

September 3, 2026

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JUST LIKE THAT
SUMMER
FALLS INTO
September

Visit St Andrew's United Church website: Dewintonunitedchurch.ca



Looking for Rev Marco??

Monday and Tuesday are Rev. Marco's days off.

Rev. Marco is in the office **Wednesday to Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m**

Feel free to drop in, say hello, or stop by for a chat!

For a pastoral emergency, he can be reached by phone at **403-596-5676**.

Mission Possible

Information Meeting Cancelled!

We were looking at travelling in the March/April 2027 timeline but circumstances have arisen and the trip has been postponed until further notice. I apologize for the short notice. If you have any questions regarding information about a future trip - please contact Gary Dzurka @ [403-992-3334](tel:403-992-3334).

Foothills Spiritual Life Centre Update!

Our Foothills Spiritual Life Centre (FSLC) is pleased to announce that our new website is now up and running. Anything you want to know about our FSLC is there for you. Who we are, why we are, past events, and upcoming events are all available.

Please visit and enjoy our new website: www.foothillsspirituallifecentre.com

Just a word about our September events.

On Thursday, September 10 from 7 to 9 pm at our church we're very pleased to offer an evening to learn about the ancient Chinese practice of **Qi Gong**. Qi Gong practitioners Dianne Goldade and Wendy Dudley will show us the ways of this 5,000 year old practice of emotional healing, spiritual growth and development.

Our very popular monthly **Drumming Circle** is back at the church on Friday, September 11 from 7 to 9 pm. Gita Grahame will once again get our blood flowing with the beat of the drums.

On September 24 from 7 to 9 pm at the church Liz Rees, a Life Skills coach and Eco-minister will introduce us to the "**New Monasticism**" which is a way of naming the opportunity to grow, develop, and strengthen the human spirit to practice compassion and inclusion in our world.

Great events! Educational...challenging...fun. Hope to see you there.



What We Need to Know About the Oct 19 Referendum

The referendum coming October 19, 2026 poses 10 critical questions about Alberta's future.



Okotoks United Church will be hosting information sessions about the questions and helping people to either get to the polls or apply for a mail-in ballot. Four members of our congregation will be attending an orientation session for the Chinook Winds region at High River United Church on Friday, September 4th.

Electors can secure a Special Ballot by:

- ? Completing the online form at specialballot.elections.ab.ca
- ? Writing to info@elections.ab.ca
- ? Contacting the Returning Office for their electoral division starting September 21.

These are the questions for you to consider. They are taken directly from the Elections Alberta website.

As set out in the Orders in Council, the ten referendum questions to be put to the electors are as follows.

O.C. 110/2026 sets out the following questions and orders the results of the referendum on these questions are not to be binding. Electors will mark either "yes" or "no" for each question on their ballots.

1. ____ Yes ____ No Do you support the Government of Alberta taking increased control over immigration for the purposes of decreasing immigration to more sustainable levels, prioritizing economic migration and giving Albertans first priority on new employment opportunities?
2. ____ Yes ____ No Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law mandating that only Canadian citizens, permanent residents and individuals with an Alberta- approved immigration status will be eligible for provincially-funded programs, such as health care, education and other social services?
3. ____ Yes ____ No Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for social support programs as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring all individuals with a non-permanent legal immigration status to reside in Alberta for at least 12 months before qualifying for any provincially-funded social support programs?

October 19th Referendum (cont'd)

4. ____ Yes ____ No Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for public health care and education as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta charging a reasonable fee or premium to individuals with a non-permanent immigration status living in Alberta for their and their family's use of the healthcare and education systems?

5. ____ Yes ____ No Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring individuals to provide proof of citizenship, such as a passport, birth certificate or citizenship card, to vote in an Alberta provincial election?

- ____ Yes ____ No Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to allow provinces to opt out of federal programs that intrude on provincial jurisdiction such as health care, education, and social services, without a province losing any of the associated federal funding for use in its social programs?

9. ____ Yes ____ No Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to better protect provincial rights from federal interference by giving a province's laws dealing with provincial or shared areas of constitutional jurisdiction priority over federal laws when the province's laws and federal laws conflict?

