

SYMONS VALLEY
UNITED CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2019

FALL ISSUE



WELCOME TO SYMONS VALLEY UNITED CHURCH!

Your church, at the centre of the community. Welcome Home!

We are called to be a vibrant and affirming Christian community, sharing God's love and engaging ALL through dynamic worship, strong family ministry and loving hospitality, in service and outreach to the community.



A PLACE FOR YOU



At the February 2019 Annual General Meeting, I was given the opportunity to follow in Scot Middleton's footsteps and serve as Chair of the Board of SVUC. I would like to take a moment to thank Scott for the significant time and energy that he put into this role for the last 6 years. He worked tirelessly on new opportunities and challenges, using his experience and compassion, to help the Board and the church transition to where it is today. Thanks Scot!

It has taken a while for me to be able to fully view the work of the church from this different perspective and I have been fortunate in having Scot's mentorship throughout the process. Other Board members and Vicki and Stephen have been patient and supportive through the learning process as well.

In May I had the opportunity to attend a SPARK meeting at Wildrose United Church. This is a group of Calgary United Churches that meet regularly to explore common themes in our ministries. In May, we delved into subjects such as wellness, share ministries, visioning, using social media, marketing and fundraising. It was fascinating having the opportunity to share our successes and challenges with others whose feet are set upon many of the similar pathways.

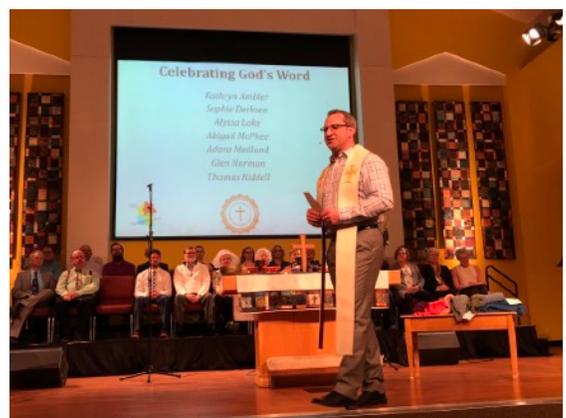
May was also the month of one of our funniest Dinner Theatres yet in the 20 years that I have been attending. Our Symons Valley Players did a great job. I think it is rare for the one person with "no lines" and no "voluntary movements" to make us laugh until we cried such as the 'dead body' did. Great job Players!

Our friends in the Al-Makkah Muslim prayer group invited us in May to share in the breaking of their fast one evening during Ramadan. It was an open invitation to our congregation. We had an excellent turnout. It was a chance to share thoughts and support for each other, as well as a lovely meal.

The Board has continued with its work on the theme **A PLACE FOR YOU**. At every meeting we review how the life of our church has lived out this statement, supporting the children, the juniors, the seniors, the in-betweens, the individuals and families of all kinds. If you have a story about something that has affected you, helped you to find a place within our SVUC family or if you have new ideas, please let me know.

No matter your background, gender identity, sexual orientation, faith background, or economic position, **there is A PLACE FOR YOU as a child of God, and you belong to this faith community.** So find the place where you belong. Welcome home!

Janet Stein
Chair of the Board



PASTORAL CARE



Pastoral Care at Symons Valley United Church is provided and organized through five different areas of focus. Hospitality, welcoming, caring, luncheons and the Prayer Chain all come under this umbrella of supporting our community. Pastoral Care supports the congregation of Symons Valley United in their pain, loss and anxiety, triumphs, joys and victories and also aims to make sure all people feel welcome when they walk through our doors. Your pastoral care team leaders are Kay Dunn, Elsa McLaren, Mark Stein, and Joyce Pouteaux.

UPCOMING LUNCHEON DATES TO NOTE...

October 6 – congregational baked potato lunch after the service

December 1 – Advent Festival lunch

What is happening in Pastoral Care at Symons Valley...

If you would like to join in on Elsa McLaren and Joyce Pouteaux's **baking blitz mornings**, to support our weekly hospitality after the service, come on out after coffee-talk on Thursday mornings each week at approximately 10:30 AM. It is a great social opportunity and a fun way to get involved in supporting Symons Valley hospitality! Please let Elsa or Joyce know if you have donations of baking supplies you would like to contribute to this part of our ongoing ministry of hospitality, or if you have any other

questions.

