

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022



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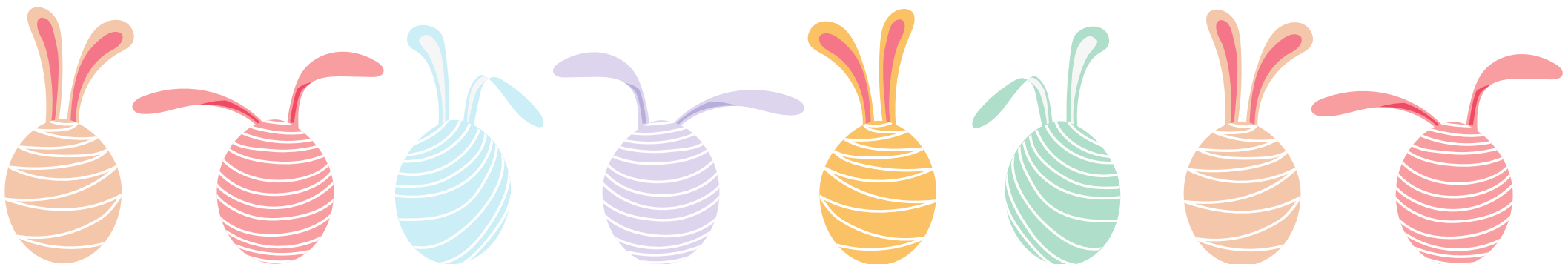
SHOUT OUTS!

Thank You!

Over the past few weeks we have been searching for our wheelchair with no luck; however, A&M Scrap Metals saw our ad on FaceBook and donated a wheelchair! A very special thank you to A&M Scrap Metals as well as to Stan L'Hirondelle who delivered it to us along with a personal donation of a walker!

Thank You!

Special thank you to Norm Start for working so diligently to keep St. Andrew's grounds well maintained and looking spectacular!



GIVING UP "NORMAL" FOR LENT 2022!

**"LENT IS A CALL TO RENEW A
COMMITMENT GROWN DULL,
PERHAPS, BY A LIFE MORE
MARKED BY ROUTINE THAN BY
REFLECTION."
JOAN CHITTISTER**

REFLECTION

With the beginning of April, I am beginning to believe in spring once again! And Easter is nearly upon us.

With Easter comes the end of Lent, and our theme of "giving up normal." I hope this season has been a fruitful one, of both reflection and practice! Just as a reminder, it's time to plan the second "party" (as you are comfortable) with those with whom you shared your intentions for Lenten practice. Even if you didn't manage an early Lent party, consider a small gathering to reflect on what this Lent has meant for you, what you've learned, what your practice has done.

Easter also coincides with the lifting of most of our pandemic restrictions, and the resumption of many aspects of church and community life. This is a blessing and a relief to most of us; we're done with distance and sick of the restrictions! As I write this, predictably, the lifting of restrictions has also led to an uptick in infection rates, and it looks like we are headed into a sixth wave. We can only hope that this wave will pass without too many hospitalizations and deaths. Still, I had hoped for a big bang, a huge celebration, to bring us back to in-person church activities. Instead, we return with joy, but also with anxiety and uncertainty. I guess that's what it will be.

In that light, I confess that I often have difficulty with Easter. You'd think as a minister that this would be a high point, and in some ways it is. But the more I study, the more complex and confusing I find the Easter stories to be, and the more mystery infuses this event. I'm like Thomas: I want to touch it, see it, experience this resurrection in a direct, clear, unambiguous way. But like the end of the pandemic, the resurrection resists clear definition. It doesn't seem to want to be touched.

Like Thomas, I want to touch the resurrection, and think I can't. But all the while, the earth is coming back to life around us, in the annual miracle called spring. The pope has issued an apology to First Nations at last, opening the door to real reconciliation at least a bit more. And each week, as a church, we take steps towards whatever our new life will be.

I wonder sometimes – do I struggle with the resurrection even while I am in the midst of it? With Jesus, unrecognized, right by our side.

Dave

WELCOME BOARD MEMBERS 2022

BOARD CHAIR:

MONIQUE VERMEGEN

AFFIRM:

BRIE SCHMIDT

CHINOOK WINDS REP:

LAWRENCE HRYCAN

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT:

W. SANDY DOUGLAS

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:

LYNN MILLAR

FINANCE:

HANS HAEFLIGER

MINISTERS:

REV. DAVE HOLMES

REV. BARBARA LIEURANCE

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL:

BARRY BROUWER

OUTREACH:

DOUG MAAS

PROPERTY:

JURJAN DUNNEWIND

UCW:

RHONA THACKER

WORSHIP:

SHELLEY-MAY LLOYD

The office has extra copies of the Annual Congregational Meeting correspondence in the event that you were unable to attend.

