

Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

June 2022

Volume 12 No. 06

From the Pastor

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Matt 28:19-20)

On May 15 was our latest congregational meeting and, in all honesty, it was a tough meeting. On the docket were the elections. This was long overdue because COVID put a wrench in the regular cycle of things, including our elections. The Parish Planning Council, Board of Lay Ministry, and all the other board retained their positions over the period of the shutdown. The hope of the elections was to allow anyone overburdened in their particular office to take time off and allow new people to fill vacant PPC, BOLM, and board positions. That was the plan, but just about everyone in the congregation (church officer or not) has been overburdened for the past couple years.

All of us are definitely tired from everything that has been going on—and everything that lamentably persists. While talk of masks, vaccines, etc. have become secondary topics next to the War in Ukraine, cost of living increases, etc. the former things still provide background stress on top of all the new stuff. Our personal lives have not necessarily become less stressed either. We still have to worry about our health and families among many other things.

Therefore, it was not unexpected when all of this was reflected in our congregational meeting. As of now, the PPC, BOLM, and boards are understaffed following the election. Not unexpected, but surprising to many. Hope Lutheran is not the big congregation it was in the 1990s with a large pool of people to call upon. It is now a small congregation, similar to country parishes. The mission of the congregation stays the same: make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching; but Hope has to figure out now how to do this with the disciples making up our congregation.

This might sound like a daunting task—a small congregation trying to proclaim Christ in an irreligious city—but this is a better situation than the apostles had when Christ told them to make disciples of all nations. When Christ ascended to heaven and left the apostles to lead the whole of the Christian Church on earth, there were only about 120 people (Acts 1:15). And those 120 were in a city where threats and murder were being breathed against them (cf. 9:1). And their mission was not just the metropolitan area but the ends of the earth (1:8). But this did not stop the apostles from continuing to preach. Why?

The apostles baptized and preached because Jesus was with them. He promised to be with them to the end of the age and they had faith that Jesus would stay with them. They had no idea what horrors would befall, what obstacles lay before them, or anything else, but they had Christ and Christ would give them keep them steadfast in salvation.

Looking forward, what should we do? My advice would be to take some time and reflect. This might seem at odds with the directive from Jesus to make disciples, but we need to take some time to build ourselves up. God was adding to the apostolic Church daily (Acts 2:47) because the apostles were regularly devoting themselves to the teaching of Christ, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer (2:42). As we contemplate who we are in the congregation and what we can do for ourselves and others, God will continue to bless us through His Word and Sacrament. Our Lord is with us in the faith and He will never forsake us. We can trust in Him. We cannot let things slide, but we can prayerfully take time to organize ourselves and what we can do to make (and keep) disciples here.

As the office-holders from the PPC, BOLM, and other boards can tell you, there are always things that need doing here at the church. There are some obvious things, and some not so obvious things. The more obvious stuff tends to be very visible positions like musicians and readers in the services. Less obvious things would be like the sound board, altar guild, and livestreaming operators. All of these things are essential for the service. And besides the worship service, we can look into events, properties, education, evangelism, and the list goes on. Again, this sounds like a daunting task, but this is an opportunity for ourselves to grow spiritually and practically. Is there something you were scared to try in the church? Anything you wanted to know more about? Now's the time to try it out.

Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Col 3:17). We are not alone here at Hope Lutheran Church. Christ is with us and he promises never

to leave us. As long as his word is taught among us and his sacraments are distributed among us, we will never cease being part of his body. Like the apostles starting to spread the Gospel, we do not know what exactly lies before us, but we know who walks alongside us. Jesus will guide us where we need to be.

In His name,
Pastor Adam Chandler

From the Worship Committee

As we enter Pentecost, I am reminded of Martin Luther's 'Pentecost Hymn': To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray (Nun Bitten Wir).

