

Celebrations this Week

Ministry was extended into the community this past week as James conducted the funeral services of Irwin Farmer and Henry DaRosa. Our condolences go out to the families.

Flowers are placed in the Sanctuary this morning in loving memory of husband, David, and Hilda & Emil Schorr by Phyllis Schorr.

South Alberta Presbytery: Our prayers this week are requested for Waterton United Church & Pastoral Charge Supervisor, the Rev. Brent Woodard.

This Sunday's Elder-in-Charge is Darcy Fox. He will be available to assist with congregational needs.

Summer Worship — 10:00 a.m.

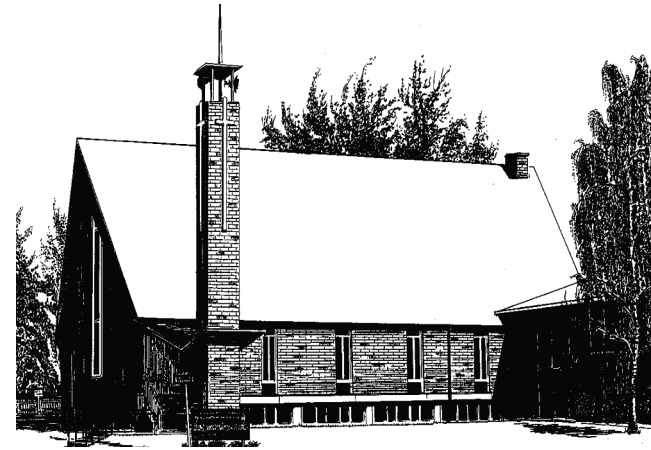
See you here next Sunday. August services at Fifth Avenue Memorial.

Westminster Summer Office & Building Hours

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

Enjoy summer!

Westminster United Church



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

July 24, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

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

*We welcome Bob Davisson with Lifeline Haiti
as our Worship Guest this morning.*

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: Life rises in our midst.

All: Sometimes hard-won life.

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 faithfulness. Life born of courage. Life born of the Holy.

Opening Prayer *(Unison)*

We are awakened with the long, summer days and the hope we find in the colours of the wild flowers. For we all are the saplings Holy Mystery has planted, watered and nurtured. We and all creation are Creator's handiwork, a design of beauty. Amen.

Hymn #409 "Morning Has Broken"

Prayer for Transformation *(Unison)*

Each day brims over with possibility. In every second, choices, chances, in numbers too great for us to comprehend. And yet, at day's end, when chance has met us and we have lived out our choices, the events of the day lie ordered – perfectly captured in a singular way – and all other possibilities are scattered to the wind. Would that we could see the end of every choice! Would that we could hold all possibilities in place until, at last, we understood what each would do to us, to those we love, to the world around us...*(time for silent reflection)*

Words of Assurance *(One)*

May we ever strive to see beyond our limitations, choose beyond our immediate needs, and live into each day, the fullness of its opportunity. Amen.

Biblical Notes / Prayer of Illumination

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-46 from the Christian Scriptures Pg.20 (NRSV)

Hymn #271 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)

Reflection: Bob Davisson with Lifeline Haiti

Hymn #600 "When I Needed a Neighbour"

Our Church Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication *(One)*

May these gifts be blessed and brought to life: new hope of healing; fresh ways of coping; a chance to rest; a chance to work; a way to live gracefully. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Lord's Prayer

Hymn #424 "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

Commissioning *(One)*

Let us walk well on our journey in peace and in justice. May we be wrapped in the shawl of Holy loving. May we know we are cherished. May we sense our blessing.

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 31 st	Welcome Rev. Kevin Johnston (FAM)
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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).

The United Church of Canada announced today that it is launching an emergency appeal for the Horn of Africa. The United Church is immediately responding to this crisis with a commitment of \$50,000 to the humanitarian relief work of ACT Alliance and partners such as the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK) and the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC), who work through their member churches to respond to the immediate needs of people affected. Please join the church in providing financial support for this humanitarian crisis. Gifts from individuals, groups or congregations can be mailed directly to the General Council Office: The United Church of Canada, 3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4 *Please be sure to note "Emergency Response - Horn of Africa" both on the envelope and on the face of the cheques. Cheques should be made payable to The United Church of Canada.

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.