



Southminster News

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

October 2024

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:

It has been wonderful to see so many new people joining us already this September at Southminster, some have even jumped in with both feet right into the choir!

On the CTV Lethbridge News this week they had a segment reporting on a survey which found that 60% of Canadians feel disconnected from society.

Churches are one place where people can become more engaged with other people, battling back against feelings of loneliness and isolation, and form new friendships. As well as undertake communal projects to make our world a better place.

We are very fortunate at Southminster to have a number of activities to connect folks that take place throughout the week, not just on Sunday mornings.

September 28th marks the first **Men's Cub Breakfast of the fall**. All men of the congregation are regarded as members of the Southminster Men's Club, and we meet every other month for a Saturday Breakfast. The next major event for Men's Club will be the **Annual Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, October 26**. Stay tuned to the Friday emails in October for more information.

There are many other active weekly/monthly groups at Southminster (*see separate articles for more info*):

- **UCW** (United Church Women), all women in the congregation are regarded as members the UCW. Their next event is the Annual **Christmas Tea & Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 23**
- **Saturdays-at-10:30 (SATT)** Faith Formation activities have also resumed for the fall. There will be moral and ethical discussions with our esteemed Minister Emeritus, **Rev. Tad Mitsui** in "Tad Talks"; adult Sunday School or creative pursuits with **Amy Dodic**; or discussing themes of faith in films with **Gabrielle Dumont**.
- Southminster folks also have **fitness programs** available: *recreational pickleball* on Mondays at 4:15 to 5:45pm (just come and play – all equipment is provided); and Friday's *Fit for Life Circuit training* at 10am.

In addition to these great weekly events to meet and connect with people, I'll mention three other special events this October in addition to the Fall Dinner:

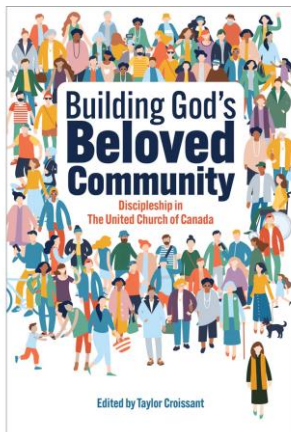
1. "Canyon for Canyon" benefit concert to support the rebuilding of Canyon Church Camp. Country Music star George Canyon performs in an acoustic concert at Southminster on Thursday, **Oct. 3** at 7:30pm.
2. YouthTrek, a Chinook Winds Regional Council event which will bring together United Church youth (ages 12-17) from across southern and central Alberta **Oct. 4-6**.
3. Annual Canadian Foodgrains Bank Soup Luncheon fundraiser following worship on Sunday, **Oct. 20**.

Thank you to each any every one of you who bring your unique gifts to Southminster to live out our goal of being a welcoming, and affirming, family of faith united in Christ's love.

- **Rev. Taylor**



What do we believe? Rev. Taylor is offering an informative evening class monthly in the fall and winter. He is using God's Beloved Community" as study material.



First session already took place in September but you can still join! The next class will be on Tuesday, October 29 at 5:30pm in the Lounge. The classes are open to all who are interested in the United Church values and theology. They will give you the information you will need if you are curious about becoming members.

If you are interested in these classes, please speak with Rev. Taylor or register with the office – smunited@shaw.ca or 403.327.3404.

Blankets for Canada Society

is a not-for-profit organization that makes and distributes blankets to those in need of warmth. Last year we distributed over 1000 blankets to people in Lethbridge and the surrounding area.

We have a need for people to help us **sew utility quilts**. These quilts may not be fancy but they keep someone warm. If you can help, we can supply the fabric. If you are interested, please contact Cheryl Knight, 403-328-7032. Thank you!

Award-winning author of *All We Leave Behind*
CAROL OFF
AT A LOSS FOR WORDS
Conversation in an Age of Rage



Tuesday Book Club meets weekly at 4pm in the Lounge.

They will be reading "**At a Loss for Words**" by Carol Off starting October 15.

