



Salisbury United Church

*"Connecting hearts, minds, and lives
in community with God"*

"There is a place for you
at our table."

~ United Church
Advertising Campaign

March 2026 E-News

SOMETHING TO PONDER BY REV BRITT

This Lent the Moderator of the United Church, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, has invited the church community to join her in what she has termed "Kitchen Conversations." They will appear on YouTube each week during Lent based on this year's United Church devotional, "Bless, Break, Share."

Curious, I went to the online link to watch the first video. You can find it here at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLfp0W00lz4>. In this first episode she talks with two young people, her niece Anne and her daughter Hannah, while they cook pancakes together. My first thought was, "Wow! Another young person who has grown into an adult when I wasn't looking. I first met Hannah at home as a pre-schooler in Southern Alberta."



[Video credit: The United Church of Canada]

In the video they have a lovely conversation about the meaning of a table where there is always room for one more, the connection between food and caring for others, and whether chocolate chips or blueberries are better. They also talk about giving social media up for Lent but also that some people add things in for Lent. It closes with a family prayer around the food.

I hope you find your way to watching this short little video.

May you keep a good and a holy Lent and be nourished in your faith as we move toward Easter Sunday.

UPCOMING DATES:

- February 18th – April 2nd – Lenten Food Drive
- March 11th – Board Meeting, 3:30pm
- March 26th-27th – Bottle Drive, 10am-3pm
- March 29th – Palm Sunday
- April 2nd – Maundy Thursday, TBA
- April 3rd – Good Friday, 7pm (*church office closed*)
- April 5th – Easter Sunday
- April 8th-18th – Rev. Britt away
- April 15th – Board Meeting, 3:30pm
- April 30th-May 1st – Garage Sale
- May 13th – Board Meeting, 3:30pm
- May 16th-17th – Rev. Britt's Convocation in Austin, Texas
- May 31st – Congregational Spring Renewal Meeting, *after worship*



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS IS COMING - SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR!



Sunday, March 8th is Daylight Savings Time, which means it's time to advance your clock ahead 1 hour. This practice of advancing our clocks is to take advantage of the extra daylight available as summer approaches and darkness falls at a later clock time. Be sure to set your clocks ahead Saturday night, March 7th so you make it to Sunday Worship on time!

"FILL THE PEW" LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

NEW

February 18th-April 2nd

During Lent we will be holding a food drive to benefit the [Strathcona Food Bank](#). If you'd like to participate, please bring in canned or dry goods and other non-perishable items. We will be collecting them in the pew in the Narthex - look for signs. Lenten Food Drive donations for the Food Bank will be collected until April 2nd.

Thank you for your generous support of our community!



NEW

INTERFAITH FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE COMMUNITY POTLUCK

Saturday, March 7th from 6-8:30pm

The Interfaith Friendship Circle in Strathcona County invites you to join them for a community potluck on Saturday, March 7th from 6pm to 8:30pm at the Strathcona County Community Centre, located at 401 Festival Lane. In March there is an overlap between the fasting periods of Ramadan, the Baha'i month of fasting & Lent. Come celebrate with us! All are welcome, but please [register for the event](#) so they know how many people to expect.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT BOTTLE

DRIVE MARCH 26TH & 27TH!

Time to save your bottles! Our next bottle drive will take place March 26th & 27th, 10am-3pm both days. During the bottle drive, donations can be dropped off in the church parking lot, where a group of wonderful volunteers will be eagerly awaiting to off-load your donations. Half of all proceeds will be donated to [Hope in Strathcona](#), an organization offering post recovery addiction services and half will go to the Church general funds.



POST RECOVERY ADDICTION SERVICES



LENT IS HERE!!

The season of Lent is here. It began on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. Please join us each week for Sundays in Lent as we continue toward Holy Week, with special services to celebrate Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.



MEDITATION CIRCLE - WEDNESDAYS @ 10am

Join Rev. Britt in-person each Wednesday at 10am for Meditation Circle in the Church's Meditation Room and **also now online!** Details and updates on meditation circle will be posted on our [website](#) under the "Weekly Meditation Circle" section on the main page. Thank you to the Meditation Circle for being the test group for Rev. Britt's final research for her D. Min. thesis!

LAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, DOOR GREETERS & COFFEE SET-UP HELPERS NEEDED

Each week we are looking for help from volunteers as lay worship assistants, door greeters, and help with setting-up before worship, for coffee. Please check the sign-up sheet in the church lobby (narthex) each week, or call the church office to sign up!



FINANCE CORNER - Update as of January 2026



As of the end of January, 2026, our offering status for 2026 is:

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offerings for Church Operations:	\$6,470.00	\$6,785.00	(\$315.00)
M&S Offerings:	\$1,120.00	\$1,263.67	(\$143.67)

Special donations have covered roof replacement costs (Yahoo!!).

So far we have not had to dip into our GIC reserves!! Expenses in January were in line with budget expectations. (Roof and fire panel replacement costs were consistent with budget 2026.)

Remember, if you donate through PAR (pre-authorized remittance), please review your monthly contributions for the new year to ensure we keep ahead of inflation and increased Property expenses. Contact the church office with any revisions.

As we continue a new year in the life of Salisbury United Church, thank you for your continued financial support.

If you need any help with giving envelopes – new supply, pick-up, etc. – or other giving options (monthly giving through PAR, e-transfer or donating online through Canada Helps on the Salisbury Website), please contact: Brittany at the Church Office. Phone: 780-467-7310 E-Mail: salisburyuc@telus.net

Thank you for your support of Salisbury United Church and congratulations for helping your church to meet ongoing ministry obligations.

[Click Here](#)

TO DONATE ON-LINE WITH CANADA HELPS



We are now set up to accept Interac ETransfers. If you are familiar with Etransfers, just use our email address salisburyuc@telus.net to send your donation.

LOCAL UNITED CHURCH & OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

SHERWOOD PARK UNITED CHURCH:

FIT MINDS at SPUC - Begins March 26th from 1-2:30pm

Fit Minds is an Intellectual Signature Program offering a comprehensive, intellectually engaging experience in a social setting. It encourages the building of cognitive resilience and helps reduce risk of dementia. The program is based on Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST), an evidence-based, non-drug approach shown to improve thinking skills and quality of life for older adults.



We will be running this 8-week program starting March 26th from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Running on Thursdays after that at the same time. The final week culminates in a Fit Minds graduation ceremony at Chartwell Emerald Hills, complete with some lovely food and drink prepared by our chef.

If anyone wishes to join, they can contact David at 587-988-5733.

CHAIR YOGA - Wednesdays at 10:30am

Join us for an hour of gentle stretching and relaxing breathing on Wednesday morning, 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Each session cost \$10.00. For further information contact: Lesley Ratcliff ratclifl@telus.net or Diane Porter dianep.porter@gmail.com.



For Additional Events and Connections with Sherwood Park United Church, please access their most recent Newsletter [HERE](#).

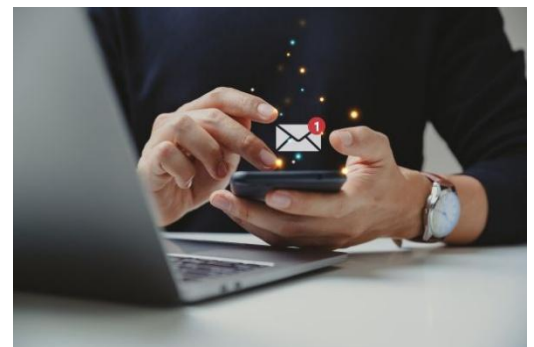
STRATHCONA COUNTY NEWS

STRATHCONA UTILITIES IMPLEMENTING PAPER BILL FEE

(Source: Strathcona.ca)

Beginning April 2026, Utilities will begin charging a Paper Bill Fee of \$1.50 per bill. Strathcona County will provide exemptions for certain residents, such as those without home internet access or mobile data services, to continue to receive paper utility bills at no additional cost.

The exemption form is available on the Utility Billing website or in person at the Utility offices at the Strathcona Public Services Yard at 370 Streambank Avenue, Sherwood Park.



[Photo credit: Strathcona.ca]

Residents can read the full article [HERE](#) and sign up for ebilling at strathcona.ca/UtilityBilling.

ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES 2026 SOCIETY RECEIVES PROVINCIAL FUNDING



(Source: Strathcona.ca)



[Photo credit: Strathcona.ca]

Great news for the [2026 Alberta Summer Games](#)! Strathcona County 2026 Alberta Summer Games Society secured \$75,000 in grant funding from the Alberta government Community Initiatives Program.

