



# Southminster News

Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors

January 2025

Regular Office Hours  
Mon – Fri  
9am to 4pm



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Webpage: [southminsterunited.org](http://southminsterunited.org)

Find us on Facebook 

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

## Minister's Message:

As we welcome the new year, with it comes a major milestone for our United Church of Canada. In June we will celebrate the centennial anniversary of United Church union when Canadian, Newfoundland, and Bermudan Methodists, Congregationalists, Union Churches established in Western Canada in anticipation of union, and 70% of The Presbyterian Church of Canada formed a new Protestant denomination with the explicit goal of creating a church "that might fittingly be described as national." Not a European church transplanted into North American, but a new Canadian Church, for Canadians.



As we celebrate the accomplishment of Church union by our ancestors in the faith, recommit to their vision of Christian unity, and give thanks for the ways we have been spiritually nourished by the United Church in our lives, we hope to not allow our faith to be depicted as a relic of the past, but as a fountain of living water that sustains us in the here and now.

As St. Augustine of Hippo wrote, "The church is a hospital for sinners not a museum for saints." We might expand that language to speak of ourselves as a community or even household of faith, in which Christ is the head, where we are fed at his table.

As you may know, I am currently serving as the chairperson of the Planning Committee for the United Church's 45th General Council which will be held in Calgary this summer. This has been on the minds of our Planning Committee, of how we will move from the centennial celebration on June 10 and have the start of General Council on June 22 be a launch into our second century. The Moderator, The Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne, has set the theme as "Dreams and Visions," quoting from Acts 2, asking what are our dreams and visions for our next 100 years?

Southminster is a congregation with very rich history which we love to celebrate, but we are not a museum of the saints, but a living—thriving community of faith, with Good News to share to those around us.

Since we launched our youth program last fall, Baz has reported that we now have 17 youth between our churches participating in weekly youth activities!

Great things are happening here inspired by God's Holy Spirit, and I am so grateful for each and every one of you who share your gifts to make Southminster the tremendous community of faith that it is.

My wish for you in 2025 is that this year will be one of peace, prosperity, and good health.

**-Rev. Taylor**



## Canyon Church Camp January update!

### Happy New Year!

The camp board of directors and supporting committees would like to thank everyone for their donations to our December “build a bunk” campaign. This ongoing campaign has raised over \$20,000 towards the rebuild of the cabins at camp. Congratulations!

Our rebuild committee is getting the plans ready for the upcoming construction season. If the donations continue to come in, we are hopeful that we will be able to complete the camp rebuild this spring/summer. I have even heard whisperings about the possibility of hosting a small camp in late August. But, we will have to wait and see how the construction and fundraising goes! We are eagerly looking forward to what 2025 has in store for us. We pray it brings laughter around a campfire, and the sound of children playing games at camp once again.

Christina Whittmire, chair

### Did the Three Wise Men Go Hungry?

We don't know, but Southminster Men's Club Smart Fellows will not go hungry on **Saturday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>** when January **Men's breakfast** will be served at 9am in the Lounge (possibly with a short movie).

Sign up sheet is in the main hallway by the Lounge. Please consider helping with the cooking OR cleanup if you can. Cost \$10 per person

Mark your calendars:

**Annual Congregational Meeting ACM**  
Sunday, February 23, 2025 following worship

## United Church Women

**UCW MEETING - Sunday, January 26th** in the Lounge following the worship service. All women of the congregation are invited to participate.

The agenda includes a review of activities and the financial statement from 2024, suggestions for spending some of the profits from the bazaar and approval of a new budget for 2025.

Questions or additional agenda items?

Call Wanda at 403-382-8396.  
Thanks!

Wanda



As the United Church of Canada is celebrating 100 years, we are offering

### Historical Tours of Southminster.

Would any of our friends or relatives be interested in seeing the many nooks and crannies of our historical building?

If so, please sign up for a tour on Sunday, January 12 at 2pm. You can register by talking to your host, Joan Smith after church! Maximum eight people per tour will be taken throughout the building.

We will follow the tour with tea, coffee, dessert and conversation. If you have any questions, you can call Joan Smith at 403.328.4771.

Cost is \$20 per person.



SATT (Saturday at 10:30)

## Tad Talk on January 18, Saturday 10:30 am in the Lounge

“The Art of Dying Well.”

Question is: How to live well to die well?

Samurais’ purpose of life was to find a good death. The answer is simple: If you live well, you die well. What then is the life well lived so you can go away happy?

Examples:

- Good health so you won’t suffer at the end?
- Your relationship with friends and family is good and loving when you say Good-bye.
- There will be peace over your money and possessions among people you leave behind.
- You are comfortable emotionally and spiritually thinking about the end of your life.
- No regret, peace of mind, and love.

