

## Ready for the Fall....

### Get ready to be thankful!

As the days move toward Thanksgiving, don't just **talk** about Thanksgiving this year, invite people to show their gratitude! What are they thankful for? How can they share themselves, their material possessions, their money, as a way of saying "thanks"?



Interested in a Broadview magazine subscription?  
Our group rate is **\$30!**

Visit Traci in the office, before October 1, 2023, to submit your payment.

## Where's Julia???

In September, an invitation for me to go to Portugal was extended so I jumped at the opportunity. I will be away the first few weeks of September, returning to the office on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

At the end of October I will be on Retreat with a program I started this spring that will eventually lead to my designation as a Spiritual Director. I am excited by this opportunity to grow my knowledge and training. It will enhance my ability to be present to people and to provide further support. Following this intense week I will be on holiday for a week and then a week of study leave to prepare for Advent and Christmas.

We will have various people filling in for Pulpit Supply when I am away.

I will offer Bible Study this Fall, which is always a highlight for me and I am excited to be offering a "Write Your Life" Course on Wednesdays beginning at the end of September.



### Starting September 2023!

Bible Study - September 21 at 10:00

Write Your Life - September 27 at 6:00

Fall Sermon Series: **ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**

September 24th – October 22nd

Come and decide for yourself whether it's true...

Speaking of love ... got any 250 ml Mason jars  
you don't need?

The Harmony Group would **LOVE** a donation of them to use  
for their fundraisers this year!

Contact Marilyn Carlson if you wish to donate them!



## No Turkey Supper This Year

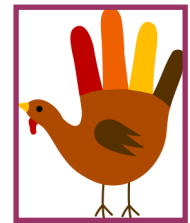
Okotoks United Church has put on a Turkey Supper for many, many years. It has been a cherished church and community tradition since the church was formed in the early 1900's. Hundreds of volunteer hours went into each year's supper, resulting in a great fundraiser and a joyful time of working together. Thank you for all you have contributed in time and money to this annual event.

However, in consultation with the Board, and, after looking at the rising cost of groceries and the diminishing financial return for our efforts, we have decided to cancel this year's turkey supper. We will continue to look at other smaller and more frequent fundraising opportunities which still make good use of our commercial kitchen and which we can accomplish with our current dedicated core of volunteers.

Stay tuned for how you can support the church through these events!

Karen Pryznyk and Karen Jones

Co-Coordination, Turkey Supper



*Support our Mission Possible partner!!*



**STRONG FOUNDATIONS  
HOPEFUL FUTURES**

**Saturday September 23 2023, 8:30am-11:00am**  
**Partners In Deed Annual Fundraiser at Gasline  
Alley Heritage Park**

**Tickets on sale:**

**<https://www.partnersindeed.com/strongfoundations>**



Building on the strong foundation of the past two decades, the partnership is looking forward to programs and initiatives that will bring hope and life to the families living in the D.R. communities. Chelo and Judith will be our D.R. guest speakers



## NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S UNITED

*Written by P. Marie Wedderburn*

On a sunny Sunday August 27th, over 45 people from St. Andrew's, Okotoks, and United Church in the Valley gathered outdoors at St. Andrew's. *(I know there were more than 45 people there because that is how many orders of service were printed and not everyone had their own copy!)*

We gathered in our lawn chairs and were accompanied by a small ukulele orchestra as we sang hymns and choruses. Before the service began we were greeted with the ringing of the church bell (which happens each Sunday before the service begins) but being outside it sounded very loud!

Julia read the scripture from Matthew 6:25-34 and then read the story written by Corrinne Averiss and Isabelle Follath entitled *Joy* where Fern wanted to bring joy into Nana's life with a whoosh. Following the service we gathered in groups to eat our lunch and enjoy one another's company with the three communities of faith. For dessert we were offered ice cream cones. People stayed for more conversations and thankfully the weather was good this particular Sunday.

On September 3rd, twelve of us gathered for worship. Unfortunately the person who was scheduled to lead worship was unable to make it to St. Andrew's so I lead an impromptu service and we sang the hymns that were on the order of service. I read the scripture included in the order of service from Matthew 16:21-28 where Jesus tells the disciples he must go to Jerusalem. We had a brief discussion about this scripture and had prayers. We thus had worship, though it was not the same as we expected when we entered the church that morning. What was the same was gathering together for worship and then fellowship downstairs after the service.

Submitted by Rev. Marie Wedderburn



### **Fundraiser! Homemade Pies for Sale**

Apple, Blueberry, Cherry Pies for Sale. Perfect for Thanksgiving (or earlier). Made by the wonderful pie-making sisters, Karen Jones and Pat Reader-Downy. \$25 per double-crust deep dish fruit pie. Frozen and ready to bake. Contact [karenpryznyk@gmail.com](mailto:karenpryznyk@gmail.com) to order.



**The Okotoks United Church Fireside Book Club** meets on the second Tuesday of each month September through June at 1:00 pm in the upstairs Boardroom. The books we will be reading and discussing for the 2023-2024 season can be found on the church website

If you are interested in joining our group please contact Janet Page at 587-363-5423. You are welcome to attend on a regular basis or simply if a book sounds like one you would like to read and participate in the discussion.

The Healing Ministry will resume as of September 18, 2023.

Sessions are available the **first and third** Monday of each month between **1:30 - 3:30 pm**.

To book a session, please contact **Gisela Dyck** at 403-938-2506



Choir practice is starting!!  
The Okotoks United Church Choir practices on Thursday Sept 14th at 7 pm in the sanctuary.

Okotoks United Church Office  
is open Monday to Friday

From 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

The office can be reached at [okunited@telus.net](mailto:okunited@telus.net) or 403-938-4357.

The Congregational Care Team invites you to reach out for confidential spiritual and compassionate care by email at:

If you have an **urgent pastoral care** need during Julia's absence, please call 403-336-3404.

## Pastoral Care

The Last three "Every Child Matters" tshirts are for sale!!!

We have 2 L and 1 XL left, each \$40!  
Contact the office if interested.



Laughter is good for the soul ...

At Sunday School they were learning how God created everything, including human beings. Johnny was especially intent when the teacher told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and said, "Johnny, what is the matter?"

Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."



Prayers:

Campbell-Stone  
Forestburg

