



# Southminster News

Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors

June 2025

*Summer Office Hours*  
**June 23 – Aug 15**  
*Tue/Wed/Thu 9 - 12*



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Find us on Facebook



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

## Minister's Message:

June has arrived, and with it the **Centennial of the formation of the United Church of Canada**. For 100 years United Churches across Canada have lived out the faith we articulate in A New Creed: *celebrating God's presence, living with respect in creation, loving and serving others, seeking justice and resisting evil.*

Lethbridge United Churches will celebrate our **100 years** on Sunday, **June 1st at 7:00pm at McKillop United Church**. I hope to see many of you there for what is sure to be a very meaningful occasion.

On **June 8** another big celebration follows: **Pentecost Sunday**, the third holiest day in the Christian calendar. We will welcome several people as full members of the Southminster congregation as they sign their name to the Historic Roll. On this special Sunday, we will also celebrate the **sacrament of baptism**! And of course, with Pentecost comes our Food Truck Picnic in our North parking lot after worship. **The Food Truck Sunday** is a favorite of many, and a very appropriate celebration of God's gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church.

Once again, Southminster will participate in the **Lethbridge Pride Parade** on in June, on June 28. It is a great opportunity to share our inclusive message. I regret that I will be away on the day of the parade but I highly encourage you to fill my spot. At the time, I will be at the General Council Office in Toronto as we begin the 45th General Council. For the past 2.5 years I have served as the chair of the Planning Committee for this General Council. We will have online sessions on June 22 and 28, and meet in person at the Telus Convention Centre in downtown Calgary August 7-11.

In addition to the proposals sent for debate by each Regional Council, we will also discuss strategic planning for the whole United Church in a campaign called "Toward 2035." The General Council will also elect our **next Moderator**, the spiritual figurehead of our denomination, for a three-year term. Five candidates have been nominated by regional councils across the country, including one from our own.

Chinook Winds Regional Council has nominated Rev. John Pentland of Hillhurst United Church in Calgary. You can keep up to date with what I am doing at General Council over the summer at: **generalcouncil.ca**

*(cont. page 3...)*



*Rev. MiYeon Kim, The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne and Rev. Taylor Croissant at the Chinook Winds Regional Gathering in Lacombe in May*

## YOUnited Youth



YOUnited Youth programs are open to all youth aged 12 – 17.

Youth Pickleball is offered on Tuesdays at 3:30pm until June 17, then they will move to other summer activities. Pickleball returns in September.

For more information about the youth program, please contact Baz Skinner at [bskinner@united-church.ca](mailto:bskinner@united-church.ca)

Web <https://www.younitedyouth.ca/>

## Tad Talk in September 2025

TAD TALK will resume after summer break on **Saturday, September 20 at 10:30am** with **Bible Study in the Lounge**. The first discussion will be about "Miracles" in the Bible.

Do you believe those miracles really happened?



100 WOMEN WHO CARE  
LETHBRIDGE

## Summer Soirée

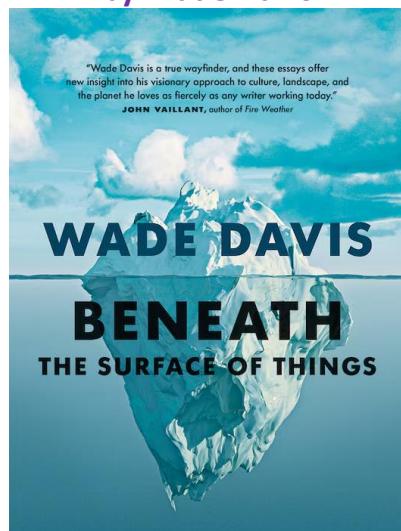
TUESDAY JUNE 10, 2025  
6:45 PM

SOUTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

*Now Accepting Nominations &  
Looking for Refreshments Sponsor*

Tuesday Book Club will return from their summer break on **Tuesday, September 9 at 4pm** with conversation on

**"Beneath the Surface of Things"**  
by Wade Davis



Church in Society is hosting the **Food Truck Sunday Picnic** on **June 8th** after service on Pentecost Sunday.



We hope to enjoy a beautiful day in the community with

- ❖ The Hawaiian Burger Truck,
- ❖ The Super Cheesy Truck,
- ❖ Mel's Pop Shop and
- ❖ Two Guys and A Pizza Place.

