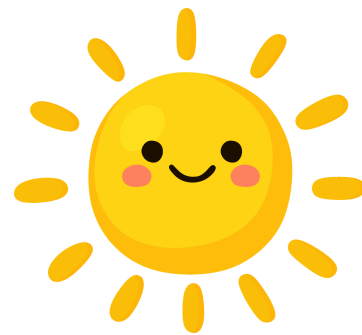


St. Andrew's

# Newsletter



July 2026

## Forever Canadian

The Forever Canadian team in Lacombe partnered with St. Andrew's to hand out lawn signs during Lacombe Days. The team, including our very own Ivor Bernatsky and Betty & Steve Mackenzie, handed out over 100 signs in just two hours. The St. Andrew's Board approved Forever Canadian's request to set up on the lawn and share the message of Alberta always being part of Canada.

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# Yellow Peas



**"No one has ever become poor by giving."  
Anne Frank**



## Central Alberta Foodgrains Growing Project

**"Our 140 acres of yellow peas at mid July.  
We hope to harvest by end of August."**



**Between the Green Team and Hans, the flowers look great!**



standrewslacombe@gmail.com



403-782-3148



# Research at the Woodland Sanctuary



**Pictured above: Moths collected at Woodland Sanctuary by bucket traps.**

Hello! We are research assistants at Burman University working with Dr. Delano Lewis on the Woodland Sanctuary project. Woodland Sanctuary is a natural area that is being curated to provide important habitat for a variety of plants, moths, butterflies and other organisms. By monitoring the biodiversity of the sanctuary, we are able to better understand what species are present and how different environmental conditions may influence their activity and abundance.

A major part of this project includes regular field observations, this includes plant surveys, weekly butterfly counts, and moth collections using a bucket trap with lights. The purpose of these surveys is to provide us with an opportunity to document biodiversity over time and observe how changes in environmental conditions and weather may affect the organisms which are being recorded. The Butterfly counts are done during the warmest and sunniest time of the day, when butterflies are generally expected to be most active, making observations easier. During each visit, we walk around the sanctuary once, typically following the same path each time, and document the number and species observed.

**PS. The Green Team encourages you to download the free iNaturalist app, and make observations yourself of any flora and fauna which get entered into a worldwide research data base for biologists to use. Boost your reputation as a citizen scientist!**

## MEN'S BREAKFAST!

### START YOUR DAY WITH US!

KICK OFF YOUR MORNING WITH OUR DELICIOUS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY  
AUGUST 15  
9 AM



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 FOLLOWING THE SERVICE - TO DISCUSS ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE CHURCH & RENOVATIONS OF THE BATHROOMS

During recent visits, the weather conditions have been more favourable, resulting in several butterflies being observed that had not been seen during previous surveys. Additionally we found that on days that were cloudy or windy, much fewer butterflies had been observed, and the few weeks where there had been a surplus of mosquitos in the area, much fewer butterflies had also been observed.

Moths are observed, about every other week depending on the weather using a light trap. Around dusk, the light trap is put up in the sanctuary and left overnight. The next morning at daylight, it is collected and then processed during the day. During this we separate the moths from the rest of the insects and pin and label them for further research purposes (as seen in the picture).

By sharing the finds of our project, we hope to encourage the community to engage in conservation and highlight the importance of protecting diverse ecosystems such as the Woodland Sanctuary.

-Shamim Amjad & Niharika Singh

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# Casey's Cabin

**Aug 30 there will be a potluck lunch after the Church service at Casey's Cabin. Bring anything you would like to share. Please come and enjoy!**



# Children's Programming!

## Summer Camp Coming Up!

It is summer time and Children's Programming is in transition!!

June was a busy month for the children and families here at St. Andrew's! We wrapped up our Sunday School program on June 14th by hosting a "thank you" coffee hour for the congregation! The kids did a beautiful job of bringing treats, making cards, and serving! Our youth group also had its summer wrap up on June 19th, which saw a group of us meet at the bowling alley and test out our skills! We concluded the evening with snacks, games, and some planning for next year!

Planning for Summer Camp is well under way! Our theme for the week is Connecting with God through Nature. We've had volunteers step forward and registration has opened! If you have a camper or junior leader, please complete the registration form and send it to Jana as soon as possible.

All of our children's programming volunteers are being asked to renew their criminal record checks this summer. If you have not already received your letter, please let me know!

Program Planning for the fall has also begun! I am hoping to expand our First-Third Ministries reach by opening up some programming for young adults as well as parents with young children. Do you know of a young adult that would be interested in building connections at church? What about a new mom interested in getting out and about for coffee and fellowship? Please let me know who I should be connecting with!

Brenna



# KIDS Summer CAMP

**AUGUST 4-7**  
**9AM - 12PM**

*Connecting with God through nature!*

Crafts, Music, Games, Snacks, Learning







standrewslacombe@gmail.com



403-782-3148

# Property Report For July 2026



**Pictured above: Beautiful flower gardens at St. Andrew's!**

The flowers that the Green Team and Hans Haeftiger have planted and taken care of are looking great! We are fortunate to have individuals who love to take care of our property.

Thank you to the following individuals who volunteered to take care of the lawn for the month of July, giving Bill Conley the opportunity to rest his wrist after carpal tunnel surgery: Margaret Gordineer, Don Fraser, Darryl Langille, and Lawrence Hrycan. Bill says he is able to take care of things starting in August. Thank you, Bill.

