

## **2017 UNITED CHURCH CALENDARS FOR SALE**

This year's calendar will be available for purchase each Sunday at our Mission Possible Table as well as through Denyse at the Church Office during the week. Calendars are \$10.00 each and all proceeds will go to our projects in the Dominican Republic.

### **OUK - SNOW REMOVAL**

Winter is upon us shortly. We would like to enlist the support of volunteers to help with the removal of snow through a weekly schedule. This will make the commitment less intimidating for everyone involved. We have a blower for light snowfalls and a snow blower for heavier dumps. Thanks for your consideration and assistance in helping with the snow removal. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Foyer. For more information please contact Ian McNeill (587) 999-7594.



### **Ladies Group - "Jingle and Mingle"**

The next ladies group meeting will be held in the Fireplace room (upstairs) on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. We will be having a potluck and some fun. All ladies welcome. If you have any questions call Linda at 403-862-3609. Hope to see you there!

### **FFF CHRISTMAS POT LUCK**

Our next Food For Fun lunch will be held on  
**Sunday December 11**  
immediately following the Children's Pageant.

This will be a "Finger Food Pot Luck" and so we are asking for everyone attending to contribute a small dish for the meal.  
(finger foods only please)

Coffee & Tea Juice will be provided

**Everyone Welcome!**

### **OUK FIRESIDE BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month in the Fireside Room at 7:00 p.m., unless it falls on a statutory holiday, then we automatically move to the following Monday.

Dates to the end of this Book Year::

Monday's December 5, 2016  
January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, 2017

If you enjoy reading - please join us.  
Any questions, call Sharon Parsons at 403 995 4373.



**Sunday  
December 4, 2016**

### **SERVICES FOR THE SEASON**

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> - 10:45 a.m.**

**Kid's Pageant & White Gift Sunday**

(Receiving gift cards for Benevolent Fund, Most needed:  
President's Choice, Walmart, Gas)

**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.**

**De Winton Candlelight & Communion Service**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:30 p.m.**

**Okotoks Family Christmas Eve Service**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 p.m.**

**Okotoks Candlelight & Communion Service**

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m.**

**Okotoks Christmas Service**

### **JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!**

Okotoks United Church congregation members are planning to host Christmas Day dinner after the Christmas Day service at our church. There is a sign up sheet on the community bulletin board in the Foyer or email [jodyconnors@gmail.com](mailto:jodyconnors@gmail.com). Please indicate how many of your party will attend, and if you are able to bring a dish for dinner. We will have turkey and all of the fixings along with social time, games, and good conversation. All are welcome to join, bring your friends and neighbours, and come! You can come cook with others at the church or prepare food at home to bring to the church. If you would like to contribute food but are not able to cook, let Jody Connors know and we can arrange for it to be prepared. If you can't bring any food to share you are still more than welcome to join in!

**Merry Christmas!**

## KIDS & YOUTH MINISTRY

### December

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Dec-04 | PP6 It Takes a Village Presenter - Rob, Search & Rescue |
| Dec-09 | Pageant Dress Rehearsal, 6:00-7:30pm                    |
| Dec-11 | Pageant Performance, The Landlord's Cat                 |
| Dec-16 | Youth Group with Nancy Ferguson                         |
| Dec-18 | Kid's Christmas Party                                   |

## LADIES RETREAT

Would you like a break from the craziness of life and have some fun, fellowship, relaxation, fresh air, time for you. Consider attending the **Ladies "Transformation" Retreat** at beautiful Kings Fold Retreat Centre, 30 minutes northwest of Cochrane on highway 40.

**June 16-18, 2017 - only 22 beds left!**

**Registration and payment no later than March 12, 2017**

**Cost is \$225.00 includes shared room, meals etc.**

**Spouses, what a great Christmas gift, a gift of time for herself!**

Save your nickels (cause there are no pennies)! With Rev. Julia facilitating this is sure to be rejuvenating retreat and may fill up fast. Be sure to add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Call Linda Wilson at 403-862-3609 for any questions.**

## BLESSING OTHER CHURCHES

The church is much bigger than each individual community.

We are always blessed when we are able to help our neighbouring faith communities.

Recently we were able to give our used photocopier to Airdrie United Church and they were delighted with the gift. Here is the note sent to us:

*"On behalf of the Official Board of Airdrie United Church,  
Thank you for our new to us Photocopier. J  
Your kindness and generosity of giving us your gently used  
machine is amazing. Thank you again. "*

Lori Helston

Chair of the Official Board  
Airdrie United Church

We have also given Vulcan United Church some leftover bulletin covers and offering envelopes we are unable to use. They are deeply grateful.

We seek to be a generous congregation that supports our neighbouring communities through whatever gifts we have to share. And we have always found that the blessings we receive in return are greater than anything we can give.

## OUC 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**Okotoks United Church has been in ministry since 1917 serving members of Okotoks and the surrounding areas.**

The Centennial Committee would like to know if you have any photos, church documents or artifacts that are relevant to our history.

Please contact Joanne at 403-938-3945 or dzurkaj@xplornet.ca by December 31, 2016 if you have something to share.

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

It's time to put together the Annual Report for 2016. This is your chance to share the good works that have been happening in your area of ministry with the rest of the congregation. If you do not have a copy of the guidelines for report content please ask Joanne Dzurka to provide you with one.

Annual report submissions are due by **December 14, 2016**. Organization and presentation of the content is a time consuming process so the sooner you can send your content the better. Thank you!

Please email your report to: dzurkaj@xplornet.ca.

## HEALING PATHWAY MINISTRY HOURS

The Healing Ministry will provide sessions on the **first and third Monday of each month from 1-4pm.**

Please contact Gisela Dyck at (403) 938-2506.

## THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated items and time to make our annual Christmas Market a great success. **The "Treasures Tables" raised \$2836.05 for the Operating Fund.**

A special thank you to Mary & Norm Willis for once again gathering, pricing and hauling the donations and for overseeing the set up and sale!

## WHITE GIFT SUNDAY - DECEMBER 11

This year we are asking for donations of gift cards for families in need from grocery stores, Walmart, Shoppers Drugmart, etc. These cards will go towards helping those who access OUC's benevolent fund throughout the year.

**Thank you for supporting this ministry and the congregation!**