

The Vine

HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY!

February 2020



Ministry Team

All members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow
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Administration &

Congregational Care

Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor

Office Hours

9:00 am –1:00 pm
Tuesday–Thursday

Church Board 2020-2021

Brent Anderson
Alfred Forbrich
Doug Gerbrandt
Kathy Gibson
Lora Lodberg
Iain McKay
Garry Mihaichuk—Chair
Bob Montgomery—Vice-Chair
Shirley Moule
Nick Perchthaler—Secretary

Transition Team

Jaqui Anderson
Andrew Little
Terry Lee McKay
Keith Rude

Call Committee

Jens Kaack
Alex McKay
Garry Mihaichuk
Bob Montgomery
Keith Rude
Karen Smith
Leah Thormoset



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Interim Pastor's Invitations from Pastor Julianne

Recently several members of the Board met with Bishop Larry and myself to revise next steps for this intentional interim time. Bishop Larry was very helpful in redirecting our efforts from exploring the big picture questions of "Who are we and where is God leading us?" to specific actions preparing for welcoming and supporting the new pastor and his/her arrival later this year. While there is no clarity about who it may be or when they may arrive, you are **invited** to join in ways in which the congregation can extend welcome and support to the pastor and the pastor's family.

The second **invitation** is to step faithfully into the work of the kingdom in this place. As more and more people offer to serve using their gifts and talents in areas previously covered by paid staff, it is evident that God has provided us with everything and everyone needed to join God's mission for LCOS and our neighbourhoods. I continue to give thanks to God for those who lead and serve in many and various ways.

Finally, the season of Lent is quickly approaching, beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 26, 2020. This season's Lenten study will focus on Lutheran theology and its expression in our lives together. From the introduction of The Lutheran Course; "Luther's theology is grounded in paradoxes – saint/sinner, law/gospel, hidden/revealed. Our life in the church, therefore can be buoyant, and our theological wrangling can be done with a sense of humour and a love for our neighbour."

You are **invited** to join in one, several or all of these open, fun conversations in drop-in sessions from 7:00 – 8:30 pm starting:

Thursday, February 27	How to Tell the Difference Between Law and Gospel
Thursday, March 5	Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation
Thursday, March 12	How to Receive Holy Communion
Thursday, March 19	The Three Most Rebellious Things Jesus Did
Thursday, March 26	How to Read the Bible
Thursday, April 2	How to Share Your Faith with Someone

Please also mark these Worship Service dates on your calendar.

Ash Wednesday at 7:00 pm, February 26, 2020

Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm, April 9, 2020

Good Friday at 11:00 am, April 10, 2020

Easter Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00 am, April 12, 2020

Let us continue to pray together:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Board Report by Bob Montgomery

From the desk of the Vice Chair...

WELCOME to a new Church year!

As I write this, your Chair – Garry Mihaichuk is enjoying some well-deserved R&R in a sunny location so it falls to me to try to write this column in an attempt to fill his shoes (we actually have the same shoe size...and birthday!) I'm happy to report excellent attendance and engagement at the Annual General Meeting on January 26th. As we have come to expect, your Board Chair, Garry Mihaichuk, oversaw an efficient meeting followed by the ever popular 'potluck lunch'. Thank you, Garry, and to all those that brought food enabling those in attendance to enjoy another great Lutheran Lunch!

I'm sure you've probably read the AGM report (57 pages!) but just in case you missed the report and the meeting, here are some of the more notable highlights...

1. The nominating committee for next year will be Jens Kaack (Chair), Carolyn Anderson, Lori Todd and Debra Starratt. Congratulations to all of you and thank you for agreeing to serve in this important ministry. In addition, a big Thank You goes to Debbie Montgomery for her years of service as the past Chair of the Nomination Committee. Most of the current members of the committee were originally recruited by Debbie in her role as Chair. Much appreciated Debbie! As an aside, I can say that when Debbie (my wife) held a nominating committee meeting at our house, I was relegated to the basement and away from the proceedings. I now have much more access to the upper part of our house...thank you Jens!

