

# Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

May 2021

Volume 11 No. 05

## *From the Pastor*

With Easter now behind us and flowers blooming all around us, I think we can safely declare that we are living in the time of Spring. Admittedly, I am not quite used to this. Coming from Alberta, this would be the time of year when you expect a snowfall any day now. There is usually at least one major snowfall in May. The white stuff still litters the ground in April, although there is often a thaw where the snow gradually disappears...followed by an overnight freeze to encase the streets in ice. There is a continuous bounce back and forth between warm and cold in which you lack certainty about what is going to happen next. At least in my first Spring in Victoria, there does not seem to be this level of uncertainty in the weather. Thankfully, the weather doesn't give us too much uncertainty, although we still live in uncertain times.

We might assume that our general situation on Vancouver Island might remain constant, but the current situation of no indoor church services and changing provincial restrictions is not something we want as certainties. The gradual increase in coronavirus infections was also unwelcome, but the increase in vaccinations throughout the province has lowered the infection rates in the past couple weeks. This gives us some hope. The viral variants might give us some concerns, though. Looking forward in time, mindful of the good and the bad around us, we can say that we are still living in uncertainty right now.

Yet, whatever time brings, we will always have Jesus Christ with us. As we persist throughout time as the Church founded upon baptism and the teaching of Christ's words, Jesus will be with us just as he promised. He says, "Behold, I am with you to the end of the age." (Matt 28:20) This can give us confidence because Jesus is with us as we face unknown challenges and blessings. Whatever may happen with in these uncertain times, Jesus will neither leave us

nor forsake us. He remains as our Saviour who is devoted to delivering us from all evils of this world. He rose from the dead after all. There are not many things more difficult than that. Perhaps ascending to heaven is more difficult, but Christ did that too.

When Jesus announces he will remain with his disciples to the end of the age, he does so after his resurrection. The disciples know how their Lord broke free of his three-day-prison and now walks among them. Beyond a reasonable doubt, Jesus will follow through on his promise to them. They don't just have Jesus' word on this but also God the Father's promise. The whole of Jesus' speech is: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt 28:18-20)

God the Father who has authority over the whole of creation has given this authority also to God the Son. The authority with which Jesus speaks is not of some man but the authority of God Himself. As the Lord controls all things, so Jesus proclaims he has authority to control all things. Part of the exercising of this authority is Christ ensuring that he is with us always. We will never suddenly find ourselves without Jesus. He remains with us. Of this we can be certain.

When the whole of creation seems like chaos—or, at least, when our lives seem chaotic—Jesus gives us the certainty that he is alongside us through all of it. Nothing in all of creation is outside of his authority, so nothing can rip us from the love of Christ. As you look forward in uncertainty to the things in this world, in Christ you have the certainty of his presence.

Pastor Adam Chandler

## *From the Worship Committee*

Psalm 26 is a beautiful Psalm of David that speaks of unwavering trust and love of our Lord and of His protection. '...Lord, I love the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thy glory dwells...' It reminds us to have faith in God's protection. And it is a good psalm of consolation for these worrisome times. Psalms such as this one should indeed be sung! It is sad that we cannot sing our psalms during this pandemic, but we can sing them at home to one of the simple psalm tunes that are listed in our hymnal on page xxvi. An even easier way to sing the psalms is to use the tune of a simple 'Amen'. Sing the same note for the entire phrase, and drop to the lower note for the end of each phrase! I hope this idea helps you to enjoy singing the psalms at home: we all look forward to the day when we can sing in praise collectively again.

Blessings,  
Barb

## *In appreciation of our faithful servants*

We give thanks to God:  
for our Pastor,  
for the musicians, our director Barbara, our organists Barbara and Richard (Laura will be back soon), our chimers Theo, Mel, Pastor, our trumpet player and chimer, Andrew,  
for our Elders and PPC chairs and boards, altar guild and worship committees,  
for our office staff and technical support,  
for those people helping with maintenance and gardening,  
for the faithful, who are sending in or dropping off their offerings in support of Home and Missions and  
for your prayers. God bless and keep you all!

