



FAMily News

Fall 2018



Hello Friends,

We here at Fifth Avenue Memorial trust your summer has been one that has nurtured your soul and yourself. Over the next few week people will be checking back into church and reconnecting. Choir and Sunday School will be beginning soon. It is going to be wonderful to see everyone in worship.

Even more wonderful perhaps is the fact that there are many things happening at Fifth this Fall.

Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church

476 4 St SE
Medicine Hat, AB
T1A 0K6
403-526-2237
www.famunitedchurch.ca

We will be Blessing Backpacks, Celebrating Pride, and plans are already underway for Turkey Supper an event you won't want to miss. There is an exciting new Bible Study coming to Fifth Avenue Memorial that is going to be offered over 21 weeks in three different flights You don't need to attend every session but there may be a topic of interest to you. Living the Questions 2.0 highlights the work and witness of some of the most prominent scholars and preachers and it had been a very popular study in the United Church.

We will be moving into Stewardship Month soon as well. We are pleased to announce that October 24, is our celebration Sunday so you are going to want to join is for church where the Reverend Dr. John Pentland from Hillhurst United Church in Calgary will be our guest preacher, and you will want to join us for lunch following the service no need to bring anything just come and enjoy. Our campaign this year is going to be dedicated in memory of Jeff Welling who was a tireless champion of our stewardship goals as well as a firm believer in our people and our programs.

We will also be talking about our mission as a congregation. A few years ago you self identified as a downtown congregation and moved to thinking about what that means for your life together. I argue from my observations that a new mission statement for our church could read "Rooted deep in the history of; and located in heart of the City of Medicine Hat, Fifth Avenue Memorial provides to all of God's people regardless of Ability, Ethnicity or Orientation, Excellence in Music, Worship, and Preaching, Radical Hospitality and Practical Outreach." Those are my observation but you may have others so a process is being put together to consult widely so that everyone can be comfortable with the mission that we are engaged with a church moving forward.

Make no doubt that, we are moving forward. This is a time of great change in our society and in the church. Fifth has been a witness to seismic change over a century and half, and we are a strong and vital church who has at least that much more in the tank. So welcome back everyone I can't wait to see you and to see where God is leading in these next few months these are exciting times to be church!

Blessings,
Rev. Dave

New Bible Study Group

Would you like to explore what's next for Christianity, in a relaxed environment over refreshments?! Starting this fall, FAM is pleased to offer the DVD/discussion series "Living The Questions 2.0" on Wednesday evenings (likely 90-minute sessions) Sept 26 - Nov 14. LTQ2 is a popular video & internet-based small group exploration of progressive Christianity featuring 30 premier religion voices of our day. It's open to everyone from FAM, Westminster, GMUC and Peace United, and will take place in the FAM lounge and possibly other locations. After this "Invitation to Journey", there will be two more 7-session studies from LTQ2 in the winter and spring: "Honoring Creation" and "Call to Covenant" are their themes. Stay tuned for more information!

Hand Bells

The FAM hand bell group will be resuming rehearsals in September and new members are welcome. Please get in touch with Judy at j.dickie@telus.net if you are interested in ringing the bells with us!

FAM Library

It's been the kind of hot summer where we perhaps stay indoors more, or on the shady patio, all the better to spend time reading those books we've saved for vacation perusal. Come on in to the FAM library and see what we have of interest for the remaining languid hours of the season. We've had some new donations.



The Healing team, Loy, Lynne and Sharon, are planning a **WELLNESS SEMINAR** which will be both informative and experiential. The event will be held on an afternoon in October (date to be announced later). Come and bring a friend or relative and participate in a meditation, healing touch in a chair, reflexology and walk the labyrinth. This is an opportunity for you to experience these adjuncts to self-healing. There will be a minimal charge to attend (to be determined). Refreshments provided.

A **Healing Touch Program** Level 1 course is scheduled for September. The dates are Friday, 28, in the evening, Saturday, 29, all day and Sunday, 30, for half a day. There are currently several people who are interested in attending but a few more participants are needed. For further information, please contact Loy at 403-487-1150.



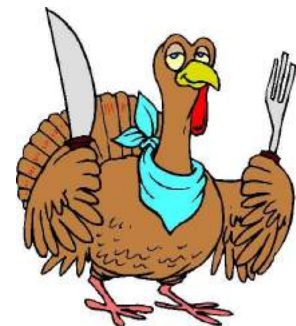
FAMILY Glow Golf Tournament

Friday, Sept 21st starting at 8 pm at Paradise Valley Golf Course. Cost is \$60 per person which includes prizes and lunch to follow. (does not include club rental) You do not have to know how to golf. Sign up after Church or at the Church office during the week.

Everyone Welcome!