The first lines of this German hymn date to the thirteenth century, and the tune may be as much as two centuries older. Martin Luther added three stanzas in the early sixteenth century. One of Luther's stanzas brings together the prayer of God's people to experience the "fire of love", the Holy Spirit. Read through this beautiful hymn, #768 in our hymnal, and be inspired by Martin Luther's words. Our chime choir will play this hymn as the opening meditation during one of the services this summer, and perhaps Pastor will select it as one of our hymns to sing.

Our chimers will be meeting for rehearsals on Sunday mornings now at 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. If you are inspired to join our chime choir, please come up to the balcony and we will find some chimes for you to play! Richard Uhl will be joining our chime choir when he is available - welcome Richard!

Blessings to all who bring the gift of music to our services,

Barbara



This month it is about the work our Lord has commanded us to do to love one another as He loved us. As His children we are brought together by a common faith. This is a blessing we can be thankful for and celebrate. This common faith which encouraged by the Holy Spirit, moves us to be part of this congregation. We not only worship together, as brother and sisters in Christ. We are part of the family within this congregation. We show care and concern for each other, prayers, telephone calls, emails and visits. LWML is an auxiliary or partner that strives to strengthen our common faith through fellowship, Bible study, and mission work leading us towards the fulfillment of the mandate "Called to Serve".

With only one month before we take a break for the summer from our monthly interactive Bible study with Pastor Chandler; next being June 23rd I wanted to give you a brief update on our future plans. On June 25th we will go on a Mission Walk along Dallas Road, starting at the Mile Zero Signpost and finishing at Ogden point. All are invited to walk & collect pledges or sponsor a walker. All monies realized is in support of the Central Alberta Advocacy Center for children the ABC Districts chosen recipient.

Plans are being made for a SUMMER outing at the end of July. We hope all ladies will join us for an afternoon tea-party. This invitation is to all congregational ladies, young, and old or in between and if you like feel free to bring a friend along. This will be a great opportunity to get to know others more intimately and enjoy fun and fellowship under the sun. Watch the

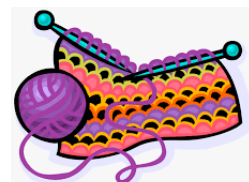


bulletin's announcements page for more details. For reservation purposes a sign-up sheet will be necessary.

Can't make July! Why not try August for Ladies Night Out an evening of fun and fellowship. Dates & location to be announced.

DON'T LET MISSION SERVICE TAKE A SUMMER VACATION

Again we have partnered with Esquimalt Neighborhood house as the recipient of our handmade items for distribution in December just in time for Christmas. This includes toques, mittens, scarves, baby blankets and this year we have a special request for Slippers, all sizes are welcomed! So if you find yourself with some extra time on your hands while watching the whales go by please consider knitting or crocheting something to share with others. Help yourself to the basket of wool outside the office and return finished items by December 1. There are many children and adults who desperately need and appreciate these gifts of love.



It is my prayer that guided by our common faith and congregational common purpose we will become stronger as we work together, sharing our talents, and time. May God continue to bless us all as we work together to extend His kingdom.

In His Service
Deborah

Beautiful Hands

Hands that:

- ✎ Knit to keep someone warm
- ✎ Clip stamps for gatherings
- ✎ Tie or sew quilts for those without cover
- ✎ Hold the books and read to children, seniors and the blind
- ✎ Carry groceries for those in need
- ✎ Pack supplies for Canadian Lutheran World Relief
- ✎ Type and parcel the gospel for the blind
- ✎ Gather medical supplies for needy hospitals overseas
- ✎ Sew for cancer victims and layette gatherings
- ✎ Hold another hand in love to express their love, sorrow or joy
- ✎ Daily drop their Mission offering into their Mite Box
- ✎ Are folded in prayer to a loving and gracious Saviour for those who are in need



How beautiful are the hands of those who serve!

Tapestry



What would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cellphone?



- What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
- What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- What if we turned back to go get it if we forget it?
- What if we used it to receive text messages?
- What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- What if we gave it to our children as gifts?
- What if we used it when we travelled?
- What if we used it in case of emergency?

Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill. And no dropped calls!

