



September 4, 2025



It's baaaaack!!!

The Turkey Supper is back and better than ever!

Saturday October 4, 2025

5:30 pm

Cost: \$28 Adults

\$14 Ages 7-12

Under Age 6, free

ONE sitting of 150 people! Get your tickets early!

Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OkotoksUnited>

Visit St Andrew's United Church website: Dewintonunitedchurch.ca



Need a lift midweek?
Beginning September 17, 2025, buoy your
spirit with mid-week worship
at 10:00 am in the chapel.

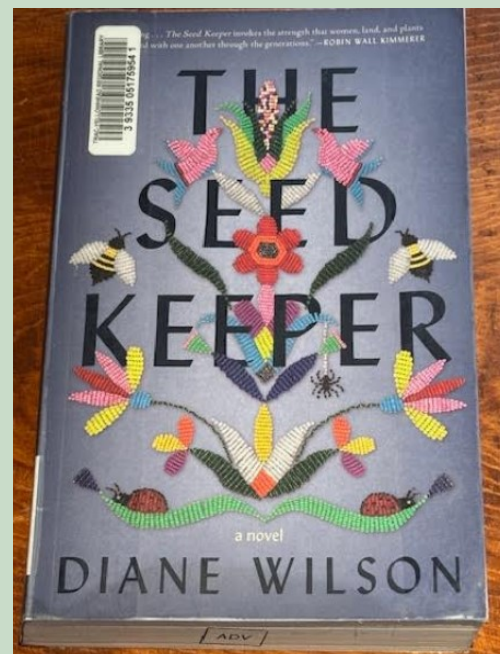
2nd Tuesday of each month,
at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room.

**This month's read: The Seed Keeper
by Diane Wilson**

**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

**Please contact Janet Page at
587-363-5423 to join.**



F I R E S I D E B O O K C L U B

DRAMATIC PLAY & LUNCHEON

Deanna Storfie and Diamond Valley United present:

IMPOSSIBLE FAITH: THE STORY of CORRIE ten BOOM

Saturday Sept 13 | 12:00 to 2:00 pm



Join us for lunch and a dramatic performance of **Impossible Faith: the Story of Corrie ten Boom**.

Actor Deanna Storfie ignites faith by bringing to life the story of Corrie ten Boom, a Christian hero who was imprisoned along with her sister Betsie in one of Hitler's concentration camps during WWII. Meet Deanna at: actingupdrama.ca

Tickets: \$25.00 Reserve your seats today!

Call 403.933.7913 or email uccinthevalley@gmail.com

Have you read Broadview Magazine?

Take a moment and browse through a unique, challenging, award-winning read.

Broadview is an independent Canadian magazine featuring award-winning coverage of spirituality, justice and ethical living. As a registered charity, Broadview challenges and inspires readers seeking to live a purpose-filled life. Their spirituality reporting features Christian perspectives on belief and faith, as well as points of view from other religions and philosophies. Broadview covers social justice from local, national and global contexts, drawing attention to contemporary issues and our response as people of faith and as caring citizens.

You can subscribe as an individual for \$36.95 or as part of Okotoks United Church's group subscription for \$30! Please contact Traci at the church office before October to get the church rate.

There are copies of previous editions of Broadview on the literature table in the foyer. Please take one or two home to see what it's all about. It is a great magazine!



Holy Listening
Listening is an art
that requires
attention over talent,
spirit over ego,
others over self. -
Dean Jackson

***Have you ever wondered what it feels like
to be truly listened to?
Or how to listen to others without
judgement or the need to fix?***

Julia will be hosting a Listening Circle for six Wednesdays starting September 24th from 3-5 p.m. at Okotoks United in the Chapel.

A ***Listening Circle*** is a group of people who meet to listen to each other's lives and to oneself, provide discerning questions and nurturing feedback. Each session will have a clear format and specific guidelines for the process. The purpose is to learn to listen deeply, NOT to judge or find solutions to anything.

Learning this process hones not only listening skills but the ability to be with people in all situations. It teaches participants how to listen mindfully. The group will be limited to six participants so please speak to Julia directly if you wish to participate.

Remember who you are and also remember that honoring that which allows greater understanding of what is possible.



BIBLE STUDY

A Song of Faith

**Beginning September 18th in the large conference room,
join us for a 10-week bible study
from 10 am to 11:30 am.**

Please let Julia know if you plan to attend.

We're hiring!

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. 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.

Know someone who might be a perfect fit?

Contact the church office or Sally Salter for further information.



**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 Okotoks Food Bank Association
is honoured to be celebrating 40
years of service!

We would be delighted if you would join us as special guests at our upcoming anniversary celebration.

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, September 7, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Location: Food Bank parking lot, 220 Stockton Avenue

Activities: BBQ • Food Trucks • Live Music by the Rum Runners • Raffle • Bouncy Castle • Auction Items • Tours of the Food Bank

This milestone is a tribute to the incredible generosity, partnerships, and support that have helped nourish thousands of individuals and families over four decades. The success of the Okotoks Foodbank can be directly attributed to the people involved in every aspect of its operations, from Community Members, Board Members, Executive Directors, staff and most importantly hundreds of volunteers. We are proud of what we've accomplished together.

