

# *A Gaetz Memorial Publication: Roots & Wings*

## **Sacred Expressions**

**Easter & Spring  
2025**



~ artistic scrapbooking by Lori Heppler



**Contact Leila at:**

**[hummingbird164@hotmail.com](mailto:hummingbird164@hotmail.com)**

### **MINISTER'S MUSINGS**

*Written and submitted by Leila Currie*  
**Sacred Expressions**

In each day, amid the swirling fog  
And interplay of despair and hope,  
In the frantic grasp of a world  
desperate for our time,  
and the agitated frenzy that would rob us  
our senses,  
May we yield to the Sacred,  
Away from distraction of screens, media, or  
the constant borage of voices.

May we yield to the Sacred  
In new breath and stillness,  
Harkening to the sounds of the  
great returning  
Of singing flocks, and crowing ones,  
and honkers.

May we yield to the Sacred  
Adhering to new awakenings of seedlings,  
Soaking in the fragrance of new green, and  
pink blossoms.

May we yield to the Sacred  
in the laughter  
of hide and seek, sidewalk masterpieces,  
and floating rainbow bubbles.  
May we yield to the Sacred  
in baseball bleachers, and soccer fields,  
searing hot dogs and sweet  
burning marshmallows.  
May we yield to the Sacred  
Pasturing on wobbly legs of  
new-borns, finding their way to their  
mother's milk.  
May we yield to the Sacred -  
In all the wild imaginings of a new season;  
In the Great Resurrection of  
Presence, Wonder, and Love.  
And then, with rainbow umbrellas and  
sandal feet, join the walk of compassion  
and Peace.

# Life Events

## Updates

### Celebrations of Life

We welcomed in baptism:  
Archer McLellan



We said 'Farewell' to:

Connie Bolding  
Donald Moore  
Dorothy McWhan  
Barclay White



### Your Prayer Team:

You are held in care. Our dedicated team of compassionate souls hold the prayers of your heart in love, and respect for confidentiality, and add them to their prayers and contemplative practices each week. Please fill out a prayer card during Sunday morning service or you can email Rev. Leila Currie @ [hummingbird164@hotmail.com](mailto:hummingbird164@hotmail.com)

The prayer team consists of: Maxine Whitehead, and Carolyn Neufeld, Kathryn Kuppan, and Leila Currie.



## Holy Week

Please join the faith community for the following services of worship:

**April 13** Palm Sunday @ 10:30—Gaetz Ringers

**April 18** Holy Friday @ 10:30, Sanctuary Choir,  
Hot Cross Buns & refreshments served after

**April 20** Easter Sunday @ 10:30, communion



## P.L.U.R.A (Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic, Anglican)

Holy Week, starting April 14 will have the PLURA community offering noon hour services of prayers and soup and refreshments following each noon service

**April 14** Noon service @ St. Leonard's with Preacher John Lentz

**April 15** Noon service @ Good Shepherd Lutheran with Preacher Nancy Chegus

**April 16** Noon service @ Gaetz United with Preacher Jaebok Gu, soup to follow

**April 17** noon service @ Knox Presbyterian with Preacher: Barb Borle

Please continue to watch the announcements, Gaetz Memorial United Church website and Gaetz Memorial United Church Facebook Page for details as they become available.

# WAYS TO CONNECT @ GAETZ

## **Gaetz United UCW** (United Church Women)

Meetings are held in the Parlour (lower level) of Gaetz United Church. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from September to May at 1:30 pm. All are welcome .

Join us for our program containing a devotional, a guest speaker and tea to follow

**Walking United.** We meet at **9:15 AM** on Mondays at various trails in the city. Our walks are usually no more than 1 hour. Come when you can, no experience necessary! For more information and walking schedule call Brenda Reid @ 403 346-6838 or Caron Murray @ 403 396-2376



**Men's Breakfast Group** meets the 1st Friday of each month at 8:00 AM at the ABC Family Restaurant board room. (2085-50 Ave, Red Deer) All men welcome. Questions? Call Ray 403-304-2581 or email [rayinreddeer@gmail.com](mailto:rayinreddeer@gmail.com)



**Ladies Who Lunch** **Tuesday April 8th 11:45** at Albert's Family Restaurant 5020 47 Ave Red Deer. This is an opportunity to dine out and enjoy conversation with friends, old and new. All are welcome!

