




# Southminster News

Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors

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**February 2024**

*Regular Office Hours*  
**Monday to Friday**  
*9 am to 4 pm*



**Sunday Worship Services**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
*In person or live streamed on Facebook*

## Minister's Message:

This year the date for **St. Valentine's Day** and **Ash Wednesday**, the beginning of the season of Lent, will fall on the **same day, February 14<sup>th</sup>**. This is due to the early date for Easter this year.

**Lent** is a **40-day period of reflection and penitence**, mirroring Jesus' forty days in the wilderness tempted by Satan, which prepares us for Holy Week and Easter. Traditionally Christians have used this time for **fasting, prayer, and acts of mercy**. I hope that whatever spiritual discipline you have chosen to pursue during this season will bring meaning to you.

If you don't know what spiritual discipline you might wish to undertake, I always recommend reading the Bible: pick one of the Gospels and read a chapter a day.

Southminster usually offers a Lenten study, but the season has snuck up on me too quickly this year with its early date. Therefore, I am planning on only having **two sessions of Lenten study, March 17 and March 24** following Sunday worship. We will be studying *the Israel/Palestine conflict*.

As you consider your own **discipleship** during the season of Lent, I would also invite you to consider a role on **Church Council** or one of its committees prior to our **Annual Congregational Meeting on March 3**. A description of all of the committee positions appears on the bulletin board outside of the lounge, and you can always talk to me or a member of the nominations committee, Janice Ross and Corinne Steele, about where your interests and gifts might serve our church.

Also, during the season of Lent, the downtown churches take turns hosting **Lenten Lunches** every Thursday at 12:00pm. It's a great chance to connect with some of the neighbouring Christian churches with food and fellowship. Southminster will host our lunch on Thursday, **Feb 29**.

Blessings to you for a holy Lent, may you find meaning and connection to God in this season.

- *Rev. Taylor*



## *B&PG Club*

The Business Girl's club was formed just prior to the Second World War. The chief function was to provide friendship, moral support, and a Christian atmosphere for young women and girls coming to Lethbridge to live and work. The business girls held supper meetings which were often catered by groups of the UCW.

In 1957 the club's name was changed to **Business and Professional Girl's Group**. In 1970, '**Southminster**' was added to the name.

Here are some programs they had: The girls took their turn as greeters at church doors, had guest speakers, held debates, devotionals, book reviews. They oversaw the Sunday Fireside Hour. They made aprons and jam for the Nursing Mission, held Rummage Sales. As a group, they adopted a child from China. They contributed food for the UCW Welfare cupboard, assisted in secretarial work in the church office, made gifts and did visits to Devon / Parkland Nursing Home. During the Second World War, they made visits to the Lethbridge Garrison Hospital.

Members took their turn on the executive and held various positions of president, vice, secretary, and secretary/treasurer, press secretary, program secretary. Some memorable members were *Mrs. G. C. Paterson, Wilma Wisner, Jean Johnston, Doris Lewis* who also gave the devotionals every meeting, *Rita Goughnour, Hazel McKenzie, Bessie McCully, Mary Dutton, Jean Galbraith, and Anna Kunst.*

In the late 1980s, social activities, travel, and other church groups reduced the membership numbers of Southminster Business and Professional Girl's Group. Eventually, a motion to disband was unanimously passed and the business girls club became history.

- By Trish Purkis, Church Archivist



Girls' High school home economics class in the 1950's

### **Lenten lunches 2024 Served Thursdays at NOON**

<i>Date</i>	<i>hosted by</i>
Feb 15	First Baptist Church
Feb 22	All Saints Roman Catholic Parish
Feb 29	Southminster United Church **)
March 7	St. Augustine's Anglican
March 14	St. Andrews Presbyterian
March 21	Lethbridge Mennonite/ Christ Trinity Lutheran

Everyone is welcome to join for lunch at the above locations - it's a nice way to get to know some of our neighbouring congregations

\*\*) Please sign up if you are able to bring a Soup or help with the organizing of the luncheon.

#### **Coming up in March:**

**A historic "Behind the Scenes" Southminster Tour with Joan Smith.**

**Joan has attended Southminster since 1963 and is an absolute wealth of knowledge what comes to all things Southminster.**

## Canyon Church Camp January 28, 2024 Announcement

Imagine, being part of a morning circle around the flagpole at Canyon Church Camp. You are enjoying the beautiful views surrounding you in Waterton Lakes National Park (Paahtomahksikimi Sacred Lake Within the Mountains). The grasslands are stretching downstream towards the prairies with Mt Galwey's narrow summit across the river. The great bear mountain of Crandell is behind the lodge while colourful Ruby Ridge is behind the cabins, and the tallest peak in Waterton, Mt. Blakiston, is up the valley past the chapel and campfire. The team at CCC has come up with a place based, climbing mountains metaphor as our fundraising "thermometer". Here is an update.

