



Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

September 2022

Volume 12 No. 09

From the Pastor

Hope Lutheran is kicking off our time back from summer holidays with a Rally Day on Sept 11. There will be fun, food, and fellowship. Honestly, I am a little excited about it myself since this will be my first Rally Day at Hope since I arrived back in the middle of 2020. There were no social gatherings back then. Our church life was limited to coming for worship. There were reduced opportunities for fellowship masked, distanced, and sterilized. Thankfully, some opportunities still existed. Sometimes after services some individually wrapped food was taken outside while we chatted in the sun. Now, nearly two years later, we have more of an opportunity to come together not only in worship but in other aspects of the Christian life. Bible studies, confirmation, coffee hour, and more are coming back into their regular routines, as well as the regular operations of offices in the church like the Parish Planning Council, Board of Properties, and many other positions besides. Rally Day is more than a chance to eat hotdogs and enjoy the weather, it is our opportunity to get to know the people we should be serving in Christ's name.

The temptation is to think we are rallying around our neighbours, or rallying around church positions, or possibly rallying around the leaders of our congregation. We are not because all those things must also be caught up in our rally cry to Christ. We are not here at Hope Lutheran to worship each other, our titles,

or our good works. Such was the issue in the early Corinthian congregation. The people were so preoccupied with who they followed within the congregation that they lost sight of whom the congregation was built upon. Paul summarizes this with ironic flair:

What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? (1 Cor 1:12-13)

All the Corinthians were followers of Christ. So, why did they divide themselves according to who they followed or what they did? And how do we do the same? Rather than seeing ourselves as those baptized into Christ and children of the Almighty, sometimes we begrudgingly see ourselves as those who are called for specific tasks in the congregation—whatever they happen to be. We are more than our works, our relationships, and our titles. As Christ is undivided so we should be; rallied behind our everlasting Lord.

Our foundation is Christ. He is the rock of salvation on which you stand and the one from whom all graces flow. It is from his sacrifice that we take on blessed callings to fellowship, service, and good works. All these things are wrapped up in the glorious expression of our faith as we recognize the true cause of our rally: the cross of Christ. It may seem odd to have to remind ourselves that we are not eating a

hotdog or potato chips as simply those who are hungry. We are eating and drinking because Christ has joined us one to another as his Church to live in him while in this world. Truly, all our actions are defined by the one who defines us by his name, which he placed upon us at baptism. Every little thing you have in this world is a reflection of the love the Lord has for you. Therefore, eat your daily bread for the glory of God! Rally around His name not just on Rally Day but on every day of the everlasting life Christ has placed upon you. But, on Rally Day, remember all that the Lord has given you and to whom you can offer these blessings. Whatever you do, remember that it is the Lord through whom you live and serve.

God Bless,
Pastor Adam Chandler

The Power of Faith, the size of a Mustard Seed



Jesus and his disciples had come back from the mountain where God had come down in a cloud to tell them that "this is my Son whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him." Matthew 5:5

Following that time, when they came to a crowd, a man asked Jesus to have mercy on him and heal his son, whom the disciples had not healed. Jesus then drove the demon out of the boy after calling the people, "an unbelieving and perverse generation; how long shall I stay with you?". Mat 17:17

In private, Jesus later spoke to his disciples, saying, "Because you have so little faith. (you could not drive out the demon) I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard

seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there and it will move.' "Matt17:20

In context, a mustard seed was the smallest seed that farmers of the day would sow in their garden plots. Yet, the plant would grow to ten feet tall (the largest), a size able to shelter birds. Jesus used parables with the crowds so that they could all understand the lessons, yet he taught the disciples the full meaning of them.

The explanation in the Concordia Bible went on to say that "God's kingdom started with Jesus and twelve disciples and the teachings and faith of the believers grew to be seen by the whole world."

The power of the mustard seed can be compared to the example of hemp seeds that we sprinkle on our cereal. Three tablespoons of those tiny seeds pack a lot of energy. This small amount can provide 10 grams of protein, 12 grams of omega 3 and 6, 20% of healthy fats, 100% of manganese, 48% of magnesium, 22% of iron, 25% of thiamine, 36% phosphorus, as well as other necessary daily nutrients.