**AOTS** Our spring AOTS meetings are set with Joanne Fairlie speaking at the April meeting, in May we will welcome Ross Smillie here and June will be Ray Yaworski . Please join us for a pot luck supper at 6:00 p.m. great fellowship and program to start at 7:00 pm



# WAYS TO CONNECT @ GAETZ

## Christian Development Events

- Watch for Spring events in upcoming announcements

**United Kids Camp** - July 29th to August 1st. The theme is Creation Explorers and camp will be held at Sunnybrook United this year 9:00 am –12:00 pm



***Deja Brew***—aging together with coffee:

**first Wednesday of the month in Gaetz  
Church parlour @ 10:00 a.m.**



## Coffee & Convo @ Runway Cafe

Come & join in the conversation  
at 10:00 a.m. on the last 3 Wednesday  
mornings

## MUSICAL GROUPS

**Choir practice** is on Wednesdays @ 7:30pm.

Please contact Dale Dickau at [ded851@gmail.com](mailto:ded851@gmail.com) for more information.

**Handbells Rehearsals** Thursdays @ 6:15pm.

For more information, please contact Melanie Grant 403-318-4183.

**Synergy Band Rehearsals** after worship 11:45-1:00 Sundays.

Contact Gordon Wright [wright.gi@gmail.com](mailto:wright.gi@gmail.com) or phone 403-392-7005



# WAYS TO CONNECT @ GAETZ

## ***From the Affirm and Acknowledge Team...***

Gaetz held a wonderful PIE day on March 14, 2025.

We had tasty pie at the start of the ceremony. Then we moved into our Public, Intentional, and Explicit celebration - wonderful music, drag shows, a drag story, and a beautiful message from Leila (How can we do this in church?!) - in our beautiful sanctuary. The pictures really tell the story!



# Coming Events

## Grammalink Africa Fabulous Fabric Sale

When ..... April 26, 2023

Where ..... Gaetz United Church Pioneer Hall

Time..... Saturday 9am - 1:00 pm



April 24 .....Ham Dinner @ Sunnybrook United, two seatings @ 5:00 & 6:30 pm

May 3..... Gaetz UCW Spring Tea and Artisan Market @ 1:00—4:00  
Angel Food Cake & refreshments. Freewill offering.

May 4 ..... Red Deer Performing Arts Concert @ 2:00 in Sanctuary

### Gaetz Ringers Handbells

Sunday April 13 Gaetz United Church worship service

Sunday April 27 St. Leonard's Anglican Church Worship service

May 10 ..... Handbell Concert hosted by Gaetz Ringers with 2 Handbell Choir visitors  
@ 3:00 pm

May 25 ..... Music Sunday Service @ 10:30 with Gaetz Sanctuary Choir  
and Synergy Intergenerational Band

June 22 ..... UCC 100 Anniversary Celebration... watch for details

June 28 ..... GrammaLink Africa – All Things Rhubarb Tea from 1:30—3:30 pm



## *Spring Tea & Artisan Market*



Saturday May 3 1 PM- 4 PM  
Gaetz Memorial United Church  
4758 Ross Street Red Deer AB

Enjoy Angel Food Cake with Cherry Topping and  
Refreshments (freewill Offering)  
then shop at the local Artisan tables.



Artisan products include jewelry, baking, knitting,  
cards, local honey products and much more.

For more information call Gloria 403-877-0454

## *Campanology* :the study of bell ringing



*Saturday,  
May 10, 2025  
3pm*

Gaetz Memorial United  
Church  
4758 50 St, Red Deer  
(403)347-2244

## *A Handbell Concert presented by*

CMS Overtones of Edmonton

Directed by Carol Bergum

Gaetz Ringers of Red Deer

Directed by Melanie Grant

Bell Époque of Calgary

Directed by Annie Hergott & Jim Winslett

*including mass musical selections played by all three choirs*



Gaetz  
Memorial  
United  
Church



Admission: Free-will offering in support of our Handbell Programs



## United Church of Canada celebrates 100 th Anniversary



The United Church of Canada came together in 1925, through a union of Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, and other Christian churches – one of the first ecumenical unions in the world to bring together major Christian denominations into one body.

"We are not alone," is the first line of "A New Creed," one of our statements of belief. The United Church of Canada has a long history of welcoming people of all backgrounds and orientations – wherever you are in your faith journey.