We value **hospitality** at Symons Valley and our goal is to provide a welcoming place after the church service where we can meet, have coffee, treats and great conversation.

Please contact Kay Dunn, kaydunn@shaw.ca, to help out with church luncheons or with providing weekly coffee and treats. We can always use more help in order to lighten the load for everyone and don't forget that clean-up is also a way that you can get involved in this ministry. The sign-up sheet to assist with coffee preparation and clean-up is posted on the Pastoral Care bulletin board on the East wall near the kitchen.

If you would like to be part of the Prayer Chain team, please contact Mark Stein, prayers@symonsvalleyuc.com. The Prayer Chain is a group of individuals who volunteer anonymously to join you in prayer at your request. Prayer is one way we are able to support and care for one another. If you have any **prayer requests, concerns or celebrations** to submit to our prayer chain, please contact Mark Stein at 403-295-1856 or use the above email. Confidentiality is assured.

Advent 101 on November 24 is an opportunity for the newer faces in our community, as well as those of you who have been with us for much longer, to come out and learn more about our Advent traditions and beliefs in the



United Church. This is also a great chance to meet some of our newer attendees and help them to feel a part of this welcoming church community. We will begin immediately following worship service.

Please talk to Stephen if you have an interest in being a part of our welcoming team or have pastoral care concerns.

UPCOMING PASTORAL CARE EDUCATION...

Symons Valley United will be hosting education sessions for the Christian Pastoral Caregivers Association this coming church year! This will be a great opportunity for developing your pastoral care skills. Courses will be held at SVUC.

Fall course offerings:

September 21-22 – **Companioning at End of Life**

October 19 – **Compassion Fatigue and Caregiver Burnout**

If you are interested in attending either or both of these courses, please speak with Stephen or Donna for more information. SVUC will cover the registration cost for members of our congregation.

Consider being part of a Caring Network at Symons Valley - As we continue to expand the role of pastoral care at Symons Valley, we are hoping to build teams of individuals who would be interested in being advised when people in our church community need extra support. Please consider adding your name to our caring network.

Blessings,
Donna Williams, Chair



SUNDAY SCHOOL

HELLO FRIENDS, PARENTS AND FELLOW SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTHUSIASTS,

I hope that you all enjoyed what turned out to be a wet but still great summer! It went fast though... and fall is quickly approaching, so here is an update on the fall Sunday School program that resumes next month.

We are thrilled to once again be working with the curriculum from Sparkhouse. This is our fourth year using this curriculum. We are very happy with it as it helps provide a rich Sunday School experience for a variety of learning styles. This year we will be looking at stories from both the Old and New Testaments. Very exciting!

Our “many hands make light work” rotation, has been very successful with both our parent volunteers, and Sunday School teachers so we will be continuing with the monthly rotation for all involved.

We are also very excited to announce that Letitia, who is starting ministry training at The Centre for Christian Studies, will be doing her first field placement with SVUC. One area of her responsibilities will be to look after the week-to-week running of Sunday School.

We are also happy to announce that we are continuing our monthly Children’s Choir program. Please see the music portion of this newsletter for more information. It’s going to be a great year!

HERE ARE SOME DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

September 8:

Sunday School Registration Begins

September 15:

Backpack Blessing Sunday and Sunday School Kickoff

September 29:

Children’s Choir

If you would like to be a part of the action in assisting with Sunday School, we still have a couple of volunteer spots open. I hope that you will consider being a part of Sunday School this upcoming year. For more information, see either Stephen or Letitia – or email stephen@symonsvalleyuc.com

Thank you for all that you do at SVUC! Enjoy the rest of your summer! See you in the fall!

Blessings,
Stephen & Letitia





STEWARDSHIP

FALL 2019

A big thank-you to all who have donated your time and effort to the various volunteer roles within the various ministries of this congregation of ours at Symons Valley. Volunteer effort is a key

Looking ahead to December...

Our annual White Gift Christmas Project supporting the SHARP Foundation is a tradition at Symons Valley UC. With the help of the entire congregation, Christmas gifts are given to residents of SHARP Foundation homes. These homes provide support and care for vulnerable adults living with or at risk for HIV who would otherwise be homeless. For many of the residents, the gifts and card from SVUC

are the only gifts they will receive at Christmas. who have asked the residents for "Wish Lists" of things they need or would like for Christmas. We ask the congregation for donations via White Gift envelopes to purchase gifts and fill stockings for each of the 15-20 residents. During December you can help wrap gifts & sign Christmas cards for the residents in the church foyer. Stockings are decorated during the Advent Festival.

