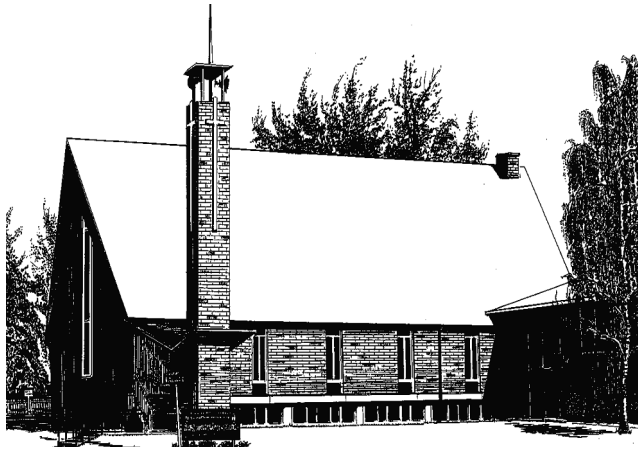


Westminster United Church



*Welcome to a Combined Summer Service
for the United Churches of Medicine Hat.*

July 17, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

Today's worship leader is the Rev. James Farrell.

We welcome guest musician, Julia McClung.

Coloring packets for the children are available in the first pew on the pulpit side of the church.

If you would like to stay seated for any or all of the "standing" parts of the service, please feel free to do so.

Need a refuge? Our Nursery is located off Memorial Hall, has a speaker system through which to hear the service, and exists for all who may need this space. Memorial Hall approach is via the pulpit side exit.

Prelude / Sharing Announcements / A Time of Greeting

A Time of Silent Preparation—Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

One: Let there be joy in our joining together this morning.

All Let there be compassion heard in the words we speak, and love in the songs we sing.

One: Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us.

All: Let there be joy in our joining together.

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Spirit of life, present in this time...may we always sense Holy presentness when we gather in this sacred place. May all who enter here find comfort and wisdom in this community. Amen.

Hymn #415 "God, We Praise You for the Morning"

Prayer for Transformation (*Responsive*)

One: Life rises in our midst.

All: Sometimes hard-won.

One: It surprises us when it blossoms forth at unexpected times.

All: And in unexpected places.

One: It comes with power stronger than death.

All: Life born of courage. Life born of Love...(time for silent reflection)

Words of Assurance (*One*)

The Good News is that every day is new and we can begin again. Let us commit this day to hope and peace. Amen.

Biblical Notes / Prayer of Illumination

Matthew 13:24-30 from the Christian Scriptures Pg. 20 (NRSV)

Anthem "A Kyrie for Our Time"

Reflection

Hymn #282 "Long Before the Night"

Our Church Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Dedication #539 "God of All Good" (v 1 ó Tune 436)

Prayer of Dedication (*One*)

Through these gifts may we care compassionately, may we provide hope globally, and declare and live our faithfulness. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Lord's Prayer

Hymn #678 "For the Healing of the Nations"

Commissioning *(One)*

As we leave here, may we continue to: serve others justly and carefully; participate in the faith community enthusiastically; rejoice in what we share.

Choral “Amen”

Hymn #649 “Walk with Me” (Chorus)

Postlude

Welcome to Westminster this morning.

Please gather for coffee in Memorial Hall, following worship.

Summer Worship at Westminster

Sun. July 24th	Bob Davisson, <i>Lifeline Haiti</i>
Sun. July 31st	Welcome Rev. Kevin Johnston (FAM)

Vauxhall & District Growing Project for **The Canadian Foodgrains Bank** is holding it's ANNUAL FUNDRAISING PIG ROAST on Thursday July 21, 2011 at the Bennen Potato Storage site 4 miles north of Vauxhall on Highway 36 (on the west side of the highway) beginning at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend and enjoy the fellowship and food. And learn more about the work the Canadian Foodgrains Bank does throughout the world. There is no charge for the meal; however any donations to the project are welcome. For further information please contact Arlene Parkinson at 403-654-2989 or 403-382-7778.

Mark your calendar for the “Budgeting into Maturity” Women's Retreat, Saturday, September 10th from 9:00 a.m. (coffee) to 4:00 p.m. Registration \$20, includes lunch. Deadline September 4th. Contact Grace Roth (403-527-0206).

Big Brothers/Big Sisters Association of Medicine Hat & District needs volunteer-mentors for our In-School Mentoring program. This program is only one hour a week at a local elementary school, where the mentor will meet their matched child for the duration of the school year. During their time together the mentor and child will play games, talk, read, bake, or whatever they wish to do, as long as the mentor is being a positive role model for the child. Typically, these children have been recommended to the program because of difficulties in school, poor social skills, poor home life, or the lack of a role model or friends. Please visit www.bbbsmedhat.ca / www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca our local & national website for more information on the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Association and programs offered.

Celebrations this Week

Ministry was extended into the community this past week as James officiated at the marriage ceremony of Diana Rapson and Evan Davison.

Flowers are place in the Sanctuary this morning by **Jacquie Heard**.

South Alberta Presbytery: *Our prayers this week are requested for retired ministry personnel, esp. those in South Alberta Presbytery.*

This Sunday's Elder-in-Charge is Pat Evans. She will be available to assist with congregational needs.

Stewardship Thought for Today

*According to Paul, as children of God,
we can count our chickens before they hatch!*

*by the Rev. Lynn Watson
(Bloomfield Pastoral Charge, Bloomfield, Ontario)*

Summer Worship — 10:00 a.m.

July services at Westminster.
August services at Fifth Avenue Memorial

Westminster Summer Office & Building Hours

Tuesday ó Friday, 11:00 a.m. ó 3:00 p.m.
(In effect through August 19th.)

Enjoy summer!