Is this something to make you go...hmm...where is my Bible and where are my priorities?

Get Connected LWML Canada

PRAYER FOR ABC DISTRICT CONVENTION

As the women of the Alberta - British Columbia District gathers together in Red Deer at the last District Convention under the theme "One In Purpose" on June 2-4; please join us in prayer for safe travel, God pleasing decisions, inspiration and uplifting experiences and may His presence be felt by all. The Glory and Honour is His alone...

Serve the Lord with Gladness or "I just wanna be a sheep!"

Job remained faithful to God through all his trials. In Chapter 42, the last one in the book of Job, God instructs Job's friends to make sacrifices to Him. However, it is because Job prays for his friends, that God listens and blesses Job abundantly. "After Job has prayed for his friends, the Lord makes him prosperous again and gives him (Job) twice as much as he had before." Job 42:10 "The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first." Job 42:12 God also gave Job a long life (140 years) so that "he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation." Job 42:16 Job did not pray for himself; instead he showed God's love by praying for his friends. In this act, he demonstrated to his companions to put the needs of others before his own, to do God's will.

As we serve God, by service to others, He blesses us with much more than we can ever receive by our own efforts! In the secular world, it is well documented that people who volunteer for the benefit of their community, live longer and richer lives. Perhaps that why churches, such as Hope, has so many people in their 70's, 80's and 90's. Consider any one of these people and you will know that each of them serves God by caring for others. When we love one another by actively helping them, we are following Jesus' first commandment.

God, through the Holy Spirit, gives us each different skills, so that when we work together utilizing our abilities, the needs of others are met. In other words, God uses us to carry out His ministry.

At Hope, there are opportunities to learn new skills, to mentor others, or to step into different

roles so that others can bring their own toolbox of innovations to complete those same tasks, in their own unique way.

When we serve, as we are able, within our church and in outreach to our community and around the world, God is pleased.

He is pleased with us, just as He was with Job's faithfulness.

"Worship(serve) the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture." Psalm 100:2-3

In His Service,
Louise Rushton

Here are some ways to help in our community of Hope:



- Praying for others (the 2022 Church Directory can be used as a guide)
- Volunteer to drive members unable to drive or do not have a way to attend worship (contact the church office or Pastor Chandler)
- Attending and participating in the Bible Studies or Theology on Tap
- Greeting worshipers on Sundays (contact church office)
- Assist with the live streaming and or power point on Sundays
- Ushers and Acolytes on Sunday (contact Michael Rumsch)
- Sending cards to members (contact Louise Rushton)
- Music, such as learning to play chimes, singing (contact Barbara Guidetti)



- Lawn maintenance – mowing, weeding, trimming (contact church Office)
- Telling (counting offerings) after worship (contact Gaylyn Smale)
- Reading Scripture Lessons during worship (contact Theodora Henry)
- Volunteering in Altar Guild, care of the altar and setting up for the Eucharist (contact Theodora Henry)
- Gardening, maintaining the front gardens (contact Board of Properties)
- Sewing or knitting for charities (contact Theodora Henry or Deborah Gruben)
- Volunteer as committee member or board member, there are spots not yet filled (contact Linda Russell; list of duties for the positions are being compiled)
- Church work days to do cleaning and general maintenance in and around the church (contact church office)
- Update picture board in the Narthex, taking pictures (contact church office)
- One-off help in church events, e.g. Church Rally in September (contact church office)
- Volunteering in Sunday school or Family Sundays (contact church office)
- Join the ladies of the LWML-C, in devotions or events (contact Deborah Gruben)
- Organizing the Church Library (contact church office)
- Donating flowers for the altar (contact church office)
- Setting up coffee for after worship fellowship (contact church office)
- Donating snacks for the coffee time (contact church office)
- Help in changing the bulletin boards (contact church office)
- Volunteering in various tasks set by the Board (contact church office)



- Other areas not mentioned that you may want to organize (contact church office)