*Two Guys menu to  
"take pizza and go" is here ->*



PIZZA BY THE SLICE \$5.00 + tax

## -SUNDAY-

- **Honey Almond Chicken**  
(honey garlic sauce, chicken, pineapple, bacon, almonds, and cheddar)
- **The Roadhouse**  
(ranch, chicken, bacon, red pepper, cheddar)
- **MOZZA LOZZA**  
(mozza, cheddar, feta, swiss, parmesan)
- **Pepperoni & Cheese**  
(pizza sauce, pepperoni, mozza & cheddar)

THANK YOU  
SOUTHMINSTER CHURCH!  
11:30 - 1:00 ish



... cont. from front cover

I'm sure once General Council concludes I will be ready for a long rest. Thankfully, **Rev. MiYeon** and I will be heading to Waterton at the end of August. We invite you to join us this summer when **we lead worship at Waterton Lake United Church on August 24th**. I understand the choirs of Southminster and Trinity: Fort Macleod will each be singing an anthem, followed by a third one sung together. Both MiYeon and I love this annual opportunity to invite the members of our churches to come and pack the Waterton Church to the rafters.

It looks like a busy summer up ahead for me with General Council, but I'm sure I'll find a spot here and there for some golf. I hope you too get some opportunities to enjoy everything summer in Canada has to offer, and reconnect with God's gift of nature.

- **Rev. Taylor**



## VBS this year is "Camp Caravan"

Camp Caravan is a week-long summer day camp designed for children from 5 - 14 years old, bringing adventure, creativity, and community to various locations across Chinook Winds Region.

Each day is packed with dynamic activities, hands-on learning, and unforgettable experiences that help children explore God's love and **"Follow the Spirit"** in their everyday lives—all while making new friends and having a blast!

At Southminster, the camp will run **Monday to Friday, August 18 to 22, 9am to 4pm**. For registrations and more information, go to: <https://camp-caravan.ca/>

**Southminster United Church is happy to host the camp for all Lethbridge United Churches this year.**

### Happy Summer from Southminster Pastoral Care Committee!

As we approach summer, our committee wants to remind you that we will continue to check in on our church family members.

If you know someone is under the weather, lonely or has a happy reason to celebrate, let us know or call the church office. Someone from our committee will reach out. **Enjoy the lazy days of summer!**

**Yours in Christ,**

Janice Ross, chair  
Joyce Boisvenue  
Linda Horner  
Sheila Braund  
Ann Marie McDonald  
Sheila Hollihan  
Pam Rockerbie -Hospital liaison



[Janice.ross@telus.net](mailto:Janice.ross@telus.net) 403-330-4482

### *Southminster United Church*

Regular Office hours  
Monday to Friday  
9 am to 4 pm



***Summer hours***

**June 23 to August 15, 2025**

*Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9 am to 12 noon  
Closed Mondays and Fridays*

## GOLDEN MILE DROP IN CENTRE

Archives Corner  
by Trish Purkis

**There are two big anniversaries the city will observe this year:**

In June, the **United Church of Canada celebrates 100 years**.

There are many country-wide events leading up to the special day of June 10th.

Then in July, the **Lethbridge Senior Citizen's Centre celebrates 50 years** in operation. Why is the latter special to Southminster? Because the L.S.C.C. had it's beginning in our building!

Way back in 1969, **Ann Farries**, a member of Southminster and an active member of the United Church Women, was the person behind the idea of a Drop-in centre for seniors. She called it **"The Golden Mile Drop-In Centre"**. Several interested people met in Room #1 to enjoy card games, a game of pool and to socialize. The church's custodian of that time **Jack Gard**, contributed to the program by painting golden footsteps on the sidewalk leading from 4th Avenue to the door of the center.

The fledgling program became popular, and the rising number of interested people coming through the door, necessitated a larger venue. The group moved to a larger room in the church basement located under Southminster hall.



Ann's vision to help seniors, blossomed from a few people to about 700 in the early 1970s. Once again, it was time for larger quarters. In 1975, a new facility was envisioned and built connecting it to the Fritz Sick Centre. The senior's program carried on as the Golden Mile Drop-In Center until 1979 when the board decided to disband it. The centre was renamed **Lethbridge Senior Citizens' Centre**.

It is thanks to Ann's vision the centre of today continues to be a place for seniors to enjoy the day meeting friends, participating in activities and enjoying a good meal.

**Ann Farries** was born in Ontario in 1900 and came west in 1911. She started a drop-in centre at the Y.W.C.A. where she was employed as a house mother.

She passed away in 1986 at the age of 86 years.

