

WE CAN CONNECT



Please Pray For:

- Crossfield United Church

Light a Flame for a Guaranteed Livable Income



[In this video](#), Moderator Richard Bott invites you to join the call for a Guaranteed Livable Income and contact our Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. This [Thursday, April 8](#) is a chance to make this call visible; plan to light a candle, take a picture, and post publicly on social media

(#UCCanlivableincome, #BasicIncome, #UCCan) in solidarity with more than

40 vigils being held online and in person across the country. Due to COVID-19, the vigils are restricted to locally designated individuals, and plans will be adjusted if needed. You can read more on the [GLI webpage](#).

To check out Moderator Richard Bott's message in the video, just click on the picture above.

POSITION OPEN ON THE CHINOOK WINDS REGION COMMUNITY OF FAITH STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

The group meets, typically via Zoom, on a monthly basis. The workload is intentionally kept focused and reasonably light. The biggest task is the annual Mission Grant funding proposal process each Fall.

The following is a description of the working group from the Chinook Winds Website. The Regional Council is responsible for encouraging and engaging in:

- Joining our collective hearts, voices, and resources to witness the gospel and vision of Jesus for a compassionate and just society, both in Canada and around the world;
- Local, regional, national, and global initiatives and partnerships (community, ecumenical, and interfaith) for ministry, mission, and justice work;
- Ministry with children, youth, and young adults
- Honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry;
- Living in covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.
- Working Group and Community of Faith Tools, Processes, and Resources have been designed that progress the Purpose.

Please contact Karen Pryzynek if you are interested in this volunteer position.



As we prepare for the start of our ministry partnership, we thought it would be fun to spend some time *Getting to Know Your Ministers!* For the next few months, Rev. Julia and Matthew will independently respond to a series of questions. In fact, what would **YOU** like to know about Matthew and Julia? Email the office your questions, and they'll do their best to answer them!

Matthew:

How many years have you served in paid accountable ministry? **5 ½ years here in Turner Valley, along with five months as a UCC Overseas Personnel in Colombia.**

What inspired you to go into ministry? **In short, the Season 2 Finale of *The West Wing* was the ultimate push for me to consider starting the process of discernment.**

What would you like to be if you weren't a minister? **A Public Librarian!**

Vulnerability is... **taking a risk for the sake of connection.**

You're called to do something brave, but your fear is real. What's the first thing you do?

I take a moment to remember what is truly in my circle of control.

What is something that people often get wrong about you? **That, since I'm quite approachable and sociable, I *must* be an extravert. In fact, I'm actually highly introverted!**

Julia:

How many years have you served in paid accountable ministry? **30 this year (longer than Matthew has been on earth). I started as a Staff Associate at Central United in Calgary in 1991, then became a student minister in 2007 and was Ordained to Okotoks United in 2012.**

What inspired you to go into ministry? **I felt called to ministry when I was confirmed at age 14. I put it aside for a long time. When I reconnected with that call in 1990, I went through discernment a couple of times before I finally decided to move forward and go back to school.**

What would you like to be if you weren't a minister? **A carpenter. I love working with my hands and especially building things. There's such a sense of satisfaction in that.**

Vulnerability is... **Being completely who you are in all circumstances and letting the world know who that is.**

You're called to do something brave, but your fear is real. What's the first thing you do? **Sit quietly to breathe, pray, think and clarify what needs to be done. Then I will call someone to test what I've heard in that quiet time.**

What is something that people often get wrong about you? **That I'm an extrovert. I don't like large social gatherings. I can be friendly and outgoing but I get my energy from being quiet and alone. When I am home it is silent – no music, radio or television. Just quiet. A week-**



NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Written by P. Marie Wedderburn



On Easter Sunday afternoon in the midst of the rain showers/snow flurries some of us went to the church to collect our Easter gift bags. (If anyone was unable to get to the church to collect theirs, the rest of the 36 gift bags and 41 postcards will have been delivered to their place of residence by a couple of Easter bunnies.)

What was in your Easter gift bag? Mine contained some soap; an addressed and stamped church postcard for us to write a message on and mail; an Easter pencil and eraser; a cross to assemble; a package of hand wipes; a home-made mask; hand lotion; two plastic Easter eggs with chocolates enclosed; and a Dutch iris bulb for us to plant.