Funds from this grant will support food services for about 2,500 athletes, coaches and officials during the Games.

Read the full article [HERE](#) and learn more about how you can attend and help welcome Alberta's young athletes in July at asg2026.com.

WE SENIORS STRATHCONA PRESENTS: PAINT POUR TRAY WORKSHOP



Thursday, March 19th from 1:30-3:00pm - Cost is \$7 (includes all materials)

Come out and join the fun in this hands-on Acrylic Paint Pouring Tray Workshop! Enjoy a creative afternoon, experiment with bold colours, and take home a unique piece of art that's truly your own!

You'll learn the basics of paint pouring techniques, including how to mix colours, create mesmerizing patterns, and achieve that beautiful "wow factor" finish. No experience is necessary—step-by-step guidance will be provided, making this workshop perfect for beginners and seasoned crafters alike. All supplies are included.



[Photo credit: Strathcona.weseniors.ca]

[Register Today!](#) Or Call 780-400-2111 for questions or to complete your registration. WeSeniors Strathcona is located at 501 Festival Ave #140, Sherwood Park.



STRATHCONA COUNTY HOUSING RIGHTS ACTION GROUP

Strathcona County Housing Rights Action Group is a collective of Strathcona County residents coming together in solidarity with those experiencing housing insecurity or in need of temporary shelter. Interested in joining?

Contact Schousingrighsactiongroup@gmail.com for more information or to join this grassroots group.

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NATIONAL COUNCIL NEWS



[Image credit: Unsplash / Carly Hendrickson]

THE MODERATOR OFFERS SOLACE IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGEDY IN TUMBLER RIDGE

In a [message shared on Family Day](#) (observed in some provinces across Canada), the Moderator acknowledged the heartbreaking truth that grief does not end when the headlines begin to fade. Trauma does not resolve in days or even weeks. The families and residents of Tumbler Ridge, and all who feel the weight of this violence across the country, will need extended care, accompaniment, mental health support, and a compassionate national response. [Read the full news story and prayer.](#)

KITCHEN CONVERSATIONS WITH THE MODERATOR THIS LENT

NEW

We are so excited to announce [Kitchen Conversations with the Moderator](#), a new six-part video series coming this Lent exploring food, faith, and the power of invitation, hosted by the Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath.

Drawing inspiration and recipes from the United Church's Lenten devotional, [Bless Break Share: Recipes for Faithful Living](#), we're getting in the kitchen with guests from across the church, including book contributors, United Church youth, and the Moderator's own family.



[Video credit: The United Church of Canada]

The series debuts with a Shrove Tuesday pancake feast in the Moderator's home kitchen on February 17, with new episodes following each Sunday throughout Lent, and concludes with a special Easter message from the Moderator.

THE CREATOR'S GAME: A CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS LACROSSE

NEW

Would you play lacrosse in your church's sanctuary? A leap of not only faith but also imagination led Roncesvalles United Church in Toronto to organize an event centred on teaching people about lacrosse and especially its importance to Indigenous culture. As The Rev. Anne Hines says, "a sacred game should be played in a sacred space"!

Activities took place in the church parking lot as well as in the sanctuary. There was skills training for kids who received a handcrafted lacrosse stick keychain as a memento of the day. Visitors could drop by a booth to view antique lacrosse sticks and learn about the history of the game. Indigenous ceremony and teachings were provided inside the church before the main event: an actual demonstration of the game inside the sanctuary. The [Justice and Reconciliation Fund](#) supported these events including production of a commemorative [video](#).



[Image credit: Métis lacrosse coach Justin Warner (left) with Creator's Game Participant; Photo Credit: Mac MacDonald Roncesvalles United Church]

Applications are welcomed twice a year; the next application deadline is March 15, 2026. For more information, contact Lori Ransom, Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator, at lransom@united-church.ca.

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS & EVENTS

LENT REFLECTION FROM OUR GROWTH ANIMATOR: ON COMPOST...

NEW



[Photo credit: istockphoto.com]

Composting is an act of faith. It requires trust in the hidden work of bugs, microbes and the natural processes of decay to convert old food into nourishment for new life. Lent is a time of preparing ourselves for the new life God offers at Easter. We are invited to look at our lives and communities of faith and ask – What needs to be composted so that we are ready for resurrection? [Click here to read this article](#) by our Growth Animator, Jordan Cantwell.



