



FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL
UNITED CHURCH

FAMily News

Fifth Ave Memorial United Church
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Happy October everyone. We're off to a great start this fall and I'm really optimistic that it will continue this way. A few tidbits for your consideration...

- Thanks to Rev Bill for leading us in a communion service at the end of September, and for supporting us at the FAM Board level - we are so very lucky to have him.
- We have had some fantastic sermons by video, including the one that seemed to have a giant house fly disturbing the speaker - it's actually a small tear in the screen. We will be continuing to swap back and forth between in-person speakers from our own congregation, guest speakers from outside, and more video sermons. So we will continue to get a wonderful variety of speakers and points of view.
- We decided to do without bulletins during the summer, and surprisingly, the world didn't come crashing down around us. So the Worship Committee decided that we would try extending that bulletin-less model for a while longer. It saves money, it saves trees, and it saves a LOT of volunteer and paid-staff time spent behind the scenes. I know, I know, I know - the church mantra "that's not the way we've always done it"
- We are also trying to do a monthly announcement sheet instead of weekly, but when necessary, we'll update it more often. But the announcements loop projected on the screen before each service will be updated weekly. So far it seems to be working well.
- Speaking of things being updated weekly, you know that board at the front of the church where hymn numbers can be posted? Know what it's called? It's called (ready?) a hymn board. Well that's original. Anyway, since we are going bulletin-less for the foreseeable future, we thought we would try reviving the hymn board and having the hymns posted each Sunday by the Sacred Service team. We'll see how that works out.
- The Chinook Winds project for collaborative ministry is now well underway with our reps being asked to comment on the draft job descriptions and methods of supporting all of our area congregations. Please be sure to give them your wholehearted support as we move forward with this exciting and critical phase. Details will be shared as we continue.
- Finally, as you will have heard several times already, the United Church of Canada and Chinook Winds Region are encouraging congregations to get actively involved in the

discussions about the Alberta referendum. Will it be political? Yes. Will it be partisan? NO. They provided some excellent material that helps us look at the 10 questions on the referendum, and examine them using the lens of scriptures and Christian beliefs. Maybe you will agree with the interpretations, and maybe not, but please take some time to think seriously, critically, and prayerfully about what we are being asked to vote on.

That's about all for now. Have a wonderful October!

Geoff Coley FAM Board Chair

FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH

Saturday October 3, 2026

FALL TURKEY SUPPER

Adults \$25 Ages 6-16 \$13 5 & under FREE. Starts at 4:30



TURKEY WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS, DRINKS & PIE

With entertainment prior to your sitting.
Please purchase tickets in advance at FAM church office
476 4 Street SE
11am – 1pm Mon – Thurs
OR call 403-580-0271



Creating Connecting Caring

Lend a Hand at Sunday School

We'd love to have a few more people join our Sunday School team as substitute teachers when our regular teachers are away. If you'd enjoy spending a Sunday morning with our wonderful group of kids, even occasionally, please talk to Jana, Mike or Sarah. We'd be so happy to have you help out!

**Men's Luncheon on
October 8th, 11.30
Medicine Hat Golf Course
RSVP to Gary at 587 936 1430
All guys welcome**

**Ladies' Luncheon
October 15th, 11.30
Medicine Hat Golf Course
RSVP to Launa 403 502 3419
All ladies welcome**

**Hats off to Stephanie for
spearheading drainage project
See below**

**Volunteers needed
Check out Sacred Service Teams
Donate to the food cupboard
and Silent Auction**



Drainage Rehabilitation Project Update

- FAM received the grant congratulation letter from the Alberta government on 5 Aug: \$1,986 for professional services and \$31,333 for construction. These are posted on the notice board, and are in line with what we expected to receive.
- Work has begun on the ventilation, but there are delays due to the difficult accessibility to the attic.
- Excavation for the one stormwater pipe that needs to be installed from the NE corner to the alley has begun. All other drains are already connected, reducing our excavation costs.
- The below ground brickwork exposed during excavation has revealed the damage done; the Board has decided to commit up to \$15,000 to repoint the brick and install a waterproof barrier. This project was recommended in previous reports, and will be eligible for next year's provincial grant. Doing the work now will save us excavation and fill costs in the future, and complete the drying of the tower.
- Our apologies are extended to anyone who is inconvenienced by our construction work in the alley.

Stephanie



We have a mystery on our hands. The Guest book and stand have disappeared from the Sanctuary. If you moved it, please let the office know where it is. ??????????????????????????????

NEED HELP

Every Thursday starting on Oct 1st to Dec 3, we are providing lunch for Learn. Piehl needs help with supplying lunch and helping serve. Please sign up on the bulletin Board if you can assist.



FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL
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Creating, Connecting, Caring

Can you donate some food items to fill the FAM food cupboard?

Current needs: spaghetti and spaghetti sauce and items that do not need cooking eg snack bags of almonds, packages of cheese and crackers. Bring your items to the church and place in the wagon in the foyer, all donations welcome. See Sharon Hunter for more information



YOUR
HELP
NEEDED

Decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving

FAM needs help to decorate the Sanctuary on Oct 8th at 11 am. If you can help, let the office know or sign up on the bulletin board.