“If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.”
John 12:26

Coffee News



Like much of the world, our After-Service Coffee plans changed dramatically in March 2020. The Covid 19 pandemic shut down entire sectors, including the church, but now we are back with in-person gathering and worshipping our Lord. Last summer we adapted by having a lemonade stand while enjoying snacks outdoors. With the announcement by the chairman of the Board of Lay Ministry we are happy to say After-Service Coffee will resume starting June 5th. If you can help in this important fellowship service, please sign up to either make the coffee or bring a snack to share. Coffee & its fixings are available in the kitchen and are replenished when needed. All anyone needs to do is bring cream if you prefer and a sweet - need not be homemade; Mr Christie makes good cookies too! Please see the Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Any questions please call Nicole Novakovics at 778-265-6522..

Afternoon Tea

All ladies are invited to an Afternoon Tea at Adrienne’s Tea House at Mattick’s Farm sometime in July. Watch for more details and sign up list on the Bulletin Board.

*God's Blessing to everyone with
June and July birthdays!*

News for the Sewing Group

In the fall of 2021, our sewing group has partnered with the Pillow Program volunteers of the First Open Heart Society (FOHS) of BC; and in the last 6 months have met once a month to sew heart pillows. As we are taking a break for the summer, our last day for sewing these pillows will be on Thursday, June 16th at 1:00 pm. If you would like to help, you are most welcome to drop in. There's always something to do: tracing, cutting, trimming, sewing and of course we always have snacks.



The FOHS runs The Heart House, a six bedroom facility that provides bed and breakfast accommodations for out of town families of patients undergoing heart surgery at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. Carol Connelly have arranged for our sewing group to tour the facility on Saturday, June 18th at 2:30 pm. If you would like to join the tour, please contact Theodora Henry 250-216-1883.

Installation of the Parish Planning Committee Officers

On Sunday, June 26th we will celebrate the installation of the elected PPC Officer. Please come and support them.

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Chandler will be on vacation for the month of July and in his absence, we welcome Pastor Klein and Pastor Rumsch in sharing the Word of God.

Congregation Meeting Highlights

Twenty members were in attendance, coffee and light lunch served.

Topics covered:

- ✎ Discussion of communion practice to give option of the common cup, but will still be pilgrim style, approaching from the centre aisle
- ✎ Discussion on the continuation of live streaming
- ✎ PPC members letting their name stand: M Klassen (President), L Russell (Financial Secretary), B McKinley (Secretary), BOLM M Rumsch (Chair), F Smale, Bert Weiss, T Henry (Evangelism member), F Smale (Properties member)
- ✎ All positions elected by acclamation
- ✎ Ministry/Strategic Plan ongoing discussion: to create list of tasks which are needed to be done at Hope and encourage members to choose tasks to take on, list of tasks to be done will be in both the bulletin and the newsletter
- ✎ Coverage for Pastor while on vacation in July
- ✎ Everyone is encouraged to be more active in participating in the church community
- ✎ Look for ways to help with the Sept Rally Day
- ✎ Next meeting in September



Children's Corner

Why do we use candles in the Divine Service?



Imagine that you are attending a worship service 500 years ago. Since there are no lights, even during the daytime, the church is dark. How will you see what is going on? How will you see the pastor? How will you walk up to the altar to



receive the Lord's Supper? As you probably guessed, one of the first uses for candles in church was to give light in the sanctuary. Actually, oil lamps were probably used until the fourth century when candles became more common.

Is there more to using candles than just lighting the room?

With the invention of the light bulb, candles were no longer needed to light the church. That doesn't mean they lost their importance in the church. Candles have been used for hundreds of years to symbolize Christ's words when he said: "I am the Light of the world" (John 8:12). **Candles remind us that Jesus is the Light that has conquered the darkness of sin.** As you can see, candles play an important role in our worship.