Any other suggestions? Let’s discuss them.

**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!**

**Coming in February :**  
**After school Youth Pickle Ball on Tuesdays**  
**in Southminster Hall.**  
**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*

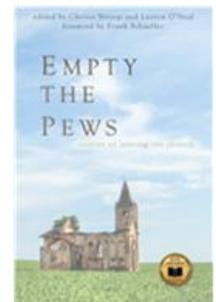


**by Donation - suggested \$5/person, pay what you can**

**Tuesday Book Club news:** The group’s next book will be “Empty The Pews” edited by Chrissy Stroop and Lauren O’Neal. *Due to delivery problems, they will be starting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 (a week later than originally planned).*

In this necessary and revealing anthology, Chrissy Stroop and Lauren O’Neal collect original and previously published pieces about leaving Christianity. Examining the intersections of queerness, spiritual abuse, loss of faith, and the courage needed to leave one’s religious community, these two social critics use a diverse collection of personal essays by apostates and survivors of religious trauma to boldly address the individual experiences and systemic dysfunction so common in conservative churches.”

This book is available to be ordered in through Analog or Chapters.



### **Southminster’s \$100 for 100 years Campaign continues into 2025**

*This campaign gives you the opportunity to show your appreciation - your gratitude - for how the United Church (in general) and Southminster (in particular) has positively contributed to your personal history and current spiritual commitment. What year were you – or your parents - baptised or married in the United Church? What year did you decide to start coming to Southminster? When were your children born, or your grandparents mourned? You can identify with a particular year – or not – and donate an extra \$ 100 in tribute to those people and those progressions that have come before you and affected who you are today. We are “rolling out” our hundred years of history and are waiting to attach your dedicated celebration of any year of your choice to the “Scroll of Generosity”. The Scrolls will be posted on a wall in January and they will stay up for a while.*

Archives Corner  
by Trish Purkis

## History Highlights 1925-2025

### 1925

-United Church is established. Here in Lethbridge, two churches come under the United Church banner, the Knox Presbyterian Church became Knox United, and the Wesley Methodist Church became Wesley United.

Ministers Reverend Thomas T. Faichney	1925-1928 Knox United
Reverend Robert Pearson	1925-1928 Wesley United
Organist/ Erika Olander	1925-1927 Knox United
Choir Leader George Bower	1924-1926 Knox United
Choir leader/organist Ernest Layton	1921-1931 Wesley Methodist & Wesley United

### 1950

- The 25th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada.
- The Knox Church Calgary and Southminster Church choirs exchanged places of worship. Both choirs sang at the other church's services.
- Southminster United Church's Youth Centre was opened and being put to good use.
- There were seven departments in the Sunday School – Cradle Roll, Nursery, Beginners, Primary, Junior, Intermediate and Senior with a total of 1,038 children
- The Women's Association had thirteen circles including the Cheer and 48 groups.
- Daisy Jelfs was leader of the Southminster Junior Girls Choir.

### 1975

- The 50th Anniversary of the United Church was celebrated on May 24-25. Guest speaker at banquet was Cleve Hill. Life of Southminster Church was presented through a slide presentation. Chairman of the Anniversary Committee was Clint Stata.
- The HiC group (formed in 1957) disbanded due to other interests of the members.
- The Explorer Group man a banner for the 50th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada.
- The Junior Girls Choir presented the operetta 'The Boy Mozart' and the Anne Cambell Singers and Teen Clefs presented 'Captain Noah's Floating Zoo'

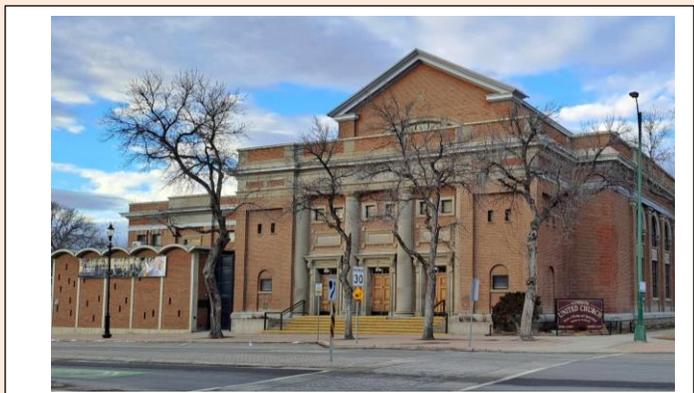
### 2000

- 75th Anniversary committee members were Judge Ron Jacobson, Reverend Norm Thomas, Wanda Henderson and Joan Smith
- A Dessert Party was held for church members 75 years and older.
- The Sundae Youth Clubhouse was formed. The kids enjoyed movie nights, gym time and ice cream sundaes
- The SUCH Players were formed. The Dinner Theatre presentation was 'Everything's Going to Be Alright'.