### Recreational Pickleball at Southminster

**In June, Mondays at 4:15pm to 5:45pm**

**All equipment provided!**

**We are offering this court time for FREE!**

**Come and try it out. It's fun!**

**See Friday emails about**

**July and August scheduling TBA**

### Joint United Church Summer worships in Lethbridge:

**\*All July Sundays at Southminster at 10:30am**

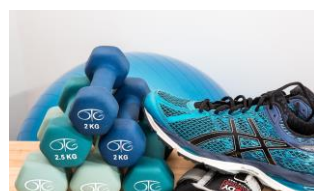
**\*All August Sundays at McKillop United at 10:30am**

**For worship leader information, see weekly emails**

### Fit For Life Fridays at 10 am

**Group Fitness Class** for all fitness levels, ages and genders. 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, just come wearing indoor shoes and comfortable clothes.

by Donation - suggested \$5/person, pay what you can



June 6 – with Victoria

June 13 – with Gabrielle

June 20 – with Gabrielle





2023



2024

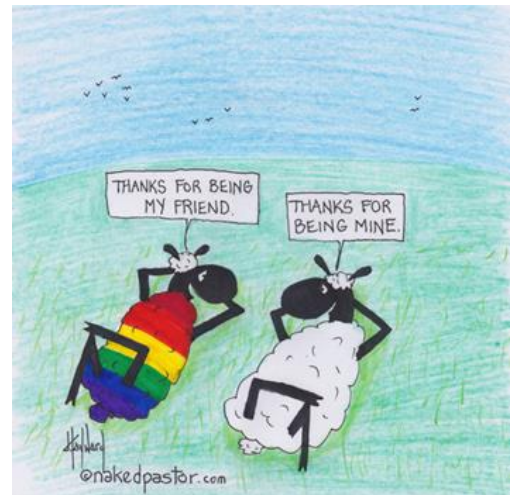
Join the Affirming Committee walking in this year's **Pride Parade**! Bright colours are encouraged—flags, ribbons, umbrellas, hats!

Please sign up in the west hallway or speak to Hilary about participating in this public way of showing our 2SLGBTQIA+ friends and neighbours that we care for them.

We'll meet at the NE corner of the Civic field (11 Street S) for the 1 km walk that will take us up Stafford Drive and across 3 Avenue to Galt Gardens.

### ➤ Or find other ways to engage this Pride season:

- **Pride Film Series: Library, Main Branch**
  - Tuesdays at 6 pm
- **Queer Historical Walking Tours: Galt Museum**
  - June 5, 5:30–7 pm
- **Reading with Royalty: Library, Crossings Branch**
  - June 8, 1:30–2 pm
- **Film Screening "Mama Bears": McKillop United Church**
  - June 10, 6:30 pm
- **Queer 101: Library, Main Branch**
  - June 14, 1–3 pm
- **Pride Flag Raising: City Hall**
  - June 23, 6 pm
- **Parade and Pride in the Park: Galt Gardens**
  - June 28, 11 am–5 pm
- **Pride Sunday: Southminster United Church**
  - June 29, 10:30 am



... and more at [www.lethbridgepride.com/events!](http://www.lethbridgepride.com/events!)

## **UCW Downtown Day on Saturday June 21**

All Southminster ladies are invited to the  
Downtown Day in June.

We first meet at Penny Coffee House for coffee at  
10:30am, after coffee we'll browse through  
downtown shops.

At 1pm, we will get together at **Streetside Eatery**  
for lunch. Please sign up on the sheet posted in  
the main hallway if you want to join for lunch as  
we must make a reservation!



## *Southminster trip to the Noble Teahouse in High River*

*We have made a reservation for 20 people on **Saturday, September 13**  
for a fancy High Tea \*\*Cost is \$60 per person, plus tip\*\**



*Sign-up sheet is in the main hallway.*

*Please contact the office if you are interested in carpooling!*



**Thursday morning Coffee and  
Conversation in the Lounge  
continues through the summer  
at 10:30am**

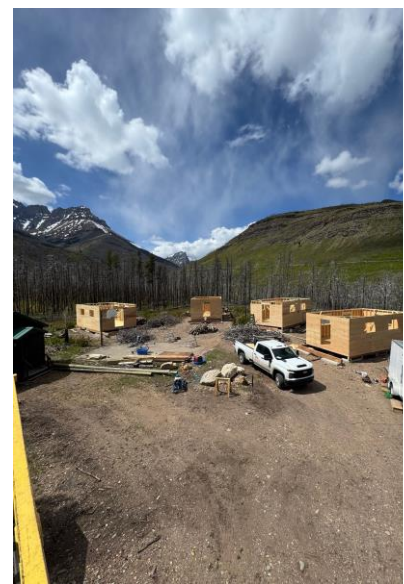
We look forward to seeing you there!



## **Canyon Church Camp Update** *By Christina Whittmire, president, Canyon Church Camp*

**Things are happening at camp!** The construction crews are busy, and it is fun to watch camp start to take shape again. So far in May they have framed and sheathed the new camper cabins, the girls' washroom, the new storage building, and the staff cabins. Plumbers, electricians, construction workers, and a generator repair person are on site making sure everything is going according to plan. Things are shaping up! Next time you are in Waterton, if you drive down Red Rock Parkway, take a minute and stop at the camp gate. Without all the trees blocking the view, you can see the progress.

