



SAGE Hoots

May 2025

Seniors in Action for God with Excellence

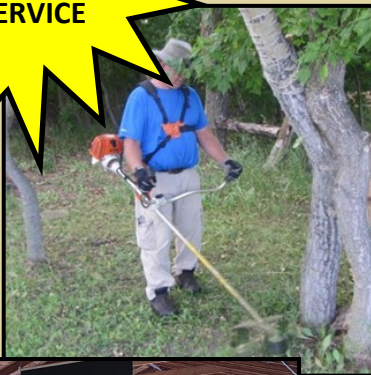
GREETINGS FROM SAGEALBERTA

Dear Friends,

I bring you greetings in another edition of *Hoots*. As I write these words there is tension in our world internationally, and intensity in our country as an election is imminent. However, SAGE exists to bring encouragement through all life's changes and challenges. This edition tells of events where seniors enjoyed times of fellowship and also teamed up to provide service. We invite you, if you are age 50 or above, to participate in the ministry of SAGE—I believe your life will be blessed.

Don Corkum, SAGEAlberta Coordinator

SERVICE



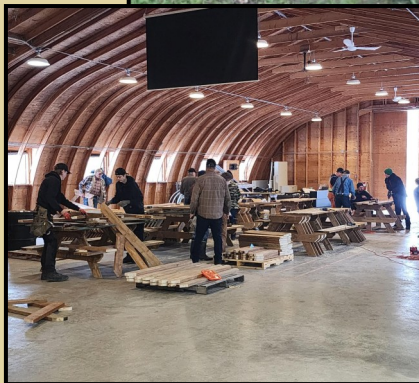
RECREATION & FUN



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**FELLOWSHIP
& WORSHIP**



It's all in this issue—enjoy the pictures and report! And, if you have missed participating, join us for future events—You'll come away refreshed and inspired.

CAMP MEETING ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Each year, on Sunday of the opening weekend of camp meeting, SAGers are invited to a free ice cream social in the lower lodge auditorium. Delicious ice cream and berries are served. Delightful background music supports our fellowship. SAGE Alberta Coordinator, Don Corkum, greeted the group and introduced Keith Richter, Alberta Conference Treasurer to speak to the group. Don't miss out—another social is planned for Camp Meeting 2025!



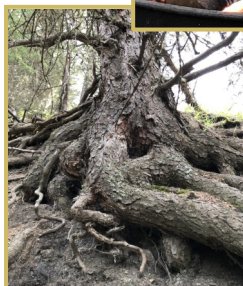
RV CAMPING—OPEN CREEK DAM

Two opportunities for recreational vehicle camping have been provided each year. Mostly recently, one at Open Creek Dam in July and one at Sheep River in September. People come with trailers, tent trailers, pop-ups, and vans. And, we just all hang out and have a good time. Great food was enjoyed at our potlucks each afternoon as well as at the pancake breakfast the final morning. We enjoyed long or short hikes, berry picking, board games, long talks and a few fished. But, the refreshing highlight of each day were mornings and evenings of enthusiastic singing, inspirational talks and praying. And, yes, it RAINED this year. We were thankful for our shelter when we could keep dry by putting up the side walls. Watch for announcements and opportunities to sign up for our 2025 RV Camping events.



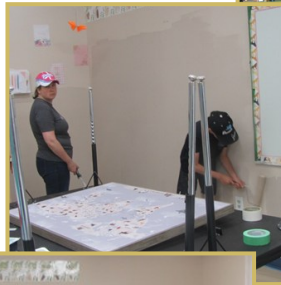
RV CAMPING—SHEEP RIVER

Continuing the camping experience, usually in September, SAGE Alberta invites all to come to the Sheep River region and to camp at a group site in Sandy McNab. Here we have electricity and a shelter with a wood stove for when the weather may be cooler. Our daily program is the same as Open Creek Dam and we never cease to delight in the fellowship and worship experience with each other. We celebrated national cupcake day this year and were served up a huge cupcake created by Helen! And, yes, the monkeys came along. If you don't know what that's about, come, join us in 2025.

