19, supporting a cause close to her heart. Blanca is no stranger to BVU—she and her family have been actively involved in many major events, generously sharing traditional food from Mexico. One of her dreams is to open an authentic, traditional Mexican restaurant in Victoria, and we are delighted to support her on this journey.



Please read Blanca's story

My name is Blanca, I am originally from Mexico and I am passionate about sharing the traditions and flavors of my culture.

When I was living in Mexico, while I was studying, I used to sell tamales, and it has always been my dream to combine food with supporting meaningful causes.

That is why, for this event, I will be donating 15% of the sales to **Huellitas de Esperanza**, a local dog rescue foundation in Texcoco, Mexico. This foundation has been helping stray dogs for the past two years, and supporting it is very close to my heart, as the situation of street dogs is sadly very common in Mexico.

Thank you very much for your support, every purchase not only shares a taste of Mexico but also helps make a difference for these dogs in need.

You can learn more about them here:



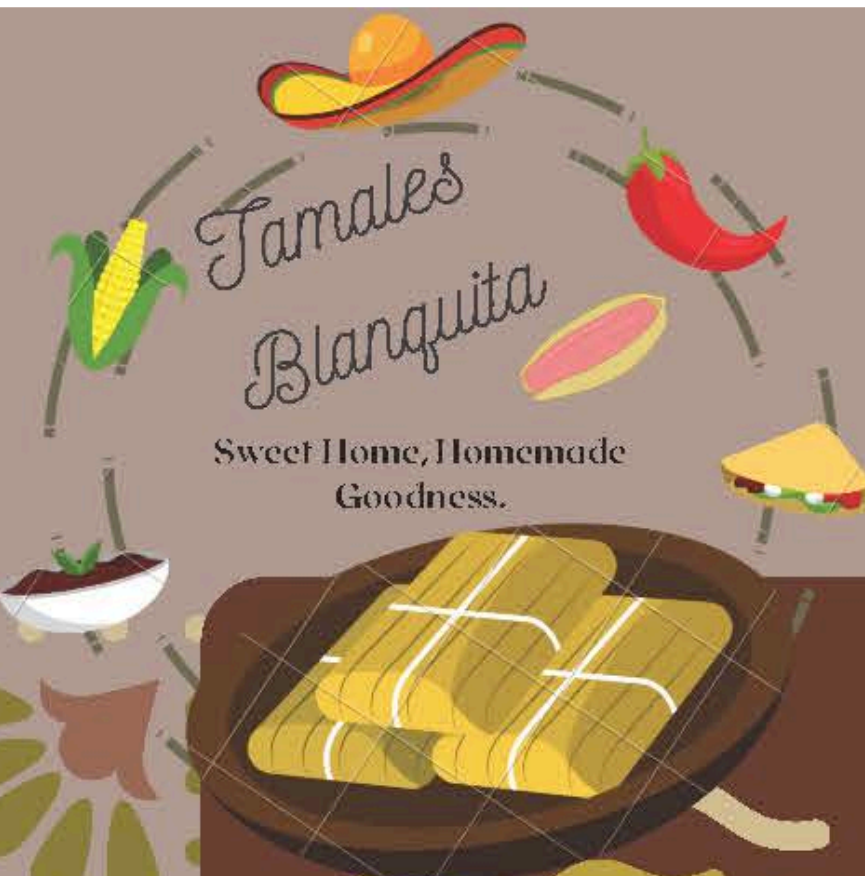
Blanca Espejel



Huellitas de Esperanza Texcoco
(@huellitasde_esperanzatexcoco)

Instagram photos and videos





MENÚ

DELICIOUS!!

SAVORY

Green Chicken
Shredded chicken in a fresh, tangy tomatillo and serrano salsa. The Classic! **\$7**

Red Pork
Slow-cooked pork in a rich, mild red sauce of ancho and guajillo chilies, **\$7**

Poblano Pepper & Cheese
Roasted poblano pepper strips (Rajas) and mozzarella cheese, perfectly creamy and mild with tomato salsa, **\$8**

SWEET

Strawberry & Cream Cheese
Sweet strawberry tamale with a creamy Philadelphia cheese filling, **\$8**

Pineapple
Sweet, fluffy corn masa with caramelized pineapple chunks **\$7**

HOT DRINK
Rice Atole
A warm drink made with rice, milk, cinnamon, and vanilla. **\$4**

Champurrado atole
The Mexican hot chocolate made with corn masa, cinnamon, and piloncillo (brown sugar). The perfect tamale pairing.



JUSTICE FAIR Sunday, October 19

Autumn has arrived and with it, a few special items to add to our popular Justice Fair, held in the Commons following both services October 19. All that we highlight stands in support of justice, including local and global actions. Take the opportunity to learn, to sign letters and petitions.



