

HAPPY

Mother's

& DAY

THE VINE

MAY 2019

Ministry Team

All members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

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Jens Kaack
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Iain McKay
Garry Mihaichuk—Chair
Shirley Moule
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Darren Tenor
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Administration &

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Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor
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Jesse's Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
9:00am - 1:00pm

Office Assistant

Judy McDonald
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Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Summer Hours

Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 am - noon

Please call ahead to access the building outside of regular office hours.

www.oursaviourchurch.ca

8831 Fairmount Drive SE, Calgary, T2H 0Z4
Facebook: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Thank You for Celebrating Easter with your Gifts

To the Board for providing us with a fabulous breakfast, especially Shirley Moule, who made it happen.
To the Altar Care and Decoration Team for preparing for services.
To Ushers, Greeters, Counters, Communion Assistants, Sound and Computer Techs for serving others.
To Singers, Slide Creators and Readers for adding to our worship.
To the Church Staff for their diligence in planning for the Holy Week Services.

*Thank
you*

From Pastor Julianne

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia. Several members of the congregation were asked "How does the resurrection of Jesus impact your daily life?" Here is what they said.

"Jesus resurrection impacts my life knowing that the people I love that are not with me now will be in a better place. They have no more pain no more suffering. This keeps me going knowing that some day there will be peace, no worries, no pain only love and kindness!"

"The resurrection is the capstone of Christianity"

1 Cor 15:15-19 (NLT): ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. ¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

"Wow. A risen Jesus assures me that regardless of circumstance, He loves me, will protect me and will give me the strength I need to do what I need in all of the roles I fill in my life. This means more than I can express and ...it CHANGES EVERYTHING! When dark events occur and I begin to feel despair - I know He's there, watching me and quietly telling me 'all will be OK' and to keep trusting Him. When faced with tough decisions, I frequently stop and quietly pray for guidance. He ALWAYS responds but... on many occasions it happens in ways I didn't expect nor understand at the time. Only with the benefit of hindsight have I been able to see how He moved in response to my plea.

On many occasions I have tried to function **apart** from His guidance because 'I knew better'. Sadly, in most of these efforts I fell short in some way and ended up on my knees asking for forgiveness and for Him to help me to trust Him again. He always does, without a lecture nor stern reprimand. In summary, I trust His promises. I will never be tested beyond what I can bear and He will always provide what I need. This is the daily hope that allows me function each day."

"For me, forgiveness and God's love through the promise of new life for all who believe in Him is very comforting. The promise of eternal life helps me to come to terms with the loss of loved ones and helps me to understand why bad things happen to good people. (I struggle with this but trust that the good Lord has his reasons). When I have lost someone I love, I still miss them terribly but at the same time I am comforted by having the deep belief and knowing that they have been given the promise of eternal life through the resurrection - and I know that someday I will receive that promise also. The resurrection & forgiveness gives me hope for the future and I strive to always try to do better to live up to God's expectations."

Pastor Julianne (continued)

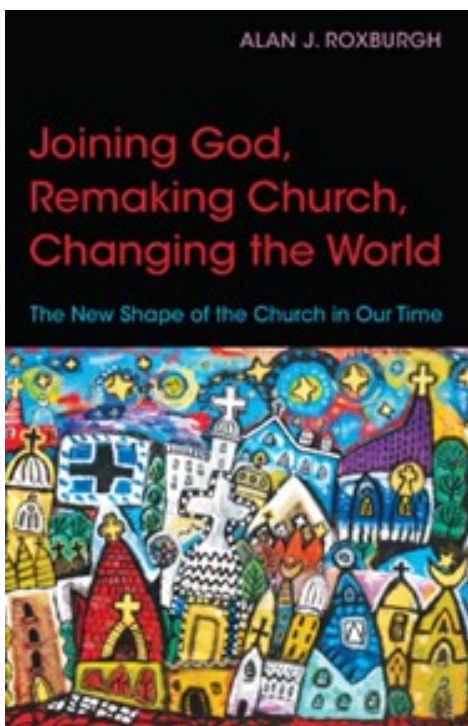
“For me the resurrection confirms that Jesus was the Son of God. He followed the Father's plan even if it meant suffering and dying for our sins. This should be our model for allowing God to direct our lives. I try to learn all I can of Jesus' life and model my life on His.”

God's promise compels us to live everyday as Christians. *For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:3b-4, 12-14 (ESV).* Let it be so for us. Amen.

Joining God, Remaking Church, Changing the World.

A five-week opportunity to explore the new shape of church in our time.

The forty-day Lenten Journey group focus on the Marks of the Christian has been completed, but the conversations, sharing and prayer will continue. For five weeks during May, we will gather to continue sharing and wondering where God is leading. You are invited to join in with your questions and insights. Books are available from Pastor Julianne.



