

Southminster News

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

February 2025

Regular Office Hours Mon - Fri 9am to 4pm



1011 – 4 Avenue South, Lethbridge, AB T1J 0P7 Phone: 403 327-3404 * Fax: 403 320-9863 Email: smunited@shaw.ca

Webpage: southminsterunited.org

Find us on Facebook

Sunday Worship Services 10:30 a.m.

In person or live streamed on Facebook

Minister's Message:

Last week MiYeon and I were happy to fulfill an obligation we had made at the Men's Club fall supper fundraiser where we auctioned the hosting of a Korean feast at our house. We used the occasion of the Lunar New Year to welcome Muriel, Tad, Rochelle, and Barb over to visit.





All of us enjoyed a bowl of ddeoguk (rice cake soup), the traditional new years meal whose coin-shaped rice cakes are eaten in hope for financial prosperity in the new year.

We also had marinated Korean barbequed beef, fried porkbelly with kimchi, fish cakes with peppers, and pickled daikon radish. Rochelle shared a bottle of Jamaican sorrel, a citrusy hibiscus tea which is traditionally drank at Christmas in Jamaica. Everyone had a wonderful time.

At Southminster, we are enriched by the community we have built in the church. It draws us together from various walks of life to create the body of Christ. We do this not only in the many activities we engage in the Southminster building: Sunday worship, Monday pickleball, Tuesday book-club, Wednesday choir practice, Thursday coffee & conversation, Friday fitness class, Saturday 10:30 Faith Formation, and the discipleship we engage with serving on Church Council and its committees, but also when we welcome the church friends we have made into our homes.

It is my understanding this is happening with our monthly discipleship pods: in addition to the vital work of taking on roles for Sunday worship, some of the monthly pods are also talking about welcoming members of their pod to their homes. They'll enjoy a meal together to celebrate the good work they've done hosting that month. I think this is a great idea, and I highly encourage it. If you have not yet signed up to a pod, there are still vacancies in the April, May, June, and July pods. The office can put you in contact with the coordinators of each discipleship pods.

I also wish to encourage you to introduce yourself during coffee hour on Sundays to anyone you might not know. Southminster has been very blessed to welcome new folks into our church in this past year, and though you might know everyone they might not know you.

...(Continued from front cover)

I plan on doing a little "get-to-know-you" game during coffee hour in a few weeks to help with this too. Before that, however, we will be having our **Annual Congregational Meeting** during coffee hour on Sunday, February 23 after a brief worship service. We have some very positive news to share with you that you will receive in the annual report in the next couple weeks.

We are still hoping to fill three vacancies: A chair of the Property Committee. They meet about every 6 weeks; the chair will also attend Church Council on the third Thursday of each month. The Faith Formation Committee is looking for one more Sunday School teacher to share in their rotation. The YOUnited Youth are also looking for an adult volunteer to assist them with support during occasional events, this position requires a police record check (vulnerable sector) which would be paid for by the church. If you are interested in serving God in any of these roles you can speak to Gabrielle Dumont who chairs the Nominations Committee.

Thank you to everyone for your faithful service to God as disciples serving the church, your good work has brought Southminster the success we have enjoyed in this past year.

- Rev. Taylor

2025 Cade Community Lectures

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8pm in the Gallery Theatre, Lethbridge Public Library, Main Branch

February 4

"Whose Voices? Tensions, Decision Making, and Relationships in Oral History Storytelling" Carly Adams, University of Lethbridge, Director, Centre for Oral History and Tradition (COHT) and Jenna Bailey, University of Lethbridge, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Oral History and Tradition (COHT)

Co-sponsored by the Centre for Oral History and Tradition

February 11

"Who Owns Our Historic Stories and Who is Remembered?"

Belinda Crowson, local historian and past-president Lethbridge Historical Society

Sponsored by Ecumenical Campus Ministry and Lethbridge Public Library

Annual Congregational Meeting ACM

Sunday, February 23, 2025 following worship

Annual reports will be available on Sunday, February 16



Ruth Pelletier was the lucky winner of a **Bead party** at the Silent Auction of the Men's Fall dinner.

Thank you to
Hostess **Monique Petit** who
provided materials and ideas.
Guests **Hannah, Jen & Katie**created this beautiful
jewellery on January 30th.



SATT – Saturdays at Ten Thirty in February

- Feb 1 Watercolor Valentine cards. Please bring paint and paper, if you have it.
- Feb 8 Sunday School for adults
- Feb 15 Tad Talk in the Lounge
- Feb 22 In the Write Mind
- March 1 starting on February 28
 Southminster Annual BOOK SALE

SATT (Saturday at 10:30) Tad Talk on February 15, Saturday 10:30 am in the Lounge

"How to live well so you can die well"

At the meeting in January, we agreed to collect our ideas of things we do to live well in order to learn the art of dying well.

Let us bring our experiences and ideas, and list them. They will help us in our preparation for the good dying.

Recreational Pickleball for Southminster folks 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!

After school Youth Pickle Ball on Tuesdays in Southminster Hall. February 11, 1 and 25 3:30 - 5pm All equipment provided. Tell a friend!



