



Southminster News

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

May 2025

Regular Office Hours
Mon – Fri
9am to 4pm



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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:

Spring has arrived, and I hope you are enjoying some gardening or golfing with the warmer weather, or whatever gets you out of the house.

On the first Saturday of May, following the *Men's Club Breakfast*, **Barb Clay**, **Muriel Mellow**, and myself will be offering historic tours of the Southminster building to the London Road Neighbourhood Association. It's a great opportunity to connect with people in our neighbourhood and satisfy any curiosity they may have about us.

I will be away the second week in May for the *Chinook Winds Regional Council* meeting held in Lacombe. In this centennial year of United Church Union, our Regional Council wanted to honour the prairie roots of The Association of Local Union Churches. These were congregations that were anticipating the coming church union and decided to just make their local church a union church from the start. Lacombe is one such congregation.

Due to my travels to Lacombe, I will not be able to offer best wishes to the mothers in our congregation on *Mother's Day*, so I will do so here. **Rev. Ruth Preston Schilk** will be leading worship on Sunday, May 11, and I know she is always appreciated when she joins us in this role.

At the end of May, our Church Council has planned a fun centennial related theme for worship on May 25th. We will remember all *weddings* that have taken place in Southminster over the past 100 years. You are invited to wear an item of clothing you wore on your wedding day that Sunday: a veil, a pair of shoes, a suit. I've heard a rumour from the May Discipleship Pod that there might be a "wedding cake" that Sunday for Coffee Hour.

Speaking of the centennial, we are all looking forward to our joint Lethbridge and area celebration of 100 years of United Church union. We will first have our regular Sunday morning worship on June 1 at our individual churches, and after that come together for our big centennial bash at **McKillop United Church, 7:00pm on Sunday, June 1st**. I look forward to sharing this very special day with all of you.

May Christ continue to be revealed to you in this ongoing season of Easter,

- Rev. Taylor



Happy 10th Anniversary to
Rev. Taylor & Rev. MiYeon on May 16!

YOUnited Youth



YOUnited Youth programs are open to all youth aged 12 – 17. **Youth Pickleball** is offered on Tuesdays at 3:30pm, a free class where all equipment and basic instruction is provided.

For more information about the youth program, please contact Baz Skinner at bskinner@united-church.ca

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

Tad Talk in May

TAD TALK on Saturday May 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the Lounge

This morning, I suggest we share whatever is in our mind about Death and Dying. We have journeyed together exploring the end of life question. Now it is your turn to tell us whatever is in your mind.

For example: Have you planned your funeral? If so, tell us what it will be like. Music, who will tell us about your life, etc. Is it Green Burial? Do you still fear death? Do you want to say something special to someone before you go? Do you want to say "Thank you" or "I am sorry" to someone special? Do you want to be together with someone in another world?

So think about those and tell us. I hope to see you on May 17, Saturday from 10:30 AM in the lounge.

This is the last meeting for the season. We will take a summer break until September 20.

Tad Talk will resume on September 20 with **Bible Study**. I suggest we discuss "Miracles" in the Bible. Do you believe those miracles really happened?

Tuesday Book Club

will finish their current book and spring season on May 6.

They will then take a break for the summer, and start back up in September.

The next book selection will be available in the June Newsletter!



On May 25,
We will celebrate a special **Wedding Sunday** to welcome everyone who was married in a United Church.