This is not necessarily to encourage you to include hemp seeds in your diet, but to give you a visual of the power of a seed, be it food for the body or food for the spirit. The faith given to us by the Holy Spirit grows in us to provide a shelter in which we can find refuge in the love of God, like the birds find safety from the storm or the hawks in the branches of the mustard plant. The seeds of faith preached on the shores of the lake, by Jesus, now circle the globe.

"Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matt 17:21)

Louise

From the Worship Committee

Many thanks for those who bring music into our church services.

An 'idea' turned into a ladies choir who gathers here Thursdays at 330 pm- 4 pm. We now have 6 singers, are having fun learning together, and will sing the opening meditation on Sunday Sept 11th. We are blessed. All are welcome.

We welcome back Andrew from his summer vacation in Ontario with his family. We welcome back Richard and are so thankful for his health being restored. We continue to pray for Laura's health that she may be able to return as one of our organists.

We have much to be thankful for, we have much to look forward to. 'Sing a new song unto the Lord, let your song be sung from mountains high....'

Barbara

Thank you

We were blessed and ever so thankful that while Pastor Chandler was on vacation, Rev. Klein and Rev. Rumsch were available to lead us in worship. What a privilege it was to hear their message and to celebrate communion with these faithful and willing servants.

At the end of July we also welcomed home our own Pastor from the successful completion of his ethics diploma and his safe travels.

Familiar Faces

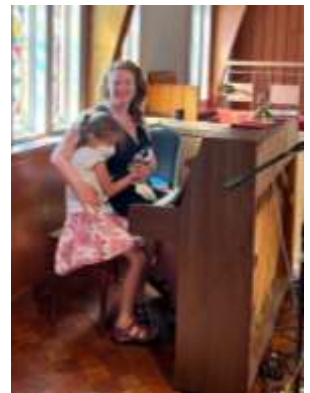
In August we had some familiar faces joining us for worship. Pastor Scott Lyons, Linnea, Noah,

Elissa and Ethan were vacationing on the island and came home to Hope for Sunday worship. It was a delight to see them and to hear their stories. The three children sure have grown!



Julie (Heikel) Nord with her husband, Martin, her children Magdalena and Ezra along with Martin's mother Lois and brother Micah surprised with their presence on the same Sunday as the Lyons.

For those who do not remember Julie, she was a student at UVic and attended Hope during her university years. She had served Hope as a pianist. She then moved to London, Ontario to continue her education. She and Martin and their children still live there.



Hello Hope Family

Peter and I enjoyed our week in Victoria and loved being able to attend the service at Hope on Sun Aug 14th. It was really nice seeing some familiar faces in church that day. You are all looking great!!!

We did miss the other regular faces that were not there that day.... next time.

We just wanted to let you all know that our daughter Karlee



got married on July 30, 2022.

Karlee married her boyfriend and fiancé of 10 years, Kevin Costanzo. Finally eh!

They got married at Peace Lutheran Church in Vernon, BC. It is the same church that Peter & I got married Aug 17, 1985. We were very fortunate that Pastor Scott Lyons was able to



make the trek from Edmonton to Vernon.

Pastor Lyons had a beautiful message and service for

the newlyweds and their family and friends attending the wedding.

Our younger daughter Ripleigh was Karlee's Maid of Honor. After the service, there was a Reception with a dinner and dance at Paddlewheel Hall.

Karlee & Kevin went to Banff for 5 days for a honeymoon, which included a gondola ride, horseback riding,



paddleboarding etc. After the few days off, reality kicked in and Kevin continues working for Mazzei Electric. Both Karlee and Ripleigh go back teaching on Sept 6th. Summer is over.....

Peter & I are doing well. We both are doing a bit of work in our retirement. We have been busy with a major house renovation which is close to completion.

We think of Victoria and Hope Lutheran often. We hope you are all doing well.

