



July 10, 2025



**T**hank you to all those who contribute, share, support and lead in creating a building, a church and a community hub that is a safe, happy, engaged and spiritual place.

It would not be the wondrous place it is without your time, talent and treasure.



Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OkotoksUnited>  
Visit St Andrew's United Church website: [Dewintonunitedchurch.ca](http://Dewintonunitedchurch.ca)

## We're hiring!

With the announcement of Sophia's return to school, Okotoks United Church is seeking an accompanist on a contract basis beginning late August or early September 2025.

This contract provides accompanist services to enhance our worship services and celebrations with the gift of music.



The primary responsibility of this contract is to be the accompanist for our Sunday worship services, including accompanying the church choir and attending choir practices. There may be opportunities to play for additional events.

The primary skills we are looking for include:

- \* Superior piano skills and musical education
- \* Strong technical skills including sight reading and the ability to adjust to different repertoires and musical styles

This role is well suited to a senior piano student with excellent sight reading skills, a local piano teacher or a person with similar experience and interest.

**Does this pique your interest or do you know someone who might be a perfect fit?** If so contact the church office or Sally Salter for further information or a copy of the contract description.

With summer upon us, we are hoping to review applications and conduct interviews in August.

**You are a note in the music of the Universe.**

**We need every note for the great music.**

**Join us after service,  
Sunday July 13,  
to celebrate  
Sundae July birthdays!**



### **The Okotoks Fireside Book Club**

2nd Tuesday of each month,  
at 1:00 pm in the Boardroom.

**Check the church website to see  
what we're reading and discussing!**

You are welcome to attend on a regular basis or  
simply if a book sounds like one you would like to  
read and participate in the discussion.

**Interested in joining? Please contact Janet Page at 587-363-5423.**



### **Prayers:**

Ralph Connor Memorial  
Forest Lawn

**Healing Ministry welcomes everyone who is seeking  
physical, mental or spiritual healing.**

**Come experience a healing session!**

**To book a session, please contact:**

**Gisela Dyck at 403-938-2506**



**The Taste of Okotoks** event is back for its 13th year! With local restaurants and food trucks, it's sure to be an unforgettable gastronomical experience.

Come enjoy the best dishes and experience the flavours of the Okotoks community on July 19, 2025 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

From sweet treats to savoury eats, meat-heavy to meat-free, if it's tasty, it's there!

Visit <https://www.okotoks.ca/your-community/living-okotoks/community-event-calendar/taste-okotoks> for more information.



## **Stand Firm - Setting Boundaries in a World that Demands Too Much**

**King's Fold Retreat Centre - November 13/14-16, 2025**

**Only two spots currently available!**

The "Stand Firm" theme is based on Galatians 5:1 and Jesus' practice of going to a solitary place to listen and rejuvenate. It is an opportunity to gather with other women for meaningful conversation and activities that contribute to setting health boundaries and caring for self.

### **Cost:**

Thursday-Sunday (Nov 13-16)	Shared Room	\$560.00
Friday - Sunday (Nov 14-16)	Shared Room	\$390.00
Note: Price includes dinner at 4 pm on night of arrival		

## **NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S UNITED**

***Written by P. Marie Wedderburn***



On June 22nd, twenty-four people joined Karen Pryznyk for worship. Karen entitled her message "The Gift of Rest" using the scripture Genesis 2 1-3 where God rested on the seventh day. Rest is a gift given by God and is for everyone. We were asked how we return to the holy gift of rest. Rest is a spiritual practice that perhaps we ignore. A question for us to ponder is "What is one area of life that requires rest at the present time?" How do we answer this question?

Many of us did not have rest following the service as the pews were moved, the tables brought up from the basement following the power social, vehicles were unloaded of the items brought for the Great Canadian Garage Sale, and sorted them on the tables and pews. Oh well, perhaps we all rested after we arrived home!

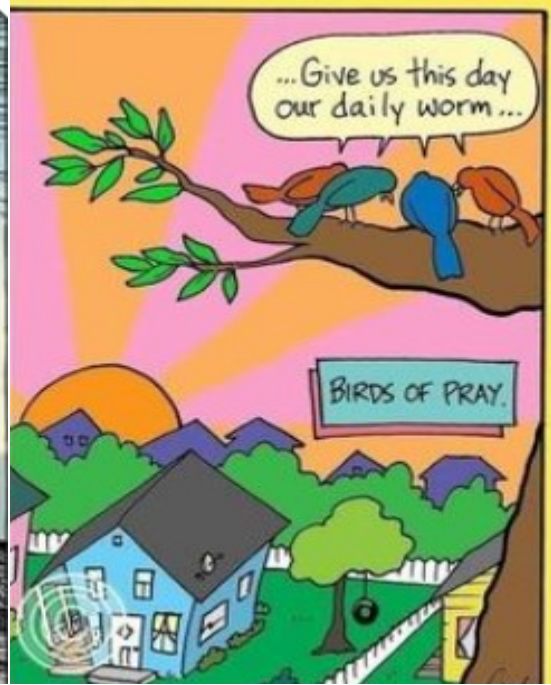
On June 29th, seventeen people joined worship leader Jody Connors for worship downstairs seated on chairs set up in a circle. (Thankfully the power had come back on in time for worship.) Jody spoke from the scripture readings of Luke 10:25-37 (the Samaritan parable of Jesus) and Galatians 3:28 (all are one in Christ). Jody entitled her message "Whom Do We Love?" June is Pride Month and the first of July is of course Canada Day. Some of the questions we were asked to consider were: what do we celebrate? Who is different from us really? Who is our neighbour? What if we are the good news? We are all one in Christ and as the parable shows us we are moved by compassion for another. Following the power social today we were encouraged to buy something from the Great Canadian Garage Sale if we wanted to.

Speaking of The Great Canadian Garage Sale held on Canada Day, there are many people to thank for its success: those who moved the pews and tables; those who brought items for the sale; those who helped unload the vehicles of these items; those who sorted the donated items onto the tables and pews; those who priced the items on June 24th; those who worked at the sale; those who brought food for those who worked at the sale;; those who loaded the vehicle after the sale of unsold items to be taken to the Salvage Centre; and the many who bought items for a successful sale of \$2076.85! On July 6th, four people who usually attend St. Andrew's gathered with Okotoks United to hear Julia begin her summer theme of messages entitled "Camping." This Sunday's message was entitled "Staking Your Site" and we heard the scripture Exodus 15:22-27 where Moses leads the Israelites away from the Red Sea into the wilderness of Shur where there was no water; next to Marah where the water was bitter. A camping location is important. We were asked to consider: How do we find the place that is right for us? As we tend to the fire within us we thrive where we are. As we are inclusive we create space for all. As we are rooted in love. The Spirit is guidance, Christ is our companion, God is present with us. So may we thrive where our site is. The response question was: Are you in the right place right now for you spiritually?

May we continue to ponder this question.



Laughter .. not only the best medicine  
but the cheapest.



**Lord, give me enough coffee to change the things that need to change; and enough spare change to make that coffee as large as it can possibly be.**

