

## **OLDS UNITED CHURCH MINISTRY PLAN – OCTOBER 2022**

Ten years ago, Olds United Church had developed a Vision Statement that read as follows: "A Family of Faith, Spiritually Motivated, Welcoming and Caring". Our congregation endorsed the Vision to the fullest extent. We believed and strongly supported the wording by all present as a whole congregation. In 2022 we were advised by the Chinook Winds Region that it would be timely to revisit that Vision and to further develop a Mission Statement that would be in line with today's beliefs. This was completed through meetings with the congregation after Sunday services and the Vision and Mission faithfully developed and approved by the congregation reads as follows:

### **VISION**

**We at Olds United Church, are called by the Spirit, to be a caring community of faith, actively nurturing spiritual growth and compassionate outreach.**

**Our core values are: Spirituality, Respect, Compassion, Inclusiveness, Social Justice and Hospitality**

### **MISSION**

**Guided and motivated by the Spirit We:**

**Embrace all forms of human diversity; Explore new paths to being a Christian community in today's world; Engage in a variety of ways of experiencing God; Strive to be respectful, compassionate and caring; Reach out locally and globally to enhance the lives of all. In Faith and Wisdom, this is our journey.**

## MINISTRY GOALS, OBJECTIVES and TASKS

### **GOAL: CREATE A PARTICIPATORY and CARING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

**Objective – To strengthen the congregation by encouraging spiritual growth, by caring for each other, by fostering stewardship and by promoting all ages in our community to participate in our youth and senior ministries.**

- 1. Focus on meeting the spiritual needs of all ages within the congregation in exciting and innovative ways. Reach out and welcome the students at Olds College and invite them to partake in our Sunday service. Further develop a relationship with the Olds Hospice Society to encourage how we may be of service to their goals and eventual financial needs.**
- 2. Focus on being a caring and welcoming congregation.**  
Create a culture of respect and welcome for all. Continue the dual congregational relationship we have with Knox United Church, Didsbury. Continue to share the Ministry services we have developed this past year and into the future with the goal of both being better financially stable.
- 3. Provide support and options to those struggling with their involvement at Olds United Church. Many of the congregation are tired from years of service and simply wish to enjoy the Sunday service.**
- 4. Provide pastoral care through lay and ordained ministry promoting training for lay persons and volunteers and offer follow-up support.**
- 5. Focus on a Chaplaincy Program with the Olds Hospice Society and/or the Olds Ministerial Association and have that Program become a part of the responsibilities of our future full or part time Minister. Grants may be available through Government Services for this type of Program.**
- 6. Explore new forms of communication (i.e. Twitter, Facebook) as a means of building community.**
- 7. Focus on stewardship that includes stewardship education and attention to all aspects of stewardship – time, talent and finances.**

## **GOAL: USE OUR LAND AND BUILDINGS TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION**

**Objective – To have a facility that supports the congregation’s Mission in a financially sustainable manner.**

- 1. Olds United Church, to date, has been unsuccessful in reaching a financially suitable sale price for our property and building.**
- 2. Continue discussions with support of the Chinook Winds Region to consider redevelopment of our existing Olds United Church facilities that will allow the congregation to remain an important part of the Olds community. This may mean developing a housing component such as a market affordable apartment or condo building with a Developer of acceptable standards and reputation.**
- 3. Plan to retain the Olds United Church Hall, currently owned by the congregation, as our future sanctuary/chapel allowing the congregation a place to continue to pray and have a meeting place for congregational gatherings and further remain a United Church family as history has allowed.**