Take a look at the pictures below to see some of the progress!



**Do you know any youth interested in leadership at camp?** In preparation for next year's opening, we are running **2 leadership training camps** in Waterton:

1. Wednesday, August 15 - Friday, August 18 for ages 16-21 years
2. Wednesday, August 20 - Friday, August 22 for ages 13-17 years

At this point, we are planning to stay in the Waterton United Church while *hoping* we can spend some time at Canyon Church Camp. There is limited space available (maximum 20 campers). Arrival time will be mid-morning on Wednesday and pick up late afternoon on Friday. Cost: \$150

The program will be very similar to our typical Canyon Church Camp programs including hiking, games, water play, campfire, vespers, and fun meals as well as creativity, nature, and faith explorations. Throughout these experiences, campers will have an opportunity to also learn about and practice both camp-specific and transferable leadership skills such as table setting, hiking etiquette, Leave No Trace principles, and leading camp songs as well as self-awareness, effective communication, creating safety, and recognizing/responding to needs.

This is an excellent **opportunity for future Camp Counsellors and Counsellors-in-Training** as well as youth and young adults who are keen to connect with themselves, each other, and nature through inspiring camp experiences in beautiful Waterton Lakes National Park. Please email [karenlarter@hotmail.com](mailto:karenlarter@hotmail.com) for more information and/or to be added to our contact list for registration details and volunteer opportunities.

Donations are always welcome by e-transfer at [campcanyon@gmail.com](mailto:campcanyon@gmail.com), on CanadaHelps, or you can drop one off at Southminster. **Thank you for your support!**

# June 2025 at Southminster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>1</b> 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship 7pm United Church of Canada Anniversary at McKillop UC	<b>2</b> 4:15- 5:45pm Rec Pickleball (SMH)  10:30 am Worship	<b>3</b> 3:30-5pm Youth Pickleball (SMH) 5-10pm WCHS (S) 5-8pm 100 Women Who Care (SMH)	<b>4</b> 4-6pm Music Together (UH) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)	<b>5</b> 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 12:30-2pm Mommy Conn. (UH)	<b>6</b> 10 am Fit for Life (SMH)	<b>7</b> 9:30-12:30 Little Ballers (SMH) 12:30-2:30 Susie (SMH)	
<b>8</b> 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Pentecost Worship Food Trucks after worship	<b>9</b> 4:15- 5:45pm Rec Pickleball (SMH)	<b>10</b> 3:30-5pm Youth Pickleball (SMH) United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary! 	<b>11</b> 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)	<b>12</b> 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 5-9:30pm GPMS (S, SMH)	<b>13</b> 10 am Fit for Life (SMH) 5pm Wedding Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 9:30-12:30 Little Ballers (SMH) 10am-12pm \$8000ball BD(UH) 12:30-2:30 Susie (SMH) 1-5pm \$8000ball BD (UH) 1pm Wedding (S)	
<b>15</b> 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship 	<b>16</b> 8:30am-6pm RCM Exams (S) 4:15- 5:45pm Rec Pickleball (SMH)	<b>17</b> 8:30am-6pm RCM Exams (S) 3:30-5pm Youth Pickleball (SMH)	<b>18</b> 8:30am-6pm RCM Exams (S) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)	<b>19</b> 8:30am-6pm RCM Exams (S) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 5pm Symphony (BR) 6:30pm Church Council (L)	<b>20</b> 10 am Fit for Life (SMH) 1:30-5:30pm RCM Exams (S)	<b>21</b> 9:30-12:30 Little Ballers (SMH) 10:30am UCW Downtown Day 12:30-2:30 Susie (SMH)	
<b>22</b> 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship led by Rev. Pauline Bell 	<b>23</b> 4:15- 5:45pm Rec Pickleball (SMH)	<b>24</b> 6-10pm Gujarati Society (SMH)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada	<b>27</b> 10 am Fit for Life (SMH)	<b>28</b> 9:30-12:30 Little Ballers (SMH) 12:30-2:30 Susie (SMH) 2pm-2am \$8000Y Family (SMH, K)	
<b>29</b> 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship led by Hilary Squires 	<b>30</b> 4:15- 5:45pm Rec Pickleball (SMH)	<b>31</b>					Southminster Hall (SMH) Sanctuary (S) Upper Hall (UH) Lounge (L) Wesley Room (W) Chapel (Ch) Board Room (BR) Kitchen (K)