Thanks to those who contributed items for the Easter bags, to those who handed them out at the church, and to those who delivered the bags to those who could not make it to the church on Easter Sunday afternoon. Once again we continued to show that we are indeed the "little church with the big heart."

Spring is in the air!

DeWinton United Church will be doing the flower fundraiser this year. Due to limitations from the supplier one size of hanging basket will be available to purchase. It is an 11 inch hanging basket. The delivery day will be determined at a later date but will be in mid May. The price is \$22 dollars.

If you are interested in ordering any plants please email Bonnie Campbell at bcampbell2244@gmail.com or call her at 587-226-3839 with any orders. If you could get your orders into her by **April 18th** that would be great. You can pay for your orders day of or drop the money off or e-transfer the church or drop off at my house 435 Cimarron Blvd. Thanks for your support. If you have any question feel to call Bonnie or drop her an email.



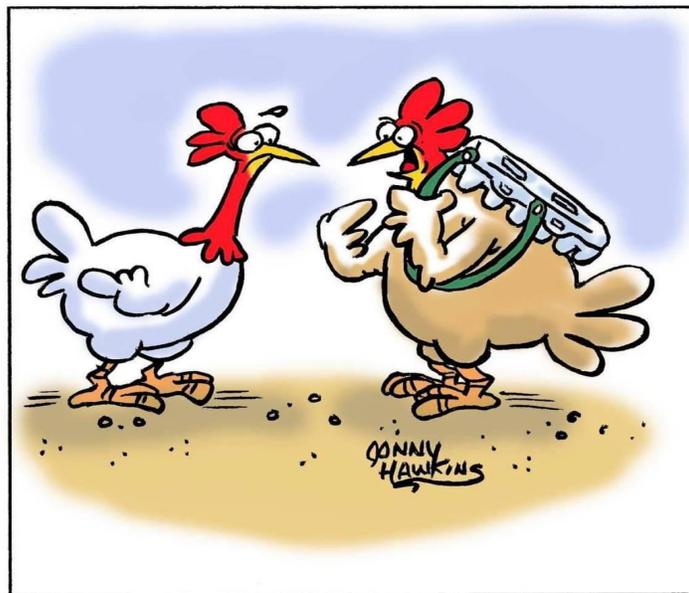


FOR THE LOVE OF CREATION

Concerned about the climate? Want to learn more and involve your faith community? Mark your calendars and [register](#) to attend a United Effort for the Love of Creation Zoom spring 2021 session! The conversation will be hosted by members of the United Church Climate Advisory Circle and General Council Office staff. It's a chance to receive updates from and share experiences with Faithful Climate Conversations, Faith-in-Action advocacy effort and theological reflection, and gear up for Earth Day.

When: Monday April 12, at 1:00 p.m. PDT, 2:00 p.m. MDT/CST, 3:00 p.m. CDT, 4:00 p.m. EDT, 5:00 p.m. ADT, and 5:30 p.m. NDT.

Country Chuckles by Jonny Hawkins



**“And I found this neat infant carrier that
seats a family of 12!”**

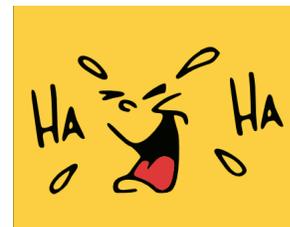


Sunday, April 11th – Holy Humour Sunday

The Sunday after Easter has sometimes been celebrated as “Holy Humour” Sunday.

This year, on April 11th, we will be joining together to share funny stories and clean jokes.

So start collecting. We can all use a bit of laughter in our lives.



KID'S KORNER:

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON APRIL 11TH.

Play,
Learn
and
Grow...
Together!

Spring Jacket Racket - Help Needed:

We have a number of bags of spring jackets that need washing. If you would like to help out by taking a bag home, washing and drying the contents and returning it please stop by and pick one up from the Nursery. When you bring the bag back it will be tagged with a “Cleaned” sticker. Thanks for your help with this!



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.

To contact Julia email her at okjulia@telus.net or phone her at 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

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