2. The 2020-21 Board of Directors has also been determined. In case you missed it, new members elected by vote for a 2-year term are;

Lora Lodberg, Doug Gerbrandt, Kathy Gibson, Bob Montgomery and Nick Perchthaler

These folks join the current members of the Board;

Brent Anderson, Alfred Forbrich, Ian McKay, Garry Mihaichuk and Shirley Moule.

These ten folks represent you, the LCOS congregation. Please give them your full support and don't hesitate to approach them with your ideas, thoughts or concerns.

3. The new Board met briefly after the AGM and voted to elect a new Executive.

Your Board Executive for 2020-21 is:

Chair: Garry Mihaichuk, Vice-Chair: Bob Montgomery, Secretary: Nick Perchthaler

4. The Call Committee has been busy interviewing candidates for our new Pastor. They are encouraged at the quality of the candidates and very optimistic about a Call being sent soon! Stay tuned for more news...

5. Although LCOS financials ended in a deficit for the year, it was largely mitigated by prudent oversight of spending. Although the projection is for another deficit our hope is that the presence of a new Pastor will help increase attendance and corresponding revenue. Our job is to 'trust and obey' and we are confident God will provide accordingly.

Respectfully submitted – Bob Montgomery

Vice-Chair, LCOS Board of Directors

Sunday, February 2, 9, 16, 23—10:00 am
Choose Your Own Adventure: Spiritual Practices



Whether it's a journey to Mordor, The Upside Down, outer space, or wherever Forky ran off to this time, we all love a great adventure story. Maybe that's because, deep down, we know we're designed to live an adventure story of our own — and with Jesus, we can. There is no greater adventure than the journey of knowing God more deeply, so in this 4-week series, we'll talk about for ways we can do that: by **spending time with God, spending time with others, sharing our stories, and using our gifts to serve others.**

Saturday,
February 8 at 7:00 pm

9950 MACLEOD TRAIL SE #18

LASER TAG

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DRESS CODE: WHITE
PRIZES: FOR THE MOST WHITE



Stewardship is our faith in God's abundance, even in times of scarcity, and our willingness to bring abundance to others.

Stewardship is not a program, it is not a percentage, and it is not simply a part of our faith. Stewardship connects to every single thing that we do with our lives as followers of Jesus Christ. Stewardship connects us intimately to the mission and person of Christ. It draws us into deeper relationships with each other, with our neighbors, and with our God. To take stewardship seriously requires us to have an awareness of the problems and scarcity around us. It requires us to have compassion and hope for everyone that needs rescue and redemption in our world. And it requires us to step up and step out, even if we think that we aren't quite ready, and be generous with the time, gifts, talents, money, and other resources that God has blessed us with.

And here is the result: when we are good stewards God is revealed! When we are good stewards, God's kingdom is revealed. When we are good stewards, Jesus is glorified.

*You have kept
the good wine
until now.
-John 2:10*



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Pre-Authorized (PAR) Program

The PAR program is available to anyone who wishes to donate one time monthly from their bank or credit union account via automated debit. The payment comes out of your account on the 20th of each month (or first business day after when the 20th falls on a holiday or weekend). You may donate to these funds: General, CLWR, and Capital Ministry.

There is no cost to sign up nor any additional fees to the donor. Regular charges apply from your bank or credit union (if applicable). The minimum monthly total donation amount is \$50.

For sign up forms, please contact the Financial Secretary.

For donors who are currently on the PAR program and wish to change their monthly amount, please contact the Financial Secretary.

Contact information for the Financial Secretary:
Cliff Blumhagen at blumhagencg@gmail.com, 403-936-0419 or in person.