Earlier this year, we moved our internet from Telus to Rogers because of the difficulty we were having with the speed and consistency of the internet. It did cause us problems with live streaming on Sunday morning. When I checked with Telus, I was told that the area around St. Andrew's was not scheduled for an upgrade to fibre. We decided to stay with Telus for our phones but then began to have down time with them as well. Telus was unable to tell us why we were having these issues. On July 23, we switched our phone system to Rogers. We received a not-for-profit rate, so the price remained basically the same. Jana is in the process of setting up the new phone message. So far, so good.

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## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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The water bill in June was higher than normal, and we have been in contact with the city regarding this. It appears that the men's toilet downstairs was not working properly. The toilet was older than the young man who came to check and replace it. Although I hated replacing the toilet, because it looks like we may be doing some renovations in the future for upgrading bathrooms, we cannot exist with one fewer bathroom, with Summer Camp and our fall rentals.

The quotes are in, and on Sunday, August 16, we will be having a congregational meeting to see how shortening 3 pews in the Sanctuary can accommodate wheelchairs and walkers. This was discussed at the last meeting, and we were asked to bring it forward to the next congregational meeting. The quote to reduce the pews to meet our needs came in at \$800 plus gst.

Many congregational members have commented on our existing bathrooms downstairs. At this meeting, the congregation will also look at a very generous donation to pay for the upgrading of the bathrooms downstairs as well as a renovation plan and quote that was received from a local company. Any changes to the structure of the church must be approved by the congregation.

As always, if you have any questions regarding property, please email or give me a call. I am in the directory.

Lawrence Hrycan, Property Chair.

# Sabbatical

While Rev. Dave Holmes is on sabbatical, the congregation will also be focusing on rest, discovery, creativity and health, to inspire our rejuvenation and renewal.

Worship will be led by a variety of people and may take different forms. The sabbatical planning team are excited to see how we will learn and grow through these experiences. Your feedback is invited each Sunday. We hope you will find that "a change is as good as a rest."

August 2 – In remembering the bombing of Hiroshima and honoring the 40th anniversary of Lacombe's friendship with Rikubetsu, we will start a sabbatical project that will teach us all how to make origami cranes like Dennis Ethier and Leanne Oslund have done for years. In the next 3 months we will create a dynamic display of what we hope will be 1,000 peace cranes, following the story of Sadako.

Aug. 9 - Hannah Polasek, Lay Worship Leader from Olds

Aug. 16 - Rev. Margaret Lange, who is our pastoral charge supervisor and emergency pastoral care coordinator during the sabbatical period. Worship to be followed by a congregational meeting to consider bathroom renovations and changes in the sanctuary to become more accessible.

Aug. 23 – Rev. Bob Settle and Rev. Cecile Fausak will remember and reflect upon the United Church's 40th Anniversary of the 1986 apology to Indigenous peoples. This day also marks the 150th anniversary of the making of Treaty 6.

Aug. 30 - Outdoor service and potluck picnic at Casey's Cabin amphitheatre, on the grounds of Burman University. Our leader will be Rev. Michele Walker, co-founder of Wild Church in BC Okanagan, visiting from Kamloops, who practices land-based spirituality. Is accessible. No online service.

Sept. 6 - Barry Brouwer, will lead us in exploring contemplative practices to heighten our sense of peace and grounding in faith.

Sept. 13 - Brenna Trimble and the Day Camp will be sharing their day camp experiences through the theme of finding God in Nature.

Sept. 20 - UCW I team coordinated by Tilly Meyer will use the "Together We Worship" resource

Sept. 27 – Led by the Living into Right Relations team in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, (Orange Shirt Day).

Oct. 4 – Worldwide Communion Sunday led by Rev. Cecile Fausak and the Lenten Study Group, drawing from the resource Bless, Break and Share.

Oct. 11 - Thanksgiving Service with a focus on music and storytelling led by Darryl Langille

Oct. 18 – On World Food Day, Doug Maas will focus on the work of the Canadian Food Grains Bank and the local growing project

Oct. 25 - Welcome Reverend Dave Holmes back from sabbatical and all of us reflect on the meaning and learning we derived from this sabbatical time. Display our completed peace crane project?

During the sabbatical time, Rev. Marg Lange, a retired minister in Red Deer, will be coordinating emergency pastoral care for us. Her email is [rev.margaret.lange@gmail.com](mailto:rev.margaret.lange@gmail.com) and phone number is 403-391-3412. If she is unable to respond, she may refer the call to one of the following ministers: Nancy Chegus, Leila Currie, or Ray Goodship.



# 4<sup>th</sup> annual LACOMBE PRIDE SOCIETY Pride Weekend

August 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>

**FRIDAY**

Flag Raising  
Pups and Pints

**SATURDAY**

PRIDE IN THE PARK

PAINT THE TOWN GAY  
18+ DRAG SHOW

**SUNDAY**

2 SPIRIT  
LEARNING DAY

And so much more...

Key Sponsors



Follow us on  
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[Lacombe.pride.  
society](https://www.lacombe.pride.society)



[standrewslacombe@gmail.com](mailto:standrewslacombe@gmail.com)



403-782-3148

[CAMP-CARAVAN.CA](http://CAMP-CARAVAN.CA)



# COMING THIS SUMMER TO A CHURCH NEAR YOU!

Spirit-filled Day Camps  
in Calgary and Southern Alberta



**CAMROSE, AB**  
**OCTOBER 23-25 2026**

FOR UNITED CHURCH YOUTH + FRIENDS (13-15 YRS)  
+ THEIR LEADERS

**ALL INFO AT**  
**FIRSTTHIRDMINISTRY.CA**

# RURAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE

**Toward 2035: Strengthening Rural Connexions**

**October 2-4, 2026**  
**Three Hills/Trochu, AB**

Hosted by Knox United in Three  
Hills and St Paul's United in Trochu