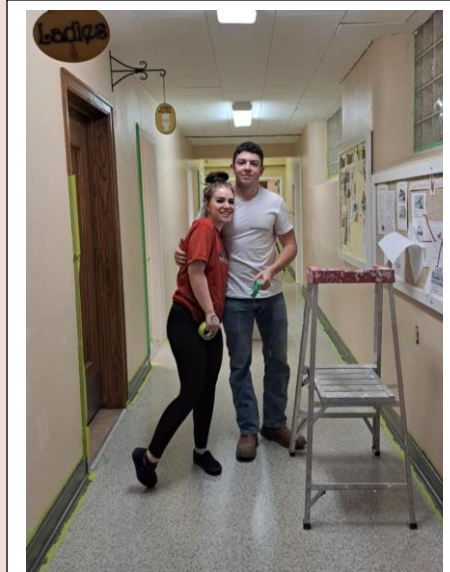
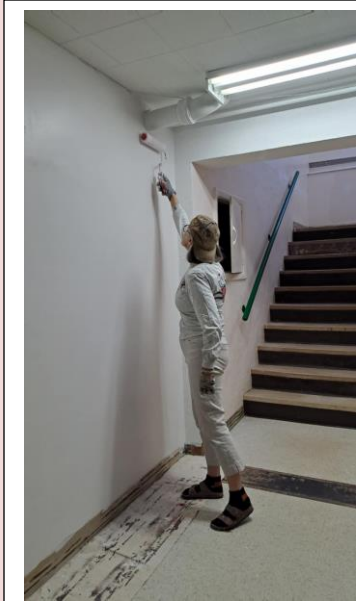
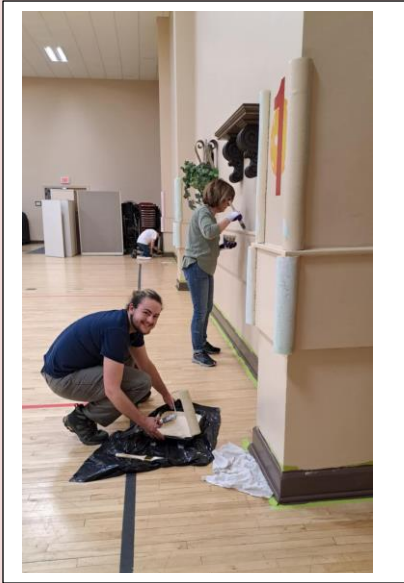
Bring your partner and family to celebrate and remember the place where your life together officially began. The styles may have changed but the value of loving and sustaining relationships of all kinds is still at the heart of a United Church marriage.

United Church of Canada's Centennial year Local Celebrations coming up in 2025:

- May 25 Southminster Marriages special Sunday
←
- June 1 Joint Centennial celebration - Evening service at McKillop at 7pm
- October 3 Centennial Dance at Southminster – come celebrate your decade's music!
- October 19 Music Sunday

“Good Friday touch-up” on Friday April 18

Thank you to everyone who showed up for our painting bee – many hands (and paintbrushes) made a huge difference in the appearance of our main hallway, Southminster hall and other areas!



Thank you to Janice Ross who was the lady behind the idea of the work bee. Based on the great success of this event, we hope to do something similar in the future!

Celebrating the Centennial year of United Church

**Archives Corner
by Trish Purkis**

WESLEY WEDDINGS 1925

There are many venues where a wedding can take place. There is the individual’s home, a farm setting, a destination wedding such as on a Hawaiian beach or one that takes place in a chapel, church sanctuary or the church’s parsonage or manse.

In 1925 seasonal weddings were announced in the Lethbridge Herald. They indicated the couple’s names and that they were to be united in marriage by Reverend Robert Pearson, minister of Wesley United 1925-1927.

Quiet wedding ceremonies scheduled for the Wesley Church occurred in the parsonage. While there is no interior description of the home of the minister, it is surmised the ceremonies took place in the large parlor which was either at the front or rear of the dwelling. There was a bouquet of flowers resting on the table where the bride and groom would sign the register. If there was a piano in the parlor someone played the appropriate music for the day.

SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE HERALD:

PANKHURST-TILLER February 11th: A quiet but pretty wedding was solemnized in Wesley parsonage on Wednesday February 11th, when Louise, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Tiller, of this city, became the bride of Charles Pankhurst.

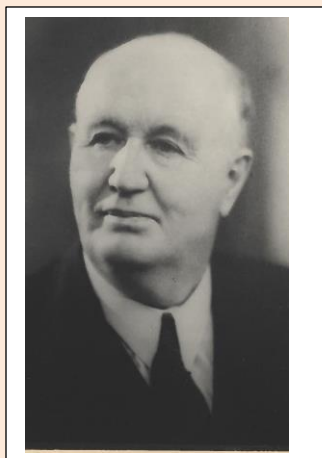
LUMSDEN-McEACHERN February 28th: A quiet wedding ceremony took place in the Wesley Church parsonage Saturday evening when Charles J. Lumsden and Mrs. Minnie McEachern both of Coaldale were united in matrimony.

SHERBURN-CARR August 14th: A quiet wedding took place at Wesley parsonage when Neil Elbert Wilfred Sherburn and Mabel Carr both of Taber, were united in marriage.