Wednesday May 1, 7:00-8:30 – “The Great Unravelling”

(The church's decline)

Wednesday May 8, 7:00-8:30 – “Reactions to the Unravelling”

(What have we done)

Wednesday May 15, 7:00-8:30 – “Four Misdirecting Narratives”

(Why have we done it?)

Wednesday May 22, 7:00-8:30 – “God at the Centre”

(Who is really in control?)

Wednesday May 29, 7:00-8:30 – “Practicing the Journey”

(What is next?)

Sacramental Life

From Book of Faith, Lenten Journey, Day 40

David L. Miller

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. (Romans 12:15)

You shared it all, Jesus. Nothing is left out. Now at the end, your arms spread wide, you gasp a final breath: "It is finished" (John 19:30).

You took the fullness of what we are into yourself. You knew friendship and fought enemies. You loved and were let down by those you most loved...and needed. You drank wine and broke bread amid laughter at hospitable tables, and you tasted your own blood, hated and alone.

On your final days, tender hands washed your feet and anointed you with oil for unimaginable sorrow. You sparred again with opponents and knew the joy of washing, touching, blessing the feet of friends. You prayed for deliverance and delivered yourself into the hands of the Loving Mystery.

You were a stranger to nothing that is human, to nothing that is in me. You embraced all that we try to escape because it is too frightening, too messy, too painful.

And in your dying, you proclaimed it all finished. All that was and is human - pain and joy, sorrow, death, and the sweet delight of loving and being loved - all of it was taken into your heart.

The suffering of every human soul had become your suffering. Our weakness and mortality had become yours.

Refusing to be a master over us, you became our Brother, *my Brother*, sharing all that I am. All of it is taken into you and joined with the fullness of all you share in intimate communion with the Loving Mystery you call Father.

Every moment - my living and dying, my successes and failures, my joy and shame, my strength and fear - all of it now becomes one more sacramental moment in which the Love you are is shared with me and becomes part of me.

The world is lit up from within by your loving presence. So I can embrace it all, just as you did. I can weep with those who weep and mourn with those you mourn. I can welcome it all with sweetest joy, fearing no death because the end is always life and love, filling even me.

What more could I want?

Acadia Food Pantry

The Acadia Networking and Action Group has initiated an Acadia Food Pantry program once a month on the third Tuesday. Thanks to those who have contributed to this much needed support for some of our neighbours. Contents in the bin in the front foyer will be donated to the Acadia Food Pantry each month.

There are openings for volunteers to work before the pantry opens on the Tuesday. Please contact Donna 587-432-4024 to volunteer.

Things to donate:

1. Applesauce - Plastic jars of unsweetened applesauce provide a quick snack, fiber and vitamin C.
2. Canned Beans - Loaded with protein and fiber, canned beans provide an excellent, nutritious way to fill a hungry tummy.
3. Canned Fish (Tuna and Salmon) - Canned fish has vitamins, omega-3 fatty acids and protein, and it makes for a quick and easy meal.
4. Canned Vegetables - Colorful, nutrient-dense and fiber-rich vegetables are always in high demand, and canned varieties last the longest.
5. Cooking Oils (Olive and Canola) - Canola and olive oils are the best choices because of their monounsaturated fats and mild flavor.
6. Crackers - Perfect as a snack or as a base for canned meats, crackers are shelf-stable and portable, making them ideal for snacks and lunches. Whole grain crackers are the best bet.
7. Dried Herbs and Spices - It's hard to cook a tasty meal without herbs and spices. Stick to the basics, like oregano, basil, cumin, pepper, rosemary, thyme and cinnamon.
8. Fruit (Canned or Dried) - Fruit, whether dried, canned or in plastic cups, makes excellent snacks for kids and adults and provide some nutrition and fiber. Choose those that are packed in water or fruit juice rather than sugary syrups.
9. Granola Bars - There is a need for quick and easy items that families can toss into lunches or eat on the go, and granola bars are just the thing. Look for ones with less sugar made with oats or other whole grains.
10. Nuts - A handful of nuts provides protein and nutrients in a hurry and is perfect for snacks and lunches.
11. Pasta - Whole grain varieties offer more fiber and nutrition than white pasta.
12. Peanut Butter - Children and adults like it, and it's high in protein, making peanut butter one of the most popular items.
13. Rice - It's filling, versatile and easy to prepare and store. Skip the white stuff and donate brown rice because it provides more fiber or quinoa.
14. Soup, Stew and Chili - These canned or packaged items acts as a warm and filling lunch or dinner and often come complete with protein (meat) and veggies.
15. Whole Grain Cereal - Here's another popular item with all ages, since whole grain cereal makes a healthy breakfast or snack. Select varieties that are low in sugar and high in fiber.

