



# MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

### APRIL 2026

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#### Take Time for God

This year I started my first year of nursing school; to say I have little free time is an understatement. I'm always on the go either at school or studying and if I'm not doing school I feel as if I should be doing more school work.

In this world there is often value put on how much someone works or how busy they are and sometimes slowing down is seen as a weakness. Working hard is important but I would argue knowing when to slow down is just as important. In the little free time I do have, I spend it running, actually running, as in training for marathons, it's my stress relief sport. Every Saturday I go on my long run and every good runner knows you need to start slow to have a successful long run. If you start your run too fast you will burn out before you reach your goal. The skill of consciously telling myself to slow down and not speed through my runs has taken a lot of effort to put in place.

I know I need to also work on bringing this skill into my daily life. When we are running through life at full speed we can forget to spend time with God. I ask God for strength in this area often. I ask for help to slow down and make time for Him and for myself. I believe in a God who will be with me when I'm running but also a God who will be with me when I'm resting. Even God who created the world rested on the seventh day so why can't we?

Taking time to slow down does not show weakness but incredible strength to recognize when you need to slow down. So, in a world where I get rewarded for winning the race no matter what the cost, I also follow a God who is proud of me for finishing the race no matter what my time may be.

So, the next time you are tired, check in. Are you running this race to prove something to the world or are you running for God? Take some time to pace yourself by slowing down to spend a little time with Him. Remember, you are not in this race alone, lean on God, take the time to rest and slow down, and He will help get you to the finish line.

Mya Kreutzwieser

**The Saskatoon and Area Youth Ministry** is having its annual **Easter Vigil at McClure** beginning Saturday **April 4th at 7pm** running until 10am April 5th.

**All youth aged 12+ are welcome and encouraged to come** if they are able. It will be a night of activities, games, movies, and snacks! Youth are encouraged to bring money if they would like to participate in the late-night 7/11 run, however the youth ministry has funds to cover those costs lest to cause undue hardship on any families.

It is an all-nighter event but there will be a quiet room that youth can take a break or sleep in if they so choose. For more information or any questions, you can email Meghan Drabble the Saskatoon + Area Youth Minister at [meghan@yxeyouthunited.ca](mailto:meghan@yxeyouthunited.ca) **We hope to see you there!**

## IN LOVING SYMPATHY

Holding you gently in prayer...

All who have experienced grief & loss in its many forms

Bruce and Linda Squair on the death of Bruce's mother Norma Squair



## NEWS FROM THE MCCLURE CHURCH BOARD

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf of springtime." Martin Luther

Gazing out the window at the snow really does test one's faith. But April is upon us, and much warmth and renewal is a certainty at McClure Church.

Our monthly McClure Church Board meeting occurred two days after the Congregational meeting of Feb. 22. There was much to discuss. On the minds of most of us was the concern about our deficit budget and how we can improve our financial situation. Reverend Emily suggested some readings from the United Church of Canada with information for us. It seems finances are on the minds of many church boards these days.

During our Board discussions, an idea was suggested about forming a task force to discuss fundraising. What that would look like, and what the group's mandate might be, was left for us to think about until our next Board meeting, which was March 24. At the March meeting of the Board, we again reviewed the fundraising task force idea and how that might be an interesting concept. Please be on the lookout for further news and opportunities to either join the group or put forward some fundraising ideas. We need your help!

Also at the Board meetings, we have been excited to support the Saskatoon Youth Ministry under the leadership of Meghan Drabble, with a donation of \$3000. This money has been held in trust for youth projects after the youth mission trip was cancelled when COVID hit. We hope this money will help with activities that Meghan will be planning in the next few months. Rev. Emily has invited the youth to a sleepover in the church the night before Easter, and we look forward to this involvement.

The Board also wanted to express a huge thank you to the McClure Players (especially Kristie, Elaine, and Terry) for all the work on the dessert theatre production of Nunsense. The event was so amazing, with such talent brought to our sanctuary/theatre! We look forward to "A Christmas Carol" Dinner Theatre, Nov. 26-29.

At the Board meetings there is a sharing of the reports from all the committees. So many fantastic events coming up for McClure folks: all the meaningful church services as we approach Easter Sunday, the book and puzzle sale, the spring supper, the Camp Tapawingo hot dog lunch. Spring is definitely in the air at McClure.

We sincerely wish you and your family renewed faith, and the love and joy of Easter morning. In Helen Keller's words, "Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light."

Let us pray this shall be so.  
Heather Muirhead, Co chair McClure Church Board



# HOLY WEEK

**Maundy Thursday** April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 pm.

**Good Friday Service** April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11:00 am

**Youth Easter vigil** Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm running until 10am April 5<sup>th</sup>.

All youth aged 12+ are welcome and encouraged to come



**Easter Sunrise Service** -April 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 am at Donna Berkmaier Park

Donna Berkmaier Park is a 5-minute drive from the church east on Taylor Street. The parking area is left at Slimmon Road. This area is easily accessible and there is a spot to view the sunrise.

