



# Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

September 2023

Volume 13 No. 09

## *From the Pastor*

Even though the liturgical year of the Church begins with Advent, our congregation still has a celebration of beginnings in September. In our recent history, this has been marked by Rally Day (on Sept 10 this year) but the usual pattern is that there are some “stops” in the congregation at the beginning of summer with a number of “starts” at the end of summer. Most of us are regulated by summer vacations and school calendars which means an end to things like Bible studies for the summer. The members of our congregation, though not of the world, are still operating within the world.

The most notable things to mark our calendars will be an influx of Bible studies and choir practice hours. The first full week of September at Hope Lutheran Church will feature regular practices of the Belle Voci choir and the chimers, alongside the Tuesday (Gospel of John) and Sunday (Evangelism and Apologetics) Bible studies. Confirmation class will be up and running soon as well. Our monthly studies will begin with “Lunch and Learn” on the fourth Thursday of the month and the book discussion group (time to be determined). Hopefully, we’ll also be able to start up things in the next couple months with a lectionary seminar (one-time event for lectors and anyone interested in public speaking), a widow(er)s/grief support group, and maybe a men’s morning study. (These three things have been proposed in the past but have not yet been implemented.) Also of interest is possible

ministry to Amica Jubilee House, a new senior living residence a few blocks from our church. I was contacted recently by Amica to see if I and other people in our congregation may want to participate in leading a monthly chapel service starting in November.

And alongside all these new things is the continuation of old concerns like our discussions on how to continue financially as a congregation. This has been the ongoing conversation over the summer with three dedicated discussion sessions. It has been, unfortunately, hanging over our heads for awhile and we hope to make a decision about how to proceed at our Congregation Meeting on Sept 17. We want to make a new start on how to approach things.

But despite our desires and needs to begin anew this September, we already find that we are living in newness. If anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation for the old has passed away and the new has come (2 Cor 5:18). We are not the same as we were before Christ came into our lives and transformed us to become pleasing unto our God. We are not the sinners we were before but consecrated saints that are welcomed into our heavenly Father’s presence. This has been the situation ever since we came to faith in Christ.

Even if the world has new beginnings as seasons change and fall projects start up, we have always been this new creation in Christ.

The world changes but we do not change in Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8). Ironically, we remain just as new in Christ as we have always been in the past. Both the blessings and the challenges that come and go will always be faced by us who have been renewed in Christ. Therefore, let us enter into new opportunities to learn and grow in the faith as those whom Christ has prepared for these tasks. And also, in the same knowledge of Christ preparing us for what is to come, let us make the decisions we need to make as they arise.

God bless,  
Pastor Adam Chandler

### *Welcoming in the name of Christ*

In the book of Ruth, Ruth returns with Naomi to Bethlehem after the death of her husband (Naomi's son) even though she is from Moab. When Ruth goes out to glean, to provide for her mother-in-law, she comes under the protection and grace of Boaz. He welcomes Ruth into his community. Then he provides her with property and marriage. God blessed the union with the birth of their son, Obed, the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Think back to the first time that you came to our church. What was the reason that you came back? Were you made to feel welcome? Did it feel like a place that you wanted to be your church home?

After a while, that first impression may fade as you make Hope your home, or it may still be a strong one. I still remember the welcome that I received here like it was yesterday. People came up to me to talk. They invited me to some of the church activities and shared some

information about themselves. It was a place that I wanted to return to the next week.

We all have had a "first" time to this church whether with family members or on our own. We have been brought into the family of Hope, as part of God's family.

Hope is pleased to acknowledge and celebrate, over the next couple of months, the first anniversary of the congregation of Living Hope sharing our church building.

Like Ruth coming into Boaz's home, we have all come into the same family of Hope Lutheran Church. And similar to Naomi, who accompanied her daughter-in-law, Living Hope Christian Church has come into our building of Hope to take shelter from hardships of the world. In both cases of Naomi and Living Hope, there is community.

We have much to celebrate! We can move forward with positive options for the future of our church, both as a building and as a home for more than one church family!

Just as God cared for Ruth and Naomi and provided a home for them, we are given the opportunity to do the same for others.

We only need to look to God's Word to see how to build community.

Praise God for the ways to serve our Lord and to give thanks, for He cares for us and provides for all our needs.

In Christ,  
Louise

## *Musical Notes*



After a summer break, our CHIME CHOIR resumes rehearsals on Saturday Sept 9th 3 pm. We look forward to ringing for our worship services again, and the first Sunday we ring will be Sept 10th! All are welcome to join our Chime choir!

Also resuming is our community outreach choir, Belle Voci, with our first rehearsal being Thursday, Sept 7th, 3 pm. All are welcome!! The first Sunday that Belle Voci sings will be Sept 10th, along with the chime choir!

This summer we engaged two new ideas, both being positive music endeavors here at Hope. The first was having Mel and Linda lead all the music for the service, and I believe it was a welcome change from our regular Divine Service. When we speak the liturgy, as opposed to sing it, it offers a chance to perhaps see new meaning in the words by not having to focus on a melody line as well. I hope we continue with this option for worship throughout the fall.

The second new musical experiment has been to have Hope host music recitals, 'bringing people in' and 'gifting' music out. REPOSE is scheduled to happen once per month, and we have beautiful meditative music planned for each of these Saturday 30-minute recitals...a chance to pause from the busyness of life, a chance to set your cell phone on vibrate, a chance to bring a friend to our church, a chance to bring your Christmas knitting while you listen, a chance to meet a neighbour...

