



Saints Alive

All Saints Anglican Church, Medicine Hat, AB
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November 2009 Edition

Up Coming Events and Services

November 29th

1st Sunday in Advent – Contemporary Holy Communion

December 6th

2nd Sunday in Advent - Contemporary Holy Communion

December 13th

3rd Sunday in Advent - Lessons and Carols – Bring a Friend!!!

December 17th

The Longest Night Service at 7:00 p.m.

December 20th

4th Sunday in Advent - Contemporary Holy Communion

December 24th

Christmas Eve - Contemporary Holy Communion 7:00 p.m.

December 27th

1st Sunday of Christmas Holy Communion

January 3rd † BCP Morning Prayer

Please join us and bring a friend who loves this traditional service!

Campus Care Update

Last days for donations is the week of Nov.23rd. Packing the bags will take place Nov. 30th
Delivery of bags Dec. 1st

A Thanksgiving lunch with stew and bannock to raise funds for the Council of the North was held on Sunday Oct. 4th. We brought in \$570.55.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

November 29th will mark the beginning of Advent and the start of a new year in the Church. Historically, the colors used in the church during Advent were purple (and at All Saints this continues to be our tradition) to represent penitence and fasting, but it is also the color of royalty to welcome the Advent of the King.

The word "Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a deeper truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate. Scripture readings for Advent will reflect this emphasis on the Second Advent, including themes of accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin, and the hope of eternal life.

In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and congregations, as they affirm that Christ has come, that he is present in the world today, and that he will come again. That acknowledgment provides a basis for Kingdom ethics, for holy living arising from a profound sense that we live "between the times" and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us as God's people. So, as the church celebrates God's inbreaking into history witnessed in the Incarnation, and anticipates a future consummation to that history for which "*all creation is groaning awaiting its redemption*," it also confesses its own responsibility as a people commissioned to "love the Lord your God with all your heart" and to "love your neighbour as yourself." Please join me in praying the advent prayer each day until Christmas. I also invite you to consider making an advent wreath (*the instructions of which you will find in this newsletter*) as you begin to anticipate not just the expectation, not just the promise but the reality of an ever present Christ who comes to us personally, again and again and again, in the living out of our daily lives.

*Lord Jesus Christ,
who is, who was, and who is to come,
we pray for the virtue of hope,
that amidst the trials and difficulties
of this world,
we may keep our hearts fixed
upon you, who reigns over the cosmos.
May your grace enliven us,
strengthen us,
and defend us,
as we await your coming in glory.*

INCOME

1. Pledges 36,263.40
12. GST Rebate 266.38
15. Campus Care 2,368.00
2. Open 377.25
3. Investment Income 3,920.38
5. Garage Sale 324.00
8. Altar Guild Donations 3,000.00
9. Hall Rent 100.00
Donation Receive From A.C.W. 1,000.00
Donations For Council Of The North 570.55 Little
Green Box 492.23 Perogy Supper 605.81 Ronda'
Travel Fund 2,700.00

TOTAL INCOME 51,988.00

EXPENSES

Uncategorized 0.00
1. Double A 35,741.93
11. GST 736.59
12. Grounds 195.00
15. Maintenance 510.07
2. Apportionment 3,334.20
3. Utilities 3,135.80
6. Altar Guild 121.48
7. Building Fund Expense 8,560.00
7. Office Supplies 556.39
8. Altar Guild Donations (expense) 200.00 9. Social
32.65 Campus Care Expense 2,040.75 caregivers
100.00 Council Of The North 570.55 Green Box
Expense 50.00 Insurance 1,635.00 Relief Minister
150.00 Ronda's Travel Fund Expense 2,700.00
Subscriptions 20.00 Synod 114.04 Telephone
1,420.90

TOTAL EXPENSES 61,925.35

OVERALL TOTAL -9,937.35

Bank Balance as of November 18, 2009--

THE ADVENT WREATH

The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light.

Christians kept these popular traditions alive, and by the 16th century Catholics and Protestants throughout Germany used these symbols to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the "everlasting Light." From Germany the use of the Advent wreath spread to other parts of the Christian world. Advent wreaths were originally used in the home and didn't become popular in churches until about the middle of the twentieth century.

Traditionally the candles used in the wreath were purple because in antiquity, purple dye was very expensive and it was the color of royalty. We use purple for Advent because it is the season of the coming of the King, and also traditionally a time of penance, just as Lent is. There are usually three purple candles and a rose candle. The fifth candle, if it is used, is white and it is lit on Christmas Eve. The first two Sundays the purple candles are lit. The third week the rose candle is lit, representing joy that the faithful have arrived at a mid point through the season.

On Christmas Day, we replace the pink and purple candles with white ones. Our Advent wreath stays on the table for the Christmas season, the twelve days between Christmas and Epiphany. Now, the candles symbolize our joy at the coming of Christ and our prayers of thanksgiving to God.

There are many ways to construct an Advent wreath. They can be simple or elaborate, made from fresh material or from artificial greenery. It is important to use something green which symbolizes the new life brought to us by the birth of Jesus, and that it be circular as a reminder of eternity.

A fresh wreath requires:

- shallow bowl or dish,
- oasis (also known as florist's foam, it is available from any florist),
- three purple candles,
- one pink candle,
- four white candles,
- pine or cedar boughs, or ivy.



