

Connections

Welcome Matthew!

As many of you know, starting in August we will be joined by our new minister, Rev. Matthew Heesing, who was recently ordained and will be sharing duties with Julia going forward. We are so excited to welcome Matthew into our church family and look forward to re-opening so that you all can get to know him as well!



Consequently, there is a new schedule of availability for both Julia and Matthew starting in September.

***Please note that neither Julia nor Matthew are available for appointments between 8-10 as this time will be dedicated to focused preparation.**

Julia

Okotoks

Monday: 8-11

Wednesday: 8-3

Thursday: 8-3

Diamond Valley

Tuesday: 8-3

Matthew

Okotoks

Monday: 8-3

Tuesday: 8-3

Wednesday: 8-3

Diamond Valley

Thursday: 8-3

***In terms of location, both Julia and Matthew's hours on Sundays will be slightly less regular and subject to change, but typically will be between 8-12.**

Ministers on Call

Starting on **Sunday, August 1st** there will be a **new on call phone number** for phoning or texting a minister for *urgent* pastoral emergencies. Julia and Matthew will share one phone for this purpose and will alternate carrying the phone. This means that when you call or text this number you may get either Matthew or Julia. Please use this number for urgent church-related calls. Otherwise, you may call them during regular office hours for any other church-related concerns.

The new **Minister's On Call number** is: **403-807-9432**

Please keep this number handy for future reference!

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NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Written by P. Marie Wedderburn

Once again on Sunday morning we met as a community of faith with eleven participants. As we spoke with one another we heard of how we are doing and of any recent happenings in our individual lives.

Later eight of us joined with Okotoks to hear the service where Rev. Justin McNeill delivered the message centred around bread. One of the questions that Justin asked was how we feed one another for our continuing work for justice and equity in our world. And after the service, Karen asked those of us who stayed for a few moments "How is your spirit fed at this time?" How we answer these questions daily remains vital for our community of faith as we now transition into a time of shared ministry between Okotoks-DeWinton Pastoral Charge and Diamond Valley Pastoral Charge.

And once again, I would like to thank both Mark for hosting and leading the gathering for St. Andrew's and Karen for hosting and leading the service at Okotoks during the month of July. Your leadership is much appreciated.

Prayers

- ◆ Westminster United Church
- ◆ Noreen Milburn and family
- ◆ Jonelle McLellan - health issues
- ◆ Brian Corson- health issues

Worship for the month of July

De Winton will continue with its regular gatherings at 9:30 on Sundays through July.

Okotoks will gather at 10:30 on Sundays for worship and a sermon delivered by a variety of guests.



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CHURCH REOPENING

We know you are all anxious to be back gathered together here soon. As it stands right now, we will continue with online worship for the next while. Our board will meet August 11th to decide on the opening process for our church. We want to thank you for your patience and your commitment to keeping our church family safe and healthy over the last year and a half.

Kid's Korner:

The Children and Youth Programs will take a break for July and August. We wish the kids and their families a safe and happy summer and look forward to seeing them all again in the Fall. Maybe even in person!

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

To contact **Julia** email her at okjulia@telus.net. To contact **Matthew** email him at matthew.heesing@gmail.com. Both can be reached with number for the church office listed below during regular hours.

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.

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.