Please contact the office
office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca to obtain a printed copy.

THANK YOU!

It was an honour to serve as your Board Chair for the past two years. My thanks goes out to all who worked with and supported me during this time. For the next year I will continue to serve as Past Chair and the Chinook Winds Regional Rep.

Yours in faith.

Lawrence

COVID AWARENESS

Case numbers are rising again in our area, and St. Andrew's has been affected!

COVID is contagious before symptoms become apparent, and may have spread for that reason in a meeting or two this week.

So with COVID "in the building," as it were, we wanted to remind the congregation of a couple important things:

- Please, if you are feeling ill, do not come to church! We'll miss you but we'll be grateful you've helped care for our collective health. This has become standard practice in the congregation, we know, so thanks to all of you for that!
- Do please be aware that any of us may have COVID and not know it. If your own health is vulnerable, please do wear a mask, and take extra precautions in this sixth wave. Consider wearing a mask in any case, to protect those around you.

We know that everyone is thoroughly sick of masks, distancing, and all of the pandemic restrictions. In this wave it appears that vaccines do not prevent the spread of the illness, though, and it remains dangerous, at least for some. Let's take care of each other - - until this wave passes!

Grace and peace,
Dave

IN REMEMBRANCE



Pearl Marie MacLeod
1927-2022

Pearl Marie (Dench) MacLeod, beloved wife of the late Alex MacLeod, passed away at the Rimbey Hospital on Friday, March 25, 2022, at the age of 94 years.

Pearl is survived by one daughter, Teresa DeWindt of Rimbey Alberta, with grandson, Brian (Amy) DeWindt, and granddaughter, Lori (Brad) Smith, and with great grandchildren, Adrian, and Vivienne Smith; one son, Robert Dench (Gloria) of Red Deer, Alberta, with grandson, Jeffery (Julia) Dench of Medicine Hat, and with great grandchildren, Jayden, and Jessica Dench, and granddaughter, Shawna (Soren) Skog of Red Deer, with great grandchildren, Emile Marshall, and Kaitlin Marshall, with great great grandchild, Georgia Schwarz; sisters, Myrtle Wolstoncroft of Calgary, Alberta and Ruby Coyle of Lethbridge, Alberta; and sister-in-law, Lotte Tudor of Calgary.

Pearl was predeceased by two husbands, Jack Dench in 2015 (married in 1947) and Alex MacLeod in 2005 (married in 1971); and brothers, Bud Tudor of Vancouver, BC and Ed Tudor of Calgary.

SIGN-IN BINDER

There is a sign-in book at the main entrance. This book is for people to sign in when they are in the church building. **This is for safety reasons, not for Covid contact information.**

For example, if you are in the building having a meeting or working on a project, and we have an emergency such as a gas leak, emergency responders will know where to look for you.

Please ensure you sign in and out.

CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS BOOK

We have a book of Celebrations and Concerns at the entryway to the sanctuary for writing in news of an important event/moment, milestone, or other exciting news. It is also for posting funerals, the passing of an individual, and prayer for certain people (please have permission first). We do have a monthly newsletter for writeups on people and other news. Contact Jana in the office to put something in the newsletter!
office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca

STAINED GLASS WINDOW PRESENTATION

Thur. Apr 14 Senior's Afternoon,
2:00-3:30 PM
(video presentation)

Fri. Apr 15 & Sat. Apr 16, 2-3:30 PM
(with crafts for children)



Rest & Release

Come & Reflect on the Stained Glass Windows in our Historic Building

Light A
Candle

Come
&
Go

Create Your
Own
Experience

Open
Church

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday Intergenerational
Service Apr 10, 10:30 AM

Good Friday Apr 15, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday Intergenerational
Service Apr 17, 10:30 AM

EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 18TH

Mon. Apr 18, 10:00-12:00 PM
Easter Egg Hunt at the church!
All ages welcome including seniors!
Coffee/Tea/Snacks provided

**DONATIONS OF BAKED GOODS WOULD BE
GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

If you have enjoyed the social distance Easter Egg Hunt over the last 2 years you will LOVE this year's Easter Egg Hunt in the church. Please come out to socialize and enjoy our young people. There will be an egg/spoon race, bunny hop, and coloring pages!



Class of 2022!



CALLING ALL GRADS!