Drop in Dwelling in the Word

During the summer months of June, July and August there will be an opportunity for people to gather together to read the Scriptures, share and pray together.

Drop-in Dwelling in the Word will meet every Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30 pm in room A/B.

Here is what is involved in Dwelling.

Everyone brings or has a Bible to use.

One text is considered each gathering.

Each person is encouraged to be open to the Spirit.

One person reads out loud while the rest of the group listens.

People share their answers to “What caught your attention?” “What bothered you?” “What do you wonder about?”

A second person reads the text out loud again while the group listens.

People share their answers to “What does God’s Word say to us today?” “What might God be saying to LCOS for this time?”

The group gathered that day prays together.

Everyone’s voice is valued. There are no right or wrong answers. This is intentionally a place to hear and share what the Spirit says through God’s Word. All are invited to come on a drop-in basis and to bring a friend. Hosted by Pastor Julianne.

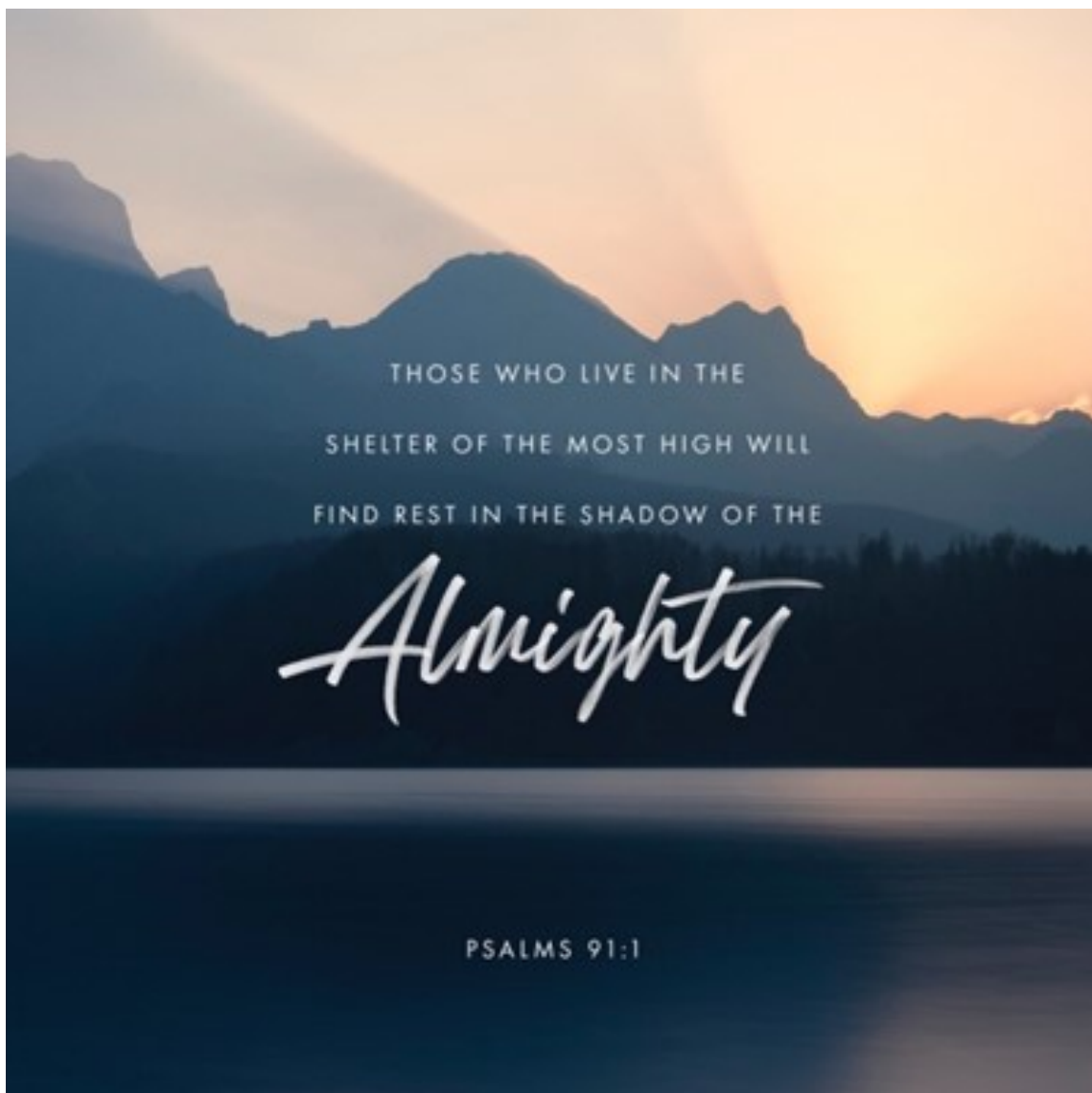
Service of Healing: May 26

Next New Member Sunday: June 2

Youth & Children's Ministry by Jesse Ramson

Honestly, I want to write about all the great things that happened this past programming year, but all I can think about are the incredible things we have planned for next year! Not to mention what's happening this summer, with VBS, the Stampede Breakfast, and so much more! My excitement is reaching new levels, as we gear up for new ideas that promise to bring more passion, more energy, and more faith into our discipleship efforts. Stay tuned for some of these plans that hopefully will be mind-blowing!

Throughout it all, through all of the planning and all of the reflecting on the past year, we need to remember God's role. Our mission is to have His presence flourish in this church, in our families, in each individual, and in the community. Everything we do, from the devotions, to the summer camps, to the fun events, to our outreach efforts, everything is focused on Him.