Updated Year End Balance Sheet Submitted by Doug Drennan, Treasurer

LUTHERAN CHURCH of OUR SAVIOUR
Comparative Balance Sheet (Cash basis)
Year End - December 31, 2019

	<u>As at 31/12/2019</u>	<u>As at 31/12/2018</u>
ASSET		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Petty Cash	200.00	232.00
Current Account: RBC	33,882.39	43,887.01
Refugee Mission Account: RBC (Note 1)	6,402.09	6,705.83
Guaranteed Income Certificates (Note 2)	51,683.43	50,766.19
Share Donations (Note 3)	7,603.00	13,150.50
GST Receivable	1,080.94	1,297.82
Prepaid Expenses	110.91	0.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>100,962.76</u>	<u>116,039.35</u>
FIXED ASSETS		
Furniture & Equipment	151,900.93	151,900.93
Land & Buildings	873,864.03	873,864.03
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	<u>1,025,764.96</u>	<u>1,025,764.96</u>
TOTAL ASSET	<u>1,126,727.72</u>	<u>1,141,804.31</u>
LIABILITY		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	476.93	0.00
Kitchen Fund	1,261.00	1,261.00
Technology Fund	1,718.40	1,718.40
Piano Fund	2,713.58	2,713.58
Refugee Mission Fund	14,137.34	19,856.33
Synod Grants	610.00	610.00
Urgent Care Ministry	0.00	0.00
Men's Breakfast Fund	1,437.09	1,437.09
Youth Funds	3,934.45	6,088.27
Capital Fund	39,964.37	28,371.73
School Lunch Ministry	1,213.77	447.21
Memorial Fund	12,768.55	12,368.55
Designated Funds	79,758.55	74,872.16
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>80,235.48</u>	<u>74,872.16</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
Mortgage Loan	0.00	0.00
Bank Loan - RBC - November 2019 (Note 4)	12,358.11	0.00
TOTAL LONG TERM LIABILITIES	<u>12,358.11</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY	<u>92,593.59</u>	<u>74,872.16</u>
EQUITY		
MEMBER'S EQUITY		
Opening Balance	1,066,932.15	1,076,712.75
Net Capital Expenditures (Note 9)	-4,655.50	22,278.26
Operating Deficit / Net Loss	-28,142.52	-32,058.86
CLOSING BALANCE	<u>1,034,134.13</u>	<u>1,066,932.15</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>1,034,134.13</u>	<u>1,066,932.15</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>1,126,727.72</u>	<u>1,141,804.31</u>

Altar Care



Our Altar care group is always looking for new people to join. This is a lovely opportunity if you prefer behind-the-scenes volunteering. For more information, please contact Marg Hall - 403-256-4786 or Karen Smith - 403-271-1472.

Communion Assistants

If you are interested in assisting with Holy Communion, or wish to help coordinate the 11:00 assistants, kindly contact Kari Paul at 403-278-3561 for further details.



Games Group



On the first and third Tuesday of each month our games group continues to meet and enjoy a game of bridge, cribbage, Mexican train or Skip-Bo, along with coffee and fellowship. If you would like more information please contact Ruth 403-271-1485 or Eleanor 403-236-1800.

Ushers

New volunteers at both 9:00 and 11:00 am services are always welcome. Kindly contact the church office for details.



You've Got Mail!!



Your 2019 tax receipts are now available for pick up in your church mailbox. Please pick them up to avoid having to mail them via Canada Post. This saves the church postage costs. For any not picked up by February 16, they will be mailed.

The CARE: Congregational Action and REsponse for Mental Health team of the Synod of Alberta as well as The Calgary Alliance for the Common Good (CACG) have initiatives in place to support Mental Wellness. Both groups have identified Mental Health First Aid training as an important piece in supporting our members and their families. In this course participants will learn to interact confidently about mental health with their family, friends and communities. CACG is pleased to announce the availability of this 12-hour certified course.

About this Event

MHFA Basic is intended for adults interacting with adults (18 years and older). This course focuses on the four most common mental health disorders including substance related, mood related, anxiety and trauma related, and psychotic disorders. Participants who take this course are well prepared to interact confidently about mental health with their family, friends, communities, and workplaces.

The course focuses on:

- 1) Mental health and stigma
- 2) Signs and symptoms
- 3) Effective Intervention
- 4) Resources and Supports.

Participants will receive a certificate in mental health first aid at the end of the course and they are required to attend all three sessions.

