

Thursday's Newsletter

Almonte United Church ~You Are Welcome Here

Week of September 21-27



Fall Programming

Walking Group ~walking together for about 45 minutes on Monday mornings, either in conversation or quietly with a quote /thought/prayer/poem to wonder and wander with.

- 9 am Beginning September 28th (meet at the church)
(Well behaved dogs on leash welcome)

~weather permitting~

Book Study ~ *An Alter in the World* by Babara Brown Taylor

From a review: "Taylor reveals meaningful ways to discover the sacred in the small things we do and see, from simple practices such as walking, working, and prayer. Something as ordinary as hanging clothes on a clothesline becomes an act of meditation if we pay attention to what we're doing and take time to notice the sights, smells, and sounds around us."

Every other Thursday at 3 pm for 6 weeks starting October 1.

Books available at Indigo/Chapters, or Amazon, ABE Books (online)

Spirituality Group ~ (still figuring out timing)



**Thank You Emmett for the
Beautiful
Chalk Art Honouring
Every Child Matters**

Heather's Thursday Thoughts

On Tuesday evening I joined 375 United Church people from across the country for a small church workshop hosted by *Broadview Magazine*. We were asked to think about some questions: Who are we really as a church? What are our capacities? What resources do we have in people, building, and finances? Where are we most vulnerable, and where are we strongest? The truth is that I don't know Almonte United well enough yet to answer those questions. But I'm very curious about what the answers are, and whether they change depending on who you ask.

The question though that was highlighted was this one: why would someone come to our church? We were told there are no wrong answers, except one: "because we're warm and nice people." Warm and nice is lovely and really common in the church, but it isn't enough of a reason for someone to come to church. It makes me wonder what the answer is here.

There are two more workshop sessions to come, and I am looking forward to seeing how these questions can be answered. In the meantime, I'm asking you: why do you come? What would you tell a neighbour about AUC? Let me know, text, send an email, catch me after worship for a conversation, I'd love to hear.

See you Sunday, Heather

World Wide Communion Sunday October 4 — Breads of the World

On this World Wide Communion Sunday, we'd love our table to reflect the many places our congregation calls home. Would you be willing to bring a loaf of bread from your heritage or family tradition to share on our communion table that morning? We're hoping for five or six loaves in total.

Let Heather know if you'd like to sign up, so we can make sure we have enough loaves and a good variety.

Dates to Keep in Mind

September 27: Orange Shirt Sunday

October 4: World Wide Communion

October 18 ~ 2PM Covenanting Service

**between Rev Heather Davies and Almonte
United Church and EOORC Regional Council**

A Look Toward Sunday

In the Exodus reading, the people are thirsty in the wilderness, worn out and frightened, and they ask an important question: Is God among us or not? God shows up and from a rock, the water flows.

This Sunday is also Orange Shirt Sunday, when we remember the children taken to residential schools, those who never came home, and the survivors and their families. Wear orange if you can.

Our youth are creating an Every Child Matters art installation at the pavilion. Come and spend some time with it. The Gifts From the Land Sale will be on after worship.