Youth & Children's Ministry

Saturday May 4th at 7:00 pm – Tween – End of Year Party

Can you believe that it is time for our End of Year Party already? Join us here at the church at 7pm for a BBQ party, with hamburgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, chips, pop, and more! We'll also play some games! Please bring a camping chair, so we can enjoy the evening outside.



Friday May 10th at 7:00 pm – Youth – 403 Rally



The 403 Network is a collection of youth groups across all denominations in Calgary, meeting four times a year for a special night of games, food, worship, and sharing in God's Word. The next rally is at First Alliance Church. Please sign up by Sunday April 28th so we can organize carpooling.

Saturday May 11th at 6:30 pm – Family – Moms' Night Off

In celebration of Mother's Day, we are offering a Moms' Night Off! Kids aged 3 and up are invited to join us for a slumber party! Bring your blankets and pillows, and wear your pajamas, for a night of great fun! Dads are also invited to stay at the church; we'll have a few things set up for you as well. That leaves Moms free for the night to do whatever they would like (although we might have a group activity option as well, let Jesse know if you are interested in that!). Pick up will be at 8:30pm, a permission form will need to be filled out, so please sign up by Sunday, April 28th.



Sunday May 12th at 10:30 am – Young Explorers Mother's Day Café

Young Explorers Mother's Day Café

*Sunday, May 12
10:30 am*

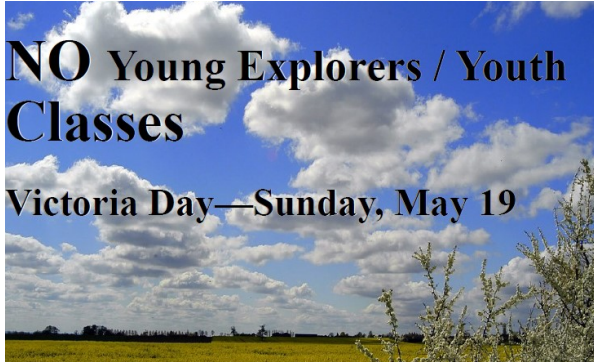
Fellowship Hall



It's our annual Mother's Day Café! Children and youth are invited to join us in Classroom A/B at 10:00 am as we make a special craft for our moms. Then, at 10:30 am all women of the church are invited to find a seat in our Fellowship Hall as teams of our Young Explorers serve you desserts and hot drinks.

Youth & Children's Ministry

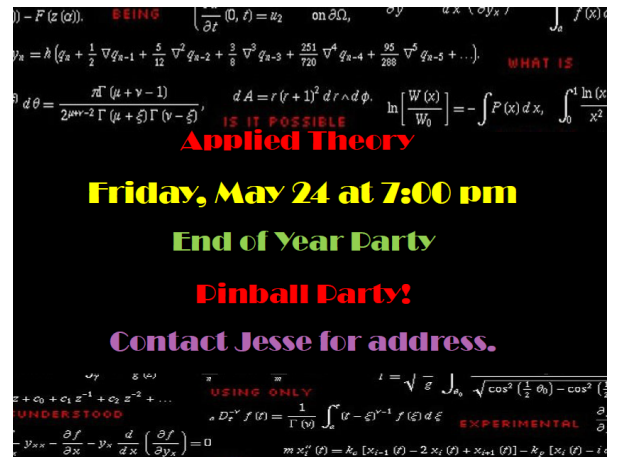
Sunday May 19th at 10:00 am – NO Young Explorers/Youth Classes – Victoria Day



It's the May long weekend, and the start of our one 10:00 am service times. As such, there will be no Young Explorer and Youth classes today.