O.C. 160/2026 sets out the following question and orders the results of the referendum on this question are not to be binding. Electors will mark an "x" next to the options of their choice on their ballots.

10. Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?

____ Option 1: Alberta should remain a province of Canada.

____ Option 2: The Government of Alberta should commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada

Please read the questions and come to the information sessions with any questions or concerns you may have.

The dates of the information sessions will be announced shortly.



**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED
CHURCH, DEWINTON**

CASSIE & MAGGIE

JUNO
nominated!



(SUN), OCTOBER 4, 2026

2:00 PM

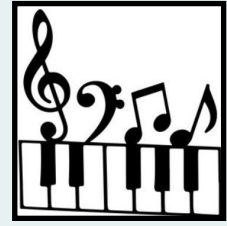
\$35.00 PER PERSON

TICKETS THROUGH

DEWINTONUNITEDCHURCH@GMAIL.COM

ETRANSFER OR CONTACT FOR INFO

We are looking for an Accompanist!



Do you enjoy singing hymns? Do you enjoy listening to music as you enter the sanctuary or as you sit quietly at the end of the service? What about those choir anthems that bring special music to our worship?

All of these require an accompanist. Both Joanna and Sophia have now returned to school. Shirle has graciously stepped in to fill the role, but this is a temporary solution.

We need your help in hiring a new accompanist. Experience has shown us that this contract is best filled by word of mouth. If you have any connections to piano teachers in the area could you help us by sharing our job posting with them? They might be interested in the position for themselves or they may have a student who would be interested. If you can help please talk to Sally Salter or Pat Reader-Downey.

Copies of the contract description are available through Sally or Traci in the office. The start date for this contract is flexible, but sooner is better.

Thanks to everyone who has great fundraising ideas for Okotoks United Church.
Your enthusiasm and creativity is so appreciated.
These events not only raise money but also build community.

We are keeping track of these fundraising events by asking planners to fill out a fundraising event application. Traci has the applications in the office. They include a copy of the OUC Fundraising Policy as a guide. Office hours start at 10 am weekdays.



**Drop off your donations of games
and puzzles for the
Harmony Group at the church office
from 10 am to noon, Monday to Friday.**



**Seeking physical, mental or spiritual healing?
Come try a healing session!**

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



WELCOMING
WEEK

FREE MOVIE EVENT: BLINDED BY THE LIGHT

COME CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY DURING
WELCOMING WEEK AT A FREE MOVIE EVENT!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

DOORS OPEN: 6:30 PM

OKOTOKS CINEMAS

100 Stockton Ave



**FREE
POPCORN
& POP!**



SCAN TO GET MOVIE
TICKETS:



**Please
consider
bringing shelf-
stable food
donation for
Rowan House
Society**



ROWAN
HOUSE
SOCIETY



Funded by:

Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



At the August 23rd service nine of us who regularly worship at St. Andrew's United joined with Okotoks United worshippers at Okotoks. The service was led by Amy Haynes. At the beginning of the service during the announcement time, a gift was presented to Sophia Su for her musical ministry with the pastoral charge this summer. Following this presentation, we were introduced to Rev. Marco Ste-Marie by the chair of the Joint Search Committee upon which Marco spoke for a couple of minutes before we once again heard Amy. Amy read the scripture Romans 8:12-26 which speaks of being led by the Spirit. Amy's message was entitled "Holy Anticipation." As practitioners of faith, we are called forward as the church to practice our faith in the presence of the resurrection as God continues always to be intimately present in our lives as we are led by the Spirit.

On Wednesday, August 26th, nineteen people gathered at St. Andrew's United to greet Marco and welcome him to 'The little church with a big heart.' As we shared food and conversation Marco was able to speak with us around the tables. Thanks to Wilma for organizing this important event, for all who brought food, for Mark for taking pictures, and for Marco for being amongst us for the first time in his ministry.

