

February 1, 2026



**FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL  
UNITED CHURCH**

## FAMiLy News

**Fifth Ave Memorial United Church**

**476 4 Ave SE**

**Medicine Hat, AB T1A 0K6**

**Office: 403 526 2237**

[www.famunitedchurch.ca](http://www.famunitedchurch.ca)

[office@famunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@famunitedchurch.ca)

### Message from the Board Chair

As most of you are aware by now, Rev Dave is on an approved leave for the next while. Exactly how long, we don't know, but I know all of us wish him a speedy return to health. Please don't call the office looking for more information - Piehl doesn't know any more than this. And honestly, neither do the Board members. Remember to be kind to each other and keep Dave in your prayers.

We are now in a position where we can demonstrate what church FAMiLy is all about - stepping up to help each other when help is needed. The announcement about Rev Dave's absence was made at the service on Sunday 25 January. Less than 36 hours later we've already had people volunteer to lead bible study and assist with pastoral care. You know who you are, but do you know how much you made my heart glad? During the offering invitation part of Sunday services Rev Dave has often talked about how there are different ways to give other than just money. Sure we need money, but right now we need you. We need your dedication. We need your patience. We need your encouragement. We need your presence. We need your time. Can you lead a children's story once? Let John know. Can you help stock the food pantry or organize food hampers? Let Sharon know. Can you help lead the non-sermon parts of a Sunday service? Can you help with assembling bulletins? We need you.

As I said on Sunday, "we've got this." Back in May 2025 Rev Dave was away for several weeks and we banded together and made things happen. We managed then, and we'll do it again. Probably even better this time because we've now had a little practice. And remember, if you're worried about what's going to happen, "we are not alone."

Geoff Coley

Creating Connecting Caring

## FAM On-line Auction



**You still have time to  
donate an item or service.  
Please let the office know what  
you wish to donate.**

**The Auction goes on line Feb 2.**

**Proceeds to the  
Drainage Rehabilitation  
Project**



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**FAM Auction Dates**  
**Bidding opens: February 2**  
**Bidding closes: February 15 at noon**  
**Items can be viewed Feb 2**  
**Thank you for supporting FAM and helping make this fundraiser**  
**a success!**

**All proceeds to the FAM drainage project**

**How to Bid on FAM's Online Auction**

1. **Go to: [FAMcharityauctionbid.auctria.events](http://FAMcharityauctionbid.auctria.events) or scan the QR code.**
2. **Browse the auction:**  
On the opening page, click Auction.  
This will take you to the list of auction items.
3. **View items:**  
Scroll through the items available.  
Click on an item image to see details and place a bid.
4. **Register or sign in:**  
You will be prompted to register or sign in before bidding.
5. **Place your bid:**  
Keep an eye on your item in case someone outbids you—you can always bid again!



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**Need help or no internet access?**

**If you do not have access to the internet, the church office can:**

- **Print a catalogue of auction items, and**
- **Help you place your bids.**

**Just let Piehl know if you need a printed copy or assistance.**

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**Men's Luncheon on**  
**THURSDAY Feb 12, 11.30**  
**Rosewood Bistro**  
**403 N Railway St**  
**RSVP to Gary at 587-936-1430**

**Ladies' Luncheon on**  
**THURSDAY Feb 19, 11.30**  
**Cora's**  
**1820 Strachan Rd SE**  
**RSVP to Launa at 403-502-3419**

**The next FAM bottle drive is on February 15**

Look for the white Ford Truck in front of the Christian Education doors. If you cannot make it on the 15th, feel free to bring your bottles and cans the week before.



**Shrove Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup>**

**FAM will be celebrating with pancakes and sausages.**



**Cooks and servers**

**needed. please sign up on the board or volunteer at the office**

**FAMily Bingo Night on Feb 28th in Wesley Hall starting at 7 pm.**

Please sign up on the Bulletin Board or let the office know you will be attending. (no money will be exchanged). Prizes will be something from your home you don't need anymore.



Everyone welcome!



**Annual World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at St Peter's Lutheran Church – we need one or two FAM representatives. Organisational meeting will be held on Thurs Feb 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Grace Hall – please let Piehl know if you can attend.**

**Would you like to colour some Ukrainian Easter eggs?** Everyone welcome whether you already have that skill or want to take this great opportunity to learn. Let the office know if you are interested.