Friday May 24th at 7pm – Applied Theory End of Year Party

Time for a Pinball Party! What a great way to celebrate the end of another year! Join us at Alfred's (contact Jesse for the address) for a fantastic night of pizza, conversation, and of course, pinball!



Saturday May 25th at 7:00 pm – Youth End of Year Party



Another year finished, which means another end of year party! We'll be celebrating out at Jesse's home, with a campfire and some outdoor games. Please bring a camping chair, and come ready for lots of fun! Sign up with Jesse as soon as you can, we'll look into options for car pooling out to his place as well.

Sunday May 26th at 10:00 am – Family Celebration Service and Ice Cream Party

Join us at 10am for a special worship service led by our very own youth and children. There'll be songs, prayers, stories, and even a sermon led by our families. Afterwards, join us for hot dog Sunday, and special Ice Cream party, with all the toppings you could wish for!

FAMILY CELEBRATION SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY HOTDOGS & ICE CREAM PARTY

**SUNDAY, MAY 26TH
10:00 AM**



Prayer Cross

Thank you to everyone who participated in our prayer cross throughout the season of Lent.
It was so incredible to see it overflowing with your written prayers!



Board Report

Submitted by: Garry Mihaichuk

As part of the April 14th Sunday announcements, I provided the following thoughts.

Good morning and many blessings from the Board during this season of Lent and on Palm Sunday. Your Board had a retreat on April 6th concentrating on where God was leading us as a congregation. We reflected on how resilient the congregation has been over the years with the many changes in leadership and in membership. We also celebrated the many outreach efforts that the congregation is involved within our community and the number of volunteers that provide such wonderful service at LCOS.

One of our thoughts during this time of pastoral change and reflection was to spend some time rebuilding congregational connections and focusing on all of the many blessings which God showers on this congregation. These connections will be strengthened when we are passing the Peace of our Lord if you take the opportunity share this blessing with those who you don't know and as well as those you do know. We want to celebrate the many volunteers, staff and Pastor that serve this congregation and the community more often which of course as Shirley Gunderson would have said means more food. More tables will be set up between services to promote a space to gather and chat and invite new comers into this community of believers. We are a great and faithful people and we have had and will continue to enjoy our fellowship with Jesus.

We have experienced some financial shortfalls in January and February but have picked up in March ending the first quarter with a deficit of donations in comparison to expenses of only \$7,500. This seems to have more to do with the economic downturn in Calgary than it does of the expected drop in attendance during the time of an interim.

The Call Committee met yesterday and we are submitting the call officially to the Bishop next week (*this actually happened on Good Friday*). This will start the call process and will allow the congregation to complete nomination forms for pastoral candidates that you would like the Bishop to consider. Please submit these forms to the Call Committee and I will send them along to Bishop Larry. I will have copies of the nomination forms and they will also be available at the office.

We will be entering a discernment process in June with the Board and the Call Committee to formally determine where we think God is leading us and how we can get there. This discernment process will be completed with all of the congregation in September to provide a congregational view of where we are going. This will assist in determining what the characteristics should be of the new pastor to assist in our mission and vision and this congregational direction.

Spring is the time of renewal and hope both in Jesus's resurrection and in our church. May all of you find peace at this time and look forward with hope and faith in our future.

Call Committee Report

Submitted by: Garry Mihaichuk

The Call Committee has been busy preparing the call document entitled "Congregational Mission Profile" which provides the potential candidates with some information on the congregation and our expectations. This document is the first step in the call process and was sent to Bishop Larry on Good Friday. Discussions will be held with Bishop Larry on the process in early May to determine the next steps from his standpoint.

The Call Committee has also been involved in the *Flourishing Congregation* survey of the congregation under the leadership of Arianna Tenor. This is a national survey created by Ambrose University to measure various congregations which will not only give us information on ourselves but also compare us to other congregations. As with all surveys, this is a picture of what we think at this time not where we want to go or where we have been. The survey has been completed and compiled and we would like to thank all those that participated (over 90 in total) in the survey.

The survey was designed by Ambrose has separated the responses into 11 key categories for congregational comment. Those which had appropriate criteria have been illustrated with our top 6 answers starting with the highest:

- Self-Identity (Core values, priorities and activities)

- Leadership (Traits for Lay and Ministry staff)

 - People-oriented leaders

 - Spirit-led leaders

 - Leaders who are faithful to church

 - Servant leaders

 - Approachable leaders

 - Collaborative leaders

- Innovation (New and interesting ideas put into action)

 - Music

 - Programs

 - Worship

 - Outreach programs

 - Preaching and teaching

 - Personnel

- Structure and Processes (How do we run things)

- Diversity (What is the make-up of the congregation in the sense of diversity)

- Hospitable Community (Welcoming and integrating newcomers)

