

Kids' Ministry

Schedule for April 2019

April 7 - What is Palm Sunday?

April 12 - Youth Group

April 14 - Palm Sunday

April 21 - Easter Sunday

April 28 - The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit



Prayer Boxes

We now have prayer boxes on our two candle-lighting/prayer stations on either side of the sanctuary. We have also placed prayer cards in the pockets of the chairs. If you have a prayer request, please use the prayer cards and place them in the prayer boxes. All prayers will be forwarded to the prayer group. If you wish to have the prayers published in the bulletin or a card sent to someone, please check the appropriate box on the prayer card. If a card is requested please put the address of the person who will receive the card in the space provided. The cards must be folded before being placed in the prayer box. Please fold with personal information on the inside of the card.



Join Julia for a Walk

Every Tuesday from 9 - 10 Julia will be walking at the Crescent Point Regional Field House. Join her and others for a walk and a chat.

Announcements Sunday, April 7, 2019

This Week...

Monday- Healing Ministry, Healing Ministry Room - 1:00 - 4:00

Thursday - Bible Study - Conference Room - 10:00 - 11:30 am - all are welcome

Thursday - Choir Practice - Sanctuary - 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Friday - Youth Group - Sanctuary - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Urgent Appeal for Southern Africa

Cyclone Idai swept through Southern Africa in March 2019, leaving terrible disaster in its wake. Severe flooding and devastation has affected an estimated 2.6 million people in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The current official death toll is 350; that number is expected to rise exponentially, particularly in Mozambique. United Church Mission & Service partner ACT Alliance, together with local partners, are assessing the impact of the crisis on the ground in order to provide immediate assistance, minimize loss of life, and ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are met. The United Church sent an initial contribution of \$20,000 to partners and is launching a church-wide appeal to respond to massive emergency needs and support eventual rehabilitation and rebuilding. Immediate priorities are basic food items, potable water and water purification tablets, blankets, clothing, soap, medical items and mosquito nets.

From Zimbabwe, Mission & Service partner **The Zimbabwe Council of Churches** writes: "We count ourselves blessed that The United Church of Canada have us in remembrance as we battle to respond to a crisis that keeps getting worse by the day as the extent of destruction to lives, property and livelihoods becomes clear."

Please go to the following website to contribute. If you are unable to do this, please give a contribution to the church in an envelope marked "Cyclone Idai" and we will make sure the donation gets to the right place. <https://www.united-church.ca/cyclone-idai>

It's Time to Sing!

We would love to have you come sing with us. Practices are held Thursday nights at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary at the church. All are welcome, no matter your musical ability. We love to just have fun!



U of A Mixed Chorus needs billets April 30th.

Billets are needed for one evening on April 30th to provide bed and breakfast for the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus (UAMC). They will be doing a fundraiser at Okotoks United Church on April 30th. If you can billet one or two people it would be greatly appreciated. Please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule. This year is the 75th anniversary of the UAMC going on tour.

As well as singers, this choir includes the Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers. This group has grown to become one of the largest and most renowned handbell choirs in North America. All proceeds from the concert and Intermission snacks will go to Okotoks United Church.

U of A Mixed Chorus Concert - April 30th

Tickets are now available for the U of A Mixed Chorus Concert scheduled for April 30th and will be sold before and after Sunday services - please see Amy in the foyer for your tickets. Also, tickets will be available in the office Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. The cost of the tickets is \$15.00.

Healing Ministry

The Healing Ministry will provide sessions on the first and third Monday of each month from 1 to 4pm. Please contact Gisela Dyck at 403-938-2506.



Congregational Care Team

Reaching out, supporting, encouraging and compassionately caring for one another is part of being a faith community. Sometimes, regardless of age or life stage, we all need help and support to get through life's challenges. And so, we serve one another through kindness, humility, patience and gentleness - always aware of God's great love. Our Congregational Care Team invites you to reach out for our confidential spiritual and compassionate care, contact okcongregationalcare@telus.net, Rev. Jonelle at 403 650-5166 or the church office at 403 938-4357.



Camp Caravan

Camp Caravan is a summer day-camp program for children in preschool to grade 6. Children will explore ways in which they can experience God's love and "Follow the Spirit" in their everyday lives, all while building friendships and having fun.

WHEN? JULY 8-12

Okotoks United Church

Cost? \$125/child.

Financial support is available! We do not turn children away! (Speak to Julia). Please see poster on Bulletin Board for more information.

Join us on our journey to discover God's exciting gifts and love!

Gospel Night

Come and listen as many choirs from the Foothills present Gospel Night. An evening of Gospel and Praise Music. Free concert **Sunday April 14th, 7 pm Okotoks United Church**. All are welcome!

AFFIRMING MINISTRY

Okotoks United Church is currently engaged in the **Affirming Process**. This will allow us to discern our desire to be a church that affirms and welcomes all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. The process is one of education, conversation and discernment and invites everyone to participate in the process. The process will take as long as it needs to. The Affirming Team is: Madison Carlson, Jody Connors, Logan Walker and Julia Kimmett. Please speak to any one of us with your questions, comments or concerns. We welcome all views.

Say Cheese! Photo Directory

A photo directory really helps us get to know each other better. Putting a name to a face can make someone feel welcome in our community of faith. So put on a smile and line up for your photo! The next photos will be taken after Sunday services April 7th, 14th and 28th.



Gourmet Mac & Cheese Lunch

When: Wednesday, April 24th Time: Noon - 1:00
Where: Crystal Ridge Golf Club Tickets: \$30/person
Hope you will join us to raise funds for the Okotoks Food Bank to purchase meat for their clients. Lunch is ready by 11:45am. Bring your staff and friends for a fun Spring Luncheon. Call Sandi Kennedy at 403-710-4200 for tickets. This event is sponsored by the Okotoks Rotary Club. See you at the lunch!

2019 Easter Events and Services

Palm Sunday, April 14

Maundy Thursday, April 18 - Table Talk

Pot Luck, finger food. Come for 6:00 pm and hear what the disciples might have said around the table. Share Communion and foot/hand washing

Good Friday Service, April 19 at 10:45 a.m.

Easter Sunday Services – April 21

7:00 a.m. – Sunrise Service at Big Rock
(Glacier Erratic) on Hwy 7 towards Black Diamond

Easter Breakfast (Okotoks) following Sunrise Service

DeWinton Easter Service - Communion 9:00 a.m.

Okotoks Easter Service - Communion 10:45 a.m.