Tables include:

- **Peace by Chocolate** Halloween and other treats from a company initiated by Syrian refugees who support other causes through the Peace on Earth Society.
- **White Poppies** for Peace to remember All Victims of War
- **Dates and Olive Oil** plus other products that benefit Palestinian farmers.
- **Shelbourne Community Kitchen. Gluten-Free Baked Goods**
- **Homemade Marmalade** to help cover shipping costs for the Quilts for Survivors Project.
- **Handmade Pies** in support of BVU Children and Youth programs
- **United Church Calendars** for 2026
- **Reconciliation.**
- **And others!**

If you are interested in participating to share organizations and actions you are involved with, please contact Barbara bmhansen@telus.net or Robin robin.breckon@gmail.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO A FILM SCREENING OF

WATER IS LOVE

Ripples of Regeneration

Saturday, October 18, 2025

from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DOORS OPEN at 6:30 p.m.

Broad View United, 3703 St. Aidan's St



Welcome to the Intercultural Space at BVU!

A place to belong, build friendships, and grow together.

Explore our programs and be part of our diverse, welcoming community!

SATURDAY SOCIAL

 **Saturdays** |  **5:30–8:30 pm** |  **Hubs & Commons**

Saturday Social is a weekly intercultural gathering with food, conversation, games, and rituals. Each week has a unique theme:

- **1st Saturday – Language Café:** Practice new languages with hosts, snacks, and cultural exchange.
- **2nd Saturday – Cultural Market:** Trade talents and treasures—no money, just participation.
- **3rd Saturday – Learning Party:** Share knowledge and skills, from yoga to photo-documentaries.
- **4th Saturday – Taste of Home:** Cook and share dishes from childhood memories and cultural traditions. Volunteers are welcome as conversation partners or kitchen helpers.



 Sign up for updates: **[Intercultural Newsletter](#)**



Introducing the Intercultural Mentorship Program *NEW*

Newcomers to Canada face many challenges—language, transportation, shopping, housing, health care, parenting, and more. A friendship with a local can make all the difference.

Would you be willing to meet regularly with a newcomer, on a schedule that works for both of you? You might both discover the joy of mutual learning and growth through this new friendship. The following is a collection of stories born out of such connections.

If you're interested in being part of this mentorship program, please contact Min-Goo at **min-goo@broadviewunited.com**.



AN UNEXPECTED GIFT – FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN LINSAY AND JOSE

In the summer of 2021, I decided to volunteer with the English Conversation Circle and then was unable to attend. Jose, an immigrant from Mexico, inquired at the same time about English conversation that would not conflict with his work as a pastry chef. How perfect!

Jose had come to Victoria that summer with his husband, Heberth, who was studying at Camosun College. Their hope was to become Canadian citizens.

Jose and I began meeting on Zoom, a little tentatively at first, neither of us sure how this might work. Soon thereafter we began meeting for walks (it was COVID time) chatting away as we wandered around James Bay, always stopping for “coffee”.

Fast forward, Jose, Heberth and I have become good friends, 40 years difference in age not being a problem. I’ve met their extended families who have come for visits and we’ve enjoyed day trips to places like Salt Spring Island, the Kinsol Trestle, enjoyed picnics and many meals together.



It is an unexpected gift to have Jose and Heberth in my life. ~ LINDSAY DOWNIE

In 2021, shortly after arriving in Canada, I joined the English Conversation Circle to practice my English and learn more about Canadian culture. Because of my work schedule, I was unable to continue attending the regular meetings. That’s when I was introduced to Lindsay, a volunteer who was in a similar situation.



At first, our meetings were on Zoom, and soon after we began meeting in person for walks, hikes, coffee, and picnics. With time, what started as a way to practice English became a very special friendship.

Lindsay has not only helped me with my English, but she has also become a very important person in our lives. Both Heberth, my husband, and I feel very lucky to have met her. We have shared many wonderful moments together from day trips and meals to welcoming our families when they visited.

The English Conversation Circle gave me much more than the chance to improve my language skills, it gave me the gift of connecting with someone truly special. We are grateful for Lindsay’s generosity, kindness, and friendship, and we hope to continue sharing this bond for many more years to come.

~ JOSE

THE SUNDAY MORNING GREETING – FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN MARG AND MOON

At church one Sunday, the minister asked us to greet our neighbours. Beside me stood a pretty young Chinese woman who smiled tentatively at me as I turned to greet her. Exchanging names (Marg and Moon) revealed that she had only a very basic command of English, but she managed to tell me that she was a student at Camosun College in the Dental Hygiene Program and really needed help with her English. I offered to help her as I had been involved in helping other newcomers to Canada in the past.

Rather than setting up a rigid schedule of English language classes, I thought she would enjoy just sitting and talking together so she would gradually absorb the sound of the the language and how it worked, though I did show her how most English words use past, present and future. I asked her to tell me about herself and then helped her with words and expressions as they arose, and she would ask me the meaning of different words when I talked to her. This way, she was gradually building up a basic vocabulary.



A charming trait of Moon's is her cheerful nature and her generosity – she would cook lunch for me if I came over at noon, and she often bought me small presents when she returned from holidays.