- Engaged Laity (How engaged, active and connected is the congregation)

 - Worship services

 - Congregation Potluck

 - Small groups

 - Volunteering

 - Social gatherings

 - Service-oriented ministries in community

- Discipleship (Spiritual life/growth of the congregation)

 - Preaching and teaching

 - Singing and music

 - Volunteering

 - Small groups

 - Holy Communion

 - Liturgy

Call Committee Report (continued)

- Partnerships (With other organizations)
- Evangelism (Sharing our faith with others)
 - Children/families/youth ministry
 - Small groups
 - Special occasions
 - Immigrant outreach programs
 - Community events
- Neighbourhood Involvement (Active presence in the wider community)
 - Immigrants
 - Seniors
 - Homeless
 - Poor
 - Kids and families
 - Addictions

There were many areas where we felt that we had flourished or were valued by the congregation, the top 6 areas were:

- Music and worship
- Preaching and teaching
- Holy communion
- Community with others
- Programs
- Small groups

There were many exciting and positive areas where the congregation overwhelmingly supported and we have listed some of the top choices:

- Serving the needy
- Focus and support for youth and children
- Community outreach
- Fellowship within congregation
- Music and programs
- Taking care of others and the congregation
- Connection of our mission to our actions

There were other areas that we will be exploring for further work as to the intent and what they mean for us in our discernment process. Our first area of interest is congregational connection and building a positive environment. We will be specifically focusing on areas such as: i) Belonging both for the existing congregational members and the newcomers and visitors; 2) Celebration of all forms; 3) Involvement and participation.

Stay tuned for more news.

Building Sacred Bridges



building *sacred* bridges

*An interfaith musical experience
including inspiring works by:*

Imam Fayaz Tilly (A Prayer of Hope & Blessing)
Lutheran Praise Singers
Harmony through Harmony
Dr. Harjot Singh
Naked Faith Band

Amo Cantare
All Gods Children (Multi-faith Children Choir)
Zamran (My Song)
World Harvest Gospel Choir
United in Song

Grand Finale All Choirs Singing "A Place in the Choir" & "One Light One Sun"
Evening will be emceed by Steve Olson

May 5, 2019

7:00 pm

Beth Tzedec Synagogue
1325 Glenmore Trail SW

Make a donation and reserve your seats at www.habitatsouthernab.ca/bsb

There is no charge for tickets, but all attendees are invited to make a generous donation online or at the event by cheque or credit card. 100% of your donation will go towards wrapping up the Interfaith Build Project's goal of raising \$1M to help 10 families buy their first home through Habitat for Humanity.

Refreshments to follow hosted by Beth Tzedec Synagogue with Rabbi Shaul Osadchey and Bishop Greg Kerr-Wilson.

Vacation Bible School



The mane
event this
summer!



Vacation
Bible School

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

August 19th – 23rd

8831 Fairmount Drive SE
Ages 3 – entering Grade 5
(Options for Grade 6 + to
volunteer!)

9am-12pm each day

*Register Now at
<https://vbsfun.ca>*



Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School is such a fantastic opportunity to volunteer your gifts, your talents, and above everything, your passion for what God is doing in the kids of the world today. We are looking for people to help with snacks, lead the crews, be an expert in a station, or even act out some silly skits each morning. We also need a lot of supplies to pull off the week, and we rely upon your gracious donations to do this. Please check out the sign up lists at our special VBS table to see what supplies are needed, or an area where you might be able to help. Together, we can make the loudest ROAR ever!

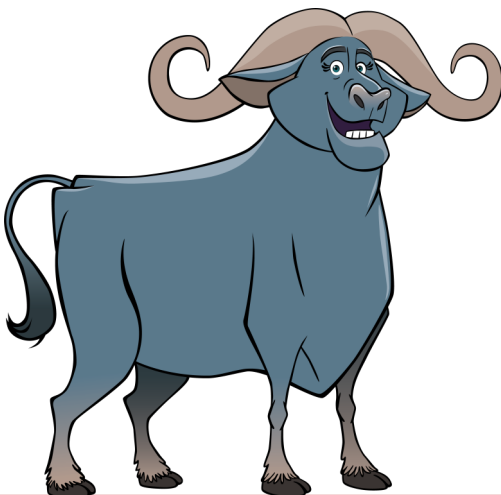
Here's the dates for the Decorating Sessions:

Friday May 3rd at 7:00 pm

Saturday June 1st at 7:00 pm

Wednesday July 3rd at 6:00 pm

Thursday July 11th at 6:00 pm



Camp Kuriakos



High School Students: Volunteer on our Team!