Make the wreath by first soaking the oasis in warm water until it is completely saturated. Fit it into the bowl, carving it and packing it in tightly as necessary so that it will not shift around. Then carve four holes in the oasis for the candles. Place the candles in the holes you have made and begin sticking greenery into the oasis to completely cover it. It's nice to have some trailing over the edges of the bowl, and closely packed around the candles to hide all the foam. Keep the foam well watered, and try not to let the candles burn down so low that they scorch the greenery, and the wreath will last from the first Sunday of Advent until Epiphany.

A more permanent wreath requires:

- a plate or tray,
- a four candle candelabra or four small candle sticks,
- three purple candles,
- one pink candle,
- four white candles,
- artificial garland, holly branches, branches from an artificial tree, or some other artificial greenery.

To make the wreath, arrange the candlesticks or candelabra on the tray. The tray allows the wreath to be moved easily. Then place the greenery around the candles in a pleasant arrangement. It can be embellished with red berries, a small creche, ribbons or whatever else is available.

PRAYERS FOR THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

On the First Sunday in Advent

- Light one purple candle
- Read Isaiah 60:2-3

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world. We who have sat in darkness have seen a great light, the light of Jesus Christ, our salvation. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

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On the Second Sunday in Advent

- Light two purple candles
- Read Mark 1:4

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the way. We who like sheep have gone astray have found the way to you through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the Third Sunday in Advent

- Light three purple candles
- Read Isaiah 35:10

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who brings us great joy. We who have walked in the shadow of the valley of death have found life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On the Fourth Sunday in Advent

- Light all the purple candles
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7

Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the Prince of Peace. We who live in discord and strife have found peace in the promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day

Remember, it isn't Christmas Eve until sundown on December 24!

- Light all the purple candles and the white candle
- Read Luke 1:68-79 and Luke 2:1-20

We praise you, Lord God, because on this day, your Word became flesh in our Savior Jesus Christ, was born of a woman, and walked among us as a man. Help us to imitate your incarnation, by manifesting our faith in our conduct as well as in our speech. To you, O Lord, we give our honor, praise, worship, and love, in the most holy and precious name of the One who is born today; because He lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

THE LONGEST NIGHT

The constant refrain on radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the Christmas Season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation, the gut wrenching loss of a child, the loneliness of no longer having a beloved spouse to share each day, the loss of a dear family pet - all these can contribute to a feeling of being alone, of 'feeling blue' in the midst of the society around us which seems bent on 'being happy' and 'celebrating'. There are years when we hurt at Christmas time and can't get into the festivities as others seem able to do. And then there are the times when we just yearn to feel the divine presence in our lives – touching us inwardly, giving us a certain knowledge that only faith can perceive.

It's at such times that we need to make the space and take the time to acknowledge our sadness, our concern, our seeking. We need to know that we are not alone. For these reasons, All Saints invites you to join in sharing and hearing prayers, Scripture and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle - and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.

Please join us for this special service on Thursday December 17th at All Saints, 7:00 p.m. and know that you are not alone.



Doris Hyland

Doris was born in Weybridge Surrey England on April 24, 1922. She was the oldest of four children. Two brothers followed. Though her father died in 1927, six months later her younger sister was born. The family then moved to Walton on Thames. Her mother remarried and she had two step sisters. Doris took all her schooling here and at age fourteen went to work. She did office work and at the same time took shorthand classes. All the family went to work at a young age, Doris said they had too, there was no money to keep going to school. In 1941 at age nineteen she joined the Air Force and was stationed in Coastal Command. She met Ronald Hyland from Bow Island, Alberta and they were married in 1943. She moved to the same station as her husband in Yorkshire and was now in Bomber Command. In May of 1945 she left England to come to Canada. While on the ship coming across the war ended with VE Day May 8, 1945.



Doris got to Bow Island on May 15th, she was met by Ronald's father whom she lived with until Ronald came home in October of 1945. The father-in-law moved out and Doris and Ronald continued to live in the house.

They had seven children, Alan the oldest was born July of 1945. He is married and has three boys, including a set of twins. He is the mayor of Bow Island and was an MLA for Eighteen years.

In November of 1947 Derek was born he is married and they had two sons, one was killed in a car accident. Derek lives in Saskatoon and is attending University taking Theology.

July of 1950 Alvin was born and passed away in December of 1969 due to a car accident.

August of 1951 David was born, he is married with one daughter. He is working in Bow Island with the Department of Agriculture.

April of 1954 Robin was born, he is married with three daughters, they live in Halifax, NS. and works as an Airport Agent.

March of 1957 Judy was born, she is married and has one step-son. She is a nurse and works at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital.

April of 1963 Elizabeth was born, she is a Special Education Teacher and lives in Cochrane.

Doris has 10 grandchildren of whom four are married, and one fine great grandchild. Doris was a stay at home mom, with a twinkle in her eye she says, "I had too many kids to go to work."

Ronald worked with his Dad, they had a farm machinery business until 1952 when he decided he would go farming. They farmed for many years and Ronald passed away on Nov. 2, 1999. Doris continued to live in Bow Island until 2001 when she moved to Medicine Hat and bought a condo in Courtyard where she still lives.

Doris went back to England in 1948 with two of her sons. Then in 1968 went back with her two daughters and her son Alvin. After that she made several trips back to see her Mother. In 1978 her mother and a sister-in-law came over to visit. Her mother said if she were younger she would move to Canada. Doris went back again in 2008 and says that will be her last trip.