### *Spirit of Wellness...*

### *Arts in the Sanctuary*

Musicians and artists explore and share their art in the beautiful Kerry Wood Nature Center surroundings. The public is invited to interact with the artists.

**Where:** Kerry Wood Nature Center 6300 45 Ave. Red Deer

**When: Sunday October 5 , 2025**

More details to follow.

Can you spot the chickadee?



### **Gaetz Youth Scholarship**



The Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications or nominations. This scholarship honours a high school student who is an active participant at Gaetz and has made significant contributions to the life of the congregation. The funds given are used to help the student attend post-secondary education.

**Submission forms are now available at the church office and should be in by May 16, 2025**

Thanks to those who have contributed funds to the scholarship in the past. If you would like to make a donation towards the scholarship please contact the Office.

### **2025 Gaetz United Church Board**

Chair	Shari Hanson
Vice-Chair	vacant
Secretary	vacant
Treasurer	Scott/Sheila Cunningham
Representative – Worship Events Team	Deb Heenan
Representative – Ministry & Personnel	Shona Sponholz
Representative – Christian Development	Marsha Anders
Member at Large	Randy Patmore
Member at Large	Dom Mancuso
Member at Large	vacant

Thank you to all the members of the 2024 Board and committees. Your devotion to serving our Community of Faith is much appreciated.

## Outreach

Gaetz Outreach (GO) continues to connect our church congregation with various charitable organization by providing information about them, understanding services provided, and how GO can be of support. We follow their requests/needs and try to let you know how you can help. Check out the church [website](#) for further details or the [Gaetz Memorial United Church Facebook Group](#). Donations can be taken directly to the organizations or brought to Gaetz church to be left in the containers at the back of the Narthex.

Our church is also very aware of the wider outreach needs regionally, provincially, federally and internationally. Through the Harold Parry Fund, GO makes regular donations throughout the year. In October, 2024, \$5000 was distributed by the Board to CAWES, Safe Harbour, McDonald House, CARE & Salvation Army Backpack & Adopt-a-Family programs. In March 2025, GO recommended the Board distribute \$5000 to HOMES, UCC Philanthropy Unit (Emergency Response), Canada Mental Health Association (Amethyst House), the Friendship Society & Youth HQ (Headquarters).

At the present time, we are desperately in need of volunteers to be part of this OUTREACH (GO) committee. Please contact the Board or Leila if you are interested.

The world is in desperate need in so many ways. Millions of people live in war-torn areas and in refugee camps. The needs are always there. We in Red Deer Alberta are generally so fortunate to live in safe spaces with most daily needs met. But this is still not so for many people locally and beyond. Please help throughout the year as you can and let us know where we can be of help.

*Spring Giving Sunday: Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>*

Donations will be given to the following organizations.

Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter

Safe Harbour

Red Deer Food Bank

Stay tuned to the announcements for further details regarding these donations!

~ Submitted by Karen Gough



## Gaetz Stewardship

How do you express yourself as a steward of Gaetz United Church? We all strive to be caretakers of a place which brings us joy, nourishment and fulfillment. When we become involved in a group or committee at Gaetz, we meet more people, challenge ourselves, find new skills, and use our abilities to contribute to the health and success of our church. There are many opportunities for your involvement at Gaetz, and we encourage you to find a role in our faith community. It is fun, rewarding, and helps to ensure the longevity of our church.

