

heaven

COMES BACK

DECEMBER 3/4, 2016 LUKE 1:26-55 #FACCHRISTMAS @FACCALGARY

Welcome to FAC!

NEW OR VISITING?

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

NEED PRAYER?

Prayer teams are available at the front after the service, or visit faccalgary.com/prayer.

GET CONNECTED

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

STARS OF CHRISTMAS

You're invited *this Sunday* to our **free** family event! There will be sleigh rides, face painting and more! Join us from 2:00-6:00 pm and remember to bring your friends! #StarsofChristmas

THE UNMENTIONABLES DRIVE

We're partnering with The Mustard Seed to help our community. Drop off NEW packaged underwear to the boxes at the north and south entrances by December 17/18. Contact Michelle Peters mpeters@faccalgary.com/403-212-8847.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

In Hospital: Dave Harvie, Lin Harvie, Karin Nimmo, Chris Taksas, Carol Wiebe. For updates, contact Anne Freeman afreeman@faccalgary.com/403-258-8290.

CHRISTMAS IN DISCOVERYLAND

Infant-kindergarten program will continue during the Christmas season, including the 12:00, 2:00, and 4:00 pm Christmas Eve services. No Grade School on December 31/January 1. DiscoveryLand-On-The-Go available at the Sanctuary entrances during services.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

New to Canada? Spending Christmas Day by yourself? Join us for a free turkey dinner and an afternoon of fun! RSVP by December 15, christmaslunch@faccalgary.com /403-258-4363. Space is limited.

STUDENTS

Young Adults (YA): Christmas Banquet December 16, 6:00 pm in the Harvest Rooms. \$25; register online faccalgary.com/registrations.



Chewing the Same Dirt

He's been sober and off the streets for years. It took everything in him to stop by The Mustard Seed. He almost didn't get out of the car. "I was scared to walk in," he said. But Peter did. He was overwhelmed and managed to say two simple words to the staff, "Thank you."

The Mustard Seed was there for him when he needed food and emergency clothing.

"You guys fed me for 15 years, it's the only chance I got to eat in between the addictions," said Peter. "If [the police] didn't arrest me at that point, in another few months I would have been dead." Peter spent six years in jail. He used the time to reflect and get clean. "I stopped and took a long look. I saw what kind of monster I really was and what I would do for the drug." **It was the moment he began to heal.**

At two years old, Peter saw his father kill his mother in front of him. He suffered more abuse in his foster home. "90 percent of people start using drugs to mask something they don't want to remember."

Peter volunteers at The Mustard Seed in Calgary. He says people listen to him and many instantly connect with him. He believes it's because "they've chewed the same dirt." It's a dark past that's earned him street cred. Peter travels the province and shares his story with students. His presentation is real and gritty. The ultimate reward, he says, is when someone comes and asks for help.

Happily married with three boys, a dog, and a home of his own, he shares his story openly with his sons, hoping none of them will ever have to chew the same dirt.

Photo and story source: theseed.ca/chewing-the-same-dirt

Help support clients like Peter this Christmas; drop off packaged underwear to the boxes on Main Street by December 17/18.



Need to Know

CHRISTMAS AT FAC

Christmas Serve Opportunities: For more info, visit the table on Main Street or fill out the contact card.

- **Christmas Day Lunch:** Greeters, table host, servers, games/playplace help and cleanup. Contact christmaslunch@faccalgary.com.
- **Guest Experience:** Greeter, offering and parking team (Christmas Eve). Contact guestexperience@faccalgary.com.
- **DiscoveryLand Serve:** Help during the 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm, and 4:00 pm (Christmas Eve) or December 31/January 1. Contact serve@faccalgary.com.

Christmas Eve

- **Service times:** *12:00 pm, *2:00 pm, *4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, and 11:00 pm.*DiscoveryLand kids' programming for infant-kindergarten.
- Translations: Farsi (12:00 pm), Spanish and Mandarin (2:00 and 4:00 pm).
- No services December 25, 2016.

First Alliance
a christian & missionary alliance church
12345 40 Street SE Calgary

Contact

Phone: 403-252-7572
Website: faccalgary.com

Weekend Services

Saturdays 6:30 pm
Sundays 9:15 & 11:15 am

CHRISTMAS DESSERT THEATRE

Invite your friends and come to a great evening filled with two Christmas shows, festive dessert, and music! The show will run from December 7 through 11 at 7:30 pm, Harvest Rooms. Tickets are available online, **faccalgary.com/registrations** for \$20/person. Invite cards are available at the **Info Desk**.

SO, HERE'S MY STORY

Hearing one another's stories reminds us we're not alone; it inspires us to hope that God can and does get involved in the day-to-day, ordinary moments of our lives. What has God been doing in your life in 2016? We want to celebrate stories of God at work as we close out the year. Go to **facthisweek.com**, and share your story ... Be a part of the celebration!

STORYLINE MAGAZINE

Pick up our new winter edition at the **Info Desk**.

Building lives that honour God ... all for Jesus!

YEAR-END GIVING

Cash/Cheque: in-service offering baskets, safe drop-off (left of the Café), through the church office (Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-4:30 pm) or mail in

Online: (via credit card) faccalgary.com/giving OR through the "FAC Experience" App

Debit/Credit Card: through Cornerstone Marketplace

Stocks or Gifts in Kind: church office

December 31 giving: Donations to be included in your 2016 tax receipt must be received online or postmarked before 11:59 pm on December 31, or received during the 6:30 pm service December 31.

Thank you for giving towards "building lives that honour God ... all for Jesus."

For more info, contact Jigs Gonzales jgonzales@faccalgary.com.

YEAR-END GIVING TARGET

	Budget
General	\$1,200,000
Capital/Debt	\$225,000
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Total	\$1,425,000