Fit for Life at Southminster - 10am Fridays!

Group Fitness Class for all fitness levels, ages and genders. Classes run for 45 minutes in a circuit style.

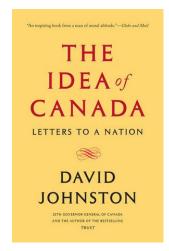
Exercises are designed to be easily modified if needed, while listening to fun music. All equipment provided, just come wearing indoor shoes and comfortable clothes



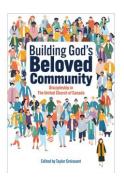
by Donation - suggested \$5/person, pay what you can

Tuesday Book Club news:

The Tuesday Book Club will finish the current book on Feb. 18. The group's next book will be "The Idea of Canada" by David Johnston. They are starting that on Feb. 25. Should be a timely read!



What We Believe Book Study continues in February on Thursday, February 27 at 5:30pm.



We start with a Potluck dinner and then discuss the next chapter with Rev. Taylor for a couple of hours.



The Office Staff wants to say Thank you to Cathy and Simon Hann who have taken on the monthly chore of recycling cardboard and paper. We accumulate a fair bit of recyclable paper and the Hanns are helping us keep the photocopy area tidy.

Thank you!

HAPPENINGS in 1925 Lethbridge

William D.L. Hardie ended his mayoral term in 1925. He served for twelve years.

Archives Corner by Trish Purkis

- The town paper at this time was called the Lethbridge Daily Herald
- Mamie Gibson, a member of the choir, worked as a stenographer for the Federal Coal Company.
- ➤ The Lyceum Theatre located beside the Alex Arms Hotel on 5th Street had several names during its run from 1908-1925.
- The courthouse was built on the same site as the Presbyterian Church which was constructed in 1886.
- The Association of Ukrainian Canadians used the Rainbow Hall on 5th Avenue North as their meeting centre and their school.
- An earthquake was felt by Lethbridge residents in this year. Two shocks were felt at 6:23 and 6:45 in the evening. Having not experienced this natural phenonium before, everyone thought the shaking was caused by heavy trucks going by on the highway.
- ➤ The North Lethbridge Church built in 1917 was renamed First United Church located on 13 St. North & 5th Avenue North.
- > George McKillop & Davina Sang were married this year.
- > The first meeting of the Lethbridge Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was held on September 9, 1925.



Photograph taken outside the Knox Church 8th Street and 4th Avenue S.



Once More, Southminster,

By Lori O'Leary, A grateful treasurer

You have Out-done yourself and we – those that look after the financial footprint of the life works, family and facility of our church home, workshop and place of worship – cannot express how truly blessed we are to have you all in our circle.

Our Annual financial report is still a bit preliminary, in as much as there may still be some last minute transactions taking place that will affect our bank account and outstanding funds coming in. However - Take A Look!!!

The Finance and Stewards committee are most appreciative of the gifts of your generous heart and hands and – of course – wallets. We began the year with both despair of a \$ 56 K deficit and the hope that perhaps opening up our "playroom" to pickle ball might somehow mitigate the bottom line. We are delighted to say that Pickleball – while not quite coming to the rescue – has made a significant contribution financially.

If fact – it is YOU – You who have come to the rescue of our finances by joining us as newcomers and by showing your continued faith and support for Southminster as a living, breathing, important part of your own life in our community.

2024			
Southminster United Church	2024 Budget	31-Dec	Compare to Budget
Congregational Collections	140,000	153,321	13,321
Designated Recoveries	23,500	5,518	(17,982)
Rentals & Other Income	165,900	173,138	7,238
Total Funds In	329,400	331,977	2,577
Staffing Costs	258,901	249,675	9,227
Operating Costs (Office etc)	54,960	48,017	6,943
Facility Upgrades	5,000	4,233	767
Building Upkeep	12,000	12,436	(436)
Utilities	40,000	30,639	9,361
Committees	14,700	5,293	9,407
Total Expenses	385,561	350,293	35,268
Current Net	(56,161)	(18,316)	(37,845)
Extraordinary Gifts		83,798	
Current Year Financial Gain		65,483	

We are Thriving !!!

Thanks Be to God! Thanks Be to YOU!

2024		YTD	YTD	12	Budget	
Southminster United Church	31-Dec	Average per month	Average per day	2024 Budget	Budget per month	Budget Daily
Congregational Collections	153,321	12,777	420	140,000	11,667	384
Designated Recoveries	5,518	460	15	23,500	1,958	64
Rentals & Other Income	173,138	14,428	474	165,900	13,825	455
Total Funds In	331,977	27,665	910	329,400	27,450	902
Staffing Costs	249,675	20,806	684	258,901	21,575	709
Operating Costs (Office etc)	48,017	4,001	132	54,960	4,580	151
Facility Upgrades	4,233	353	12	5,000	417	14
Building Upkeep	12,436	353	34	12,000	1,000	33
Utilities	30,639	2,553	84	40,000	3,333	110
Committees	5,293	441	15	14,700	1,225	40
Total Expenses	350,293	28,507	960	385,561	32,130	1,056
Current Net	(18,316)	(843)	(50)	(56,161)	(4,680)	(154)
Extraordinary Gifts	83,798					
Current Year Financial Gain	65,483					

Canyon Church Camp Updates from Christina Whittmire



Mark your calendars! Join us for the Canyon Church Camp Annual General Meeting on March 3rd at 7:00pm on Zoom.