They read 2-3 chapters every week and discuss the material on Tuesdays. For more information call Carol 403-327-1345

TAD TALKs this fall

Saturday, October 19 at 10:30 am in the Lounge

We will discuss "**Eternal Life**" as requested.

"Eternal Life" has been the core of Christian faith for a long time. Is it still our hope and dream to live forever? If not, what is the meaning of such an article of faith today?

November 16th, the plan is to share the wish for our own demise.

We all want "Good Death." What does that mean in practical terms? Clear mind, company of loved ones, no pain nor suffering, or what else?

~ ~ ~ ~

SILENT MEDITATION:

Are you interested in a weekly 30 minutes silent meditation in our beautiful chapel? Tad is interested to know if there is such a demand.



Southminster folks will have a new opportunity to play **recreational pickleball on Mondays at 4:15 to 5:45pm**.

This play is suitable for all beginner level players "just for fun". No need to sign up, just come and play – all equipment is provided. \$5 per player.

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 per person, pay what you can



Canyon Church Camp Update

Construction has begun at camp! Elevate Construction has been hard at work for the last month. They have done demolition on the inside of the boys' washroom, found two leaks in the lodge roof (and are preparing for the repair), built a wheelchair ramp and new stairs on the lodge, and have begun construction on the girls' washroom! (see *photos below*) The trenching to re-establish the utilities will begin next week. They are trying to get as much work done as they can before the snow flies and Parks Canada closes Red Rock Parkway for the winter.

Our lodge fireplace is no longer certified, so we have been investigating how to fix it and it looks like our only option is a wood-burning fireplace insert. This product comes with a large price tag, so hopefully the donations keep rolling in! We have put it on the back-burner for now, but are hoping to revisit it in the spring. Elevate Construction has been excellent in keeping us updated on the progress, including lots of photos of what is happening. We have been posting some on our camp website, so check them out there (www.canyonchurchcamp.com), or pop in to the office on Tuesdays or Thursdays and I can show you the most recent ones on my computer!

Don't forget about our fundraising concert on Thursday, Oct. 3 featuring George Canyon.

All proceeds from this concert will go to rebuilding camp.

You can still get tickets in the Southminster Office or online at www.geomaticatic.ca.

Thanks for all your support!

- **Christina Whittmire**

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

FOR CANYON CAMP

ACOUSTIC CONCERT WITH GEORGE CANYON

**03 OCTOBER
2024**

**SOUTHMINSTER
UNITED CHURCH**
1011- 4TH AVE. S.
LETHBRIDGE

**7:30
PM**
DOORS OPEN
AT 6:30PM

TICKET PRICES:
GENERAL SEATING \$55/TICKET
FRONT 3 ROWS \$65/TICKET

PURCHASE:
ONLINE: GEOMATICATIC.CA
 IN PERSON: SOUTHMINSTER UNITED
 CHURCH OFFICE

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE REBUILDING OF CANYON
CAMP IN WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK.**



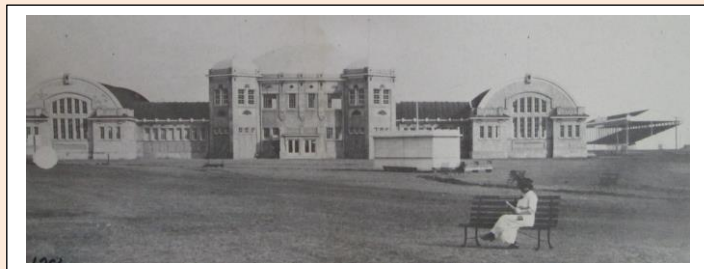
Every week, members of the congregation are invited gather informally on **Thursday** mornings in the lounge for **Coffee & Conversation** starting **at 10:30am**. This is a great way to meet other people in the congregation over casual conversation.

Coffee & Conversation is becoming so popular this fall that soon we'll be putting overflow around the kitchen table! If you are available on Thursday mornings and have not yet come for coffee, please consider this your invitation.