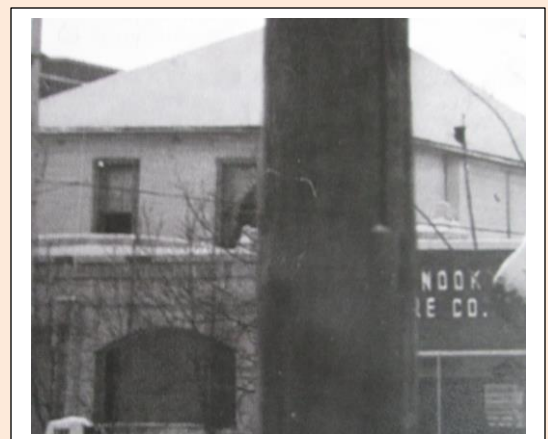
SCROGGIE-FUZEY August 25th: This morning at Wesley Church parsonage, Adolphous Joseph Scroggie and Helen Fuzey both of Lethbridge were united in marriage by Reverend Robert Pearson.

CUELL-BEATON September 3rd: A quiet wedding ceremony took place at Wesley Church parsonage with Reverend Robert Pearson officiating when Violet Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Beaton became the bride of Cecil Thomas Arthur Cuell, formerly of Calgary and now residing in Lethbridge.

WILLET-DUNN October 29th: A quiet wedding took place in the Wesley parsonage when Frances Butterfield Dunn of Iowa became the bride of William Marshall Willet of Lethbridge.



Rev. Robert Pearson
←
the Manse located at
320 – 11th Street
South (where SM hall
is today) →





The Affirming Committee will be walking in the **Pride Parade** on Saturday, June 28! Please consider joining us or viewing the parade from the sidelines—every year it's a beautiful celebration of love and diversity! More information to come...

Recreational Pickleball at Southminster on

**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!



Fit for Life at Southminster at 10am on Fridays!

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

Men's Club Breakfast on Saturday, May 3 at 9am.



All men of the congregation are invited for a hearty breakfast and a discussion to follow.

\$10 per person

SATT Saturdays at Ten Thirty program in May

- May 3 Walkies with Carol R
- May 10 Beginners Bridge with Linda H
- May 17 Tad Talk
- May 24 TBA
- May 31 Movie "Conclave" with Dan and Muriel



About the movie "Conclave":

Cardinal Lawrence is participating in one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, the selection of a new pope.

Surrounded by powerful religious leaders in the halls of the Vatican, he soon uncovers a trail of deep secrets that could shake the very foundation of the Roman Catholic Church.

Watch party and discussion in the Lounge on May 31.

Treasurer’s report

By Lori O’Leary, a one of a KIND treasurer



Our Financial picture for the first quarter of 2025 is encouraging. We have more members in our pews and worshipping with us online and, subsequently – I believe – we have more folks making the effort to financially support the ongoing functions and facility upkeep of our beloved Southminster Church.

We have not reached budgeted year to date figures, but it is still early in the year.

Please Remember your worship community when considering your funds. There are several convenient ways to support each other and the church.

First of All – Be Kind ! Try to remember names and faces, greet each other with a smile, invite newcomers to fellowship after the service – or to Coffee & Conversation Thursday mornings. Come yourselves and meet new people and get to know one another better. Join small group events and pick up some quick and easy chores.

Secondly, share your money to help fund the ongoing work we do here. There are cards in the pews with QR codes on the back. Use your phone and go directly to the protected donation page online. Call the office for e-transfers or debit /credit card transactions. Use numbered envelopes to put in the plate on Sunday mornings. These can be picked up from the office. Of course, there is always Pre Authorized Remittances (PAR) so you don’t miss a Sunday and the Church can depend on your help when times are slow, such as over the summer. Automatic Withdrawals from your bank account are now scheduled for the 20th of each month.

All these things and more will bring you closer to the joy of family within your church community.

Your Help is Always and in All Ways deeply appreciated. God Bless You All !