Please contact the office if you have a high school or post secondary graduate!
Sun. May 1, 10:30 Service:
Communion & Grad Recognition



MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is coming up Fri.
May 6, 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Camp Theme!



BY DONATION
PROCEEDS TO
CAMP
KASOTA!

delicious



CAMP SUNDAY

Camp Sunday is coming up soon,
and we would like to invite you
all for a hotdog lunch following
worship:

Sun. Apr 24th 10:30 AM
Wear your camp clothes!



GARAGE/BAKE/ FLOWER SALE

**St. Andrew's 3rd Annual
Garage/Bake/Flower Sale
will be held:**

Fri. May 13, 5-7 PM

Sat. May 14, 10-2 PM

**Baked Goods & Plants
available for sale on
Saturday.**

Please bring donations to the church now, you can put them into room #2 located on the left-hand side of the hallway at the bottom of the steps by the white doors that lead to the auditorium. We will accept donations until 12 noon May 13. If you would like to volunteer for the garage sale, please contact Annerie Dunnwind at [403-302-0846](tel:403-302-0846), we are looking for people to help set up, organize, price, make meals, bake donations for our bake sale, babysit the children, and people to work the garage sale.



Vacation Bible School



**VBS will run August 15-18,
9:00-12:00 PM**

**If you are interested in helping out
please contact the office
office@lacombeunitedchurch.ca**

PIE DAY

**PUBLIC, INTENTIONAL,
EXPLICIT, THOSE ARE
THE STANDARDS THAT
GUIDE US WHEN WE
BECOME AFFIRMING OF
LGBTQIA AND TWO SPIRIT
COMMUNITIES**



Pie Day 2022 was held during Affirming weekend and was the first in-person event held by the Affirming team since the pandemic.

The congregation heard many different stories that reminded us why it's important to be an affirming congregation.

The Affirming committee also made sure to keep up with the Lenten theme of "Giving up Normal" as the program was different than our regular service.

The affirming team is looking for new members as the committee expands and prepares for more events and programs.

Contact the affirming team members if you would like to join the committee.





KASOTA FLOWER FUNDRAISER

**CONTACT MADELAINE TO
PRE-ORDER BY APRIL 15, 2022
403-304-0568**

11" PREMIUM HANGING BASKET - \$25.00



These baskets are all designed using only high end plant material (partial shade to full sun) from the best plant suppliers in the World. These baskets all feature bright, vibrant colour combinations including many different varieties of plants. They will come in a classy pot to compliment any decor.

**12 PACK ASSORTED 4"
HERB TRAY \$35.00**



A selection of the most popular herbs, 6 varieties per tray (two of each variety). Grown in the prairies for prairie customers. These can be grown all season allowing you to cut off sprigs for months. These fresh sprigs make great ingredients for your recipes or as garnish to complete your plate.

**PICK UP AT THE CHURCH
DURING THE GARAGE
SALE ON
MAY 13 & 14**

12" PREMIUM PATIO PLANTER - \$35.00



These beauties are also designed using only the best plant material (partial shade to full sun), supplied by the World's top plant suppliers. All patio planters feature bright, bold colours and most include tall accent plants as centers to add dimension to these large works of art. They will add a touch of class to your landscape. These enormous plants will easily be seen from the road attracting the attention of your neighbours & guests.

10" TOMATO PLANTER WITH CAGE - \$16.00



These self-contained planters do not require transplanting.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Worship is looking for members to fill our team. Our duties include helping the minister in worship services, preparing communion, planning events and decorating. We meet every month except for December and July.

Worship is looking for **scripture readers and storytellers**. The scripture is provided (you can read whichever version you like and you can give a history too).

For storytelling, you could tell a story of your choosing or Rev. Dave could provide you with one. We don't read from a storybook as there are copyright issues with live streaming.

Worship is looking for **AV helpers** which entails sitting with the very capable youth at the back by the AV desk and if they need to make a decision on something, they have assistance.

Lawrence has been doing this since we started live streaming and it would be nice for him to have a few Sundays off.

WEBSITE

Sunday bulletins are now posted on our website under Worship for anyone who would like to see our Sunday order of worship.

There is also a new section called Events, this is a calendar of any upcoming events in the church including committee meetings, Messy Church, youth events, special services, facility rentals, etc.

TOYS REQUESTED



Worship is looking for quiet toys for the playground which are toys that don't have a sound device. Things like lego, dolls, trucks, etc. would be appreciated! Please contact Pat Crozier 403-598-9310 and Shelley-May Lloyd sm.lloyd@telus.net 587-876-5058.