



# Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

November 2022

Volume 12 No. 11

## *From the Pastor*

Grace and blessing to you,

Unusually, All Saints Day, the Last Sunday of the Church Year, and the beginning of Advent are all packed close this November. Since All Saints (Nov 1) occurs early in the week (Tues.), our observation of this holy day is transferred to the first Sunday in November. This means that all three occasions are being celebrated in almost back-to-back Sundays (Nov 6, 20, and 27). I find this intriguing considering how the themes of these days all build each other up.

All Saints Day has its origins in the 4<sup>th</sup> century as one of the earliest holy days celebrated on the Christian calendar. (As a reference, Christmas Day was first recognized in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century but the first recorded Christmas service was in 336, that is, the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Celebrations of All Saints and Christmas began being celebrated roughly near the same time.) As the name suggests, we remember all the saints on this day. Our main interest is not the saints who are among the Church Militant—the part of the body of believers who fight the good fight of faith on earth. All Saints Day tends to focus on the Church Triumphant—the growing portion of the body of believers who rest from their earthly labours and await the coming resurrection. This holy day is celebrating that fact that although the Church is divided with a veil of tears, we are never truly separated from those who have gone before us in the faith because Christ unites

us all in his body. The sacrament of holy communion is particularly poignant by promising that when we partake of Christ's body and blood for our salvation, this salvation is being enjoyed by the saints in heaven who are in the body of Christ. We give thanks to the Lord on All Saints not only for the lives of those He has given to build up the Church but also for the fact we are all united in Christ, looking forward to being united in paradise.

The Last Sunday of the Church Year marks the final Sunday before Advent. The focus of this occasion is the Last Day, which means we are looking forward to when this world of sin and death is finally destroyed and the new heavens and the new earth are forged by God for our eternal blessing. While the "end of the world" theme is usually depicted negatively in the world, the scriptures always view it as something positive. It is when our Lord returns bodily among us that we may dwell with him forever and receive the fulfilment of every last promise he has made. One of these promises is the union with all those who have gone before us in the faith—all those we remember on All Saints Day. In the resurrection, we will all share in Christ's glorious resurrection on Easter and never be separated from those among his body.

Advent has two dimensions to it. Most people think of the theme of Christ's first coming in the manger since we are looking forward to Christmas. However, the underlying theme of Advent is Christ's second coming with power

from the cloud of God's glory to judge the living and the dead. This is why the options for the gospel reading of the first Sunday in Advent are (1) the Triumphal Entry when Christ comes as king to lead his people and (2) Christ's prophecy of him appearing on the Last Day. We remember with joy his first coming and his winning of salvation then blend that with the joy of his second coming where he will put death under his feet and raise us from the grave (1 Cor 15:23-28).

So then, what are we doing this month? We are looking forward to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, remembering that those who have died in him are not truly dead but alive and awaiting the resurrection on the Last Day. In truth, this should be a thought proclaimed throughout the Church year (which I try to do) but the overlapping of nuanced ideas here makes things all the more interesting. As we look forward this coming month to all the holy days—major and minor—let us celebrate that fact that, despite the loneliness and pain observing important occasions without those we have lost to death, Christ has triumphed over death and brings into one body of believers that death itself cannot destroy.

God Bless,  
Pastor Adam Chandler

*Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."*

In John 21:15-16 Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Feed my lambs. Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you" Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

Mustard Seed Food Bank is just one of the food banks in the Victoria vicinity. In these days of increasing food insecurity, rising costs and so on, more and more people need to visit food

banks to make it through to the end of the week. At the same time, the organizers of the food banks are not able to buy as much food, at wholesale prices as they could do so in the past.

A couple of years ago, Hope renewed their decision to support the Mustard Seed Food Bank on an ongoing outreach charity. By making a monetary donation, specified on your offering envelope on the Other Missions line, we can continue to support this charity.

God bless you for sharing even a small donation with strangers in our midst, as Jesus would have us do out of love for one another..

Louise

*Blessings for others in Jesus' name*

As the weather is progressing to wetter and chillier, continue to consider your members and neighbours for a need for shopping or rides to appointments or church. Appreciated are the phone calls or prearranged short visits. Quietly doing tasks for others is pleasing to God.

Many of the Stewardship opportunities listed in the "**Stewards in all Seasons**" pamphlet are still waiting for you to choose to show Jesus' love to others. Your skills, hobbies or interests may be of benefit to others and give our daily lives purpose!

"Blessed are the meek," Matthew 5:5 In the Concordia, meek, is defined as, "not an attitude toward man as a disposition before God, namely humility." "Blessed is not earthly happiness, but wellbeing and spiritual joy of those who share in the salvation of the kingdom of God."

