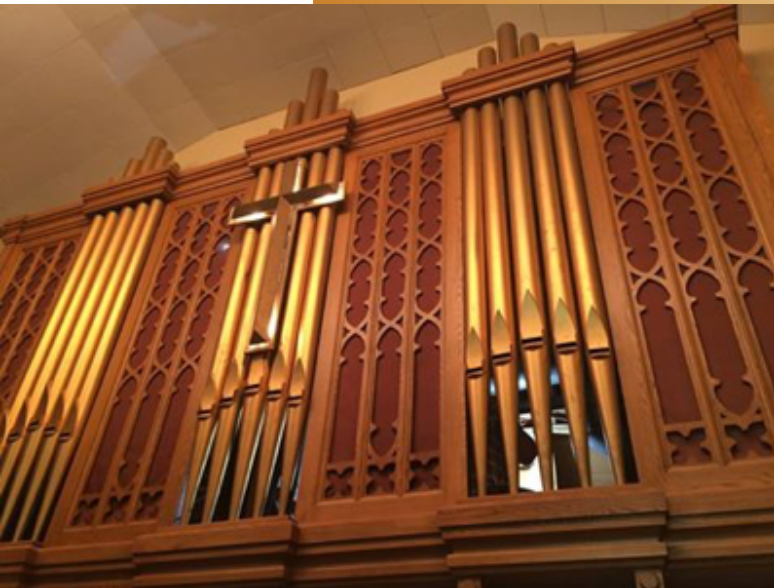




FALL 2016

NEWSLETTER



A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped clean the pipe organ.

New Staff

A warm welcome to our two new staff. Our Choir Director Carle Duguid and our Janitor Teresa Trimble.



From Pat and Geoffrey's Desks: Fall 2016

We start the new church year we feel excited and positive about our fall 2016 worship schedule and programs. We will be asking ourselves why we come to church, and what we are hoping to find in a life of faith. We invite you to look inward at your own values and to explore the ways that an organized faith life can add meaning and depth to our own search for meaning and purpose. You might say that we are dedicating this fall to those who are both "Spiritual AND Religious." And if you are not sure where, if anywhere, you might fall on that continuum, well, come and explore with us! (For the full fall worship titles and topics please see page 2.)

Fall Turkey Supper



Saturday November 5th
Check our website for more
information! www.wildroseunited.ca



What?

How?

Why?

Fall Worship Titles and Topics

We organized the fall's worship under three distinct titles: Connecting; Baggage; and Broken Again for the First Time. Here is the fall schedule for worship topics:

Connecting

- Why Do I Come to Church? (Sept. 4)
- Is Something Missing? (Sept. 11)
- The E-Word (Sept. 18)
- Living Your Life with No Regrets (Sept. 25)
- Where is it Safe to Cry? (Oct. 2)
- What Grows Your Faith? (Oct. 9—Thanksgiving Sunday)



Baggage

- When You get THAT Kind of News (Oct. 16)
- The Fear Factor ((Oct. 23)
- Watching Others Make Mistakes (Oct. 30)
- Why Don't We Live Like We are Dying? (Nov. 6)
- The Blame Game (Nov. 13)
- What Would We Take With Us? (Nov. 20)

Broken Again for the First Time

- Too tired, too busy: Permission to say No (Nov. 27—first Sunday in Advent)
- Let's be Perfectly Imperfect (Dec. 4)
- Superhero Pageant (Dec. 11)
- Broken Again for the First Time (Dec. 18)
- When Every Star Aligns (Dec. 24, Christmas Eve)
- On The Happiest Day of My Life, I... (Dec. 25, Christmas Day)
- Starting Again. No, REALLY Starting Again (Jan. 1).



Don't miss our new worship band!
They will be playing they last Sunday of each month.

Outreach Connection

Life, Love and Sharing

Outreach is planning a busy fall – we are continuing our Produce Give-Away program but are adding a couple of new twists. We are presenting a series of events on Syrian Culture in preparation for our Syrian Refugee family. We are also continuing on support students at Crescent Heights High School.