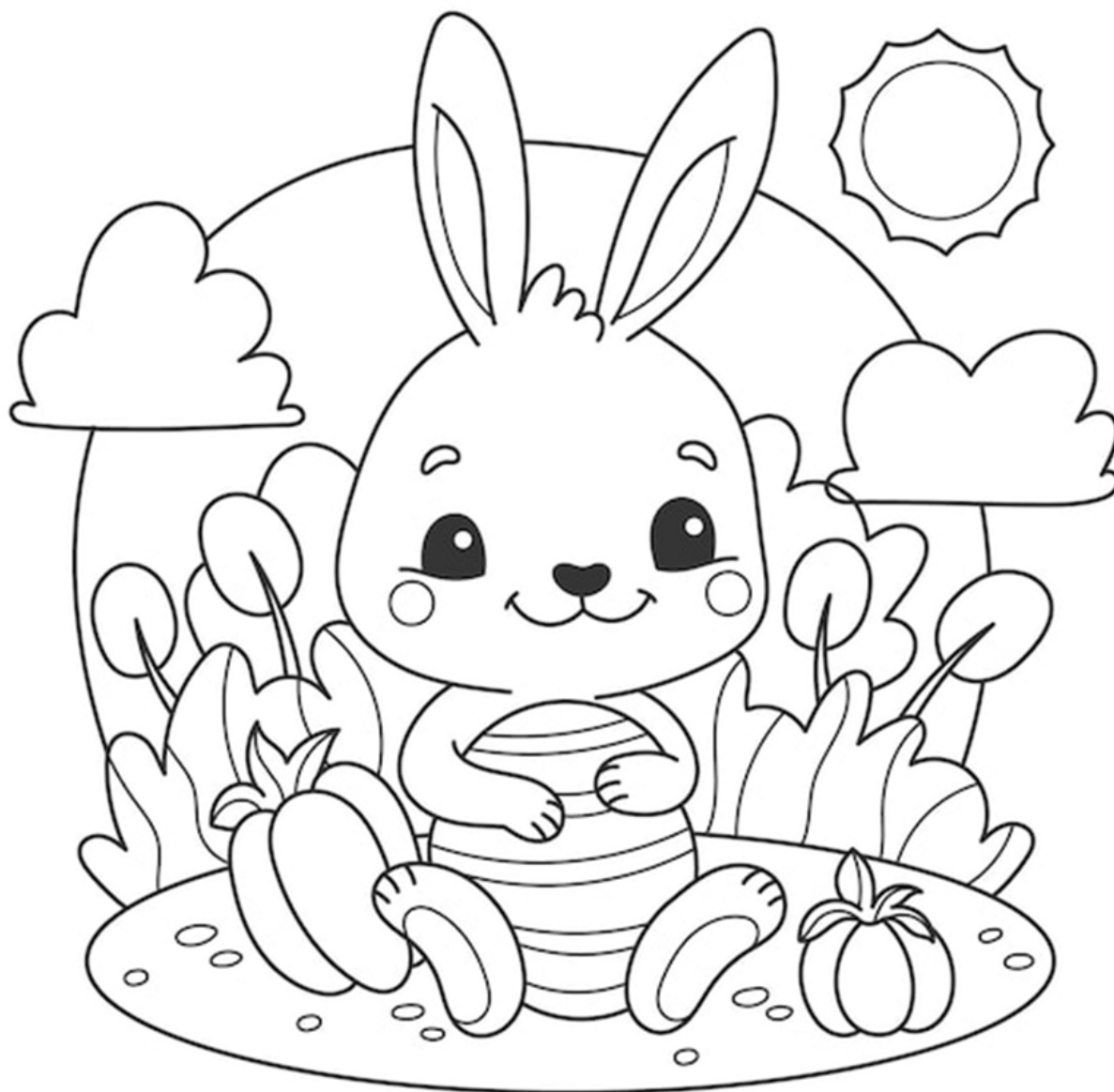
We also encourage you to contribute financially to the well-being of Gaetz Church. Your money can be designated for many purposes at Gaetz, such as the current need to replace our old boiler. There are many ways to donate that may be suitable for you, such as in-person offering or online donation. Pre-authorized remittance (PAR) is a great way to give financially to the church, as you can arrange for regular weekly offerings to be received.