**2025** This is the year for the **United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary**. We look forward to the many celebrations, programs and listening to guest speakers for Southminster and the other United churches in town plus hearing about what the United Churches across the country have planned.



1925



2025

# January 2025 at Southminster



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2-4:30pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>11:45am-2:15pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>4:15-5:45 Rec Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Pickleball (SMH)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>5-7pm Pickleball (SMH)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11am Christine R. (S)</p> <p>6-8:30pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>5-7pm Pickleball (SMH)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:30-5:30pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>2-4:30pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>6pm-12am LMCA (SMH, K)</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2pm Joan's Historic Tour</p> <p>3:30-6pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>11:45am-2:15pm Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>4:15-5:45 Rec Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9am-6pm RCM (S)</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>10am-2pm Church Undecorating (S)</p> <p>6-8pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L)</p> <p>10-11am Linedancing (SMH)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-10:30pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9:15-11:15am Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>10 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>1:30pm Piano Tuning (S)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Tanya Gill (UH)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH)</p> <p>9am-12pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>12:30-5:30pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>4-11pm Candlelight Concert (S, L)</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2-9pm Sanatan Hindu Soc. (SMH, K)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (S)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:15-5:45 Rec Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>5:30pm Taylor's Book Study (L)</p> <p>7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am-6pm RCM (S)</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>12:30-2pm Robbie Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>6-8pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5-7pm Symphony (BR)</p> <p>5:30-10:30pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>6:30pm Church Council (L)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:15-11:15am Museaeus (Ch)</p> <p>10 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>10-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>1-3 Sportball BD (SMH)</p> <p>3-10pm Robbie Burns (SMH, K)</p> <p>6-10pm Museaeus (S)</p> <p>Museaeus Concert at 7pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH)</p> <p>9am-12pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-1pm Museaeus (S)</p> <p>12:30-5:30pm Symphony (UH)</p> <p>1-3 Sportball BD (SMH)</p> <p>3-10pm Robbie Burns (SMH, K)</p> <p>6-10pm Museaeus (S)</p> <p>Museaeus Concert at 7pm</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>12pm UCW Meeting (L)</p> <p>12:30-10pm Symphony Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (SMH)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:15-5:45 Rec Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5-10pm Symphony (S)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (SMH)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5-10pm Symphony (S)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (SMH)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>12:30-2pm Robbie Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>6-8pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (Ch)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5-11pm Fiddler on the Roof</p> <p>7:30pm Performance (S, SMH, L)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>5-11pm Fiddler on the Roof</p> <p>7:30pm Performance (S, SMH, L)</p>	<p>Southminster Hall (SMH)</p> <p>Sanctuary (S)</p> <p>Upper Hall (UH)</p> <p>Lounge (L)</p> <p>Nursery (N)</p> <p>Chapel (Ch)</p> <p>Board Room (BR)</p> <p>Kitchen (K)</p> <p>Sunday School (SS)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:45-11:45 am Lutherans (Ch)</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2-9pm Sanatan Hindu Soc. (SMH, K)</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Community Band (S)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:15-5:45 Rec Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:30-10pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>7:30-9:30pm Aurora Choral (UH)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4pm Book Club (L)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>5:30-7pm It's About Music (Ch)</p> <p>5:30pm Taylor's Book Study (L)</p> <p>7-9pm Rollerskating (SMH)</p> <p>7-9pm Vox Musica (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10am-12pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>12:30-2pm Robbie Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>6-8pm It's About Music (SMH)</p> <p>7-9:30pm Choir Practice (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:30-12 pm Coffee and Conv.(L)</p> <p>11 am-1 pm Blankets for Canada</p> <p>5:30-10:30pm Symphony (SMH)</p> <p>4:30-7pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>6:45-8:45pm String Orch. (Ch)</p> <p>7-9pm Roberts Academy Choir (S)</p> <p>8-9pm Kickboxing (UH)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10-11am Sportball (UH)</p> <p>10 am Fit for Life (SMH)</p> <p>11am-1pm Pickleball (SMH)</p> <p>Extensions go up</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8am-12pm Little Ballers (SMH)</p> <p>9am-12pm Sportball (UH)</p> <p>9am Men's Club Breakfast (L)</p> <p>12:30-5:30pm Symphony (S)</p>