

## Okotoks United Church School Lunch Program

The School Lunch Program has made arrangements with the Okotoks Bottle Depot to have bottles donated to the program. If you are recycling your bottles and cans please consider directing funds to the Okotoks United Church School Lunch Program. Thank-you.



## Seder Haggadah (Passover Meal and Liturgy)

On **Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30** the Worship Team will host a Seder meal to commemorate Jewish Passover, the festival Jesus observed with his disciples before his betrayal, crucifixion and resurrection. This is an opportunity to recall an important Jewish festival dedicated to freedom from slavery in Egypt and remember that liberation for all people is something we have in common with our Jewish brothers and sisters. This year we will be selling tickets at a cost of \$5.00 to cover costs of the meal. Please see Heather Puttee or the office for tickets.

## International Women's Day 2018

**Where: Okotoks United Church When: Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 5:30 – 8:30 pm**

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating women in well over sixty countries. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender equality in all its forms, economic, educational, health, and political empowerment. This year's global theme is Press for Progress. In Okotoks we are doing that through greater understanding of the challenges newcomers to Canada face. Please come with your favorite pot luck dish and join us for a wonderful dinner, and an evening of stories, music, and art, celebrating women's gifts and talents. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Preceding our celebration, Rowan House will be hosting their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 1 Billion Rising March to End Violence Against Women. We are meeting at 4:30 to hear more and take part in the march. For more information, call 403-603-5988.

## Announcements Sunday, March 4, 2018

### This Week...

**Thursday - Bible Study - Chapel - 10:00 - 11:30 am**

**Thursday - Choir - Sanctuary - 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Friday - Youth Group - 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

## SPRING FORWARD:

**Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 11th for Daylight Savings time change.**

## Lenten Conversations

Beginning Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Julia will host a one-hour Lenten Conversation from 6:30 – 7:30 in the Board Room (upstairs). This will continue through the season of Lent. Topics will focus on the subject of the sermon that week and go from there. No need to sign up, just drop in. This is an opportunity for some rich discussion through the Lent season (and before Julia leaves for sabbatical).

## New Members Class

In the United Church of Canada, all who come to the church to participate in the life and work of the community are welcome to participate in all ministries of the church and be a part of the community. There are a few things however, that require people to be members. Only members can be on the Boards and vote on matters pertaining to the Spiritual Life of the church, calling ministers or selling property. If you would like to be a member of the church, Julia is facilitating a **New Member's Class** on **Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.** at the church. Please sign-up for the class on the bulletin board in the foyer. If you have been a member of the United Church in the last few years and would like to transfer membership, please call Diane to arrange the transfer.

## Congregational Care Team

Reaching out, supporting, encouraging and compassionately caring for one another is part of being a faith community. Sometimes, regardless of age or life stage, we all need help and support to get through life's challenges. And so, we serve one another through kindness, humility, patience and gentleness - always aware of God's great love. Our Congregational Care Team invites you to reach out for our confidential spiritual and compassionate care, contact [okcongregationalcare@telus.net](mailto:okcongregationalcare@telus.net) or contact the church office at 403 938-4357.



## Mission Possible Charity Concert with Windmill Theatre Players

To support our on-going partnership with our charities in the Dominican Republic we will be hosting the WTP performing songs from "The Adams Family" on Saturday April 14th @ 7:00 pm. Tickets are available each Sunday at the Mission Possible table or during the week at the church office. Tickets are \$10.00 for an individual and \$25.00 for a family. Doors will open at 6:00 pm and the concert will begin at 7:00 pm. Come out and enjoy the wonderful talents of the Windmill Theater Players and your chance to win some wonderful silent auction prizes. For more information or to donate a silent auction item please contact Gary Dzurka @ 403-938-4662.

## Food for Fun

**Next Food for Fun: Sunday, March 11th.** What it is? It's an opportunity for people to gather for fellowship and conversation. Each month we need 6 **NEW** people to sign up to bring soup (enough for 20 people), serve it and clean up after. Buns will be provided. Set-up will be taken care of. If we share the load, we hope that people will only have to do it once a year. Sign-up on bulletin board for March.

## Bible Study

Join us on Thursdays from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. No biblical knowledge required. All are welcome.

## Kids' Ministry

Just a reminder, children under the age of 4 need a parent/adult to join them up in our Sunday School. Thank-you for your cooperation.

### Schedule for March

March 2 - Youth Group  
March 4 - Let Your Light Shine  
March 11 - God's Trifecta  
March 16 - Youth Group  
March 18 - Cross Plates  
March 25 - Intergenerational Service Palm Sunday



## Images of Spirituality Women's Retreat - Entheos Retreat Centre (West of Calgary)

**When:** April 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Facilitator:** Shirley Cunningham (author of *Kissed by God: Holy Women Create!* and *Chasing God.*)

**Worship Leader:** Julia Kimmett

The annual **Images of Spirituality** gathering follows a long Christian tradition of "taking time away." It is an occasion for women to come and rest for a while in a quiet place away from their daily pre-occupations. In an atmosphere of openness, freedom and love, women gather to explore facets of spirituality, theology, and worship. Each participant has the opportunity to reflect on her own spiritual journey in order to return home rejuvenated by the weekend experience. **Please see** <http://www.imagesofspirituality.ca> to register or for more information.

## DeWinton Annual General Meeting

**Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>** following the service. Pot luck lunch to follow.

## Healing Pathways Ministry

The Healing Pathways Ministry will provide sessions on the first and third Monday of each month from 1 to 4pm. Please contact Gisela Dyck at 403 938-2506.