## **Memory Verse Challenge for May**

Little children, let us not love in word or talk  
but in deed and in truth.

*1 John 3: 18*

## *Welcome!*

We welcome our Confirmants: Gail Milling, Gail Dickson and Eric Knudsen into the family of Hope and look forward to when we can personally do so when our church is allowed to gather in person again. God's blessings to you all!

## *Thank you and Goodbye*

Thanks and goodbyes from Mostafa, Fatemeh, Parnia and Parsina for your love and support, as they have moved to Vancouver to be closer to work opportunities. They asked that a thank-you be said to all of you for your welcoming friendship and encouragement these past two years. We pray that they continue in their faith given to them at their baptism and as they keep in contact through newsletters and our online worship services.

## *The Lilies of the Fields*

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow, they toil not, nor do they spin: And yet I (Jesus) say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed like one of these." Matthew 6:28-29

The flowers of the fields, I believe, are created by God, to give us joy. Yes, some flowers provide food for people, animals and insects,

but some simply provide pleasure for us, with their beauty.



The baskets were hung up two weeks ago to outwardly share caring with our neighbours. A few years back, on the side of the church, the white lilac bush was planted in remembrance of Bernard Johnson, Bernie Straub's father-in-law. The Lilac shrub started out very small. Yearly, it grew more branches and stretched up higher towards the sun. Eventually it produced two small flower clusters, a modest showing of blossoms. This year, however, it is demonstrating God's glory with multiple blooms!

Likewise, our faith, given to us at our baptism, starts small. Like the tiny plants are encouraged with water, sun and tending, we are blessed with baptism, Jesus, and our Lord. We are supported by our fellow Christians; our faith growing. The bushes are weeded and pruned to be shaped into a beautiful display of God's creation. Likewise, we are fed with the Word of God, guided by the Holy Spirit and corrected and forgiven by Christ so that we may do His Will and give glory to God.

Dear God, like the beautiful flowers of the earth that you created for us to enjoy, we are, in turn, to show Your love through our actions to others. Let Jesus' love bloom within us and motivate us share this joy and hope with others. Amen

## *Kris Beatty, Music was Her Gift that she Shared*



Kris Beatty was a gifted musician and choir director (Christmas, Easter and special events) for 70 years, of which the latter years were at Hope. Kris, with her family, were active with Sunday School, LWML-C, especially the entertaining devotional skits, worship music, Christmas pageants and in many other ways, serving the Lord. Her lovely smile, sense of fun, love of family and friends, faith, and love of music which she shared with us all, are ways that we will fondly remember Kris. One sweet story told to me was when complimented on her colourful jewelry, that she always wore, Kris said, "Oh, I wear these baubles to make the children smile!" And they did.

Kristine Lenora (Jacobsen) Beatty was born in Loreburn, Saskatchewan on December 30th, 1927 and was called home, at the age of 93, on April 10, 2021. The Peace of Our Lord to all the Beatty Family.

"Jesus, Hope of the Nations,  
Jesus, comfort for all who mourn,  
You are the source of heaven's hope on earth."  
*from the song, "Jesus, Hope of the Nations"*

## *God's Steadfast Love and Mercy Endures Forever*

This is a promise that we hear, said in many ways, every worship service. In this last year of turmoil, sorrow, death, separation, isolation, and loss or in a year of Lent, as our Pastor, describes it, this is God's promise as we fear,

love and trust in the Lord. During Lent, we say this Verse after the Epistle Reading,

"Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

God gives us a physical demonstration of His love, on Good Friday, when His Son, Jesus, went to the cross. Jesus willingly laid down His life for us, to forgive all our sins. His death was with mindful purpose. Jesus defeated death and rose again to everlasting life to be our Intercessor with God. He rose to keep the promise that He made in, Matthew 28:20. "And behold, **I am with you always**, to the end of the age."

While on the cross, Jesus turns to the thief, who asks for remembrance, and says, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:43

In the funeral services, that I have attended over the years, there is one significant difference between a gathering to remember a person, whose life has ended and the service for a faithful servant of God. The first speaks only of the past; the second of time in continuum or without end. In faith, we are separated for a period of time from our loved ones (until we meet again), but never from God. And, in that, we have the "Peace that passes all understanding and keeps our hearts and minds in Christ."

