# Roots & Wings Christmas Newsletter 2025



Meeting the Child through the season, we will catch a glimpse of the true Spirit of Christmas, shimmering through the starry nights!

The song, *What Child IS This* that we all know so well has journeyed over the lands of time, through varying cultures, amid social changes, and in different languages, while carrying the beloved melody of the 16th century English folk tune. This advent and Christmas season, we will take a deeper look into the

words beyond the lullaby, where Spirit and humanity meet. We will see the story of time leading up to the birth of Christ in its historical trauma-informed fullness. The story of humanity and its recurring themes run straight into today's narratives. Throughout the season, we will explore the ways in which "God with us" is still present in powerful and mystical ways that continue to inspire themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and new birth.

Rev Leila Currie

## Advent and Christmas Worship Services at Gaetz Memorial United Church 2025

"What Child IS This ... Beyond the Lullaby "

Sunday Nov. 30 10:30AM Advent 1 HOPE- Music with Sanctuary Choir

Sunday December 7 10:30 AM Advent 2 PEACE - Music with Sanctuary Choir, Gaetz Ringers Handbells, Piano & Organ . Giving Sunday - Please bring donations for Food Bank, C.A.W.E.S, Christmas Bureau, or Gifts for Grandparents.

Sunday December 14 10:30 AM Advent 3 JOY - Music with Sanctuary Choir

*Service of Comfort* - Tuesday Dec. 16 7 PM Gaetz United Church - A gentle prayerful service for all who struggle with the season during times of grief, loss. loneliness or just needing some quiet and reflective prayer.

**Sunday December 21** 10:30 AM Advent 4 LOVE - Music with Synergy Worship Band, Sanctuary Choir, Rhondda Gower (Flute) with Gordon Wright (Cello)

**Wednesday December 24 Christmas Eve** -\*5:30PM **Children's Service** Silent Nighties and Joyful Jammies. Join us to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Wear your pyjamas!

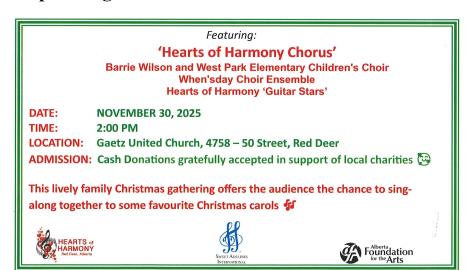
\* <u>7PM</u> - Christmas Eve Family Service music with... Fusion Duo, Denise Bedford (soloist), Gordon Wright (cello)

The Carillon will be played throughout Advent & Christmas.

Sunday December 28 10:30 AM Christmas Carols Service

Sunday Services and Christmas Eve Services are available online on our Facebook Page and on YouTube under Gaetz Memorial United Church.

# **Upcoming Concerts at Gaetz Memorial United Church**



## Candlelight Concert

December 5 Gaetz United Church Sanctuary

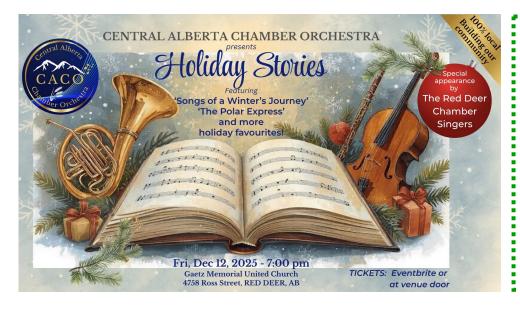


Vivaldi and the Four Seasons at 6:30PM

Tribute to ABBA at 8:30 PM

All tickets sold through feverup.com

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE!



Concert at Sunnybrook United Church

Seasons of Change A Winter Reflection

December 15 7 PM Tickets \$20 Available at the door

"From the Top" Vocal Ensemble

with Special guests Gaetz Memorial United church Sanctuary Choir





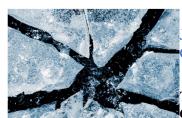




# Saturday Shenanigans Bowling Night

January 31 1-3PM

Please watch announcements for further information.



JOURNEY WITH GRIEF Winter Session 2026

Willief Session 2020

Thursday Evenings 6:00-7:30

#### February 12-March 19 2026

Grief affects each of us at some time in our lives.

Journey With Grief is a gentle program with a small group setting to companion one another in the midst of loss or radical life changes.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

Facilitated by Rev Leila Currie - Diaconal Minister, certified Spiritual Director, and *Anam Cara* (Soul Friend).

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please Register by contacting Leila at hummingbird 164@hotmail.com or by calling the

hummingbird164@hotmail.com or by calling the church office 403-347-2244.

#### COFFEE AND CONVOS

Come and share with your community of faith at COFFEE AND CONVOS

the last 3 Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. we meet in the comfortable surroundings of the Runway Café on Ross Street.

# Deja Brew/aging together with coffee:



The gifts and challenges of aging affect all of us in one way or another.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH, BEGINNING <u>NOVEMBER 6</u> at 10:00, coffee will be served <u>in the parlour</u> at Gaetz United Church,

with shared conversations on the topic of aging.

ALL ARE WELCOME

#### THANK YOU!

Our Church is doing solid work. The lives and destinies of many people are being helped. With sincere gratitude we thank you .

Stewardship Team: Rosemary Congdon, Sue Schollie, Lorna Watkinson-Zimmer



The friendly face of Tracy Ward has greeted members and visitors alike in her present position as Church Administrator at Gaetz since February, 2018.

Tracy has been committed, organized, reliable, thorough, and professional. She has always been motivated to do the best possible job and has gone above and beyond her job description. Tracy has volunteered for many tasks at the church.

Tracy will retire from her full-time position at the end of December. However, she will continue to work in a separate office on other tasks one day a week. She is looking forward to volunteer in some of the areas of the church. We know Tracy will be missed and wish her the very best in "semi" retirement.

From Ministry and Personnel Committee



#### **Classic Christmas Story Trivia**

- 1. What was the name of the town where Jesus was born?
- 2. Who was the Roman Emperor during the time that Jesus was born?
- 3. Who were the mystical messengers in the story of Jesus' birth?
- 4. In A Christmas Carol, who was the first ghost to visit Ebenezer Scrooge?
- 5. What was the original title of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas?
- 6. St. Nicolas is the patron saint of what?
- 7. In The Grinch Who Stole Christmas, what happened to the Grinch's heart?
- 8. How many wisemen visited Jesus?

#### **Classic Christmas Story Trivia Answers**

- 1. Bethlehem
- 2. Caesar Augustus (adopted son of Julius Caesar)
- 3. Angels
- 4. His deceased partner, Jacob Marley
- 5. A Visit from St. Nicolas
- 6. Children, sailors, merchants, repentant thieves, and brewers!
- 7. It grew 3 sizes
- 8. It is unknown the story says there were 3 gifts, there is no indication as to how many "wisemen" there were.

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Gaetz Memorial United Church

4758 Ross Street Red Deer T4N 1X2

Office: 403-347-2244

Rev. Leila Currie hummingbird164@hotmail.com

website: www.gaetzmemorialunitedchurch.com