Being friendly with Moon has taught me a lot about her country and her family, but also about newcomers' experiences adjusting to life in Canada and Victoria. I have signed up to volunteer with Min-Goo's new Mentorship Program, as I enjoy helping newcomers find their way in Victoria. I can highly recommend the experience.

~ MARG MACQUARRIE

ONE MORE STORY

Three of us—Mike, Mary Jane, and me (Min-Goo)—from BVU spent a busy three hours sharing about the wonderful things happening at BVU during the community picnic hosted by the Mt. Tolmie Community Association. It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon on Sept. 21 at Horner Park, complete with live music, hot dogs, cakes, and information booths.

Many people stopped by our table to learn who we are as a church and what programs we offer. It was a great reminder that, while BVU has many entry points, there are still people out there looking for a community like ours.



A big thank you to Mike (who celebrated his birthday that very day!) and Mary Jane for representing our wonderful community alongside me.

IN MEMORIAM

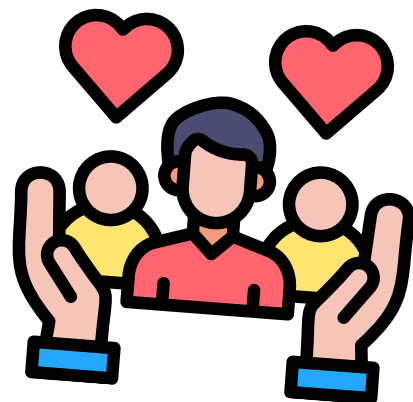
David Gordon Thompson	Died August 28, 2025	Celebration of Life, September 27, 2025
Gwen Armstrong	Died September 20, 2025	
Barry Munro	Died September 23, 2025	



We give thanks for the magnitude of gifts David, Gwen and Barry gave and received over the course of their lives. Our love and prayers remain with their families and closest friends.

SCHEDULED MEETING

BVU Spiritual Care Team will meet **October 14 at 1:30 in the Chapel.**



WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE!

If you know of someone who has either moved (change of address) or who is in hospital or experiencing health concerns, please reach out to either Shelagh MacKinnon or Margaret Harper. This enables us to stay connected with folks during their times of transition.

We would rather receive the same information five times than not at all:) Thanks for the many ways you care for others on behalf of BVU.

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.

Confidential requests can be sent to Jean Margision jean@jampot.ca, via prayer@broadviewunited.com, or from the Broad View United website.

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.

Connect Card

 **Broad View**
UNITED

Welcome to BVU!

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Kids Names & Ages: _____

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.

THRIFT STORE UPDATES

Hello community

The thrift store is **now open Fridays from 10 am to 6 pm starting October the 3rd!** Join us for a new shopping day. Friday sales days in October include the 3rd, 10th, 17th, and the 24th. We are training new staff in store so give a kind hello when you see them. We also appreciate your patience while we navigate our new day.

We will be holding two volunteer fairs this month. One will be here in the Commons on **Sunday October 5th** after services to recruit more help. You can also find us at Camosun the morning of **Thursday October 16th**. Consider joining a great group. We work together for a good cause and we have fun too.

Some of the photos you see here are from our most recent volunteer event. Our autumn social where we celebrated the return of many volunteers after the summer. We have over 100 volunteers including high school and post secondary students. The store runs on the efforts of these volunteers working in many different areas. We welcome people with different skill sets often and can always use more help. Join us at one of these volunteer fairs to learn more. You can also pick up an application in store Wednesday through Saturday.

Seasonal stock is selling in store now but we are running out of Halloween faster than we can stock it. Christmas will be in full swing before we know it. Come on in to buy the first items out for the upcoming holidays. Crock pots casserole dishes and all your Thanksgiving needs at a low price.

Happy fall everyone.

Sarah McConnell - Store manager



RETAIL HOURS

- **Wednesdays** 10 am - 5 pm
- **Thursdays** 4 pm - 8 pm
- **Fridays** 10 am - 6 pm
- **Saturdays** 10 am - 5 pm

DONATION HOURS

- **Mondays, Tuesdays** 9 am - 3 pm
- **Wednesdays** 10 am - 5 pm
- **Thursdays** 9 am - 8 pm
- **Friday** 9 am - 6 pm
- **Saturdays** 10 am - 5 pm



Contact Us
+250-590-1750



Website
www.broadviewthriftstore.com



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

see page 15
for more details



+



present:

ONE NIGHT CHOIR

Queer & Trans Choir Project

FALL & WINTER 2025

what?

monthly themed one night choir
events for the 2SLGBTQIA+
community in so-called Victoria

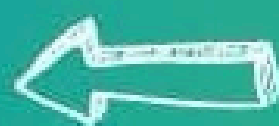
when?

Oct 29th 7-9pm
Nov 26th 7-9pm
Dec 10th 7-9pm

\$25-45
Sliding Scale
NOTAFLOF

where?

Broad View United, 3703 St. Aidan's St.



SIGN-UP FOR MONTHLY CHOIR
NIGHTS HERE!