Southminster Financials January to March 2025

2025		YTD	YTD	3	Budget	
<i>Southminster United Church</i>	<i>31-Mar</i>	<i>Average per month</i>	<i>Average per day</i>	<i>2025 Budget</i>	<i>Budget per month</i>	<i>Budget Daily</i>
Congregational Collections	29,782	9,927	331	157,000	13,083	436
Designated Recoveries	4,240	1,413	47	22,375	1,865	62
Rentals & Other Income	44,244	14,748	492	188,550	15,713	524
Total Funds In	78,266	26,089	870	367,925	30,660	1,022
Staffing Costs	59,531	19,844	661	264,241	22,020	734
Operating Costs (Office etc)	12,454	4,151	138	52,725	4,394	146
Facility Upgrades	10,532	3,511	502	19,500	1,625	54
Building Upkeep	9,402	3,511	502	20,000	1,667	56
Utilities	22,006	7,335	245	35,750	2,979	99
Committees	3,657	1,219	41	8,625	719	24
Total Expenses	117,583	39,571	2,088	400,841	33,403	1,113
Current Net	(39,317)	(13,482)	(1,218)	(32,916)	(2,743)	(91)



Canyon Church Camp

Thank you to everyone that came to the Camp Sunday service at Southminster on April 27, and especially to those that volunteered to take part in the service, cooked hotdogs and s'mores, sold swag, and took donations for the camp. With your help, we raised \$1521 for Canyon Church Camp!

This spring, we are “sparking” interest to “Light the Way” and keep our campfires burning. It is going to cost around \$15,000 to rebuild our campfire circle and upgrade the fireplace in the lodge to current safety codes. These items were not within our original construction budget, but we can't imagine camp without a campfire. Help us reach our goal by donating at the church office, by e-transfer to campcanyon@gmail.com, or on Canada Helps.

To raise the remaining \$100,000 short fall of our construction budget and ensure funds are available to resume operations, we will also be focusing on donation requests from local community service organizations, small regional businesses, and corporations. If you know of any service clubs and/or businesses who might be interested in supporting the rebuild and/or return to camp, please let Christina know at whittmirefamily@gmail.com. She or another board member would be happy to make contact and/or present to any organizations or businesses that might be interested.

This spring, summer, and fall, we will also be hosting several **work bees**. We will need folks to help with cleaning, yard work, organizing supplies, painting, bunk bed building, and rebuilding the steps up the hill to the upper compound. Some of these work bees will continue to be on short notice as construction allows, while others we will be able to plan in advance. These will be posted on social media. If you are not on social media, please contact Christina and we will add you to our direct contact list. Plans are underway to tentatively host our first work bee on Saturday, May 17. Watch for details in the church bulletin and on social media.

- *By Christina Whittmire, president, Canyon Church Camp*

May 2025 at Southminster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship 12:30-9pm Symphony (S)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 4-5:30pm Pickleball (SMH) 5-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:30-10pm Symphony Concert (SMH, S, L)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L) 5-7pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 4-5:30pm Music Together (UH) 5:30pm Lutherans (Ch) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 5-8pm Sportball (UH) 6-10pm Tutti Corda (S) 7 pm Concert 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 11:30am Courtney's Yoga (UH) 1-10pm Festival Awards (S) 6-9pm Orcas (SMH)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—Beginners Bridge with Linda H. (L) 1-5pm Sportball BD (UH) 12:30-2:30pm Susie (SMH)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship led by Rev. Ruth (S, SMH)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 4-5:30pm Pickleball (SMH) 5-7pm Sportball (UH) 5:30pm Taylor's Book Study (L)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5-7pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 4-5:30pm Music Together (UH) 5:30-8pm Probe Concert (S) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 5-8pm Sportball (UH) 5 pm Symphony (BR) 5:30-8pm Probe Concert (S) 6:30pm Church Council (L) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 11:30am Courtney's Yoga (UH)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—Tad Talk (L) 12:30-2:30pm Susie (SMH)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship (S, SMH)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Victoria Day</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4-5:30pm Music Together (UH) 5-9:30pm Jazz Society (S, SMH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 11:30am Courtney's Yoga (UH)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—TBD 12-4pm Sportball BD (UH) 12:30-2:30pm Susie (SMH)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship (S, SMH) "Southminster Weddings" 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 5-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5-7pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 4-5:30pm Music Together (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music Concert (S) 7-9pm Choir Practice (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 5-8pm Sportball (UH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) 10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 11:30am Courtney's Yoga (UH)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH) Saturdays at Ten-Thirty— "Conclave" Movie with Dan and Muriel 1-3pm Sportball BD (UH) 2-10pm Community Band (S)</p>