Please join us for a light Breakfast back at the church after the service.

**Easter Sunday** – April 5<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 am.

## Spring Supper

**MAY 3RD AT 5:30PM**

**ROAST BEEF WITH SIDES AND DESSERT**

**TICKETS ON SALE**

**STARTING MARCH 29TH**

**ADULTS \$30**

**KIDS 12 AND YOUNGER \$16**

TICKETS ON SALE  
AFTER CHURCH  
OR AVAILABLE BY  
PHONE AT  
306-373-9891

# WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS



Holy Week reminders- March 29 is Palm Sunday. April 2 there is a Maundy Thursday service at 7pm and on Friday, April 3 at 11AM there is a Good Friday service. Easter Sunday begins with a Sunrise service at 6:30 at Donna Berkmaier Park (Easter on the Plain) followed by a light breakfast at the church. For the Easter 10AM Service we are asking for people to bring a plant to decorate the sanctuary. Please remember to collect your plant or plants before leaving.

If you are interested in statistics we have this information on church service attendance:

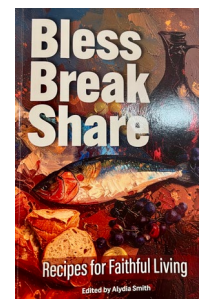
## Worship Attendance Stats January 4 to March 15:

The average number attending McClure on Sunday is 152. The average number watching the livestream during the sermon is 38; at any time during the service it is 56, and the average number of total hits for the week is 179.

So, add the in-person to the streaming services on Sunday morning and the average is 208. When we include the hits during the week we average 331 people showing an interest in McClure United Church on a weekly basis.



A very positive Worship Committee meeting was held on March 19. Diane Hogg used the Lenten Study book for 2026 to present a meaningful and tasty opening reflection. To emphasize that ALL are welcome, she prepared a tray of finger foods from several ethnic origins. It was a great start to productive conversation and how to style worship so that everyone feels welcome and comfortable. Our next meeting is April 16 and we are always open to welcoming new members.



## PIE Day Report

On Friday, March 13th, we celebrate PIE or Public Intentional Explicit Day! We had about 20 folks come out, eat some tarts, and have some open conversation! It was lovely to see so many allies come to learn terminology, ask questions, and find out more ways they can support our 2SLGBTQ+ community members. It's important to remember that there is still a lot of discrimination, and that advocacy needs to happen from everyone, all year round! Thank you to all who attended and I hope many folks will attend our upcoming Pride festivities this year!

All of the leftover tarts were taken to the Friendship Inn!

## Recipe Swap - Mother's Day!

On Sunday, May 10th is Mother's Day! Let's honour the wonderful women in our lives with a Baking Potluck and Recipe Swap! Do you have a family recipe close to your heart? Come share your recipe and have a chance to remember your loved one!

Ideally, we would have 12-24 portion sizes, we may cut items into smaller pieces for easy sampling!

### Interested?

1. Sign up on our sheets in the church foyer or the church office to bring your sweet or savoury treat! Sign-ups will be available starting Sunday, April 12th.
2. Email a copy of the recipe to Eden at [mcclureucprograms@gmail.com](mailto:mcclureucprograms@gmail.com) and she will print out recipe cards for folks to take home! You can also drop off a written copy of the recipe to the church office!
3. On Sunday, **May 10th drop off your baked goodies in the Multipurpose Room between 9:30-9:50am!**
4. If you would also like, you can bring a photo of your loved one to place next to your baked goods!

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## Sunday Coffee Volunteers

For those who have thought about volunteering to help, occasionally, with coffee on Sunday Mornings, please consider this an invitation to join our current volunteers.

We would be grateful and welcome all who want to serve. The sign-up sheet is always on a table Sunday morning. Also, if we are slow in offering a second cup of coffee, so our volunteers can enjoy a beverage too, please help yourself.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered already! Your Congregational Care Committee

## Pride Parade Planning!



Come out, come out, wherever you are!

We need YOU to help us plan this year's Pride Parade! June is coming up fast, so let's plan on how we are going to support our 2SLGBTQ+ community!

We need allies of all ages to come and help show support!

**On Sunday, April 26th, come and attend a meeting after church in the Gathering Room!** We can share ideas and discuss how we can participate in Pride together as a congregation!



## McCLURE BOOK AND PUZZLE SALE

Saturday, April 25, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*Cash Only*



**Multipurpose Room:** Books, Audio Books

**Sanctuary:** PUZZLES, Board Games, Records, DVDs, CDs

*We encourage everyone to bring their own bags.*

As always, we rely on donations to make this a successful sale.