Each summer, we rely on 50+ volunteers to make camp great. If spending time with kids, helping in the kitchen, planning games, or cleaning up (with an awesome team!) sounds like fun to you, we'd love to have you on board!

Come Work in Our Kitchen!

Do you love to cook? We'd love to meet you. We're looking to fill the most important job at camp! Kuriakos kitchen staff work with our summer team and volunteers to take care of everyone at camp. There's lots of fun and lots of helpers around, and you're guaranteed to have a blast! Applicants for Head Cook should have previous experience, while enthusiasm is all that's needed for Assistant Cook.

Applicants can be at any stage of life (after high school)... this makes a great escape from life in the real (or retirement) world!



Upcoming Programs

Our 2019 Programs are now open for registration.

Check them out and discover programs for the whole family.

- Spring Work Week (volunteer) - May 13-17
- Family May Days Work Weekend (volunteer) - May 17-19
- Homeschool Day - May 27
- Kuriakos Open House + Staff Alumni Cookout - June 23

WWW.KURIAKOS.AB.CA

The Master's Singers

The Master's Singers



Director: Muriel Wiebe



Accompanist: Lori Chang-Shivji

PRESENT

Spring Concert

Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 7 pm

**Emmanuel Christian Reformed Church
3020 51st Street S.W. Calgary, AB**

60 Voice Interdenominational Male Chorus
Representing 11 denominations and 34 churches

FREE ADMISSION ☼ DONATIONS APPRECIATED ☼ FREE PARKING

www.themastersingers.org

No Greater Love

No Greater Love

Outdoor Christian Festival Weekend



Saturday, August 10

Sunday, August 11

Line up at gate begins at 9:00 am

11:00 am - 11:00 pm

Bring: Lawn chair, water, sun screen, shoes, socks, warm jacket

Rain or Shine

Cochrane Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary/College

If interested in attending as part of a group please call:

Nancy Hartwell (403) 437-7751

Leave Calgary 7:30 am for arrival by 9:00 am

www.nogreaterlove.ca

Financials

Get on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) at LCOS

Did you know that you may give to LCOS via pre-authorized remittance one time per month from your bank or credit union chequing account? This program is like any other pre-authorized debit program and is called the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) program. Debits will be drawn from accounts on the 20th of each month. Whenever the 20th falls on a weekend or holiday, the debits will be drawn on the first business day following the 20th. Donations via the PAR program will be recorded on quarterly statements and year-end tax receipts along with all other giving.

Amounts from PAR can be directed to:

- 1) The LCOS general budget
- 2) Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)
- 3) Capital Maintenance

You can give additional amounts and to other purposes via your regular donation envelopes. The minimum amount to give via this program is a total of \$50.00 per month.

You can sign up, make banking or donation amount changes, or withdraw from the program at any time. These changes will be effective the month following the submission of the change. Forms are available to process these changes. The program is administered by the Financial Secretary. Authorization forms are available in the Place of Welcome.

Internet e-transfers & PayPal are also available!

To make a one time or recurring email transfer simply send donations to donate@oursaviourchurch.ca. Please include either your envelope number or your name and address in the email so that we can give you a proper receipt at the year's end.

Volunteers Needed

We require a few additional counters to count the offering on Sunday mornings. Currently the counters are scheduled to count once every ten weeks. As well, there are some who are available as spare counters to fill in when regular counters are unavailable on their assigned Sunday.

Please consider volunteering to this vital ministry at LCOS.

Please contact Cliff Blumhagen at blumhagencg@gmail.com or 403-936-0419..

Mural Project

Acadia Portrait Project

The Guiding Mission team is excited to announce that we have received a grant from the Calgary Foundation for a community building, life enhancing mural on our concrete (boring) north parking lot wall this summer. The whole community will be invited to participate from concept to completion starting with the members of LCOS. In the coming weeks we will be looking for feedback on imagery and phrases for the mural. The mural is intended to be a permanent and positive gift that reminds all who pass by of the spirit of Acadia.

How Can I Participate?!

Development phase:

- Look for opportunities in the coming weeks on Sunday mornings to chat with the Guiding Mission Team about what you would like to see. We'll take these ideas and combine them with ideas from other groups in Acadia and blend them into a concept for the mural. The imagery of the mural will be the artist's interpretation of all the feedback that local groups (including but not limited to the congregation of LCOS) have for this community.
- Volunteer with our partner groups to collect their feedback. We will be talking to schools, churches and other groups and could use a helping hand.
- A few limitations on images: No Sexual, sexist, racist, obscene, or offensive images. If we wish to include religious images then it must be ecumenical in nature. Other than that we can be as bold, funny, thoughtful, clever or quirky as we wish.