You can also help with shopping – gifts requested range from socks to hoodies, games, books and everything in between!

More details will be provided in December but if you are interested learning more or in helping this year, please contact Liz McGregor at (403) 274-4829 or semcg@shaw.ca.

Please see www.thesharpfoundation.com

component of our church's foundation and your support is greatly appreciated. If you haven't volunteered yet, consider it an opportunity to actively reach out to share your gifts with the congregation, develop a new skill, or discover a talent you never knew you had :-).

This fall Stewardship Campaign will take place over three weeks in October. The theme is "Loving Your Neighbour", exploring the financial aspects of stewardship and intentional giving.

Monthly cash flow is a continual and growing concern. Financial giving from the congregation have remained relatively level the past several years but is not keeping pace with our various ministries and program growth and their related expenses. Volunteer efforts have helped reduce costs, but expenses such as salaries, building operation expenses, denomination assessment and the mortgage, require cash input on a monthly basis. The July income and expense report has been included for your information.

If the congregation, as a whole, is able to increase monthly givings by \$5,000 per month, it would help immensely. Your individual response to this request will depend on your personal circumstances; we only ask that you take the time to prayerfully consider and then act.

Our generosity is our response to God's vast generosity in our own lives; a generosity that we sometimes have difficulty in seeing. Our generosity is a way to contribute to God's and our congregation's mission in our community. It is how we make a positive difference as individuals and families.

Yours in stewardship,

Wayne Carmichael, Chair

Symons Valley United Church
Income and Expense Statement
July 2019

	2019	2018
	July	Year to Date
RECEIPTS		
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 17,271	\$ 159,623
OUTREACH CONTRIBUTIONS	25	2,114
MISSION AND SERVICE CONT.	1,483	10,275
MEMORIAL FUND	0	200
Subtotal Contribution Receipts	18,779	172,212
COMMUNITY BUILDING/FUNDRAISING	900	24,388
CHURCH ACTIVITIES	0	986
MISSION AND SERVICE GRANT	5,750	17,250
OTHER GRANT INCOME	0	4,385
INTEREST INCOME	1	5
BUILDING USE RECEIPTS	4,481	75,566
TOTAL INCOME	29,911	294,792
DISBURSEMENTS		
MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL	24,028	176,010
REGIONAL EXPENSES	0	500
UCC AND REGION ASSESSMENT	0	8,330
MISSION AND SERVICE	1,483	10,275
OUTREACH	260	3,300
FAITH FORMATION	556	3,095
COMMUNICATIONS	373	9,744
PASTORAL CARE	0	538
WELCOMING	204	1,668
MINISTRY EXPENSE	0	482
WORSHIP EXPENSES	0	682
MUSIC	103	1,404
COMMUNITY BLDG/FUNDRAISING	314	4,390
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	1,548	17,901
Mortgage interest	0	3,750
Utilities	2,960	20,068
Security	20	1,343
Janitorial Services	3,320	23,522
Janitorial Supplies	370	1,410
Garbage and Recycling	274	1,977
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	1,597	4,583
GROUPS MAINTENANCE	150	930
RENTALS EXPENSES	548	2,138
TOTAL EXPENSES	38,108	289,709
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	(\$8,197)	\$5,083

Our income levels are holding steady, however we have increased programming and expenses and ideally we would be able to increase income by approx. \$5000 per month (\$35/month for 150 families)

We are in arrears on assessment \$9000

We are 6 months in arrears on mortgage payments \$30,000

So while it looks superficially like we are getting by, we are approx. \$40,000 behind on payments to UCC and we owe congregation members \$15,000.

We had to issue a request for faith donations in August to be able to pay the bills. Please consider your contributions and see if you can increase your assistance to our ministry at SVUC. \$25-50/month can make a huge difference



Junior Youth

Junior Youth Group takes place at SVUC for those youth in grades 5 and 6.