The sessions are:

- Friday February 28th from 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Saturday February 29th from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Sunday March 1st from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location:

St. Mary's University - Owerko Hall, Heritage Building
14500 Bannister Road SE
Calgary, Alberta

This training costs \$140.00 per participant and covers tuition, material and Saturday lunch.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mental-health-first-aid-training-tickets-90315481035>

INSPIRED CONVERSATIONS: PUBLIC TOPICS
OF SPIRITUAL INTEREST

CLIMATE CRISIS



The Spirituality and Ethics of the Climate
Crisis with Rev. Dr. Bill Phipps

Red Deer Lake United Church
Friday, February 21, 2020 at 7:30pm
FREE PRESENTATION & CONVERSATION

Join Rev. Nick Coates of Red Deer Lake United Church and internationally-known speaker, activist, minister, and former head of the United Church Rev. Dr. Bill Phipps for an evening of inspired conversations on why the climate crisis is a spiritual issue we must address.

red deer lake
united church

Location: 96187 Highway 22X W, Foothills, AB
10 minutes drive from Southwest Calgary
(403) 256-3181 | office@reddeerlakeuc.com

Bishop's Message by Bishop Larry Kochendorfer



February 2020 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God –

Since being called to serve as your bishop, October 2012, my prayer has often been the following: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One of the reasons I love this prayer is because it is realistic but encouraging, honest but hopeful. It doesn't deny difficult truths, but neither does it succumb to sterile pessimism. It was written in the first part of the twentieth century by a Church of England priest named Eric Milner-White. Like many good prayers from another time and place, it sounds like it was tailor made for us here and now.

O God, you have called your servants.... I have seen so many signs of hope in these few years of serving as your bishop, not just in projects and initiatives and ideas, but in our people: • in the faithful and dedicated rostered ministers, who are a gift to us all; • in the diligent and committed staff and officers of the Synod, who it is a joy to work with on a daily and weekly basis, who love the Synod and serving it; • in the lay leaders of this Synod, serving in various and multitude capacities; • in the faithful people who hold no particular office or position, but who form the faithful backbone, week after week, that is the body of Christ in the ABT Synod. You are all not only living, breathing signs of hope, but you also have my profound thanks for all that you do, and it is my privilege to serve with and among you.

A complete two-page report for Congregational Annual General Meetings, together with our Synod's 2020 Narrative Budget is available at:

<https://albertasynod.ca/2019/12/2020-abtsynod-agm-letter-and-narrative-budget/>

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)

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:00 Breakfast at The Seed 8:30 50+ Exercise
2 Communion 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Children & Youth Ministry 11:00 Worship Service	3 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Fireside Group	4 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Al-anon	5 9:30 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch Program 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 11:00 am Praise Team	6	7	8 8:30 50+ Exercise 7:00 Laser Tag
9 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Children & Youth Ministry 11:00 Worship Service	10 1:00 Memory Plus	11 7:00 Today's Pilgrims	12 9:30 Experiencing God 10:00 Staff Meeting 11:00 Acadia Lunch Program 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 11:00 am Praise Team	13 10:00 Falling Upward Book Study	14	15 8:30 50+ Exercise
16 Communion 9:00 Worship Service 11:00 Worship Service	17 Family Day 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Fireside Group (tentative)	18 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Board Meeting	19 9:00 Staff Meeting 9:30 Experiencing God 10:30 Southwood Care Centre 11:00 Acadia Lunch Program 7:00 Drop In Dwelling 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 11:00 am Praise Team	20 7:15 Flock Care	21	22 8:30 50+ Exercise
23 Hot Dog Lunch 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Children & Youth Ministry 11:00 Worship Service	24 1:00 Memory Plus March Vine Submission Deadline	25 7:00 Today's Pilgrims	26 Ash Wednesday 9:00 Staff Meeting 9:30 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch Program 7:00 Ash Wednesday 7:00 Al-anon 8:00 11:00 am Praise Team 8:30 Al-anon Book Club	27 10:00 Falling Upward Book Study 7:00 Drop-In (How to Tell the Difference Between Law and Gospel)	28	29 8:30 50+ Exercise