

WE CAN CONNECT



VOL. 1, ISSUE 14

JUNE 19, 2020

Visits with the Vicar on the Veranda

Julia is now available for **Visits with the Vicar on the Veranda** *Tuesday to Friday* from **1-3 p.m.** These will be physically distanced visits for anyone needing a little time to get out, catch up or just share what's on your heart and mind. They will be 45 minutes visits with time for prayer. All are welcome.

A cozy space on the veranda will be set up so you can come up the ramp of the veranda and sit in the chairs provided. Julia will come out the front door and join you. Please bring your own beverage and a warm jacket in the event of cooler weather.

Please call to make an appointment to visit - (403)938-4357 or (403)702-2249.

Look forward to seeing you.



Please Pray For:



- Food banks and their volunteers
- Postal workers
- Utility workers
- For people who live by themselves
- People who have lost aging parents
- Kids who are home schooling and their parents
- Maskwacis

Please refer to our website www.okunited.ca for updated information, links to the newsletter and Daily Faith videos.

SUMMER Daily FAITH (Faith Alive In The Home)

Many of you have been receiving links to the **Daily FAITH** Videos sent out by Julia and Matthew. Joanne and Shirle are putting links to the videos on the Okotoks and De Winton websites if you missed them. If you wish to see any of the videos, you can access them all at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/U1znsr-w/videos>

We are now on our **summer** Daily FAITH schedule where you will receive two videos per week (Sunday and Thursday), plus perhaps a few random "guest" videos. Matthew will be off for several weeks over the summer to complete his final year of studies and to take a little break.

If you would like a summer Daily FAITH booklet for your use throughout the week please pick one up at the Okotoks office or let us know and we will get one to you.

If you would like to comment or have a question about Daily FAITH, you can continue to use the dailyfaithvids@gmail.com address.

Thank you for your sponsorship of Daily FAITH videos. Your support has greatly helped each of the congregations. Sponsorship of the Daily FAITH ministry still continues through contacting the Okotoks office at okunited@telus.net or calling 403-938-4357.

Okotoks United Church Office - We're here for you!

The office continues to remain open at this time **Monday to Friday 9:00 - 2:00**. Please contact Diane at okunited@telus.net or 403-938-4357 for church related news.

Please contact Julia at okjulia@telus.net or 403-702-2249 (cell) at any time.

Congregational Care Team invites you to reach out for confidential spiritual and compassionate care by email at: okcongregationalcare@telus.net

Sally & Dean watched these beautiful creatures being born



“We watched these babies being born in the green space behind our house last Monday morning. This picture was taken later in the afternoon. It was just an amazing and joyful experience to watch the birth and to see these young fawns literally stretch their legs under Mom’s watchful eye.”

FAITH is like WI-FI.



It's invisible, but it has the power to connect you to what you need.

How are you spending your time?

Would you like to send in photos of how they are spending their time during COVID-19. gardening, hiking, sewing, reading. It would be nice to "see" people and what they're doing. Or we could send a photographer around and take pics of them waving from their window or balcony. If you need someone to take your picture we have a volunteer who will help you out. Email your photos to okunited@telus.net so they can be added to the newsletter.



On-line Worship Services

If you would are interested in viewing live worship services, please go to this link:

<https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/being-community/worship-online-during-covid-19>

Kid's Ministry Zoom Program Days and Times:

Sunday School, Sundays 11:00 am
Activities, stories, check-in and prayer

Youth Group, Fridays 7:00 pm
Games, check-in and discussions

For Zoom meeting numbers and passwords for these events, please email Candice at cndcsutton@gmail.com

Foothills Community Immigration Society - In Need of Homemade Masks

Nancy Risdon with **Foothills Community Immigration Services (FCIS)** is reaching out to local churches to see if there is anyone still making masks to donate? We have two needs:

1. Okotoks Foodbank is in need of homemade masks to give out with food hampers
2. FCIS is in need of masks to be able to provide to clients if they need them. We are looking at going back to the office soon and hope to be able to have masks available for newcomer clients if they are in need.

If you are able to assist in this cause, please let us know in the office and we will pass the information along: okunited@telus.net or 403-938-4357

Public Service Announcement for Seniors:

During the week of July 6, all recipients of Old Age Security will receive an additional \$300 and recipients of the Guaranteed Income supplement will receive an additional \$200. One of our seniors mentioned that she doesn't actually need this money and feels it could be better used by a charity. We thought that was a great idea! Many charities are struggling to fulfill their mandate during the COVID-19 outbreak and could use our help. Please choose a charity that you trust. Do not respond to a telephone or door-to-door campaign as it may be a scam. People know that seniors are receiving a bit of extra money and may try to take advantage of them.

National Indigenous People's Day

This Sunday, June 21st, is **National Indigenous People's Day**. The holiday, which began in 1996 and was originally called National Aboriginal Day, is meant to recognize and highlight the culture, diversity and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities. The Canadian Constitution recognizes these three groups as Aboriginal peoples, also known as Indigenous peoples.

Although these groups share many similarities, they each have their own distinct heritage, language, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

Each year, across the country, First People's celebrate their culture and heritage on this day due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year. Often large celebration of dancing, drumming, singing and special feasts mark the occasion but this year will be different with the restrictions on gatherings and celebrations being curtailed by the CoVid-19 pandemic.

Even so, you are invited to celebrate our Indigenous People's in your own way as we continue to seek peace, acceptance and reconciliation with our brothers and sisters of the land. Perhaps seek to learn more about this day or find a way to do a little research on local Indigenous groups. Our faith community resides in Treaty 7. Maybe you could learn more about the Treaties.

Tony Snow, our Coordinator for Indigenous Right Relations in the **Chinook Winds** Region, has produced a video outlining some of our history. He is a candidate for ministry from Chinook Winds as is his brother John Snow, who will be ordained this Fall. Both of them feature in this video. I encourage you to take a look as we celebrate this special day:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BE8SE8fF2Ds&t=27s>



Indigenous Peoples Day

A History - YouTube

June 21st is National Indigenous People's Day. The story of this day is embedded in the spiritual gathering called the Indian Ecumenical Conference held at Stoney Park in Morley Alberta in the ...

www.youtube.com

There is also a session on the Region's Youtube Channel if you are interested. This was offered to clergy last Friday:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVII5wMU5TkAVwgqyhzGQhg?view_as=subscriber

School Lunch Program Update:

Click on this link to read a very interesting article that was published on the Chinook Winds Region's Website:

<https://chinookwindsregion.ca/2020/06/05/okotoks-united-church-lunch-program-adapts-to-childrens-current-needs/>