Generally we meet the second Friday of each month from 7-9 PM. Please note, in October and April, we will meet the first Friday of the month. We play a lot of games together. We take a pause to enjoy a small snack. Games vary from circle games, like splat and elephant soccer, to gym games such as bucket ball and ping pong soccer, to church wide games like sardines and cops and robbers and many, many more.

Junior Youth Fall Dates:

September 13, October 4, November 8, December 13

Youth Group

Youth Group is for those youth in grades 7 to 12. We meet Sunday mornings during the worship service and have various social events throughout the month. Sunday mornings involve discussion-based programs based on a monthly theme with lots of games, crafts and activities sprinkled in. Our social events throughout the year vary from games nights, bake nights, movie nights, meet ups with other youth groups, sleepovers and a Regional camp weekend and much more. You can contact Matt or Ian to sign up.

Youth Group Fall Dates

September 14 Fall Start Up, 6:30- 10:00 PM

**October 5, October 26 (Running the Haunted House),
November 9, December 14**

For questions or for updates about Junior Youth Group or Youth Group, please email Matt and Ian at youth@symonsvalleyuc.com or contact Matt at 403-815-4334.





OUTREACH

With hopes that the summer has been fun and refreshing, the Outreach Committee welcomes everyone back this fall. We look forward to returning to our programs, or in the case of Inn from the Cold, continuing our volunteer contributions.

The Outreach Committee hosted a bottle drive in April and was successful in raising over \$500 which helps us to continue providing meals for Calgary's homeless population. Beginning in September, we will be having a monthly bottle collection on Sandwich Sundays to support our Drop-In Centre programs.

The first bottle collection will be on Sunday, September 8. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming emails. In the meantime, you can start saving your bottles and know that they will be put to good use.

The Outreach Committee meets monthly. If you have a passion



for helping others in the broader community, you are most welcome to attend our meetings. If you are interested in becoming involved in any of the programs below, please feel free to contact the coordinators for more information.

INN FROM THE COLD

Serving dinner for the residents of Inn From the Cold on a monthly basis is a year-round commitment by our congregation. Under the direction of Gerry and Cheryl VanKeeken and Chris Becker, five volunteers from SVUC serve dinner on the 4th Monday each month. Volunteers set up and clean the dining area, serve dinner and wash dishes for families staying at the Inn. For more information contact Gerry at gerry.vankeeken@gmail.com

GOOD FOOD BOX

While our peak summer growing season may be fading, take heart. You can continue to enjoy garden-fresh fruit and vegetables from The Good Food Box. Your down-to-earth carrots, potatoes and onions are always rounded out with a wonderful variety of fruits and seasonal produce. Think watermelon, strawberries, oranges and cantaloupe ...to name just a few.

In short, The Good Food Box is always brimming with flavour, nutrition and potential. The Good Food Box buys directly from farmers and wholesale clubs. The food is bought in bulk, with Good Food Box volunteers dividing the produce into portions to create the food boxes. The Good Food Box consistently offers an excellent variety of produce at a very reasonable price.

The purpose of the Good Food Box program is to support our communities through healthy nutrition. The program is open to everyone. Orders/payment are accepted twice a month, following the worship service. Orders and payment can also be made at the church office prior to the second order date, Monday to Friday, 9:30-3 PM. The upcoming order dates are as follows. Cash payment is due at the time of ordering.

Order dates	Delivery Date
Sept 22 & 29	Oct 10
Oct 20 & 27	Nov 7

The Box sizes and prices are:

- Small – \$25 (approx. 20 to 25 lbs of fruits/vegetables)
- Medium - \$30 (approx. 30 to 35 lbs of fruits/vegetables)
- Large – \$35 (approx. 40 to 45 lbs of fruits/vegetables)

Boxes can be collected at SVUC, 7-8 PM, on the posted delivery date.

CALGARY DROP-IN CENTRE – SANDWICH MAKING

Each month, September to June, we make approximately 400 sandwiches for the Calgary Drop-In Centre. These sandwiches are used in the lunches for the DI patrons who have jobs. Sandwich making is funded by the congregation in a separate, loose-change offering that is collected during the service Sandwich Sundays. All members of the congregation are invited to help make sandwiches following worship. It takes about 20 minutes. It is enjoyable to work together to do our part in helping others. The Sandwich coordinator, David Ward, is responsible for buying all the supplies, setting up the room, supervising the sandwich making, cleanup, and delivery of the sandwiches to the Drop-In Centre. If you are interested in getting involved or have questions, email David at dward@shaw.ca

Sandwich Sundays: September 8, October 13, November 3 and December 8



OUTREACH continued....