MORE 1925 LETHBRIDGE & CHURCH FACTS

Archives Corner
by Trish Purkis

- One of the first banks in town was the UNION BANK in operation since 1887. It was housed in a stone building on 5th Street [Round Street]. Renovations were made in 1925, and the bank merged with the Royal Bank soon after.
- Henderson Lake was designated a bird sanctuary in this year.
- Lethbridge Exhibition ornate buildings were destroyed by fire in this year. (*see photo below*)



- Y.M.C.A. around since 1911 was taken over by the city and renamed the Lethbridge Young Peoples Christian Association. YMCA regained operation six years later. It was located to the west of Southminster Church.
- Rainbow Hall 5th Avenue North was at one time the home of the Ukrainian School and Labor Hall.
- In 1917 congregants of Westminster Methodist and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Churches on the north side of town, merged to form the North Lethbridge United Church following a fire in the Westminster Church. The use of the word 'United' simply noted the church was open to Christians of a variety of denominations and not to a specific group. It was in 1925 the two congregations amalgamated, and the name was changed from North Lethbridge United to First United Church and relocated to 502- 13 St. N.



*This building
(First United on
13th St. N.) was
sold to another
church group in
the early 2000's*

Today there is still a First United Church worshipping in the Generations Chapel on 13 St North.

* SOUTHMINSTER MEN'S CLUB*

Please note the upcoming **Men's Club Fall Dinner on Saturday, October 26 at 6pm.**

Dinner will be delicious roast beef with all the trimmings, lovingly prepared by the men of Southminster.

We would appreciate your donations for the **Silent Auction**, taking place in the evening of the dinner. Auction items may be dropped off at the Office. If you would like an item picked up, please contact Steve Dobay at srdobay@gmail.com.

Think about inviting your friends and neighbors. It's always a fun evening.

Tickets will be available soon during Coffee Hour and at the office.

SOUTHMINSTER UCW TEA & BAZAAR

Sat. Nov. 23, 2024 2-4pm

TEA Fancy sandwiches, cookies & squares are served with your choice of tea, coffee or juice \$12
(Tickets at the door only)

BAZAAR Baking *Jewelry *Crafts
Christmas Treasures & Surprises

- If you are a "Crafter" and have items that you would be willing to donate, please leave them at the church office with your name and suggested prices. Any unsold items will be returned to you.
- If you have items you are willing to donate to "Christmas Surprises & Treasures" or "Jewelry/Accessories", please leave them at the church office and indicate on the parcel that they are for the Bazaar.
- Donations of baking are most welcome for the "Bake Table". These can be brought to the kitchen door of the church by noon on Bazaar day for marking. Please label your baking so folks know what they are buying.
- For more information, please call Carol Romses @ 403-327-1345 or Joyce Boisvenue @ 403-359-9323.

Mark your calendar, plan to attend and invite a friend to come with you! ARE WELCOME!

Southminster Financials January to August 2024

Thank you to **Steve Dobay** for preparing the financial statement below. It shows our budgeted annual total, year-to-date budget and actual total and the variance between budgeted and actual numbers in the first 8 months of 2024.

ITEM	TOTAL BUDGET	YTD BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	VARIANCE
OFFERINGS & GIFTS	140,000	93,333	77,427	(15,906)
RECOVERIES	28,500	19,000	9,972	(9,028)
RENTALS	160,900	107,267	99,999	(7,268)
TOTAL REVENUE	329,400	219,600	187,398	(32,202)
STAFF	258,901	172,601	163,225	9,376
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	54,960	36,640	31,117	5,523
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT	5,000	3,333	3,307	26
BUILDING R & M	12,000	8,000	10,057	(2,057)
UTILITIES	40,000	26,667	22,847	3,820
COMMITTEES	14,700	9,800	3,681	6,119
TOTAL EXPENSES	385,561	257,041	234,234	22,807
CURRENT NET	(56,161)	(37,441)	(46,836)	(9,396)



Our annual **Canadian Foodgrains Bank Soup Luncheon** fundraiser will follow worship on **Sunday, October 20**.