God Bless,
Diane & Peter Bowers

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

Happy Belated Birthday to:

Stephen Gruben

Erwin Theim

Harold Beck

Karla Rudram

Marilyne Hess

Fred Smale

Mark Beiderwieden

Nicole Novakovics

Diane Bowers

(Sorry we missed your birthdays in August.)

Coffee's On!



After service coffee has resumed and Nicole Novakovics will be overseeing and coordinating people to assist with this fellowship service. If you can help in this important fellowship time, please sign up on sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. Coffee will be on and provided all you need to do is bring a snack to share and it need not be homemade. Any questions please speak or call Nicole at 778-265-6522.

Altar Guild- An Equal Opportunity

As we conclude the longest season of the church year, Pentecost, please consider joining the Altar guild. There are no officers or elections; it is gender neutral both men and women can serve. This month we welcome back into service Eleanor Murdoch and express our thanks to those who serve to prepare the house of the Lord for worship.

In His Service,
Deborah

Church Rally



On Sunday, September 11th, come and join us for the Church Rally. Bring a friend if you like. It will be a time of fellowship and reconnecting with our church family. And maybe have a grilled hot dog too!

Congregation Meeting

On Sunday, September 25th, please join us for the Congregation Meeting immediately after worship.

Agents of Faith Called Home

On June 8, 2022, our sister in Christ was called home to the loving arms of our heavenly Father. Doreen Bannikoff a long-time member of the Lutheran Missionary League from Messiah Lutheran in Kitchener, Ontario and a lifetime member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League both in Ontario and British Columbia. After moving to Victoria to be with her daughter Sandy she joined our congregation in 2012 and always greeted us with a warm smile and a friendly hello. Her favorite reading material was our National LWML magazine the Tapestry which she proudly announced she did not need a large print copy even as her health declined. We thank God for Doreen as an agent of faith she was an inspiration to us all. May she rest in peace from her labours, prayers to her family and our thanks for sharing their mom with us.

On June 29, 2022, our sister in Christ Erika Waberski was also called home to the loving arms of our heavenly Father. Erika as well as her husband, Guenther were long time members of our congregation and both took active roles in church life. Erika served as President of Hope Women's League but will be forever remembered for her welcoming hospitality, hosting dessert parties, summer garden outings and sharing her Christmas stollen. Erika will be fondly remembered and missed.



"O Lord, we call upon You in our time of sorrow, grant us peace."

Deborah



If you are wondering what your LWMLC society can do or is doing please join us on the last Thursday of the Month for lunch at noon and an interactive Bible study led by Pastor Chandler at 1pm. Plans are underway for the celebration of LWMLC Sunday in October.

How Did You Spend Your Summer Vacation?

As we count down the last days before school begins and a return to a more structured church life answering this question reminded me of my annual school assignment. "Write a brief essay on how you spent your summer vacation." Well, pictured below are a few examples of how our congregational members spent their summer vacation.

In July ladies enjoyed afternoon tea at Adrienne's Tea House at Mattick's Farm as their annual summer outing.

In His Service,
Deborah



Ladies' Night Out



On August 28, Hope's annual Ladies' Night was held at Ho Tong restaurant. Seven of us gathered for an enjoyable evening of delicious Chinese food and relaxing conversation. It was a marvelous opportunity for fellowship in advance of the busy fall season, and a welcome mid-week break from cooking!

Nicole Novakovics

News from the Sewing Group



Our Sewing Group will start meeting once again at 1:00 pm on Thursdays. Come and share your skills (cutting, ironing, knitting, crocheting, sewing) or just for the fellowship. Our first meeting will be on September 8th, 2022.

Theodora

Children's Corner

What is the date today?

Usually when someone asks this question, you might look to a calendar for the answer. The date might help determine what to wear, where to go, and what you might do. For example, if the date were January 15, you might decide to wear warm winter clothes. If it were July 12, your family might have a picnic. Calendars help keep things in order.