**FAMILY Camping Weekend** last weekend in May at Camp Shagabec people needed to sit on the committee – please contact the office.





Rewarding Real Life

Consider giving FAM your **Canadian Tire dollars** by using the **church phone number (403-526-2237)**



Use the

**FAM membership**

**number 2501** at any

South Country Co-op location



When you buy gift cards through FAM, we receive a commission from each card purchased. Since starting this program FAM has made over \$4,000. Orders will go in the third Wednesday of every month. To see the full list of partners and get an order form visit our webpage or stop by the church office or the office can email you the form.

**FAM Library.** FAM has a wonderful library just waiting for you to visit. Come to the Memorial Salem Room during office hours or on Sunday after church to browse through the collection.



**If you take a book to read, just fill out the sign out book.**



**FAM also has a book and puzzle exchange** in the church foyer. Feel free to bring your books and puzzles. You don't need to bring a book to take a book or to sign them out. Please help yourself.



**Can you help?**

**FAM needs a donation of the following items:**

**Hand held food mixer to help with kitchen prep**

**Working laptop to support FAM's AV program.**

**Contact David Gue for more info.**

**Can you help by donating some much-needed food items**



Always needed: peanut butter, Jams, pancake mix, granola bars, juice boxes, ground beef, canned foods and more. Bring your items to the church and place in the wagon in the foyer.

Medicine Hat  
**Rotary**  *ignite*

# Fabric, Yarn & More Sale

Saturday, April 18, 2026  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Medicine Hat Curling Centre  
880 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Medicine Hat

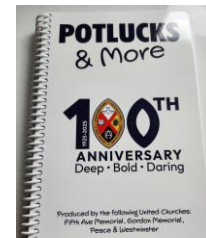
entry **\$2**

Funds raised will benefit local projects that promote Community Connection & Wellness

For further information or pick up of donations call:  
Michelle 403-952-9041  
Pam 403-580-9033

Facebook @ Rotary Ignite Medicine Hat

**Church cook books  
for sale \$20**



**FAM Office hours**

Monday to Thursday 11am to 1pm

Or by appointment (call **403 526 2237**)

**Reminder that we need to keep our contact list current, please make sure the office has your current address, phone and email details.**

Check out the FAM webpage for updated information about happenings going on at FAM and the Community. The calendar is updated daily. Also, make sure to like our Facebook page, Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church, and please share our events.

**Our Sacred Service team** model, where everyone in the congregation is invited to partake in Sunday morning responsibilities, has been very successful since its inception in May 2024. A big thank you to all those who lead and volunteer.

**Thank you to our February leader Brenda McLaren and her team**

Scripture Readers for Feb

1 Sheila McLeod

8 Brenda McLaren

15 Launa Watson

22 Carole Hillson

## FAMily Calendar

<b>Feb 2 - 15</b>	<b>FAM On-line Auction</b>		<b>See page 2</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>FAM Annual General meeting</b>		<b>Watch for info</b>
Feb 12th	Men's luncheon - Rosewood Bistro 403 N. Railway St	11.30am	RSVP Gary 587 936 1430
Feb 15th	Bottle Drive	10am	FAM
Feb 17th	Shrove Tuesday pancakes & sausages	5.30pm	FAM
Feb 19th	Ladies' luncheon – Cora's 1820 Strachan Rd SE	11.30am	RSVP Launa403 502 3419
Feb 28th	Family Bingo night	7pm	Wesley Hall
March 6th	World Day of Prayer	7pm	St. Peter's Lutheran Church
April 18th	Fabric Yarn & More Sale	9am -2pm	Medicine Hat Curling Centre
April 25	Valentines dance		<b>Date change</b>
March 28	Murder Mystery Dessert Night		<b>Info coming soon</b>
May 29-31	Family Camping weekend		Camp Shagabec

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>Service and Church School</b>	<b>FAM 10am</b>
Mondays	Morning Coffee 10am	FAM Memorial Salem Room
Wednesdays	Bible Study 10am	Chinook Village
Wednesdays	Prayer Shawl Crafters 1-3pm	FAM Memorial Salem Room
Wednesdays	Hand Bell Ringers 1.15pm	Wesley Hall
2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>THURSDAY</b> of each month	Men's Luncheon 11.30am	Gary 587 936 1430
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	Funscrip orders submitted	Order at FAM office
3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>THURSDAY</b> of each month	Ladies Luncheon 11.30am	Launa 403 502 3419