Bill Ginther from the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen will come and talk to us about the Soup Kitchen as well as his time working for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

You will be invited sign-up to provide a slow cooker with soup, or just enjoy a bowl for the cost of a freewill offering and all proceeds will go to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



The weekend of October 4-6, YouthTrek 2024 will be held at Southminster United Church. This three day gathering will bring Youth, ages 12-17, and their leaders, from BC, Southern Alberta and the Yukon – all together at last!

There's been dreaming, planning, and gathering, all to make these events full of joy. Participants will play, sing, worship, gather around food, talk about things that matter to us, support the community, meet new friends, and greet old ones, all in a place of radical, inclusive Christian welcome. If you have youth in your circles that are considering taking part in YouthTrek, please contact Rev. Taylor or our new Youth Ministry Animator, **Baz Skinner** at BSkinner@united-church.ca. She also invites all interested volunteers to sign up here:

<https://form.jotform.com/242584816300050>

Saturdays at Ten-Thirty (SATT)

Upcoming Saturday programming At 10:30am:

****please note date changes to
Amy's painting classes****

Saturday, October 5

YouthTrek weekend

Please consider volunteering

Saturday, October 12

Thanksgiving Weekend

No program

Saturday, October 19

Tad Talk in the Lounge

Topic: "Eternal life"

Saturday, October 26

Movie with Hilary

Saturday, November 2

Sip and paint with Amy #1

Saturday, November 9

Sip and paint with Amy #2

*Watch for more details in the
weekly Friday emails!*

October 2024 at Southminster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship led by Youth Trek (S) 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)	7 9-11am Sportball (UH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 5-10pm Symphony (S) 7-9pm Aurora Choral (SMH)	8 4pm Book Club (L) 4:30-6:45pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	9 9-10am Sportball (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 6:30-7:30pm Ethel (L) 7-9pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	10 10-11am Sportball (UH) 10:30-11:30am Mommy Conn. (WR) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conversation (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 4:30-6:30pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	11 10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH)	12 Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—Sip and Paint 3pm-4am Achol (SMH)
13 9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship (S, SMH) Thanksgiving Sunday	14 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH) 7-9pm Aurora Choral (S) Office Closed	15 4pm Book Club (L) 4:30-6:45pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	16 9-10am Sportball (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	17 10-11am Sportball (UH) 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 4:30-6:30pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 7-9 pm Symphony AGM (Ch) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	18 10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 6-9pm Vox (S)	19 8:45-11:45am Sportball (UH) 9:30am-2pm Vox (S) Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—Sip and Paint 12:30-5:30pm Symphony (SMH) 6-10:30pm Vox (S, UH)
20 9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship (S, SMH) 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)	21 9-11am Sportball (UH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH) 7-9pm Aurora Choral (S)	22 4pm Book Club (L) 4:30-6:45pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	23 9-10am Sportball (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	24 10-11am Sportball (UH) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 4:30-6:30pm Sportball (UH) 6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (SMH) 7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	25 10-10:45am Fit for Life (SMH) 4-11pm Candlelight Concert (S, L) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	26 8:45-11:45am Sportball (UH) Saturdays at Ten-Thirty—Tad Talk? 12:30-5:30pm Symphony (S) 2-4pm Sportball BD (UH) Men's Club Dinner
27 9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch) 10:30 am Worship (S, SMH) 6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)	28 9-11am Sportball (UH) 4:30-7pm Sportball (UH) 6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH) 7-9pm Aurora Choral (S)	29 4pm Book Club (L) 4:30-6:45pm Sportball (UH) 5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch) 7-9pm Vox Musica (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	30 9-10am Sportball (UH) 6-8pm It's About Music (SMH) 7-9pm Choir Practice (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)	31 10-11am Sportball (UH) 11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada 10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv. (L) 11-12:30pm Nancy (SMH) 1-2:30pm Mommy Conn (UH) 4:30-6:30pm Sportball (UH) 7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S) 8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)		Southminster Hall (SMH) Sanctuary (S) Upper Hall (UH) Lounge (L) Wesley Room (W) Chapel (Ch) Board Room (BR) Kitchen (K)