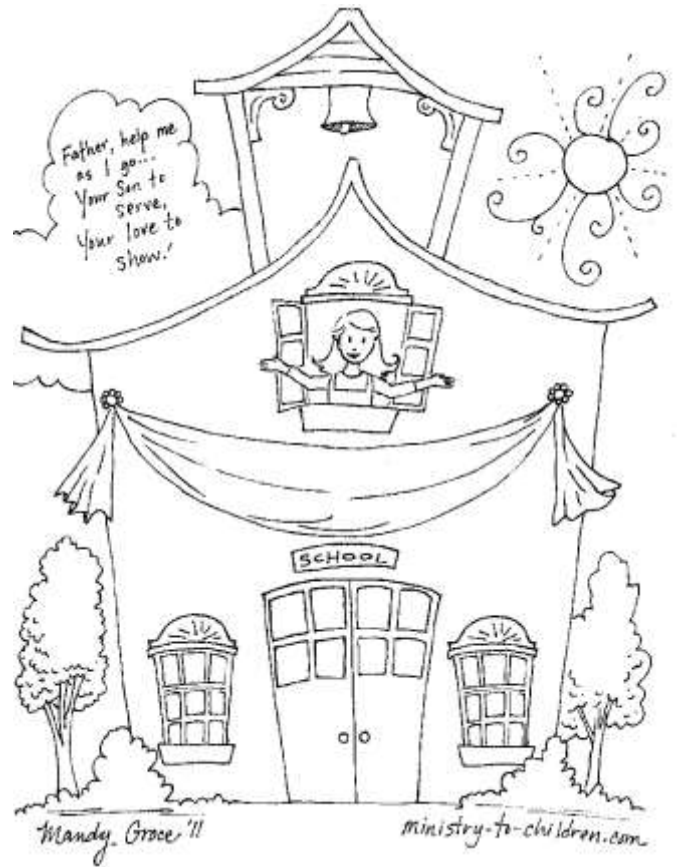
What does this have to do with the Divine Service?

The Church's calendar determines much of what happens in worship each Sunday (like the colors in the Sanctuary, or the readings for the day). The Church has its own calendar and its own seasons. The Church's seasons are based on the different events in the life of Christ and His Church. Instead of Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring, the Church's calendar has Advent, Christmas, Lent and many more. This calendar helps put order to the seasons and festivals of the Church.

Parents: Before or after the service, direct your children to the front of the hymnal to find the liturgical calendar. Go through the calendar and discuss the different seasons. Remind them that many of the special dates we have on our everyday calendars come from the liturgical calendar, i.e. Christmas, Easter, etc.

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Back to School Colouring



Back to School Prayer






Dear Lord,

Use my eyes to **see** new friends,
Open my ears to **hear** my teacher
Open my mind to **learn** new things
Let my heart **remember**

You are near when I'm afraid
Help me to **love** others
like You do

I want to **shine** Your light
so bright in my school
Amen.



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
28 12 th Sunday a Pentecost Worship, 10:30 am	29 2:30 Devotion	30 12:30 Devotion	31 12:30 Devotion	1 12:30 Devotion	2	3 12:30 Devotion  Jennifer D
4 13 th Sunday a Pentecost 10:30 am Worship	5 12:30 Devotion	6 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	7 12:30 Devotion	8 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group  Sean Mc	9	10 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
11 Rally Sunday 10:30 am Worship	12 12:30 Devotion	13 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	14 12:30 Devotion	15 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group	16	17 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
18 15 th Sunday a Pentecost 10:30 am Worship	19 12:30 Devotion	20 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion  Laura G	21 12:30 Devotion  Joan Rs	22 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group	23  Taira J	24 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
25 16 th Sunday a Pentecost 10:30 am Worship Congregation Meeting, 11:45 am	26 12:30 Devotion	27 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	28 12:30 Devotion	29 12:00 LWML Luncheon 1:00 pm LWML Devotion	30	1 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion 7:30 Theology on Tap
	Notes	ELDERS: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Bert Weiss (250- 382-2612) Elder of the Month: Fred Smale		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		