Blessings,  
Louise

## *A Home for our Fall Closet Cleanup*

Speaking of sharing with our neighbours, this letter was received from Erin Rylek, Coordinator I Volunteer Resources Auxiliary to BC Children's Hospital

I am happy to report that to date this Fiscal year (April 2022 - March 2023) inclusive of September the Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church has raised \$513.80 for the Auxiliary to BC Children's Hospital. With six months to go, I estimate you will exceed the amount raised last year. The Auxiliary is very appreciative of the relationship we have built over the past four years and all the funds that have been raised by Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Auxiliary to BCCH holds a strong partnership with the Salvation Army for this social enterprise. Salvation Army pays the Auxiliary to BCCH per pound of clothing that is collected. Salvation Army takes the items from the bins and distributes to their local thrift shops, hamper programs and shelters. The clothing that cannot be worn is sent to rag houses to be recycled into cloths that are used by painting companies and auto shops. The clothing donation bins help to deviate a significant amount of textiles from the landfill each year. Overall this program is a win - win for all involved.

Thank you again for all of your support over the years.

Warm regards,  
Erin

## *From the Worship Committee*

Our ladies' ensemble has been thinking about a name for our group - a name that would represent who we are and why we are here

singing together each week on Thursdays! We have still not decided a name, but some great ideas have come forth: "Voices of Hope", "Voce Belle", "Voce di Dio", and some musical terms to describe who we are: "Cantabile", "Cantando" and then some German terms came to mind "Kantando", "Kalme", .... we are still working on this, but will have a name before the end of November! There is a thread that connects each and every one of us...We welcome new members, please join in our rehearsals Thursdays at 330 pm.

Our chime choir is requesting a few new members! Andrew is away for a while and we would love to have at least one new chimer - chiming is easy, chiming is fun, and chiming is part of our church here at Hope! Come to our rehearsals Saturdays at 3 pm - all are welcome!

Advent, and the Christmas season will soon be upon us, let us relish each and every day in November, as we come to the end of our church year.

Blessings,  
Barbara

## *A Note of Thanks*

A special thanks from Heidi Morgan's family in Switzerland for the ability to watch the live stream for her funeral.

## *King's Road Community Nature Green Space*

The District of Saanich invites you to attend an upcoming public event:

**Park Vision:** Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Registration Deadline November 10, 2022. This is an in-person meeting at Hope

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church Hall),  
1924 Carrick Street.

Enjoy a presentation about the site and work with facilitators in a creative charette to develop a Vision for the park – the Vision statement will describe what the park’s ideal future looks like. Goals that will make the Vision a reality will be identified.

To register email [parks@saanich.ca](mailto:parks@saanich.ca) or call 250-475-5522.

### *Familiar Faces*

The recent BC Workers Conference on Vancouver Island brought with it, familiar faces and greetings to our church during October. Pictured below is Nancy Starling with her big sister Janet and husband Bill Siegle visiting from Edmonton; their son Pastor Darren Siegle and his wife Karen with Cousin Carol Fitterer. Pastor Siegle serves the dual parishes of Grace Lutheran Osoyoos, as well as St. Paul Lutheran in Oliver.



Pastor Siegle graciously shared a recent photo of our beloved Pastor Emeritus Les Carlson and his new address. Please contact Pastor Carlson at:

Rev. L.M. Carlson  
Orchard Gardens.  
114 - 295 Gertsmar Road.  
Kelowna B.C. V1X 7W9  
1-250-498-4626  
1-250-979-0624



We also received greetings from Pastor Scott Lyons and former vicar Pastor Jan Pastucha. May we remember them in our prayers and all who faithfully serve the Lord.

Another set of familiar faces especially to Pastor Chandler was an unexpected visit from his entire family. Another thanksgiving blessing that we can thank our God for.



Sister Amy and mom and dad, Betty Ann and Brian Chandler from Calgary, Alberta

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



CALLED TO SERVE (Deuteronomy 10:12)

WOW! Have you ever had a day where you wonder where those 24 hours went? Well, the month of October was that time for me. It began with the celebration of LWMLC Sunday. A day we unite with our fellow sisters in Canada from coast to coast as well as with our "big" sisters in the United States to praise and thank God for the many blessings he has poured out on our League. "Worthy are you, our Lord and God to receive glory and honor and power for you created all things" Rev.4:11

On LWMLC-Sunday we renew and affirm our pledge of service to the Lord, believing and trusting in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Have you taken the pledge? Or asked, what can I do? It's easy! Join us the last Thursday of the month for lunch at noon and interactive bible study with Pastor Chandler at 1 pm. Come invest your abilities and interests in relationships and opportunities God gives you. Mark your calendar, day planners or set your iPhone alarm for November 24<sup>th</sup> our next meeting date.

Once again the Lord has enabled us to show His love by sewing quilts, heart pillows, and pocket crosses. In partnership with St.



Paul's, Nanaimo and Redeemer, Langford 14 adult quilts were sent via Canada Comfort's special container destined for Ukraine. Our Pastor delivered a box of over 200 pocket crosses to the director of the BC Mission Boat

ministry while attending the BC workers conference. On the third Thursday of each month busy hands complete heart pillows for the BC stroke society their goal is 50 each month. Our God does all that and more! On October 30 Reformation Sunday, the LWMLC hosted its first Oktoberfest luncheon with the serving of a delicious German themed lunch. And the enjoyment of a video on Katie Luther a one woman play performed by Jan Struck. Everyone seemed to have learned something about this remarkable woman. The day concluded with the singing of the Church is One Foundation accompanied by Barbara on the piano.