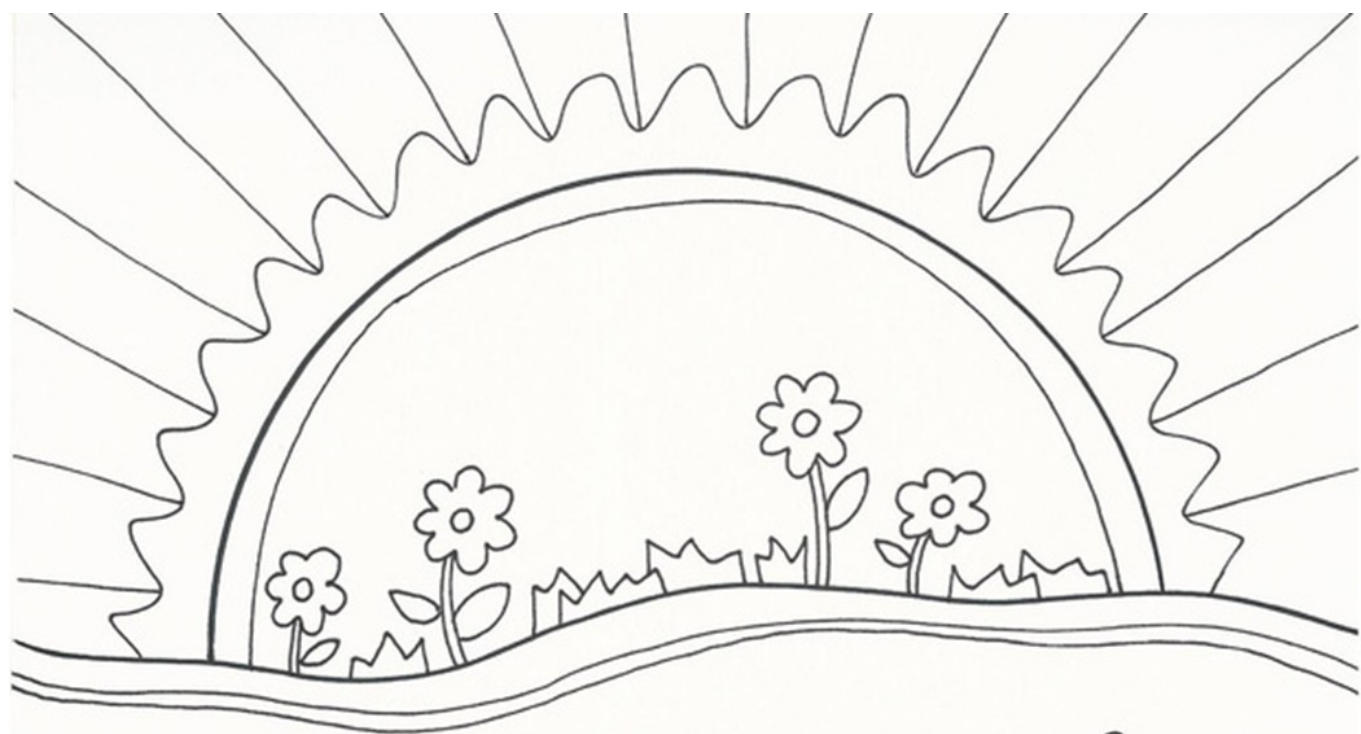
Tracy in the office can set this up for you, and she can also help you to arrange to leave a donation through our new Legacy Fund.

However you are able to give to our church, through your time and through your financial offerings, all are appreciated and treasured, and all help to ensure the future life of our church. Thank you!

Warm spring blessings from the  
Stewardship Committee

# KIDS CORNER





Have a  
blessed  
Easter



# Spring Fundraiser



GAETZ UNITED CHURCH

Organization Name and Logo

Shari Hanson & Jim Gough

Fundraising Contact

5/14/25

Orders Due

5/23/25

Pick-up Date



Scan Here to Order



Nursery • Sod • Garden Centres

**Blue Grass**

Fundraisers

Grow with Us!

bluegrassnursery.com

# Green Deer

Green Deer encourages residents of all ages, abilities, and economic and cultural backgrounds to pick up litter and “leave it better than you found it!”



You can do your part to help keep our city clean and healthy by registering for Green Deer and picking up litter in your backyard, around your neighbourhood, or in a favourite green space.

For more information, and to register as a volunteer, contact the [Kerry Wood Nature Centre](#).

**Facebook Page** - Our Facebook page enables Gaetz United to have a public presence on Facebook. Each week Sunday Worship Services are Live-Streamed through Gaetz Memorial United Church's **Facebook Page** and our **YouTube** channel.

**FaceBook Group** - For FaceBook users this group offers a place to highlight events, concerts, youth activities, meetings, etc. within the members of the group. *Please send a request on the Group page to join as a member.*

**Instagram** - Look for our Instagram posts under the gaetzunited title.

Gaetz Memorial United Church  
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403 347-2244 [gaetzuc@shaw.ca](mailto:gaetzuc@shaw.ca)  
[www.gaetzmemorialunitedchurch.ca](http://www.gaetzmemorialunitedchurch.ca)



**Sharing faith, serving community**