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Creating, Connection, Caring

The church office is looking for people to be on the funeral committee. It entails making coffee, tea, getting cold refreshments ready. Getting the prepared lunch ready, plus serving. If you would like to be on this committee, please email the church office at office@famunitedchurch.ca.

Gifts n Goodies - FAM is looking for NEW items for the Silent Auction please

If you have something you would like to put in the decorations, please have the item at the church by Oct 7th.



The referendum is fast approaching and it is not a simple thing to understand.

Through our regional body, The United Church of Canada has provided information to put this in a Christian context.

In the lead-up to the referendum, we are posting each question along with some things for all of us to think about.

Check out FAM Facebook page.
(Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church)

We encourage everyone to wear their name tags during Sunday Services. The office can provide a soft plastic holder with your name in it or you can order through the office, hard plastic name tags for \$15 plus GST.

Bittersweet news for our FAMily. Art and Shannon are moving to Calgary to be closer to their kids. Sad to be losing them, but happy for them at the same time. There will be a going away get together Monday, Oct 5th at 10 am in Memorial Salem room. Come join them for cake and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come

Hats off to our Sunday service leaders and helpers.

Great job and huge thank you!



FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL
UNITED CHURCH

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Gifts n Goodies Market

November 7th | 10 AM–3 PM
✦ Mini Trade Fair ✦
Soup & Bun, Pie & Coffee
available to purchase
Bake Table · Silent Auction · and more!
Admission: \$2 per person

476 4th Street SE,
Medicine Hat
403-526-2237
office@famunitedchurch.ca

Creating, Connecting, Caring

New items
needed for
silent auction
please

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

Triangle
Rewards
Rewarding Real Life



Use the

FAM membership number 2501
at any South Country Co-op
location

FundScrip

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 Office hours

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm

Closed Oct 12 Thanksgiving and
Nov 11 Remembrance Day

Check out the FAM webpage for updated information about happenings at FAM and in the Community. Make sure to like our Facebook page, Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church, and please share our events.

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

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FAMily Calendar

Oct 3rd	Fall Turkey Supper	4.30pm	
Oct 8th	Decorating the sanctuary	11am	
Oct 8th	Men's luncheon Medicine Hat Golf Course	11.30am	RSVP Gary 587 936 1430
Oct 12th	Office closed for Thanksgiving		
Oct 15th	Ladies luncheon Medicine Hat Golf Course		RSVP Launa 403 502 3419
Oct 30th	Trick or Treat on 3 rd St	1-4.30pm	Candy donations welcome for FAM to give out
Nov 7th	Gifts & Goodies		Contact Piehl to volunteer
Nov 11th	Office closed Remembrance Day		
Nov 22nd	Sunday School Rehearsal		
Nov 26th	Decorate the Sanctuary		
Nov 29th	Carol fest		
Dec 5th	Breakfast with Santa		
Dec 11th	Medicine Hat Christmas Lights tour	6pm	

Regular activities

Sundays	Services & Sunday School fellowship and goodies	FAM 10am
Mondays	Morning Coffee 10am	FAM Memorial Salem Room (bring your coffee)
Wednesdays	Bible Study 10am	Chinook Village
Wednesdays	Prayer Shawl Crafters 1-3pm	FAM Memorial Salem Room
Wednesdays	Hand bells	Wesley Hall
2 nd Thursday of each month	Men's Luncheon 11.30am	Gary 587 936 1430
3 rd Wednesday of each month	Funscrip orders submitted	Order at FAM office
3 rd Thursday of each month	Ladies Luncheon 11.30am	Launa 403 502 3419

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. Check out the team shuffle for 2026/7.

Sacred Service team leaders for October are Carole & Brendan see the following the team lists

A big thank you to all those who lead and volunteer.

Sacred Service Teams

October - team leads	Carole & Brendan			
Gaudet	Avis		Hinzman	Judy
McCouat	Mike, Mariah, Evan		Hurlbut	Tim & Melissa
Hoffarth	Tanya & Albert		Torrance	Grace
Walters	Shauna		Turner	Elaine
Hall	Ann		Brand	Dieter & Kitt
Hanegan	Patty		Krausz	Terry
Hill	Mae		Torrance	Grace
Hilsendager	Peggy			
Walters	Brian			
November – team leads	Terry Lou and Art		December – team leads	Cheryl & Miles
Dietrich	Pat		Dickie	Judy
John	John		Britt	Mary Ann
Moston	Bob		Simpson	Bonnie
Watson	Launa & Garry		Adesanba	Esther
Gue	David & Martha		Kirkham	Della
McLeod	Sheila & Grant		Bjarnason	Sam
Westgarth	Robyn & Megan		Duguid-Grooters	Cassandra, Adelayo & Adekola
			Thorson	Meaghan
			Levesque	Lisa