Who is in charge? Well it certainly is neither me nor the ladies of LWMLC! We all know the answer but sometimes we need to be reminded.



Look around and recognize what God is doing! A few God sightings were the beautiful Thanksgiving display, the changing of the banners, altar flowers, and the most delicious meal prepared by all the cooks and of course the musicians my heartfelt thanks. May the LWMLC glorify Him in all that is done!

Be Ready In Season and Out of Season

In His Service  
Deborah

# *Oktoberfest Luncheon*



First in-person celebration on Reformation Sunday



Enjoying the Oktoberfest luncheon



Enjoying a video on Kathie Luther performed by Jan Struck



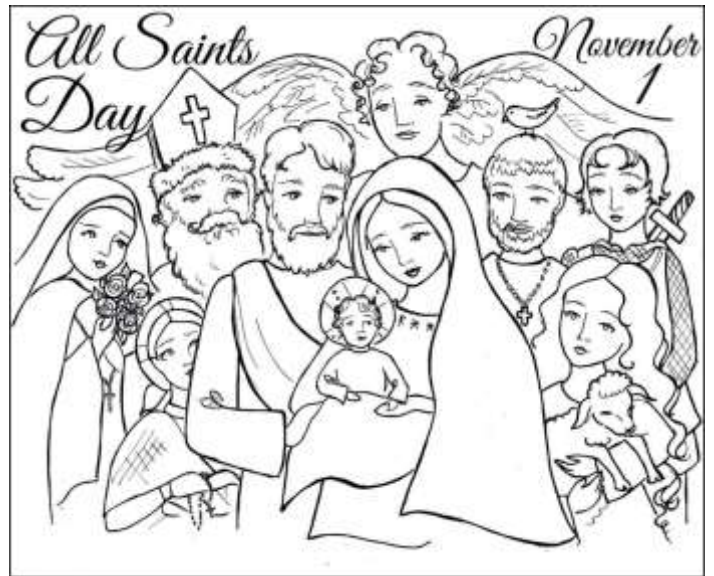
Lutheran Rose Cookies made by Milo and Nicole Novakovics enjoyed by all.



# Children's Corner

## Do Lutherans honor and remember the saints?

Yes. Remembering and honoring the saints is very "Lutheran." God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions teach that remembering and honoring the saints is a great thing to do.



## Why is it such a great thing to do?

The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, which explains what Lutherans believe, teaches that we honor the saints for three reasons.

- 1 Thanksgiving. When we honor the saints, we thank God for "showing (his people) examples of his mercy, revealing his will to save men, and giving teachers and other gifts to the church."
- 2 Strengthening our faith. When we see how our Lord forgives the saints, we are "encouraged to believe that grace does abound more than sin." (Do you remember when Peter, one of the disciples, denied Jesus three times? Even the Apostles sinned and received forgiveness.)
- 3 "the imitation, first of their faith and then of their other virtues ..." We pray that God would keep us as strong in the faith as they were!

**Parents:** Explain to your children that we are not praying to the saints; we are simply honoring them on a special day in the Church Year. Remind them that, when we die, we will be with our Lord in heaven, which is where the saints are right now!

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### REMEMBRANCE DAY WORD SEARCH








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CROSS  
DOVE  
POPPY  
FREEDOM  
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HONOUR  
NOVEMBER  
PEACE

POEM  
REMEMBER  
RESPECT  
SERVICE  
SILENCE  
SOLDIER  
VETERAN  
WAR



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
<b>30</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost</b> 10:30 am Worship Congregation Meeting, 11:45 am	<b>31</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>1</b> 12:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study	<b>2</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>3</b> 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:30 pm Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal  Julia	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion 7:30 pm Theology on Tap (Four Mile House)
<b>6</b> <b>All Saints' Sunday</b> 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship  Shane	<b>7</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>8</b> 12:30 Devotion 10:00 Bible Study	<b>9</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>10</b> 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:30 pm Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
<b>13</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday a Pentecost</b> 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	<b>14</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>15</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	<b>16</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>17</b> 12:30 Devotion 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:30 pm Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion  <i>Worship Committee                      Mtg</i>
<b>20</b> <b>Last Sunday of Church                      Year</b> 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship  Ken	<b>21</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>22</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion  Ashley	<b>23</b> 12:30 Devotion	<b>24</b> 12:00 LWML Luncheon 1:00 pm LWML Devotion 3:30 pm Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:00 am Confirmation Class 12:30 Devotion
<b>27</b> <b>Advent 1 Sunday</b> 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	<b>28</b> 12:30 Devotion  Mark	<b>29</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Devotion	<b>30</b> 12:30 Devotion  Mid-week Advent Service			
		<b>Notes</b> <b>ELDERS:</b> Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Bert Weiss (250- 382-2612) <b>Elder of the Month:</b> Michael Rumsch	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		