The August 30th service saw twenty-two worshippers gather with Marco for his first service with us at St. Andrew's United. Marco told us that we are the third St. Andrew's United he has ministered with in his ministry. This service was our first service without bulletins as the service was on the overhead. The scripture reading was Psalm 126 which says in verse six "Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves." Marco entitled his message "Carrying Seeds." He spoke of remembering the past because it is sacred but continuing forward as God's work through us continues and is still becoming. As we remember we continue to keep becoming for we are responsible for sowing the seeds we carry with us. We are not to be ashamed of any tears for as we sow the seeds we participate together with joy as the 'sheaves' are gathered. For we continue to do this together as 'the little church with a big heart.'

- P. Marie Wedderburn

How To Love Yourself - September Edition

Write yourself a love letter/Pick up a childhood hobby/Take yourself out to dinner/Create a gratitude list/Explore a new place/
Say "I am enough" three times each day. 😊



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 COMMEMORATIVE GATHERING

Saturday September 12, 2026

Site Opens at 12 PM Event begins at 1:00 PM

**Theme: Common Ground — Walking Forward Together
Along the Bow**

This Alberta Culture Days gathering honours the signing of Treaty 7 on September 22, 1877, and invites us to come together in a spirit of reconciliation, shared understanding, and community. As we walk along the Bow, we reflect on the land, our shared history, and the river that has long sustained life and connection in this region.

- **Program** begins at 1:00 including İyârhe Stoney dancers and drummers
- Take a **Self Guided Tour** of our new Interpretive Trail at your own pace before the Event
or
- Join us on a **Guided Tour**: starting at 2:30 PM.

Visitor Info:

- Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy walking shoes.
- Please bring a lawnchair.
- **Note:** Walking tours may not be suitable for everyone due to distance or to uneven terrain.

Alberta Culture Days
Discover • Experience • Celebrate

**Saturday
September 12**

**Site opens at 12 pm
Event begins at 1 pm**

**At Historic
Morleyville, site of
the old McDougall
Memorial Church**

**Hwy 1A
27 km west of Cochrane
or
4 km east of Mini Thni
(Morley)**

**Family Event
Everyone Welcome**

Please RSVP to
admin@mcdougallstoneymission.com
to help us plan for numbers

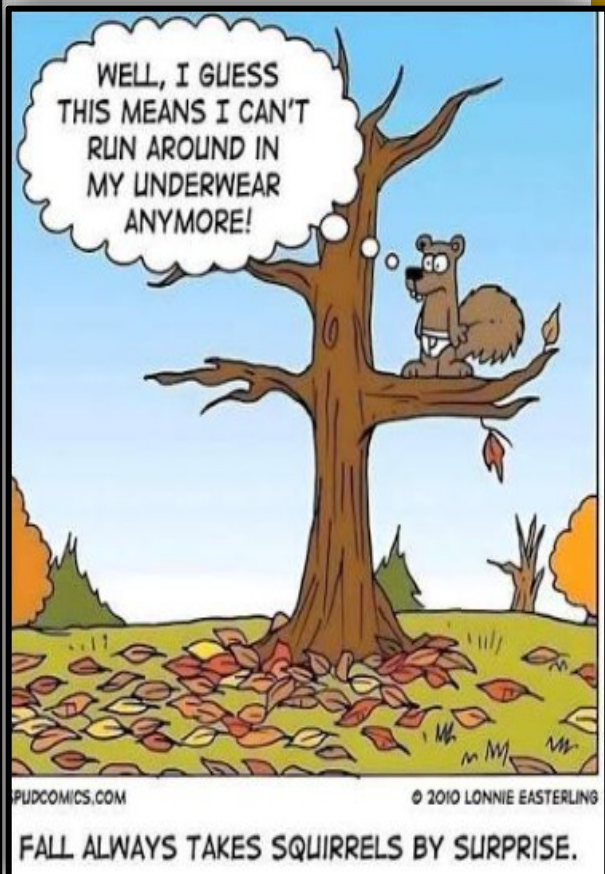
Isniyes!



**MCDUGALL STONEY
MISSION SOCIETY**

mcdougallstoneymission.com





Laughter .. not only the best medicine but the cheapest.