

Welcome to FAC!

New or Visiting? Need Prayer?

We're glad you're here! Stop by "NEXT" in **Meeting Place 2** after the service – we'd love to meet you.

Prayer teams are available at the front after the service, or fill out the attached **Contact Card**.

Get Connected

We'd love to help you get connected! Visit **faccalgary.com/smallgroups** or fill out the attached **Contact Card.**

Opportunities to Grow

Alpha: Thursdays, starting **January 19** in the Harvest Rooms, 6:30 pm. Free.

Widows' Connection: Monthly, resuming January 21 in Meeting Place 1, 1:00-3:00 pm. Free. DivorceCare: Thursdays, starting January 19 in the Grade 5/6 Room, 6:30 pm. \$26 (includes workbook). Registrations available at faccalgary.com/registrations.

DiscoveryLand

Save the date! Friday, **February 17** at 6:00 pm. Get Family Day weekend off to a great start with our Family Picnic on Main Street! Bring your dinner, spread out your blanket, and enjoy our indoor family picnic. After dinner we will have tons of FREE activities for everyone.

Gary Thomas

Let's Talk about Sex: Sunday, January 29 in the Sanctuary, 7:00 pm. Tickets \$15/person, available at Cornerstone Marketplace or online through funandfaith.ca.

Ways to Serve

Banquet Team: Prep/serve or clean up during a banquet for Camp Chamisall Friday, January 27. DiscoveryLand 1-on-1: Help a child with special needs participate in the DiscoveryLand program. Congregational Care Member: Care for those who are in crisis or in need of emotional and spiritual care during services. Be available for a minimum of 1 service/month.



Contact Cindy Bartlett to sign up serve@faccalgary.com/403-258-4355

Need To Know



Super Group Hosts

On February 4/5, we'll begin a 6-week teaching series "40 Days On Mission." Each Sunday evening we'll offer a "Super Group" led by Pastor James and designed to help you dig deeper into the weekend teachings. We need several people to host tables and facilitate discussion. For more info and to register to be a host, visit the Info Desk or contact Cory Harasym charasym@faccalgary.com/403-258-4364.

Relationship Fitness Centre

Our marriage ministry offers a variety of courses and events designed to strengthen the relationships of couples and help you live God's plan for your marriage and family. Find the listing of winter classes at **faccalgary.com/couples**. To register for classes visit the **website** or **Cornerstone Marketplace**.





Women & Men at FAC

Women2Women Tuesday Bible Studies (morning or evening option) start January 17. Registration is \$32.50 (includes workbook). Childcare is \$80/child per semester during the morning study (fee covers volunteer stipend). Registration is now exclusively online. For more info and to register visit faccalgary.com/women.

Men@First Swing for the Fences: To find out more about chances to hang out with other guys to connect, grow, and serve together, you won't want to miss our fun Men@FAC event January 22, 2:00 pm at Hitz Batting Cages, Okotoks. Tickets are \$20/person. Learn more at the Men@FAC table on Main Street, or register online faccalgary.com/registrations.

Services (& Translations)

Saturdays 6:30 pm Sundays 9:15 am (Spanish)

11:15 am (Farsi & Mandarin)



My Greatest Desire

"You can't fight desire with denial; you have to fight it with a greater desire." Ten years ago I chose to leave my partner, not because I didn't love her, but because my desire to discover more about Jesus was greater. I chose to believe the man I met when I came home was an answer to the deep desire of my heart long forgotten – for a husband – and he was and is ... but somewhere in all of my breaking and healing I decided only the 'straight' part of me was acceptable.

After seven years of marriage I'd managed to hide my ongoing same-sex desires, but was dying inside. The shame I felt was damning. I tried doing more in church and being more at

home. But you can't 'more' your way out of pain; you have to heal from pain.

Acceptance is the truest form of love, but I needed to extend that to myself as God already had. Not as a straight or gay person, but as a sexual, spiritual, relational woman who experiences desires like the rest of us. Who chooses to not see them as shameful, but as part of me that draws me closer to my Daddy who loves me unconditionally and accepts me because I know His Son, not because of anything I've done.

I'm thankful for my life, all parts of me. I don't expect to not have same-sex desires anymore. My prayer has changed from 'take this from me' to 'take me' – all of me. It's God's way to not take away the 'somethings' which require His strength, but give 'someone.' I have an incredibly gracious Father, husband, family and friends that give me space to feel and heal, and point me to my greatest desire, Jesus. -Heather Holt

Building Lives that Honour God ...all for Jesus!

January Giving

°\$° (as of January 8) **YTD Budget** Received **Shortfall** General \$3,158,125 \$2,750,011 \$408,114 Capital/Debt \$501,923 \$328,061 \$173,862 Missions \$537,936 \$445,112 \$92,824 Total \$4,197,984 \$3,523,184 \$674,800

Thank you for your generous giving in the month of December! We were able to bring in over \$1.25 million towards our year-end budget. Thank you for committing to build lives that honour God ... all for Jesus! For more info, contact John Siebring jsiebring@faccalgary.com/403-212-8850.

Congregational Care

In Hospital: Gil Adams, Penny Froese, Gail Zulyniak. For updates, contact Anne Freeman afreeman@faccalgary.com/403-258-8290.

A funeral for Lloyd Matheson will be held at FAC on Saturday, January 28 at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

