

The Vine

Summer 2019



Ministry Team

All members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow
403-253-1453 ext. 11
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pastorjulianne@lcos@gmail.com

Administration &

Congregational Care

Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor
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**** Summer Office Hours ****

Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 am - noon
June 1 - July 31

Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Jesse Ramson
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youth@oursaviourchurch.ca

Jesse's Office Hours

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

Office Assistant

Judy McDonald
office2@oursaviourchurch.ca

Church Board 2019-2020

Brent Anderson
Alfred Forbrich
Doug Gerbrandt
Johanne Johanson
Jens Kaack
Dale Mass
Iain McKay
Garry Mihaichuk—Chair
Shirley Moule
Nick Perchthaler
Darren Tenor
Les Walker

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

One Service at 10:00 am

Now - September 1 inclusive

(Except July 14 Stampede Breakfast)

(Service at 11:00)

From Pastor Julianne

Pastor Julianne's thoughts:

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old, I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:18,19 NRSV

As we continue to move through this time of transition in the midst of uncertainty and disruption let us give thanks to God for these gifts:

- The support and creative work of those who plan, prepare, guide and lead worship. There are over 20 different roles fulfilled every Sunday.
- The commitment of the volunteers on the Board, Call Committee, and Transition Team to move together into the as yet unknown future God has planned for LCOS.
- Those who quietly pray seeking clarity and discernment from God.
- The growing awareness and trust in the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst.
- The respect, care and compassion we model and express as a community of God's children.

The Sacred Valley (continued)

Author Peggy Mahn wrestles with how congregations move into God's future during discontinuous change. She poses the question "What does it mean to grow disciples with a deep, bold, consequential faith during the greatest cultural shifts that have ever taken place in our world?" She continues,

- Christian discipleship is a pilgrimage rather than a destination. Pilgrims understand that meaning is found in the moment, not the milestones.
- Expanding beyond our comfort zone to embrace a diverse world moves us toward God's desire for wholeness.
- Humanity is a beautiful tapestry of unique, God-created beings representing the richness of God's creation, yet the word "diversity" generates a wide range of emotions in people including fear, anger, hate, love, or hope.

We are stronger when our relational connections include an ever-increasing move toward diversity. Working out of our comfort zone expands our self-awareness and our awareness.

From Pastor Julianne (continued)

It is easy to think we know people without moving to deeper intimacy. Congregations are unintentionally designed to keep relations shallow. The very culture of congregational life can work against authenticity and integrity—two values that are essential for true community. When we are willing to be vulnerable, relating to others with transparency, true relationships and trust can grow.

We are loved by the God of relationships. We worship a God who in God's self as God, Christ and the Holy Spirit is the very essence of relationships, demonstrating for all of us the gift of interdependence. Our connections with people who are different than ourselves strengthens our own identity and way of life. It is only through this work of expanding our connections that we fully embrace God's vision for the world."



Mural Project

Acadia Portrait Project Update

The Guiding Mission team has 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. The next steps are for the Board to review the proposed mural, which will then go to the congregation for comment. The mural is intended to be a permanent and positive gift that reminds all who pass of the spirit of Acadia.

Youth & Children's Ministry by Jesse Ramson

I love to collect books and Bibles. Actually, I love to collect anything that has meaning to me. I think the first book in my collection or the one I have had for the most years is my New International Version Holy Bible. It's covered in stickers, and highlights, and I'll open to a random page and note cards filled with my unreadable scribbles fall out. I think it is one book that I will never get rid of. Why? Well, because of the inscription on the front cover. It reads:

Dear Jesse, Congratulations on inviting Jesus to live in your heart, choosing to live for Him, and asking Him to forgive your sins. In His grip, Justin. July 23rd, 2004, VBS

There are also five Bible verses written down, and highlighted in the original pen from this note throughout the Bible. They are Psalm 42:5, Psalm 119:11, Philippians 4:13, John 3:16, and John 14:2. Yep, those are the exact same verses that were the Bible points for each day during that VBS camp so many years ago.