Books/puzzles, etc. may be dropped off at the church April 19 until noon and April 20-23 from 9:00 a.m – 8:00 p.m. and until Noon April 24. *Please do not bring them early as we don't have any storage.* If this is an issue, contact one of the names listed below.

**PLEASE NO** textbooks, National Geographic, atlases, dictionaries, computer books, Reader's Digest, encyclopedias of any kind, magazines or damaged books.

**Volunteer sign-up sheets** will be available March 29, April 5 and 12 after church. Besides workers, we need trucks or vans to help remove the remaining books, etc. on Saturday, April 25. We appreciate your help. This is an important fundraiser for the church.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following:

Carol Claypool at 306-664-2285 or [cclpool@sasktel.net](mailto:cclpool@sasktel.net)

Terry Clark at 306-227-7008 or [terry86clark@gmail.com](mailto:terry86clark@gmail.com)

Diane Hogg at 306-343-1647 or [diane.h@shaw.ca](mailto:diane.h@shaw.ca)

# STAYING CONNECTED

## Nursery

The nursery is open and well equipped. There is a TV for viewing worship, loads of toys and a comfy rocker. Please remember babies and toddlers are very welcome in the worship space and the nursery is for your convenience when needed

## Men's Saturday Gathering

McClure men and friends also gather on Saturday mornings once a month.

Please join us!

**Next gathering**

**April 18 - 8:00 am**

Next gatherings: **May 16 - June 20**

## Ministry with Children – Rainbow Village Sunday Morning.

Eden Polischuk is our beloved Rainbow Village leader.

Eden has a B.Ed. degree and a heart for kiddos. Thank you for trusting us to teach and learn with your children.

## NOTE

**Rainbow Village  
IS CANCELLED on  
Sunday, April 12th.**

## Women's Saturday Morning Gathering

McClure women and friends are invited to a Saturday Morning gathering which provides opportunities for deep connection, interesting conversation and loads of fun.

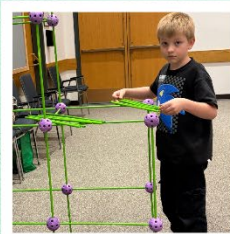
**Next Gathering – April 18<sup>th</sup> @8am**

Next gatherings:  
**May 16 - June 20**



## Family Fun Night

Thanks to Cailey McCulloch for organizing the March 20th Family Fun Night.



# McCLURE Players



McClure Players' production of Nunsense has closed and it was a lot of fun. Close to 400 people attended to the sold out run to laugh and cheer alongside the Little Sisters of Hoboken. On behalf of Elaine Reinhart, and myself, we would like to thank the cast and crew of the performance, Eden for managing ticket sales, Arron for office support, Jim and Angie for stage set up and sound support, Terry for organizing the deserts, Denis for running the front of house, Elaine for bookkeeping, and all the other volunteers who came to help with the production and running of the show.

As always, the board and ministerial team have been so supportive of our endeavours. It takes a large team to mount a show and we are so proud to put on quality productions for our McClure family, and the wider community.

Please stay tuned for audition and volunteer opportunities for **A Christmas Carol**, which will run **November 26-29**, as a dinner theatre.

Sincerely, Kristie Elliott-Ferhatoglu



**HOMECOMING  
WEEKEND  
May 30-31st**

# MCCLURE PLACE

## McClure Place Happenings

**"To enrich the lives of McClure Place Residents by providing support and service"**

Cribbage players played a round robin tournament continuing over three afternoons. First place winner was Louine Schnell; tied for second place were Claudia Zacharias & Linda Batza; and tied for third place were John Zacharias & Jan Olson. The Garden Committee is currently planning our many flower gardens. Donations can be made at our front office; \$20 or more are eligible for a tax receipt.

The course selected for Spring 2026 Saskatoon Seniors Continued Learning is "The Prairies and the Great Depression". The class will begin online from the University of Saskatchewan on March 24 for eight Tuesday mornings, and will be watched in a group setting downstairs.

A full classroom of residents attended the 55-Alive Drivers information classes for two half-day sessions. Abundant information was given by lecture, films and booklets. Many questions were answered & the course was very beneficial.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with tea/coffee and Irish shamrock shaped cookies with green icing. Many residents wore their best in green apparel.

The McClure Choristers led by Shirley Blackburn entertained us with several Irish melodies.

The Waltzing Matildas featuring a piano and flute player was very entertaining and they played a wide variety of familiar tunes. Telemiracle was watched on TV by many residents of McClure Place who proudly raised \$1,225.00 for the Kinsmen organization.

An eight-week yoga session began on March 12<sup>th</sup> and will run until the end of April. Our Monday to Friday regular daily exercise classes continue each morning except for Thursday mornings which is yoga.