CALGARY DROP-IN CENTRE – SERVING BREAKFAST

For several years, members of our congregation have served breakfast at the Drop-In Centre one Sunday each month for up to 500 clients. While our helping hands are appreciated, clients often express their sincere gratitude for our friendly presence in the early hours on a Sunday morning. Volunteers dish up and provide table service for the meal. Often, we are asked to stay and assist with lunch preparation. A typical breakfast consists of

welcome. These weekly gatherings promise to be a time of learning, laughter and support. Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be provided.

DEEP DIVE SUNDAYS

Once a month we will be taking the opportunity to go deeper with the scripture reading and theme of the worship service. Following the worship service, we will gather together to discuss and explore what we learned during the worship service and

Bell Video Sundays

Rob Bell is the former pastor of Mars Hill Bible Church. He left the church when he publicly stated that God loves everyone, regardless of sexual orientation and that no one has to

change who they are to be loved by God. Rob has become loving, challenging and intriguing voice speaking God's Word in the world. He has made a series of videos called NOOMA (the phonetic spelling of the Greek word that means wind, spirit or breath). Each video is 10-14 minutes in length and covers a specific topic, usually by relating various experiences from a

Christian perspective. Join us once a month to watch one of the NOOMA videos together and join in discussing our thoughts on what Rob has to say. We will start at 12 PM so bring a bag lunch. Depending on the discussion, we will wrap up no later than 1:30 PM. Bell Video Sundays: September 29, October 27, November 24, December 15

a bowl of cold cereal and a glass of juice.

So far in 2019, SVUC has sponsored two hearty, hot breakfasts (January and June). It is our goal to continue to sponsor two hot breakfasts each year. Contributions to our monthly bottle drive will go to support more hot breakfasts this year. Five to ten volunteers are needed each month. Time commitment is approximately one hour, beginning at 6:45am and volunteers must be 14 years of age or older. To volunteer, contact Janet Rowland at dibreakfast@symonsvalleyuc.com

Breakfast Sundays: September 29, October 27, November 17 and December 15

Submitted by:

Committee Co-chairs: David Ward and Janet Rowland



what interesting tidbits that Vicki or Stephen might not have had a chance to include in the sermon. Bring a bag lunch and join the hour-long discussion beginning at 12 PM, following the worship service.

Deep Dive Sundays: September 22, October 20, November 17 and December 8.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

We know life is busy and there are many distractions that get in the way of just sitting together and having a good conversation. The women of the congregation are invited to take some time out

once a month for an evening of discussion, fun activities, laughter, stories, a few snacks and a bit of wine.

We will meet the third Wednesday of each month at the church. Our first gathering this fall, on **Wednesday September 18 from 7-9 PM**, will be a time of reconnecting and getting to know one another. At that meeting, we will decide what activities or presentations we want throughout the year. Please feel free to invite friends – all women are welcome for this Night Out – I hope to see you there!!

Ladies' Nights Out: September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18

UPCOMING CHURCH PROGRAMS

COFFEE TALK

Coffee Talk is a drop-in weekly event for those folks who are interested in talking with others about current affairs and their impact on our faith and spirituality. Each Thursday we meet 9:30-10:30 am to share coffee (or tea, hot chocolate or just water) and explore what's new and what's in the news. Our ministers, Vicki and Stephen, take turns attending and coming up with that week's topic. This is an informal group – all are

CHOIR



At Symons Valley we love to sing – and we offer a wide variety of opportunities for everyone to find their inner singing star!

WORSHIP CHOIR

Do you become a Singing Rockstar in the shower? If so, we invite you to step out from behind the curtain and come join our *Worship Choir*! This fabulous group of adults loves to make music together and have fun while doing so. No matter where you are on your musical journey, you are welcome to join us.

Worship Choir rehearses Thursdays, 7:30PM – 9:30 PM. Our first rehearsal on September 12 will include an hour of singing and then social time. Please bring an appetizer or dessert item to share. Our first Sunday anthem will be September 15, warm up beginning 9:45 am.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGERS

After a wonderful debut year, our *Sunday School Singers* will be returning to share their musical gifts beginning in September. As part of the Sunday School schedule, once a month the children will learn a short piece during the worship and sing it for the congregation at the end of worship. We are grateful for the incredible volunteers that lead this choir. All Sunday School children are welcome to raise their voices in song!