VBS truly does make a difference in the lives of children. It is an opportunity to be a presence of love that so many of these kids so desperately need. And honestly, it's not just a week of difference; it lasts for a very long time. I hear stories so often of kids still singing the songs, repeating the Bible points, and teaching others what they learned, even from VBS three years ago!

To get involved, visit vbsfun.ca to register as a volunteer. There is something for everyone to do!



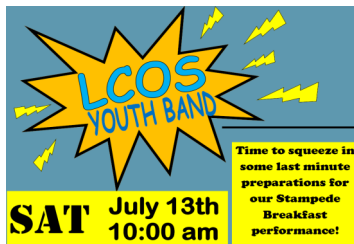
Youth & Children's Ministry by Jesse Ramson

Wednesday July 3rd at 6:00 pm – VBS Decorating Session

It's another decorating session as we get ready for Roar VBS! Anyone can join us, of any skill level, as we continue to build our themed decorations.

Thursday July 11th at 6:00 pm – VBS Decorating Session

It's the last decorating session, meaning we'll have lots to get done! Bring out your love for paint, cutting, and glue, as we put the finishing touches on our Safari decorations!



Saturday July 13th at 10:00 am – Youth Band Practice

Time to squeeze in some last minute preparations for our Stampede Breakfast performance! We'll continue to practice our country and folk songs!

Saturday August 17th at 1:00 pm – VBS Set Up

We need all the help we can get, as we start to decorate the entire church for our Roar VBS! We'll be putting vines up all over, moving our Jeeps to the right locations, and even attaching our Bible Buddies to the wall!

Sunday August 18th at 11:00 am – VBS Set Up

Please consider staying after the worship service, as we put the finishing touches on our set up for VBS, including decorating the stage.

Monday August 19th to Friday August 23rd – Roar VBS

Register today at vbsfun.ca to ensure your spot for our ROAR VBS! Join us for this Safari exploration, as we discover how when life is wild, God is good! Each day from 9am-12pm, there'll be snacks, games, science experiments, songs, Bible stories, short movies, and so much more! It is sure to be to MANE event this summer!



Vacation Bible School

Register today at vbsfun.ca to ensure your spot for our ROAR VBS! Join us for this Safari exploration, as we discover how when life is wild, God is good! Each day from 9:00 am-12:00 pm, there'll be snacks, games, science experiments, songs, Bible stories, short movies, and so much more! It is sure to be to MANE event this summer!



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>***



Stampede Breakfast

Hurry on down to the
Annual LCOS Stampede Breakfast

Sunday, July 14 8:00–10:30 am
Followed by Service at 11:00 am



SAUSAGES

KIDS CRAFTS

PANCAKES

LIVE MUSIC



*Volunteer sign up sheets are available
in the foyer.*

Solomon Islands (Word Alive Summer 2019)

Canadian Involvement

Since 2012, the Van Andels have worked with the Malango people of Guadalcanal to translate Scripture. Fellow Canadians Naaman and Lorae Brignall arrived in 2018 to support Bible translation efforts on neighbouring Makira Island.

Over the past two decades, other Canadians have served as short-term volunteers with SITAG, filling a variety of roles including construction, recording audio Scriptures, and conducting language surveys to determine Bible translation needs.

Paul and Cathy Unger were the first Canadians to participate in Bible translation here—but for years, they wondered if their efforts among the 20,000 Doku people of Guadalcanal would ever bear fruit.

Traumatized by War

The Ungers' planned arrival in 2000 was delayed when a civil war forced the evacuation of all SITAG staff. "The tensions," as locals called the conflict, flared up in 1998 and began to ease in 2003, although Australian and other peacekeeping forces remained in the Solomons until 2017.

When the Ungers arrived in late 2001, the Doku didn't have their minds on Bible translation. Thousands had been displaced. Beatings, random attacks and demands for compensation were commonplace, Paul says. Most Koku people fled to the jungle for refuge.