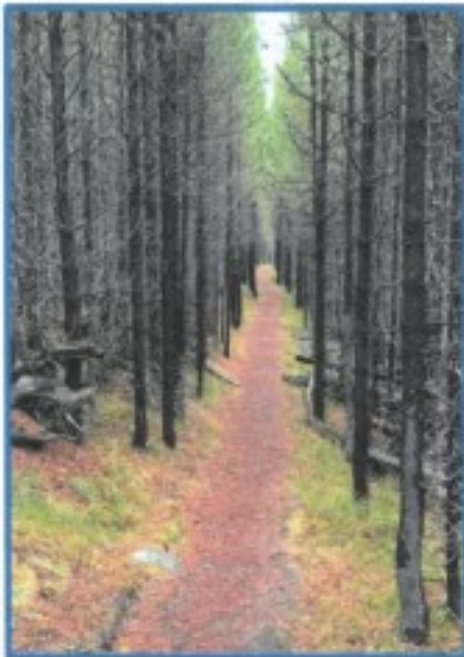
As a valued member of our community, your presence would mean a great deal to us. We'll also be recognizing our key supporters and community partners throughout the event.

REVISED
DATES!

JOURNEY with GRIEF

Workshop Oct 24-25, 2025

Grief affects each one of us at some time in our lives. To accompany one another along the way is a true gift of grace that requires practicing compassion and sacred presence.



Come share the journey in *Journey With Grief*, a gentle weekend workshop program in which a small group will companion each other through loss or radical life change. To create safe space, the program will follow Parker Palmer's *Circle of Trust Touchstones*. Facilitated by Rev. Leila Currie, Minister of Gaetz United Church in Red Deer, certified Spiritual Director, and *Anam Cara* (Soul Friend).

Friday night 6:00 to 9:00 pm | Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
(lunch provided) Cost: \$65. Registration limited to 12. To
register call 403.933.4114 or email uccinthevalley@gmail.com



DIAMOND VALLEY
UNITED CHURCH

125 Royal Avenue
Diamond Valley, AB
T0L 2A0 Ph: 403.933.4114

NEWS FROM ST. ANDREW'S UNITED

Written by P. Marie Wedderburn



The August 24th worship service saw fourteen people join Rev. Lee Spice as worship leader. This service was also the last time our accompanist was Sophia So. Lee entitled her message "The Courage to Defy" and told us the scripture about Tamar from Genesis 38. Lee asked us if anyone had ever heard the story of Tamar before and I was the only one who responded yes. Tamar is one of only four women to be recorded in the genealogy of Jesus found in the Gospel according to Matthew chapter 1. We are all searching for truth in the world and Tamar's story of how she defied power in her world may enable us to seek social justice and speak truth to power in today's world. For the biblical story remains one we must continue in today's world.

The annual Blessing of the Animals service was on August 31st where fourteen people welcomed five dogs named Sophie, Scotty, Tess, Polly, Nola and two horses named Blossom, Buddy to be blessed on this Sunday. We heard the scripture "But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? (Job 12:7-9 NRSV)

Following the blessing of these animals their caretakers were given a Certificate of Pet Blessing. Another part of the service was sharing the names of many pets who have died.

Prayers:
Southminster
Brooks
Alliance Pastoral Charge



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

Full but waitlist available

Thursday-Sunday (Nov 13-16) Shared Room
\$560.00

Friday - Sunday (Nov 14-16) Shared Room
\$390.00

Price includes dinner at 4 pm on night of arrival
Contact Julia if you'd like to be
added to the waitlist

Hello,

Thank you so much for including us in one of your sermons recently! A wonderful family came by today with a donation of 141 lbs of food and money from your congregation. We really appreciate how your wonderful church continues to support us.

Warm regards,



Bente
Executive Director
Okotoks Food Bank



**The Rum Runners, MzBehavin and Friends of Rum Runners
Present**

A Free Concert in support of Okotoks Food Bank

September 27 @ 7 pm at Okotoks United Church

**Join us for an evening of music and fun! Donations of cash,
cheque, credit card or food are appreciated.**

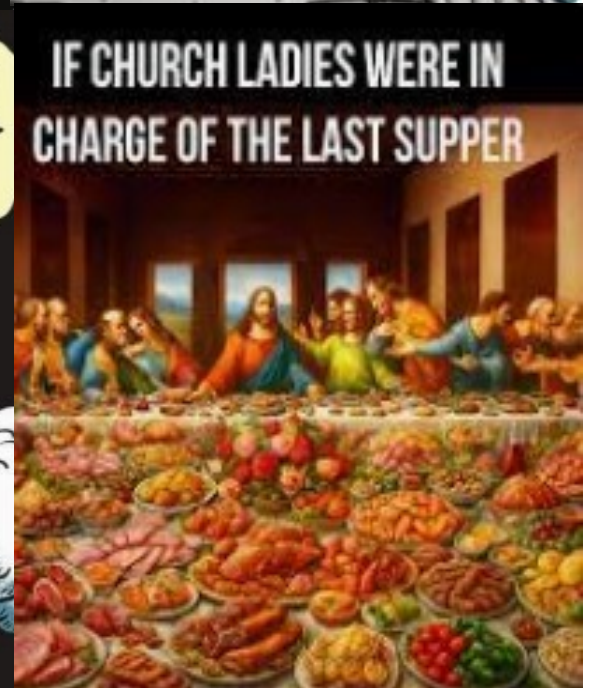
We still need volunteers to create the native garden for the church. Work involves digging a few square metres of grass up so we can plant immediately and then laying cardboard and mulch down to kill grass to ready the area for planting next year. As well, we're looking for a volunteer with a truck for another load of mulch.

Our hope is to get it done within next few weeks.

Native plants are very low maintenance and what better way to show love to God's creation than by creating habitats and



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



A Sunday school teacher asks a child why they need to be quiet in church and the child answers that it's because people are sleeping.



God lets a golfer who was supposed to be in church hit a hole-in-one, because the golfer has no one to tell about it.