VOCAL PRAISE

We are pleased to announce exciting changes to *Vocal Praise*! This choir will continue to be available to junior and senior high students, in addition to those interested adults who would like to participate. This choir will focus on a contemporary repertoire with an emphasis on learning music quickly.

Rehearsals will take place over a 4-week period prior to the Sunday during which *Vocal Praise* will perform their piece as part of worship. This Session schedule will give short term singing goals with concentrated rehearsals at specific times. If you would like to sing in this choir, we ask for a commitment to the rehearsal/Sunday schedule for the Session(s) in which you would like to participate.

Rehearsals will follow worship, 11:45am – 12:15 PM, in the sanctuary. On sandwich making Sundays, rehearsals will start at 12 PM. The fall Sessions are as follows:

FIRST SESSION

Rehearsals: September 22 & 29, October 6 & 13

Sunday: October 20, warm up beginning 10:00 am

SECOND SESSION:

Rehearsals: November 17 & 24, December 1 & 8

Sunday: December 15, warm up beginning 10:00 am

If you have any questions, are looking for more information or are interested in participating in any of the exciting choral groups at Symons Valley, please contact Karen karen@symonsvalleyuc.com or Donna donna@symonsvalleyuc.com

We are excited to begin another year of sharing, learning and enjoying music and fellowship in our choirs at Symons Valley.

We would love to have you come and sing with us!





QUILTING MINISTRY

The SVUC Quilting Ministry is a group who gathers to share knowledge and stories, to commiserate together (over cutting errors and other life woes) and to make beautiful things.

New people are always invited to join us, no experience or equipment necessary; we happily share our knowledge and our tools. We have welcomed several new quilters over the years and have started them on their quilting journeys.

We meet twice a month, Mondays, 7- 9 PM, and the following Tuesday, 9 – 3. You may drop in at your own time availabilities on either day, or set up Monday evening and leave your stuff, come back Tuesday. Work on projects for the church or your own project (quilting, other sewing, handwork, knitting).

We would love to have you join us—to sew, to press, or just for company.

Mark your calendars with our upcoming 2019 Quilting Dates:

Mondays 7-9 PM	Tuesdays 9AM-3PM
September 16	September 17
September 30	October 1
October 14	October 15
October 28	October 29
November 11	November 12
November 25**	November 26
December 9	December 10

We have two special events coming up as well.

Our fall workshop will take place Saturday November 16, 9 - 5 PM. More details to follow.

**Monday November 25, instead of sewing that evening, we will be bringing in special guest Mary Dylke of No Rules Quilting to present her trunk show. She is a local pattern writer and an amazing longarm quilter, so it is worth coming to see her quilts. There will be a small fee for this event, \$2 to \$5, depending on attendance levels.

For more information, please contact Colleen Marchant ccinc@telusplanet.net, 403-274-0592 or Michelle Middleton msmiddleton@shaw.ca, 403-274-1646.



ADVENT FESTIVAL

Join us on December 1st for crafts, tree decorating, Christmas caroling, stockings for the SHARP Foundation as we celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season. Festive outfits are very welcome, so come with your Christmas sweaters whether they be ugly or just fun!

SAVE THE DATES

Beer and Carols

Mr. Mikes on Friday December 6, 7 PM.