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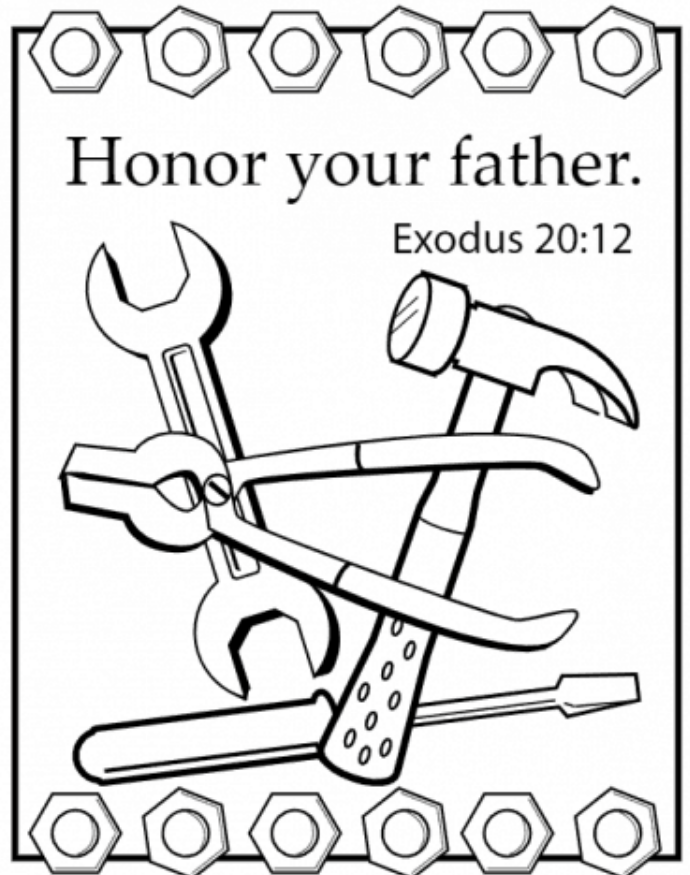
Happy Father's Day!



Fathers


F.A.T.H.E.R.S.

"F" aithful
"A" lways there
"T" rustworthy
"H" onoring
"E" ver-loving
"R" ighteous
"S" upportive



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
29 7 th Sunday of Easter Worship, 10:30 am	30 2:30 Devotion	31 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	1 12:30 Devotion	2 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 7:00 pm Bible Study	3  Barbara	4 10:00 am Confirmation Class 7:30 pm Theology on Tap (Maude Hunters)  Bruce
5 Pentecost Sunday Worship, 10:30 am	6 12:30 Devotion  Noah Trish Christian	7 9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	8 12:30 Devotion	9 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 7:00 pm Bible Study	10	11 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
12 Holy Trinity Sunday Worship, 10:30 am	13 12:30 Devotion  Jessica	14 9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	15 12:30 Devotion	16 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 7:00 pm Bible Study	17	18 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion Heart House Tour
19 2 nd Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am <i>Father's Day</i>	20 12:30 Devotion  Paul Mario	21 9:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	22	23 12:00 LWML Luncheon 1:00 pm LWML Devotion 7:00 pm Bible Study	24	25 <i>LWML Mission Walk</i>
26 3 rd Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am Installation of PPC Officers	27  Louise	28  Susan Pastor Chandler on vacation till July 30 th	29	30  Damian Connor	1	2 12:30 Devotion
	Notes	ELDERS: Bert Weiss (250- 382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Elder of the Month: Fred Smale		Altar Guild: Theodora Henry Deborah Gruben Louise Rushton		



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
26 3 rd Sunday in Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am	27 12:30 Devotion	28	29	30 1:00 pm Sewing Group	1 <i>Canada Day</i>	2
3 4 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am With Pastor Klein	4	5  Memory	6  Mel Iris	7	8  Margaret	9
10 5 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am With Pastor Klein	11	12	13	14	15	16  Paul
17 6 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am Service of Prayer & Preaching  Darrell	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 7 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am With Pastor Rumsch	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 8 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am	Notes	ELDERS: Bert Weiss (250- 382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Elder of the Month: Bert Weiss		Altar Guild: Theodora Henry Deborah Gruben Louise Rushton		