We mourn and will continue to grieve for, each in our own way, several of our sisters and brothers in Christ. They are members of our own families or of our Christian family. With many of them, close family and friends have been able to physically or by phone or Zoom, gather around their loved ones. For those who have not able to do that, we keep them in our

prayers and continue to contact families to express our sympathies and love. On speaking with people before they have been "called home, to be with Jesus", they have expressed peace that they feel, knowing they will spend the rest of eternity in God's Loving Arms. Through these expressions of faith, each one of them is witnessing to their families and to all of us, of their confidence in God's Word; in the assurance spoken of in Psalm 136, "God's steadfast love and mercy endures forever."

The people of Hope, your brothers and sisters in Christ, pray for all who have recently lost loved ones. Be at peace that they are now with their Saviour. We also ask you to pray for one another for the loss of our brethren.

Please God, comfort all of us as we grieve for these people, many of whom, we have been in Christian fellowship for years. Each one of us are like stones dropped in a still pool of water. Our lives ripple out in community with the people around us. When the waves stop, we all mourn the stillness. God be with us all. Amen.

Evangelism,  
Louise

### **Mission Statement**

We are a caring community of faith, growing in Christ and closer to one another through worship, fellowship, service and education, willingly passing on to others what God has first given us.

***God's Blessing to everyone with May birthdays!***

## Get Connected

Live-streamed [Sunday](#) services and the devotionals throughout the week on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HopeLutheranChurchVictoria/live/>  
YouTube archive of services, devotionals, Bible studies, and [Sunday](#) school catechism: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCya4c5da1khaxQR8Nj1iuSg/playlists>

Topic: **Lutheran Theology Bible Study**  
Time: Sundays 09:15 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85986925367>  
Meeting ID: 859 8692 5367

Topic: **Job Bible Study**  
Time: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87246179005>  
Meeting ID: 872 4617 9005

Topic: **Theology Tapped In**  
Time: April 3, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)  
Every month on the First Sat, until Aug 5, 2023, 31 occurrence(s)  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82144008271>  
Meeting ID: 821 4400 8271

workings of our LWMLC society. Each created and gifted uniquely by our loving God. Kris with her boundless love of music and Ella with her boundless love of hand crafts. In faithful service to our Lord both ladies willingly shared their gifts with others. Ella produced countless lap robes for the Victoria General Hospital and Kris accompanied us on the piano and organ as well as directing our choir on LWMLC Sundays. They both served as mentors and friends. As we adjust to life without these faithful servants we are comforted in knowing they rest from their labors in the arms of our loving Lord.

## DIGGING INTO THE WORD



On Thursday April 22, at 1pm Pastor Chandler led us in our monthly Zoom Bible Study, entitled Pray Continually taken from the Spring Tapestry. Along with our regular members we were joined with our sisters in Christ from Richmond, Nanaimo and Port Alberni. Together we examined what it means to pray in Jesus' name, knowing God speaks to us through his word.

## READY SET GO!



Starting May 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 15<sup>th</sup> ladies across Canada will start their mission walk. Their goal to travel coast to coast in time for their virtual convention July 8-10th. The theme Christ Lives in Me, Gal 2:20.

You too, can catch their vision by sponsoring any LWMLC member of our local society or by donating to their mission. All pledges will support women recovering from addictions at

## LWMLC- News



### A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Called home to be with our Lord we mourn the loss of two very special ladies. Both Kris Beatty and Ella Campbell contributed much to the

Wagner Hill Farms, Langley, BC. THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN!

### SPECIAL SERVANT EVENT

A special servant event is being created where members will use the gifts God has given them to support and encourage front line Health care workers by making Thank You Cards. The cards will then be mailed to staff members caring for our own members living in long term care facilities. More information about this project will be coming soon.



### WATCH

Couldn't get to the April LWMLC Thursday Bible study?