Foodies: French Toast Brunch made by our kitchen; and a Van trip to Gibson's Fish & Chips for lunch were among our variety choices for meals.

## "THE BIG SHRED"

Confidentially shred your Papers that are taking up space.

### Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

9 am to 12 noon



at McClure United Church parking lot  
4025 Taylor St. (off Heritage Way)



It's BIG SHRED time again!! The Church parking lot is the place.

Here's the chance for us to support our mission at Amy McClure house while cleaning floors, and doing our bit for the great outdoors.

Our faithful partner, Shred-it (Saskatoon) will bring their efficient and secure shredding system with them again this year, and our friendly crew looks forward to seeing you.

The cost will remain \$10 per banker's box (or equivalent), and \$5 per shopping bag (or equivalent). Don't miss it! Thank you for your support. – McClure Place Foundation.

Visit our generous sponsor at [www.shredit.com](http://www.shredit.com)

Questions? Call 306-955-7677

## BACK PAGE

To support the Life and Work of the Church financially:

- **Pre-Authorized Remittance PAR** can be set up by calling the office 306-373-1753.
- **E- transfers** are welcome by contacting [donations@mcclureunitedchurch.org](mailto:donations@mcclureunitedchurch.org)
- Donations can be made through the website using Canada Help -go to the webpage and click on the donate button. (Note: Canada Help takes a fee and therefore McClure does not get 100% of your donation if you use this method)

Envelopes are available through the Church office  
306-373-1753



Sheila Krueger – Editor

*Got important info for the  
McClure Newsletter?  
Feedback? Ideas?*

Please e-mail newsletter submissions directly  
to [eskrueger@sasktel.net](mailto:eskrueger@sasktel.net)

**May Newsletter Deadline:  
April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

### Newsletter Format Options:

Our monthly newsletter is available at the church website & it's also emailed directly to everyone on the email list.

But, if you prefer to receive a paper copy **or** you need to update your email/contact info, please contact the office at:

306-373-1753 or [mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca](mailto:mcclureunitedchurch@shaw.ca)

Please note Debra is currently on Sabbatical Leave from February 1st to June 30, 2026.

### MCCLURE UNITED CHURCH

306-373-1753

[www.mcclureunitedchurch.org](http://www.mcclureunitedchurch.org)  
[www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/](https://www.facebook.com/McClureUnitedChurchSktn/)

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### Ministry Team






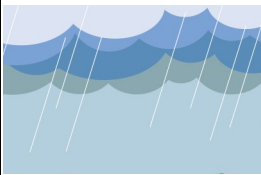




Rev. Debra Berg  
[debra.b@shaw.ca](mailto:debra.b@shaw.ca)

Rev. Emily Carr  
[ecarr@mcclureunitedchurch.org](mailto:ecarr@mcclureunitedchurch.org)

Administrative Assistant  
Data Entry Clerk  
Arron Bahry

Music Coordinator  
Shirley Blackburn

Pianist  
Elin Sletmoen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>"No rain, no flowers." Haruki Murikami</p>	<p>1 10 AM Congregational Care Committee 7:30 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>2 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 1:30 PM Quilting Group 4 PM Forever In Motion 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>3 <b>Good Friday</b> 11 AM Good Friday Worship</p> 	<p>4 7 PM Youth Easter Vigil</p> 	
<p>5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 6:30 AM Sunrise Worship 10 AM Easter Sunday Worship and Rainbow Village</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7</p>	<p>8 7:30 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>9 1:30 PM Quilting Group 3 PM Property Committee Meeting 4 PM Forever In Motion 7 PM M&amp;P Committee Meeting</p>	<p>10 1 PM Art Time Together</p> 	<p>11</p>
<p>12 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10 AM Sunday Worship <b>no Rainbow Village</b></p>	<p>13 4 PM Forever in Motion 7 PM Outreach Committee Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15 7:30 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>16 11:30 Worship Committee Meeting 1:30 PM Quilting Group 4 PM Forever In Motion</p>	<p>17 1 PM Art Time Together</p>	<p>18 8 AM Men's Gathering 8 AM Women's Gathering</p>
<p>19 10 AM Sunday Worship and Rainbow Village</p> 	<p>20 4 PM Forever in Motion</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 7:30 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>23 1:30 PM Quilting Group 4 PM Forever In Motion</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 8 AM Book Sale</p> 
<p>26 10 AM Sunday Worship and Rainbow Village 11 AM Pride Parade Meeting 5 PM May Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>27 4 PM Forever in Motion</p>	<p>28 7 PM Board Meeting</p> 	<p>29 7:30 PM Choir Practice</p> 	<p>30 1:30 PM Quilting Group 4 PM Forever In Motion</p>	