Longest Night Worship Service

Tuesday December 17, 7 PM



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

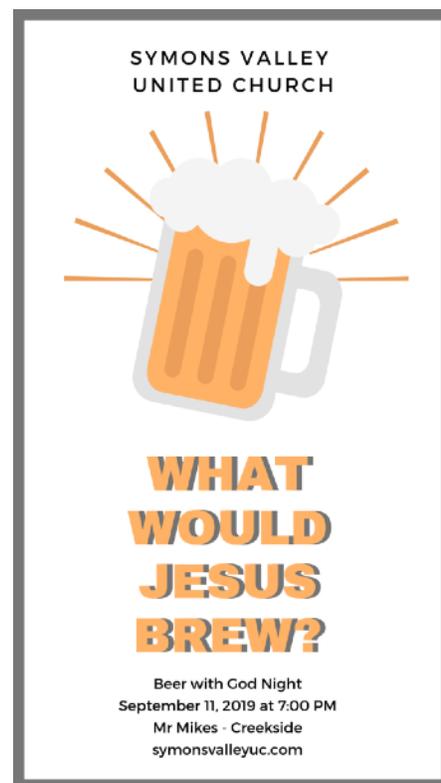
Wow, is it that time already? I guess time really does fly when you're having fun! It has been an absolute delight to work at Symons Valley this summer. I'm sad to be leaving but I know I now have a wonderful community here and I will be forever thankful for that. Here's a quick run down of what I did at Symons Valley this summer:

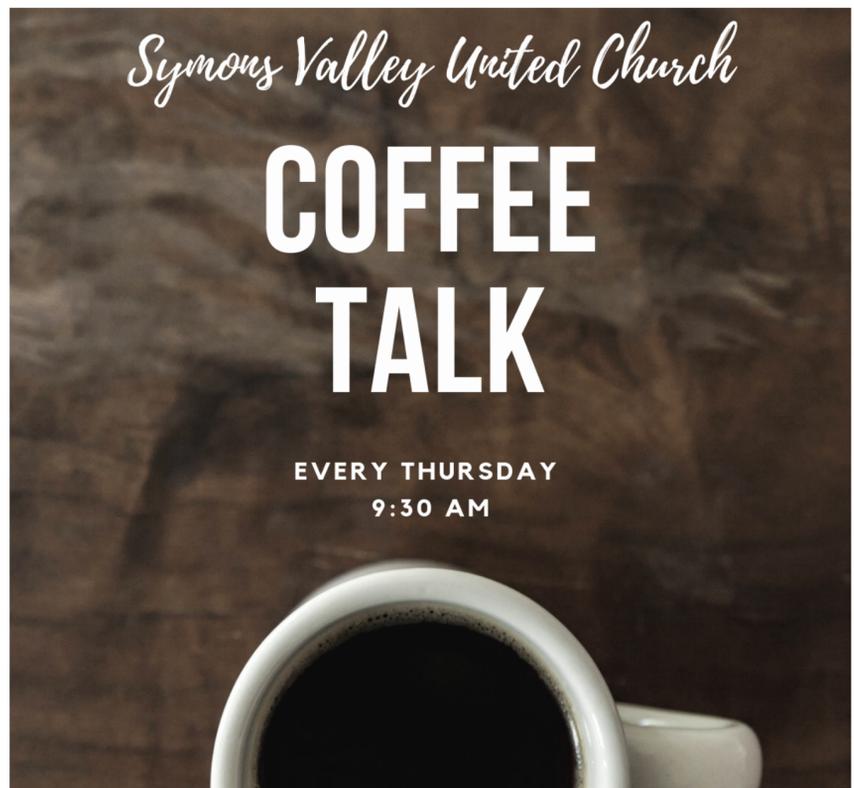
- Organized the Sunday school storage room and donated supplies that were no longer needed
- Planned and ran 10 days of Sunday school programming
- Assisted with tasks for the upcoming church year
- Co-lead 3 Junior youth program nights
- Substitute lead Youth programming as needed

Our attendance numbers for Sunday school ranged from 2-8 kids. Our Sunday morning activities ranged from crafts, to games, to heading outside to play with chalk. For example, we made faith shields inspired by Psalm 33:12-22 on August 11, and we made clothespin butterflies/monsters inspired by 2 Kings 5:1-14. Some days we didn't talk about scripture and instead we just played. My goal this summer was to try to fit teachings in where I could, but only if I it matched my comfort level and was easily accessible to the kids. We also partnered with the youth group for two Sundays and were able to have some awesome discussions and do some cool activities with the older kids.

What's next for me? This fall I am heading back over to St. Thomas to continue leading the youth group with Heather Robertson and Eden Middleton. Seeing as our churches work so closely with one another, I know that it won't be long until I see some of you again. I'm so grateful for Vicki, Stephen and Letitia who helped me so much during my time here. I'd also like to thank Matt and Ian for helping me out as well this summer.

Caitlin Hornbeck
Summer Sunday School Leader





SYMONS VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

Your church, at the centre of the community. Welcome Home!

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