Crescent Heights High School

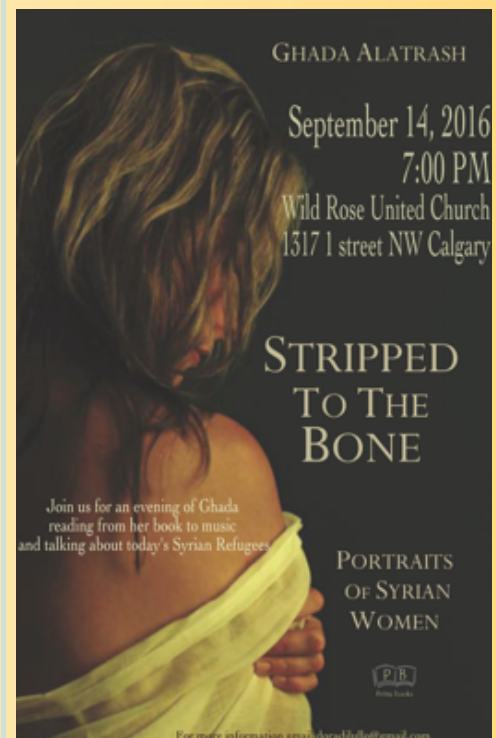
Once again we are gearing up for the fall with our various projects at Crescent Heights High School (CHHS). Primarily we are looking for donations for bus passes and scientific calculators. We will also continue to provide breakfast bags for the students. The demand has risen so we have gone from 100 to 150 bags per month. Donations for these projects for Crescent Heights High School are welcome.



Prairie Rose Syrian Refugee Project


Please join us for our event series focusing on Syrian culture. This series will help us in preparation for the arrival of our Syrian refugee family. Come and discover culture through language learning, prose, music, shopping, and of course, food. Our first presentation is called “Stripped to the Bone: stories of Syrian Women”. Ghada Al Atrash will be reading from her book Stripped to the Bone, to music. The Syrian Women’s Club of Calgary will be attending this event to answer questions and mingle. It will be held at Wild Rose on Wednesday Sept. 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm in Centennial Hall.

The second event will be cooking a traditional Syrian meal. This will be hosted at Prairie Sky on Sunday October 23, 2016 at 1:00 pm. The third and fourth events are: “Learning Basic Arabic” and “Shopping for Syrian Food”. Both these events are still being scheduled so keep checking our Wild Rose website to get update.



Produce Giveaway September 24 at 12:00 pm volunteers needed. Please contact Kim@wildroseunited.ca if you would like to help.

Pastoral Care Potpourri: Caring for Yourself & Others



Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, October 5, 12, 19, 26
The workshops in October will all be offered at no charge.

October 5 Greensleeves Program

Getting older often brings us to consider what we would like to happen as we near the end of our lives. The Greensleeves Program provides a way to keep health and end-of-life information in one place, a green sleeve which will travel with you to doctors' appointments or to hospital. Alexandra Kushliak, Education consultant with Alberta Health Services, will lead the evening.

October 12 Companionship for Those Who Grieve & Mourn

There are many times in our lives when we experience loss, and with those around us need to find our way through the sorrow. Geoffrey Simmins will facilitate a workshop using Dr. Alan Wolfelt's theories of grief and mourning to help us distinguish between grief and mourning, and to discuss ways to companion those who are grieving and mourning losses in their lives.

October 19 Loss of Hearing

As we age, our hearing often changes and diminishes, and it can be difficult to know how to cope. A facilitator from Sound Advice with Deaf and Hear Alberta will come to discuss these changes, ways to protect our ears against hearing loss, and ways to cope with less than acute hearing.

October 26 Sandwich Generation

As parents live longer, families with children often find themselves trying to care not only for their children, but also for their aging parents. Charlene Retzlaff, a social worker with the Family Caregiver Centre, will facilitate a session suggesting ways to cope, and to care for ourselves as we care for both our parents and our children.