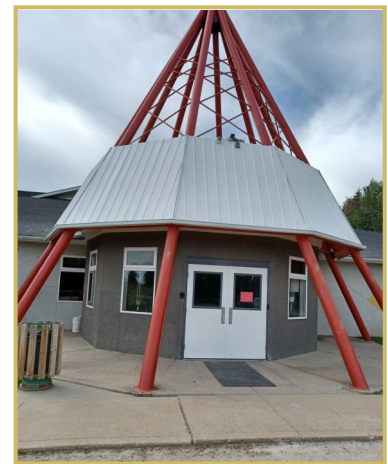


SERVICE DAYS—MAMAWI ATOSKETAN NATIVE SCHOOL

It is a privilege in our senior years, when our health and physical ability are still at a reasonable level, to use our time to serve others. SAGE Alberta traditionally has two schools which it serves each year. In 2024 Sylvan Meadows Adventist School and Mamawi Atosketan Native School were our projects to help prepare the schools for the new year and do some maintenance projects, painting and repairs. Sylvan Meadows was featured in our Camp Meeting issue of *Hoots*. Here, we will share pictures of our MANS work day. The school staff served a lovely noon meal to help our energy level. SAGERS brought the desserts. We will be serving at MANS again this year on August 24; in addition, we are adding the Medicine Hat Church School—watch for a big announcement about that because this is a new adventure.

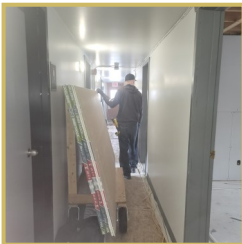
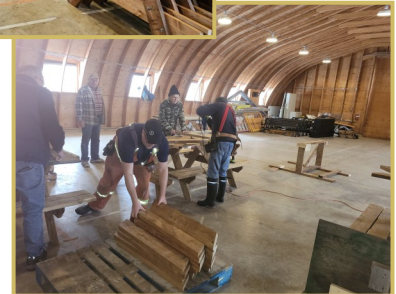


In addition to our one work day, and under the direction of our building projects coordinator, Urpo Maattanen, SAGE Alberta provided the funds to re-finish the front entry to the school by hiring a company to water-blast and paint the surface of the entry and the doors. Here are before and after pictures.



FOOTHILLS CAMP WORK DAY

Responding to the appeal of Ken Harrington from Foothills Camp, and under the direction of Urpo Maattanen, with a huge hand from Matthew and Mike Hymanyk and their crew from Edmonton, as well as workers from Calgary and Lacombe, SAGE Alberta constructed 50 picnic tables, installed drywall, taped and applied the first coat of fill in 12 rooms in the lower level of the lodge at the camp. These major projects were done on March 30. Another work day will be held April 27.



2025 WINTER RETREAT—CARBON VALLEY RANCH

Arriving for our winter retreat with the snow basically gone, we felt like we were headed, rather, into a spring retreat. Some who had brought cross country skis were disappointed. But their disappointment turned into delight when one morning we woke up to about six inches of snow covering the landscape.

Our usual 9:00 a.m. breakfast was followed by extended worship time with lots of singing and reflecting on spiritual themes led by Ron Joch in the morning and Don Corkum in the evening and even some stories read by James Astleford from his newly published book, *Through My Lens*, under the pseudonym, Harry Wharton. Time together was highlighted by putting together a puzzle (never got to finish it), playing games and one evening enjoying a bag party.

Have you made a trip to see dead gophers? How about trying the World Famous Gopher Hole Museum in Torrington, AB. The pictures below tell the unique and fun experience that provided.

An additional feature was the composition and performance by Evert Herrebrugh of a verse celebrating the Canadian maple leaf, to the tune of "Eideweiss". Fellowship was sweet and conversations fun; memories were made. Thank you, Ron and Lorna, for arranging this event.



Maple Leaf! Red Maple Leaf,
Every autumn you greet me.
From green to red, I always have said:
"My you look so happy to meet me."
Weather-hardened thru sunshine and rain,
Please brighten our hearts forever!
Maple Leaf! Red Maple leaf,
Bless my homeland forever!



UPCOMING SAGE EVENTS THAT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

RV CAMPING

TWO RV CAMPING EVENTS

Open Creek Dam—August 18-21, 2025

Sandy McNab—September 8-11 (To be confirmed)



WORK DAYS

TWO WORK DAY EVENTS

Mamawi Atosketan Native School—August 24, 2025

**Higher Ground Christian School, Medicine Hat
—August 25-27, 2025**



SIGN UP SHEETS FOR ALL THESE EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BANQUET & AT THE COLLEGE HEIGHTS CHURCH

SAGE Hoots

A semi-annual publication of **SAGE**ALBERTA

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What is SAGE?

SAGEALBERTA (which is the acronym for Seniors in Action for God with Excellence) is a ministry of the Alberta Conference designed to engage the energy and skills and enhance the lives of Alberta Conference church members who are 50 years and older, as well as their friends and neighbours.

Through service and work projects; recreation and social activities; tours, travel and mission trips; retreats and conventions, **SAGE**ALBERTA provides opportunities for continued active service to God, the church, and the community as well as opportunities to develop enriching social connections.



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