

## **2017 UNITED CHURCH CALENDARS FOR SALE**

This year's calendar will be available for purchase each Sunday at our Mission Possible Table as well as through Denyse at the Church Office during the week. Calendars are \$10.00 each and all proceeds will go to our projects in the Dominican Republic.



**Sunday  
December 18, 2016**

## **COUPLES DINNER CLUB**

Join a couples dinner club  
A dinner club is made up of 3 or 4 couples.  
we meet in each others homes for 3 or 4 months  
then you rotate between groups so you can meet others.  
So it is Time to rotate again. Starting in January Buy 1 get 2 free  
this is a great way to meet new friends in your church  
Would love to have you!  
Hurry email me at [carolkeen@shaw.ca](mailto:carolkeen@shaw.ca)  
or call 403-982-2847

## **OUC FIRESIDE BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month in the Fireside Room at 7:00 p.m., unless it falls on a statutory holiday, then we automatically move to the following Monday.

2017 dates:

January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, 2017

If you enjoy reading - please join us.  
Any questions, call Sharon Parsons at 403 995 4373.

## **CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS**

Please note that the Church office will be closed from  
December 26, 2016 to January 2, 2017.

For emergencies that can't wait until January 2,  
please contact Julia directly at (403) 702-2249.

## **SERVICES FOR THE SEASON**

**TODAY Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.**  
**De Winton Candlelight & Communion Service**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Okotoks Family Christmas Eve Service**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 p.m.**  
**Okotoks Candlelight & Communion Service**

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m.**  
**Okotoks Christmas Service**

## **JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!**

Okotoks United Church congregation members are planning to host Christmas Day dinner after the Christmas Day service at our church. There is a sign up sheet on the community bulletin board in the Foyer or email [jodyconnors@gmail.com](mailto:jodyconnors@gmail.com). Please indicate how many of your party will attend, and if you are able to bring a dish for dinner.

We will have turkey and all of the fixings along with social time, games, and good conversation. All are welcome to join, bring your friends and neighbours, and come! You can come cook with others at the church or prepare food at home to bring to the church. If you would like to contribute food but are not able to cook, let Jody Connors know and we can arrange for it to be prepared. If you can't bring any food to share you are still more than welcome to join in!

**Merry Christmas!**

## KIDS & YOUTH MINISTRY

December

Dec-18 Kid's Christmas Party  
Dec 25 No Kid's Ministry

## LADIES RETREAT

Would you like a break from the craziness of life and have some fun, fellowship, relaxation, fresh air, time for you. Consider attending the Ladies "Transformation" Retreat at beautiful Kings Fold Retreat Centre, 30 minutes northwest of Cochrane on highway 40.

**June 16-18, 2017 - only a few beds left!**

**Registration and payment no later than March 12, 2017  
Cost is \$225.00 includes shared room, meals etc.**

**Spouses, what a great Christmas gift, a gift of time for herself!**

Save your nickels (cause there are no pennies)! With Rev. Julia facilitating this is sure to be rejuvenating retreat and may fill up fast. Be sure to add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Call Linda Wilson at 403-862-3609 for any questions.**

## BLESSING OTHER CHURCHES

The church is much bigger than each individual community.  
We are always blessed when we are able to help our neighbouring faith communities.

Recently we were able to give our used photocopier to Airdrie United Church and they were delighted with the gift. Here is the note sent to us:

*"On behalf of the Official Board of Airdrie United Church,  
Thank you for our new to us Photocopier. J  
Your kindness and generosity of giving us your gently used  
machine is amazing. Thank you again. "*

Lori Helston  
Chair of the Official Board  
Airdrie United Church

We have also given Vulcan United Church some leftover bulletin covers and offering envelopes we are unable to use. They are deeply grateful.

We seek to be a generous congregation that supports our neighbouring communities through whatever gifts we have to share. And we have always found that the blessings we receive in return are greater than anything we can give.

## OUC 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**Okotoks United Church has been in ministry since 1917  
serving members of Okotoks and the surrounding areas.**

The Centennial Committee would like to know if you have any photos, church documents or artifacts that are relevant to our history. Please contact Joanne at 403-938-3945 or dzurkaj@xplor.net.ca by December 31, 2016 if you have something to share.

## WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

**Thanks to the generosity of our congregation we collected over \$1600.00 in gift cards! These will go a long way in helping those in need who come through our doors looking for assistance.**

**Thank you!**

## HEALING PATHWAY MINISTRY HOURS

The Healing Ministry will provide sessions on the **first and third Monday of each month from 1-4pm.**

Please contact Gisela Dyck at (403) 938-2506.

## FAVOURITE HYMNS

In 2017 Okotoks United Church celebrates 100 years in this community and looks forward as we move into the second century as a United and Uniting church. During this centennial year we will look back and forward through worship music and Historical Moments of our faith community. We will be learning some of our newer hymns in **More Voices**. We also want to sing some of your **favourite hymns** over the years. We will have a box in the foyer for you to place your favourite hymns choices and throughout the year we will sing these in our worship services. If the hymn is not in our hymn book, please put it in and we'll make every effort to find it.