Party Planning & Wall Preparation:

- Help us plan a party for 600 or so of your closest Acadia friends and family
- There will be food and games as we incorporate the paint day into an all day event for people of all ages
- Good old manual labour as we prep the wall for the paint day

Painting and Hosting Duties:

- Join us August 10th or August 17th (in case of rain) to paint
- If painting is not your thing help out with hosting the community in other ways

For more details on this project, Guiding Mission or to volunteer on this or other experiments, please contact The Guiding Mission team directly:

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Bishop's Message by Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

May 2019 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God –

One of the joys and life-giving gifts for me as a Synod Bishop is our Synod's relationship with The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO).

I have been privileged to journey to Colombia several times facilitating delegation visits for youth, youth and adults, and adults who have sought to begin to experience, embrace and engage the contexts and ministries of IELCO; to build relationships with our siblings in Christ; to explore stronger ties between partner congregations in our Synod and IELCO; and to seek an expanding global understanding of faithful discipleship through the Lutheran Colombian context. I have also been privileged to host on two occasions delegations from Colombia to our Synod.

Our ELCIC global mission accompaniment model is one of walking together in solidarity, side by side, practicing interdependence and mutuality, in service to God's mission. The values of the accompaniment model are interconnected, and include mutuality, inclusivity, sustainability, vulnerability and empowerment. The core purpose of these relationships, this accompaniment, is God's mission.

Relationships and accompaniment are at the heart of our approach to global ministry. We seek to actively listen to our partners and companions, share in their joys and sorrows, and support them in their mission – as they support us in ours.

Recently we have had an opportunity as a Synod to accompany our Global Companion Partner in Colombia in prayer. A car bombing occurred January 17, 2019 in Bogotá, Colombia in an area very familiar for our Synod delegation participants. Upon learning of this violence, I wrote to Bishop Atahualpa Hernandez expressing concern, solidarity and prayer support for Colombia and our Global Companion Partner, IELCO. Bishop Atahualpa sent the following correspondence which I share with his permission:

*"The work of righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever."
Isaiah 32:17*

To our dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia – IELCO, advocates for the joy of human rights and peace in our country and rejects any act of violence which sows fear and threatens the dignity of people.

Bishop's Message (continued)

We are united in solidarity and commitment with the families of the victims of the car bomb on January 17 in "La Escuela de Policía General Santander", which left 21 people dead and 68 injured in Bogotá, among whom were young cadets. We also reject the violent actions that have taken place during recent months towards social leaders and human rights defenders, especially in the most forgotten regions of our country.

We call for truth and justice in the face of the serious upsurge of violence, in the regression of the negotiated solution to the armed conflict, and in the proven facts of corruption that permeate the State. Before the militarization of the territory, the restriction of democratic liberties and the escalation of the war, we pray that the negotiations between the national government and the ELN guerrilla will be resumed. We pray for peace, insisting that it is a constitutional right for all and should correspond to everyone. We especially pray for the government to ensure that this peace can become a reality in our country.

*Your Brother in Christ,
Atahualpa Hernandez
Bishop-President of the IELCO*

As we walk together in solidarity, side by side, will you join me in prayer for Colombia and IELCO as sharing in their joys and sorrows, and supporting them in their mission – just as they support us in ours?

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen (from Time of conflict, crisis and disaster, EvLW p. 76)

In Christ Jesus – Shalom,
+Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)



May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Joining God 7:30 11 am Praise Team	2	3 7:00 VBS Decorating Session	4 6:30 Breakfast at the Seed 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 7:00 Tween End of Year Party
5 Communion 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult Study 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 11:00 Worship Service	6 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Al-anon	7 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Today's Pilgrims 7:00 Transitional Ministry Team	8 9:00 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Joining God 7:30 11am Praise Team	9	10 7:00 Youth 403 Rally	11 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 10:00 Spring Clean Up 6:30 Family Moms' Night Off
12 Mothers Day Sandwich Sunday 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult Study 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:30 Young Explorers Mother's Day Cafe 11:00 Worship Service	13 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Fireside	14	15 9:00 Staff Meeting 9:30 Experiencing God 10:30 Southwood Service 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Joining God 7:30 11am Praise Team	16	17	18 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class
19 Communion 10:00 Worship Service	20 Victoria Day Office Closed	21 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Today's Pilgrims 7:00 Board Meeting	22 9:00 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Joining God 7:30 11am Praise Team	23 7:15 Flock Care	24 7:00 Applied Theory End of Year Party	25 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 7:00 Youth End of Year Party
26 Hot Dog Lunch 10:00 Family Celebration Service and Ice Cream Party 7:00 Service of Healing	27 1:00 Memory Plus	28	29 9:00 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Joining God 7:30 11am Praise Team 8:30 Al-anon Book Club	30	31	