Finger Labyrinth Workshop

Saturday, November 26, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

The labyrinth is often used as a tool to facilitate meditation, peacefulness, problem-solving, and others. It is not always possible to go to a labyrinth to walk; a finger labyrinth is always available whenever you want it. Alison Morrow will facilitate a half-day workshop where each participant will make their own lightweight labyrinth. All supplies will be provided, and there will be a fee for this workshop, to be decided when the cost of materials is determined.

Please register by calling the church office at 403-277-5576.

Nursery, The Kids' Zone and Youth

Families will be glad to know that the Nursery and Kids' Zone staff are ready to support you at Wild Rose United Church. Parents are always welcome to join their children and help make the transition to independent time with caring leaders on Sundays. Infants up to three years old can be taken to the Nursery at any time after 9:30 on Sunday, even partway through worship. Feel free to visit the cheerful room attached to the front of our worship space at any time.

The Kids' Zone starts partway through worship and children will be led to their activities in the basement (usually). Parents will be asked to pop downstairs after worship to gather their young family to ensure the transition back into parent care before joining the congregation in Wild Rose Hall after worship.

Youth will kick off on September 11th with a picnic. The full fall youth schedule will be available shortly.

Fall Events and Activities

First Fall Potluck – Welcome Back!

September 18 after church

As the Fall approaches, we invite you to join us for Wild Rose's Welcome Back potluck lunch. Everyone is coming, so we hope you will be there too - just bring your family, an elementary school picture of each of you and a dish to share! This will give us the chance to reconnect after the summer and celebrate the coming year.

Before stepping into worship, please bring your photograph to Wild Rose Hall where it will be put with the other "Guess Who?" pictures. Pictures will be gently cared for and returned that same day. (please put your name on the back). After church, challenge yourself to guess who is in the other photographs. The school photo will be returned that day however we ask that you write your name on the back of the photo so that we can identify you!

Most months Wild Rose has a church potluck after worship on the last Sunday. Everyone is invited, so please mark October 30 and November 25 on your calendars.

Women: Conversations and Chocolate

September 19 from 7:00-9:00 pm

If we only chat briefly on Sunday mornings, we never have deeper conversations about things that matter. Women at Wild Rose are invited to indulge in a chocolate fondue, enjoy getting to know each other in a relaxed setting with no children, no partners, no "business" to attend to. It is a social evening set aside for some decadent desserts and connecting. Please rsvp to the church office.

Fun with Noah – a Family Activity

Sunday, November 6th 12:00 to 1:15

Noah's ark is one of the most famous and loved Bible stories. Families will have some indoor water fun, sing songs and play with one of the first stories in the Hebrew Scriptures. Through a series of activities designed for parents and children of all ages, we look at the flood, the animals and the rainbow.



Fall Events and Activities Continued

Bible Basics: What's the Bible Why Read It?

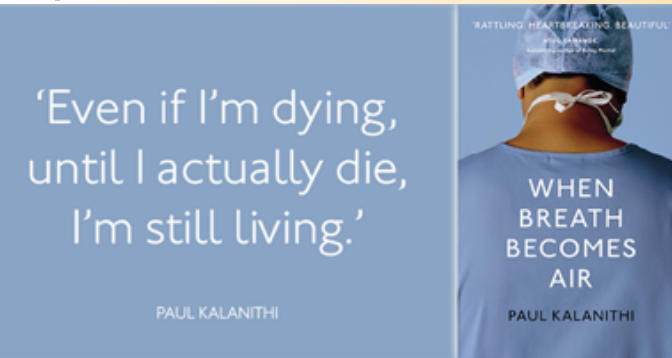
September 21 or October 2

Geoffrey will be leading: Bible Basics: "What's the Bible, how does it work, and why should I read it?" (for adults on Wednesday September 21 at 7:00 and Sunday October 2 after church). Note that on Sunday, Family Ministry staff will offer separate sessions geared to children and youth). We are looking forward to sharing an overview of the Bible, in a relaxed, informal way to help people become more familiar with it. If you ever have picked up the Bible and wondered whether it makes a better doorstop than reading material, this program is for you!



When Breath Becomes Air (book discussion)

September 25 or 28



On September 25 after church, with a repeat on the evening of Wednesday September 28, Geoffrey will lead a discussion on Paul Kalanithi's touching, searing personal memoir of cancer, hope, reconciliation, and good-byes, *When Breath Becomes Air*. This book is available in electronic and print copies at the Calgary Public Library.