Turkey Supper

Will be held on Sept 30 with 2 sittings at 4:30 & 6. Adults \$20 and 12 & under \$10. Take out is available, but please bring your own container. If FAM supplies the container, it will be an extra \$5. Tickets are limited so get yours after church service starting on Aug 26 or at the church office.



Sign up sheets for workers, providing food or money donations is in Wesley Hall bulleting board. Please consider helping with this important fundraiser.

The next **FAMILY Christmas Newsletter** will be printed Nov 1st. Deadline for submissions will be Oct 29. Please send your submissions to piehl11@telus.net

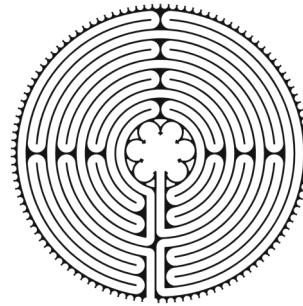
Wanted:

Come join a great group of people once a month on Sunday after the service for one hour. The Worship Committee needs members for this fall. Anyone interested, please contact Patty Hanegan at 403-526-3237. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Also consider sitting on the Board. Needed are a Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Congregational Life & Works. Please see Piehl for more information.

Communion:

Rev Dave will be serving Communion
On the first Sunday of each month in the Memorial Salem Room at 9:15 am starting Sept 2.



Practice starts on Sept 6th at 7 pm.
If you are interested in joining the choir, talk to June Reid

The new **Labyrinth** is complete in Wesley Hall. If you would like to walk it, call Maureen (403-5262237) in the office to book an appointment. If you are interested in hosting see Maureen in the office

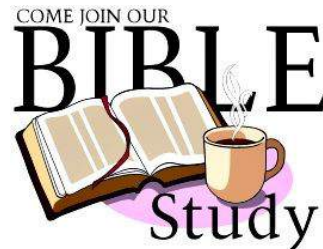
Fundscrip Fundraiser:

When you order or purchase gift cards and the church receives a rebate from the card(s). Order forms are available at either entrance or the church office during business hours. Some of the cards we have in stock are: Superstore, Sobey's/ Safeway, Moxie's, Winners & A & W. New options are: Starbucks, Tim Horton's, Wendy's, Walmart, Pizza 73, Giant Tiger & Subway. Cards are available from the church office or after Sunday church service.

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
9 am—12 & 1 pm—4:30 pm

Sunday Worship 10 am
Sunday School & Nursery
Fellowship follows Service



Wednesday morning Bible Study will resume Sept 12th in the Memorial Salem Room starting at 10. Join us for interesting conversation and Fellowship. No registration is needed.

Book Club:

Are you interested in spearing heading and/or attending a once a month Book Club meeting? Talk to Piehl or email her at piehl11@telus.net



Like us on Facebook



Sunday School Classes Update:

On Sunday Sept. 2 there will be activities for the children during the Sunday service. Sunday School will officially resume on September 9th with registration and a welcome back party! We have programs for all children from birth to Grade 12 and beyond. September 9th will also be "Sundae Sunday" with a special treat after the service. Also on that date during the morning service, our minister Dave is planning a "Blessing of the Backpacks" to send our kids into the school year with the love and prayers of the church. All kids are invited to bring their backpacks to church.

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

Our Super Boys and Girls group (Grades 1 to 4) needs 1 or 2 more volunteer teachers, who would only need to teach 1 or 2 Sundays per month. The curriculum is provided, and classes are approximately 30 minutes long, after the all-ages Open Session finishes. Please talk to Brenda (403-527-9719) if you're interested, or if not sure just come downstairs on a Sunday morning to see what it's all about!

Sunday School Work Party

To get the downstairs area ready for the new year, we're holding our annual work party on Sat. Sept 8th from 1:00 to 4:00pm. If you're able to help on that day, even for a couple of hours, we can use help from all ages. The tasks to complete are: cleaning and organizing the Sunday School office, cleaning toys in the nursery, sorting and organizing craft supplies, sharpening pencil crayons and pencils, testing markers, making attendance charts for the year, decorating the Sunday School area to welcome everyone back, preparing the curriculum and photocopying colouring sheets for the tables in the Sanctuary. If any of the Sunday School teachers have other tasks that need completion, we will do those as well. No need to reply - just come if you can!

Youth Events:

FAM Youth Group events for those in Grade 5 to 12 will resume in October for the 2018-19 year. More information will be provided to the kids during Sunday School. Past events have included suppers, games nights, Tongue on the Post, hide and seek, Hallowe'en parties, Litter Blitz, and sports outings! Feel free to bring a friend! Also, Coaldale United Church is holding a Fall Youth Rally Sept 28-30, for Grades 6 - 12. Stay tuned for details!