You can now plan to join us on May 27th and/or Bible and a Beverage on May 22nd. Watch the bulletin or email for the Zoom /Go to links.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

In His Service,  
Deborah

### Hope LWML Society Info

Our next LWML-C Bible Study on Zoom will be on May 27<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm, everyone welcome. Link to this devotion is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87541596485>

Meeting ID: [875 4159 6485](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87541596485)



## Children's Corner

### What is "Pentecost"?

The word "Pentecost" (pronounced PEN-tuh-kost) comes from the Greek word *pentekostos* which means "fiftieth." Exactly 50 days after Jesus rose from the dead, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples in the form of flames of fire.

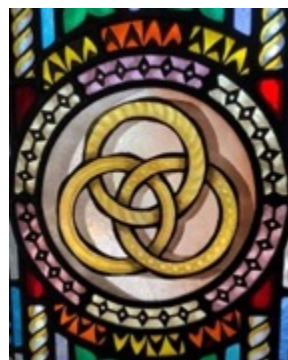


### Why is Pentecost so important?

When Jesus died, the disciples were sad because they thought that their friend and Lord was gone forever. But Jesus rose again! Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus did finally ascend into heaven leaving the disciples below. However, before Jesus actually died, rose again and ascended into heaven, He made a promise to His disciples that He would send the Holy Spirit to them. He said that the Holy Spirit would come and guide them "into all the truth" (John 16:13). Jesus doesn't leave us alone to fend for ourselves. Jesus is here with us, and the Holy Spirit guides and leads the Church into the truth of the wonderful Gospel! We celebrate and remember this at Pentecost.



### Stain Glass window in the Sanctuary



The three circles is a symbol of the Holy Trinity and emphasizes the eternity of each person of the Trinity. The interweaving of the circles sets forth the unity of the Persons.

# Pentecost

## THE HOLY SPIRIT BUILDS THE EARLY CHURCH

"Yet we all hear them using our own languages to tell the wonderful things God has done."  
Acts 2:11



Just like the leaves on the shamrock I see, there are three parts to the Holy Trinity! First is God the Father, then Jesus, His only Son, and the Holy Spirit together as One!



F	M	Y	S	T	E	R	Y	S	P
A	H	O	L	Y	A	S	O	T	A
T	W	E	D	R	R	N	H	I	R
H	Y	O	Y	E	T	Y	T	R	T
E	G	E	V	N	K	H	I	I	S
R	N	O	I	H	K	L	A	P	W
O	L	A	H	O	R	E	F	S	E
C	S	P	A	T	R	I	C	K	R

### Word search Word Bank!

- Father    Son    Holy
- One    Three    God
- Clover    Saint    Patrick
- Mystery    Faith    Spirit
- Parts


Teaching Heart

# Happy Mother's Day



**Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
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 Web site:  
<https://hopevictoria.lutheranchurchcanada.ca>  
 Pastor Adam Chandler  
 778-350-9332  
 Email: [pastorhelc@shaw.ca](mailto:pastorhelc@shaw.ca)

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Service 10:30 am	12:30 Devotion  Janine	9:30 Devotion 12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion		12:30 Devotion
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Bible Study 9:15 am Service at 10:30 am <i>Mother's Day</i>	12:30 Devotion  Nicola	9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion  Deborah	12:30 Devotion		12:30 Devotion 9
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Bible Study 9:15 am Service at 10:30 am  Carole	12:30 Devotion  Erika	9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion		12:30 Devotion 2
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
The Day of Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Service at 10:30 am	12:30 Devotion  <i>Victoria Day</i>	9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion		12:30 Devotion  Betty Yelden
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Holy Trinity Bible Study 9:15 am Service at 10:30 am  Jan	12:30 Devotion  Heidi	9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion	12:30 Devotion 1:00 LWMLC Devotion		12:30 Devotion

<b>Notes</b>	<b>ELDERS:</b>	<b>Altar Guild:</b>	
	Gene Murdoch (250-704-1029) Bert Weiss (250- 382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)	Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry <b>Elder of the Month:</b> Bert Weiss & Fred Smale	