Through our fundraising efforts and the generosity of our Camp Canyon supporters, by the end of the summer of 2023, we successfully hiked across the beautiful grasslands and were scrambling our way up Mt. Galwey raising enough money to:

- ✓ install a new environmentally sustainable wastewater treatment system.
- ✓ re-establish the utilities infrastructure for drinking water, electricity, and propane.
- ✓ upgrade the buildings that did not burn including the Kate Perry Lodge, Camper Cabins 1- 3, as well as the Assistant Cook's Cabin and
- ✓ rebuild the chapel.

In the late autumn and early winter, we were focused on raising money to "Get Flushing" again. Just before Christmas, we received notice that we were the successful recipients of a large Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) grant from the Government of Alberta! This significant contribution has allowed us to reach the top of Mt. Galwey as well as Crandell Mt. (Saikimao'pii The Person Who Sits Across From the Valley). HOORAY!!!! We now have around \$1.5 million available and can fully rebuild several key pieces of camp:

- ✓ the boys' and girls' washrooms including gender neutral facilities.
- ✓ the craft shack with a first aid station and accessible washrooms.
- ✓ cook & caretaker's duplex as well as
- ✓ the campfire circle.

At the start of this new year, **2024, the 80th anniversary of Canyon Church Camp**, we have begun to ascend Ruby Ridge and possibly begin to rebuild camper cabins at a cost of approximately \$60 000 each.

This is GREAT news! However, our trek up the peaks surrounding camp needs to continue. In order to reach the summits of Ruby Ridge and Mt. Blakiston (Piiyinakoyiima Mountain Seen From Afar), we need to raise around \$500 000 more to complete the project by rebuilding all four of the camper cabins lost in the fire along with the staff lounge and accessible camper accommodation (Director's Cabin) as well as ensure sufficient funds for the first full year of camp operations.

How can you help? Continue to include Camp Canyon in your prayers. Be sure to follow us on social media for ongoing updates on the rebuild project as well as ways to get involved such as attending our virtual Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, becoming a Camp Connector, joining our Board of Directors, and/or volunteering for work bees. Also, please consider celebrating our ministry as part of a Camping Sunday Service on April 21, 2024 (or any other convenient date). If you and/or a group of people are interested in hosting a fundraiser, let us know. We are happy to provide information and support for local events to raise funds for the rebuilding of CCC. Finally, keep your eyes out for our 80th Anniversary Celebrations this summer and THANK YOU, friends of Canyon Church Camp for your ongoing support!

Respectfully submitted,

**Karen Larter**, on behalf of the CCC Rebuild, Fundraising, and Community Engagement Committees

*[A note from Rev. Taylor: We'd like to encourage all Southminster folks to mention the Camp rebuild project to any service clubs you belong to. Every fundraising effort, big or small, your organization might be able to participate in support of the camp, would be much appreciated.](#)*



**Remember who the Camp is for!  
Can you recognize the four Southminster youth  
in this 2014 dish pit photo... Let's make sure kids  
can enjoy camp again, really soon!**



Started in 2016 to reach folks who either aren't available for Sunday morning worship, or who prefer something a little less formal...

### Six O'clock in the Chapel

is our monthly offering to meet those needs. It's been on hiatus since early 2020, and we're ready to bring it back.

Please join Hilary Squires in worship on **Saturday, February 10 at 6:00 pm** in the Buchanan Chapel.

***Not your regular time,  
not your regular service!***



Coming up in March 1-2, 2024

### ***Our Annual Book Sale!***

If you are ready to give some of your books, puzzles and board games away, please consider donating them to [Southminster's Annual Book Sale](#).

You are welcome to bring your donations to the church office any time, we can safely store them until the sale.



### Southminster's Staff Appreciation Dinner



*Southminster's **Ministry and Personnel** committee members **Dan and Dave** (far right) hosted a nice Staff dinner at the new Brickstone restaurant on January 30, 2024. Staff members (left to right) **Rev. Taylor, Taina, Kade, Olga, Christina (and Chris, not pictured)** were there.*

*Unfortunately, we missed staff members **Shona and Don** and committee members **Dorcas and Mike** who were unable to participate this time.*

*We are fortunate to have such dedicated staff looking after our congregation and the many needs of the building.*

*Also, the staff feels lucky to be working for **SUCH** a friendly, inclusive and supportive organization.*

*Thank you!*

### **Friday Fit for Life at Southminster** at 9:30 - 10:15 am.

**Group Fitness Class** for all fitness levels, ages and genders. Our awesome instructor Victoria keeps us challenged according to the individual fitness level and ability. Bring a friend!