Conversations that Matter: Exploring My Faith with Others

November 2, 9 and 16 (series with three parts)

Later in the fall, Geoffrey will be facilitating "Conversations that Matter: Exploring My Faith with Others" (a three week program on November 2, 9, and 16—Wednesday evenings). It is an opportunity to identify and discuss our individual faith values, and to be able to voice any questions and concerns in a safe, supportive group.

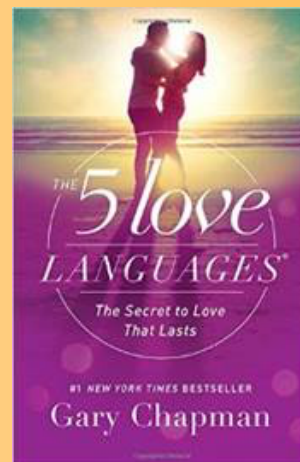
The 5 Love Languages®

November 17 and 24 from 7:00 to 8:45

What if you could say or do just the right thing guaranteed to make that special someone feel loved? The secret is learning the right love language!

Millions of couples have learned the simple way to express their feelings and bring joy back into marriage: *The 5 Love Languages*, Dr. Gary Chapman's New York Times bestseller!

Of the countless ways we can show love to one another, five key categories, or five love languages, proved to be universal and comprehensive—everyone has a love language, and we all identify primarily with one of the five love languages: Words of Affirmation, Quality Time, Receiving Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch.



Finance Committee Update

Progressive Fundraising – Shopping Cards

It has been almost two years since we introduced the shopping card program where the Church receives a percentage of the price of the cards but the church members get to spend the full value of the card. It is important to realize that you do not have to spend the entire value of the card in one transaction. A balance remaining shows on the receipt from the business and that amount remains on the card for future transactions. If you place a small sticker on the card you can record remaining balances so that you are prepared for future transactions.

There are over 70 stores that offer cards that we can purchase. All the major food stores are on the shopping card order form except for Co-op.

The church buys Co-op cards in bulk directly from Co-op because that gives us the maximum discount that is offered of 9%. Those cards are available for purchase each Sunday after the service and from the office during the week. All the other cards need to be ordered from Vancouver and are available the week following submission of the order. Those cards can either be paid for when the order is placed or when the cards are actually received.

Only a small percentage of our membership are taking advantage of cards for grocery shopping. We would like to increase these numbers. There are over 140 individuals supporting the church through regular offerings. Imagine the benefit to the church if each of those individuals bought enough cards to cover their grocery bill each month. If half bought Co-op cards and the other half bought cards for other grocery stores the church would realize over \$2,500 a month if the average purchase was \$300 for groceries. If the church supporter bought an additional \$50 card for one of the other stores the church would receive over \$200 a month if only cards with a 3% discount were purchased. As several of the cards offer higher discounts the church would receive a larger amount. Currently we struggle each month to get \$2,000 in orders and when you deduct the shipping fee to get the cards from Vancouver, the card program only produces about \$45 for the church. The Co-op program produces about \$900 every six to eight weeks.

Remember that you can use your credit card to buy gift cards. Payment has to be made through PayPal at the office. A receipt will be issued that you present to the card desk for cards ordered.



Legacy Giving November 7, 2016 Monday 7:00 P.M.

Legacy giving is an opportunity for us to speak about God, and our love of God with some of our present assets and our estate. Through our wills, annuities securities, life insurance, RRSP, RRIF, TFSA or other such legacy giving possibilities, we can help the church's future to blossom too. Please join Kathryn Hofley, Financial Development Officer for the United Church's Prairie Region, to learn more about how to create a legacy for the United Church.

Just imagine how we might blossom! Please join the Finance

Committee for an interesting and informative hour & a half after the Youth Room Coffee & tea will be available. Please call the Church office at 403 277-5576 to indicate your interest or with questions. Transportation can be arranged.



A BIG thank you to everyone who helped with the Pride Parade!