Empty houses were destroyed, property stolen and gardens left ruined or abandoned. Food was in short supply.

"Their land was ground zero at the beginning of the conflict," Paul Says. "So they were quite naturally focused on rebuilding their lives."

Several copies of Word Alive are available in the foyer display.

Solomon Islands (continued)

Perseverance Pays Off

Disappointed by the interruption of the Doku people's desire for a Bible in their language, the Ungers invested their time in other foundational work such as analyzing Doku grammar and compiling a dictionary.

It wasn't until 2009 that Bible translation began in earnest, when a priest who had tried to translate Scripture on his own pleaded with more Doku believers to get involved.

Paul, a graduate of the Canada Institute of Linguistics, provided those who responded with training in translation principles. Within a couple of years, local translators drafted translations of eight Old and New Testament books.

Since then, eight Doku translators have drafted the entire New Testament and about 80 per cent of the Old Testament. Next comes consultant checking, after which portions are released for use. Mark's Gospel is furthest along, and local pastors already are preaching from it.

The Ungers are currently in Canada on "remote assignment" to provide for their children's educational needs. Paul continues to check the translated drafts, helping to improve their accuracy, clarity and naturalness. He travels to the Solomons twice a year to work directly with the Doku team



Canadian Paul Unger makes his way across a simple bridge in the Doku of Tumubosa on Guadalcanal. Paul and his wife Cathy provide training in Bible translation, along with exegetical and linguistics support for the Doku, who have completed first drafts of the entire New Testament and most of the old Testament.

Sadly Paul recently suffered a biking accident while in the Solomons. Paul is now home and his injuries are being attended to. We ask that Paul be kept in your prayers during this difficult time.

Symbolism of the Art Glass Side Windows

by Pastor Bill Roesler

(written in the late 1990's when the windows were installed)

The fruit tree reminds us that there were two trees in the Garden of Eden. The one was called "The Tree of Life" and the heavenly Father encouraged His children, Adam and Eve, to eat from it and live forever. This was a wonderful tree. The fruit was sweet, delicious, succulent and good for them. We have such trees in Alberta and Canada and they always remind us of God's love and mercy and goodness to us.

However, we recall that our first parents rejected this tree and looked for forbidden fruit. Because they turned their back on the Father's grace, He had to provide another way for His people to have life that never ends.

This is the reason why the second tree is necessary. Green is the colour of all living things, and the pine tree is a distinct reminder of Alberta. The campfire reminds us that we are a people blessed with wonderful treasures in the outdoors, where we can come close to God. And the fire reminds us that the Holy Spirit is present in our hearts and lives and that He leads us to Jesus Christ. In Christ we have the wonderful promise that He is with us and has prepared an eternity for us.

We are reminded of that promise by the crown. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus sends this word to all the faithful, "**Be faithful even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.**" This wonderful gift of life is given to all God's people, no matter where they come from. In the words of Revelation: "**With your blood you purchased children for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.**" Thus, we have people of every background shown living and working in Alberta, as brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus.

We remain faithful to the Lord by the Holy Spirit Who calls us through the Gospel. This *Good News* comes to us through Word and Sacrament. The words, **Praise the Lord**, are both a reminder of our duty to God and also of the great privilege we have as His people. These words are found in the Scripture.

Similarly, the Sacraments bring God's grace to us to help us live our life in grateful thanksgiving to God. The waters of the lake remind us that, in Baptism, we are joined to Christ and that His death and Resurrection wash away our sin and make us fit for heaven. The grain and the grapes, which convey God's love to us in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, are produced by the fields and harvested by the people. When we kneel to receive the gifts of our Lord's Presence, we are united in Him and with one another. Each time we receive the Lord's Supper, His Word is confirmed to us, "**I will never leave you or forsake you.**"

Symbolism of the Art Glass Side Windows

by Pastor Bill Roesler (continued)

Finally, the trumpet reminds us of the Mission we have as God's people. Jesus said, **"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."** Therefore we are to be proclaiming, announcing people that tells of God's love, in Christ, for the human family.