*Classes run for 45 minutes in a circuit style. Exercises are designed to be easily modified if needed, while listening to fun music. All equipment provided,*

**Cost: by Donation** (suggested \$5 per person, pay what you can).

**TAD TALK on Saturday, February 17, at 10:30 am in the Lounge**

**Subject of discussion: “Fear of Death”**

Genesis 2: 4 - 3:24: The Bible blames our disobedience to God as a source of fear of death. Today such fear is receding thanks to advancing medical science and development of more humane society. Increasing years of longevity and unsustainably large population growth are becoming serious concern. Then why are we still afraid of death?

To open the discussion, **Jack Sherman and Pat Williams** are going to tell us their views about changing perspectives regarding the end of life. Pat will tell us about the issues around her mother’s end of life. Jack will tell us about a Roman philosopher, Seneca, who had a positive view of death. Japanese Samurai preferred death to a life in shame.

The independent book store “**Analog**” will display for-sale a selection of books related to the subject from 10:15 am.

-By Rev. Tad Mitsui

**Blankets for Canada** is a not for profit organization providing blankets to the vulnerable in Southern Alberta. Last year over 1000 blankets were distributed to folks in need.

But our shelves are getting down and we need volunteers. If you crochet, knit or sew you can help us continue to meet the need. Blankets for Canada meets at Southminster United Church, on Thursday mornings from 11:00 to 12:30.

You can come stitch and chat or you can work from home. We can provide you with some yarn or cloth to get started. Please consider helping us out to meet the growing community need. Thank you.



**Holy Ship – Canoe Believe It !!**

*Have lunch with us !!*

Tacos in a Bag \$ 7.00 per meal

After Church Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>



**Our Saturday morning at Ten Thirty**

activities by Faith Formation Committee are ongoing in February!

Upcoming Saturday programs at 10:30 a.m.

- Feb 3 In the Write Mind
- Feb 10 Sunday School for Adults
- Feb 17 Tad Talk
- Mar 2 Let's do a Craft!

More information available in our weekly Friday emails.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:30-1:30pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>2-4pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9-10 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>1-2pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9-11 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>6-6:45pm Zumba (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4-5pm Music Together (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Rollerskate Lethbridge (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10-11am Mommy Conn (WR)</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>4:30-7:30pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9-10am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9:30 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>1-2pm Music Together (UH)</p> <p>3-5pm Sportball BD (UH)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:45-11:45am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9:30am-1pm Waterton UC (L)</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School for Adults (basement Sunday School room)</p> <p>12:30-2:30 Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>3-5pm Sportball BD (SMH)</p> <p>6 O'clock in the Chapel (Ch)</p> <p>6-10pm Joy's Dance (SMH)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship led by Rev. Pauline Bell</p> <p>2-4pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9-10 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>1-2pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9-11 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>12:30-2pm Mommy Conn. (UH)</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>6-6:45pm Zumba (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm OUTREACH (BR)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4-5pm Music Together (UH)</p> <p>5-6pm Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>4-10pm Foodbank Fundraiser (S, L)</p> <p>4:30-7:30pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4:30-6:30pm Sportball BD (SMH)</p> <p>5pm Symphony (BR)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9-10 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9:30 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>1-2pm Music Together (UH)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:30am Tad Talk (L)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2-4pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p><i>Family Day</i></p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>6-6:45pm Zumba (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4-5pm Music Together (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>6pm Church Council (BR)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Rollerskate Lethbridge (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>1-2pm Music Together (UH)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:45-11:45am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>12-2pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>5-10pm Vic's Rental (SMH)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship led by Rev. Tad Mitsui</p> <p>Birthdays Coffee Hour</p> <p>12:30-2:30pm Sportball BD (UH)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9-10 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>1-2pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6-11pm Symphony (SMH)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9-11 am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:45-6:45pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>6-6:45pm Zumba (SMH)</p> <p>6-11pm Symphony (S)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4-5pm Music Together (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>6-11pm Symphony (S)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (Ch)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Rollerskate Lethbridge (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>12pm Lenten Lunch (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7:30pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9-10am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9:30 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>1-2pm Music Together (UH)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Southminster Hall (SMH)</p> <p>Sanctuary (S)</p> <p>Upper Hall (UH)</p> <p>Lounge (L)</p> <p>Wesley Room (W)</p> <p>Chapel (Ch)</p> <p>Board Room (BR)</p> <p>Kitchen (K)</p>