[Photo credit: northernspiritrc.ca]

EDMONTON & AREA AFFIRMING CHECK-IN 2·0



Saturday, March 21st @ 10:00am-2:30pm, SSUC, Edmonton

We are doing it again! All Affirming and curious ministries and individuals from Edmonton and the surrounding cities, town and villages are welcome. Saturday, March 21st from 10:00am-2:30pm, at Southminster-Steinhauer United Church (SSUC), 10740 – 19 Ave, Edmonton. Hosted by the Northern Spirit Affirm Team and supported by SSUC. This is a time for learning, connecting, mutual support, and yes – sharing lunch, which is provided! [Register here](#). Registration is Free!

A PAUSE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE



Every weekday in March, online

In these troubling times at home and in our world, let's come together to hear words of hope, justice and empowerment, to be grounded in compassion and radical kindness. Join us at 8 pm (SK time) each weekday Monday to Friday through March 2026. [Zoom link here](#).



Rest and Receive.... Everyone Welcome.

A community initiative of Grace-Westminster United Church in collaboration with the Oliver & Gruchy Learning Centre, St. Andrew's College (Saskatoon). For More Info: Jan Clarke jlclarke@sasktel.net / Brenda Curtis c.b.curtis@sasktel.net / Bernon Lee bernon.lee@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca.

LENTEN PRAYER MEETINGS

Come together, let us pray. Every Sunday during Lent come let us gather to pray. Each prayer meeting starts at 4:00 p.m. Mountain Time. ALL ARE INVITED. Everyone in the Edmonton area is invited to join in-person: all prayer meeting locations are [listed on our website](#). For all our communities not in the Edmonton area, we invite you to join us in one of two ways: over Zoom ([connection info on our website](#)); or by gathering to pray in your own community at the same time, joining your prayers and spirits to ours. The prayers of the people of God are powerful and effective. (James 2:16, paraphrased). [Full details](#).



[Photo credit: northernspiritrc.ca]



NORTHERN SPIRIT WEBSITE

Northern Spirit has a website! Go to www.northernspiritrc.ca for more information.

TODAY'S FUNNIES



"What are you giving up for Lent?"



RECOGNITION OF LAND



We worship with respect on land where people have lived, prayed, and held ceremonies since long before Canada was a nation. This is Treaty Six Territory, and we affirm the traditional relationship of the Cree, Blackfoot, Déne, Assiniboine, Nakota and later the Métis people with this land, along with our ongoing treaty relationship with each other.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERSHIP



NORTHERN SPIRIT
REGIONAL COUNCIL
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA



*Salisbury United Church is a member of the Northern Spirit Regional Council and the United Church of Canada.

WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN QR CODE

We have posted a QR code on the door of the sanctuary. When you arrive for worship, you can scan the QR code on your cell phone and it will appear in your downloads for you to use. We also e-mail our bulletin each week for those who prefer to print one at home and bring it with them.



WELCOMING VISITORS TO SALISBURY UNITED CHURCH



If you notice an unfamiliar face or have invited a visitor to Salisbury United Church during one of our worship services, would you kindly direct them to our "Welcome" information brochure (at left) or the Worship Service "Program Flow" insert (at right)? Both are available on the table in the Narthex.

Doing so will help all guests feel welcomed and included. Not only do these informative guides provide important information about the Church and our Worship Services, but it also gives us an opportunity to extend a heartfelt *Welcome* to all guests of Salisbury United Church. Thank you for your hospitality!



Also, be sure to check out some of our other brochures, which have recently been updated. These include: "Wedding Ceremonies", "Funeral & Memorial Services", "Facility Rentals", "Baptisms" and more to come... Keep your eye out for them in the Narthex!

Salisbury United Church E-mail Addresses

Church Office Administrator:

salisburyuc@telus.net

Rev. Britt's email:

revvedtoo@gmail.com

Contact Us:

2 Mission Street,
Sherwood Park, T8A 0V3
Church Office: 780-467-7310

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Minister:
Rev. Britt Aerhart



Music Coordinator:
Lucienne Holzman



Church Office Administrator:
Brittany Pelletier