All in all, the windows declare the glorious message, **"That we are saved by grace alone through faith alone."** It is our calling! It is our life!



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.

Thank you's

Kind thank you's have been received from several groups following their use of our facilities over the past year, including:

We appreciate having the use of your facility Have a wonderful summer!

MEMORY PLUS

We are continually honoured and grateful for being allowed the use of your space, and appreciate your generosity and support of our efforts.

LEAD FOUNDATION (POSITIVE PARENTING SESSIONS)

Bishop's Message

by Rev. Prema Samuel, Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life

Grace and Peace to you from God, our Parent, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, and the Holy Spirit our Guide and Counselor.

A few years ago, I was called and ordained to serve among the wonderful people in a Long-Term Care Centre, where I learned the beauty and the miracle of being present with someone, ranging from sharing coffee with conversation through to their time approaching death. Being a part of that Holy Moment, to just be present, and witness God at work – **what a Blessing!**

During my time as Chaplain, along with staff and people in care, we have worked side by side, continually exploring our faith. We've gathered in large groups and small to discuss our ideas about God and Jesus. We've sought to discover what it means to be a Christian and where God is, in our present day and situation. We've worshipped, worked and celebrated together. We have seen God working in our midst – **what a Blessing!**

Alongside of my time as Chaplain, I have also come together with many of you as Preacher and Congregation; as Pastor and Parishioner: individuals in relationship with each other. I thank God for the many times I have been invited into lives; sharing with me the highs and lows; in times of joy and anguish, thanksgiving and suffering, introductions and goodbyes, during life-changing moments – **what a Blessing!**

And now, God's call has extended to serve the Synod of Alberta & The Territories – What an honour to be asking the very question along with each of you, 'Where is God calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God leading us?' **What a Blessing** to witness and journey together with you to where God is calling us.

Having celebrated Pentecost Sunday recently, we ask these familiar questions, 'Where is God calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God leading us?' We don't truly know; but one thing is certain: the future lies together, in community, following God as a community, the body of Christ. Together we can bravely face the future in trust and hope. My experience of this church shows me that we are strongest when we stand together. I hope to bring a continued sense of community and relationship in my ministry as Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life within the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.


I always thank God for all of you in my prayers. Brothers and sisters, I ask that you pray for me as I walk alongside of you in this journey.

May the peace of God be with us in all that we do. May the grace of our Lord Jesus, God's anointed, be with us all.

In the Name of Christ.

Prema Samuel, Assistant to the Bishop

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 7:00 VBS Decorating Session	4	5	6 8:30 50+ Exercise
7 Communion 10:00 Worship	8	9 1:00 Games Group	10 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	11 7:00 VBS Decorating Session	12	13 8:30 50+ Exercise 10:00 Youth Band Practice
14 Sandwich Sunday 8:00 Stampede Breakfast 11:00 Worship 	15	16 7:00 Board Meeting	17 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Southwood Service 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	18	19	20 8:30 50+ Exercise
21 Communion 10:00 Worship	22	23 1:00 Games Group	24 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	25	26	27 8:30 50+ Exercise
28 10:00 Worship	29	30	31 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 8:30 Al-anon Book Club			

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 8:30 50+ Exercise
4 Communion 10:00 Worship	5	6 1:00 Games Group	7 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	8	9	10 8:30 50+ Exercise
11 Sandwich Sunday 10:00 Worship	12	13	14 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	15	16	17 8:30 50+ Exercise 1:00 VBS Set Up
18 Communion 10:00 Worship 11:00 VBS Set Up	19 VBS Roar!	20 VBS Roar!	21 VBS Roar! 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Southwood Service 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling	22 VBS Roar!	23 VBS Roar!	24 8:30 50+ Exercise
25 10:00 Worship	26	27	28 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 8:30 Al-anon Book Club	29	30	31 8:30 50+ Exercise