If you would like to attend, shoot me an email and I will

send you the link. Everyone is welcome!

We are eagerly planning the rebuild this spring and summer. If everything goes as planned, we will re-open for the summer of 2026. If things progress quickly, we are hoping to have an open house on site in August. Watch our Facebook page for updates as the construction progresses, and for opportunities to volunteer. As we do inventory, we will be looking for donations of things as well. We will compile a list and let you know what is needed. It is an exciting time to be involved – a new beginning for Canyon Church Camp. We will start fresh with enthusiasm and JOY!

If you have any questions about the rebuilding of camp, our fundraising, or anything camp-related, please contact me at

whittmirefamily@gmail.com or stop by the church office. We always welcome ideas and volunteers.



Nursery news!



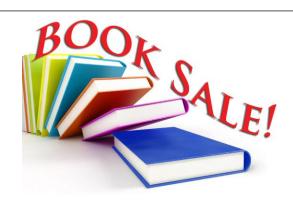
Thank you to Debbie Argyle and her sister Kim who spent two days organizing, scrubbing and sanitizing our Nursery.

All textiles have been laundered, all toys cleaned and sorted by age group.

This Nursery is something we can be proud of!

Thank you to Lily Bruce who is comes to church every Sunday morning ready to look after any children 4 and under during worship.

We hope to see many little ones come and enjoy this wonderful room. Original artwork on the walls is by Amy Dodic.



Southminster Annual Book Sale
February 28 to March 1
Donations accepted anytime in the office!

February 2025 at Southminster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Southminster Hall (SMH) Sanctuary (S) Upper Hall (UH) Lounge (L) Chapel (Ch) Chapel (Ch) Roard Room (BR) Kitchen (K)	1 9am-12pm Sportball (SMH) 9am-11pm Fiddler on the Roof 2pm & 7:30pm Performances (\$,SMH, U) 10:30am SATT—Watercolor Valentine card making with Amy
9.52-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship 11:30-1:30 Sportball BD (UH) 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)	3 9-11am-Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 14:5-5-45 Rec Pickleball (SMH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)	4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 3pm Worship and Music (L) 5:30-7pm If's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	9-11am Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 5-7pm Shakra Dancing (UH) 6-8pm If's About Music (SMH) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	6 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	10-11am Sportball (UH) 10 am Fit rot Life (SMH) 11am-1pm Fickleball (SMH) 5pm Wedding Rehearsal (S) 6:30-8:30pm Tanya Gill (UH)	8 8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH) 9am-12pm Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Waterton UC (BR) 10:30am SATT-Sunday School for Adults with Amy 11am Wedding (S, L, Ch) 12:30-2:30pm Susie (SMH)
9 9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship led by Hilary Squires 12pm March pod meeting (L) 1-7pm Midnight Channel (S) 6-10pm Community Band (SMH)	9am-3pm Midnight Channel (S) 9-11am Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 4:15-5:45 Re Pickleball (SMH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH) 7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)	9am-3pm Midnight Channel (5) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 7-3pm Vox Musica (5) 7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH) 8-9pm Rickboxing (UH)	9-11am Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 5-7pm Shakra Dancing (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	13 Sam-1m Pickleball Lines (SMH) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 4:30-6:50pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	14 10-11am Sportball (UH) 10 am Fit for Life (SMH) 7:30pm Food Bank Concert (S) Valentine	8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH) 10:30am SATT—Tad Talk (L) 4-11pm Candlelight Concert (S, L) 6pm and 8:15pm Performances
16 9-45-11-45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)	Family Day Holiday Grifice Closed 10am-12pm Picklebell (SMH) 7390-930pm Aurora Choral (UH)	18 5:30-7pm If's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	19 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 6-8pm If's About Music (SMH) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	20 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	21 10 am Fit for Life (SMH) 11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH)	22 8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH) 9am-12pm Sportball (UH) 10:30am SATT—In the Write Mind 1-6pm Birthday Rental (SMH) 4-11pm Candlelight Concert (S, L) 6pm and 8:15pm Performances
9:45-11:45am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship Annual Congregational Meeting after worship 6-10pm Community Band (SMH)	24 9-11am Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 4:15-5:45 Re Pickleball (SMH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH) 7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)	23-0-7pm Sportball (UH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 7:30-7pm Nt's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 7-9pm Kollerskating (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	26 9-11am Sportball (UH) 10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH) 1-9pm Sanatan Soc. (SMH, K) 5-7pm Shakra Dancing (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (S) 7-9:30pm Choir Practice (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	27 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 8:9pm Kickboxing (UH)	28 10-11am Sportball (UH) 110 m Fit for Life (SMH) 11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH) Book Sale	