Yours in Christ,  
Barbara



*Classical piano by  
young artist, James  
Summers  
August 18<sup>th</sup> Repose  
Recital*

## *Take Time to Pray*

Have you considered using our church calendar as a prayer calendar? As the birthdays are posted, please be encouraged to take a few minutes to pray for the person who is celebrating a birthday on that day. More ways to use it could be to pick a day of the week to pray for our Pastor, for the members of the PPC and BOLM and other people that you know who share their time and talents for our church community. Other prayer considerations could be for missionaries, seminarians, teachers, Lutheran Bible Translators, LWML-C, LCC, CLWR, our youth, first responders at home or in other communities, or others not mentioned. Prayer is powerful! Thanks be to God!

## *Fall Servant Event*

Please come on Saturday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am until 11:30 am to help do some of the church cleaning not done monthly by the cleaning company.

We will finish the morning with coffee or tea and dessert. God's blessings to you for your service!

## How Wide the Love of Christ (LSB 535)

How wide the love of Christ!  
It knows not class or race  
But holds our one humanity  
Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ!  
Its patience will not cease  
Until this broken world is bound  
In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ!  
Beyond all thought it soars,  
And yet upon our passing lives  
Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ,  
Descending to a cross!  
He bears withing His wounded hands  
All pain within and loss.

All praise to you, O Christ.  
For love whose depth and height,  
Whose length and breadth fill time and space  
With endless life and light!

(Herman G. Stuempfle , Jr.)

## Newsletter Submissions and Suggestions Wanted!

We're looking for articles, photos, stories, memories, artwork... any and every thing to do with Hope Lutheran (and our faith) to be shared in our monthly newsletter.

New ideas, such as for columns, sections, features, and anything else are also welcome to make this newsletter as interesting and relevant as possible.

Please contact me in person or at [helcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:helcnewsletter@gmail.com) with your submissions and suggestions. For those who don't use email, printed submissions can be left in the designated mailbox near the members' mailboxes.

Please note, submissions are due the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Thank You and God Bless,  
Nicole

## To The Word 2023-24

Are you looking for an encouraging way to connect daily with God's Word? Why not try the Bible Reading Challenge!

The reading plan covers the entire Bible and runs from September to May, with a schedule of about six chapters read every day; it is promoted as "a down to earth, practical and realistic plan without any guilt", and was completed last year by one of Hope's members!

The Challenge begins on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> with Psalm 119. For more information, please visit the Bible Reading Challenge website at [biblereading.christkirk.com](http://biblereading.christkirk.com) or pick up a printed copy of the plan in the narthex.

Blesséd reading!



Pastor Chandler setting up for his first of four community outreach events held in August.



# LWMLC NEWS



Women to Grow in God’s Word, Share God’s Son, and Serve God’s people.

May we heed this call and mission with justice, kindness, and humility.

In His Service,  
Deborah

**L** Ladies, Ladies, Ladies, no exceptions!!



**W** Welcome to attend a September 21 potluck luncheon at noon and Bible Study at 1:00 pm with Pastor Chandler.

**M** Mites, Missions, Meetings! Free-will offerings (called mites) are prayerfully dedicated at each monthly meeting in support of various mission grants designed to expand His kingdom.



**L** Empowered by studying His word we Learn how to be His ambassador in this time and place.



**C** Connecting with other sisters in Christ, we strive to spread His salvation to each town and city, to each tribe and nation.

## Vancouver Island Zone News



Fall Rally October 21 hosted by our sisters in Nanaimo. More details to follow.

Our motto in LWMLC is “Called to Serve”, our Mission is to Equip, Motivate and Encourage



P.S. Serving implies reaching out to our neighbors and we are delighted to announce the renewal of our

commitment to sew heart pillows for the patients at the Royal Jubilee on September 28th at 1:00 pm No experience required! No task too small!

## Sewing Club

We will be starting our sewing group once again on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. Please come join us, sewing not required. If you like to knit or crochet we have projects for you. If you can use a scissor or an iron, we have a task for you. Or just come for the fellowship.

*God’s Blessings to everyone with September birthdays!*

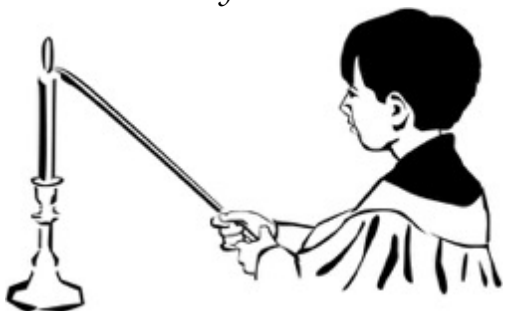


# Children's Corner and for those Young at Heart

*What is an "acolyte"?*

The acolyte is the person (or persons) who lights the candles before the service. The word acolyte comes from the Greek word *akolouthos* which means "follower." In English, the word acolyte sometimes means "attendant."

*Why do we use acolytes in the Church?*



Acolytes have always been an important part of worship. For centuries, acolytes have attended to the service of God's people by helping the pastor in many different ways. In our churches today, acolytes primarily serve by lighting the candles. Acolytes wear robes and sit apart from the congregation because they are helping the pastor to serve God's people during the service. Wow! What an important job!



**Parents:** During the Divine Service, point out the acolyte to your children. If they are too young at the time, encourage them that one day they will get the opportunity to be an acolyte. Remind them that being an acolyte is a very important job for children to have in the church.

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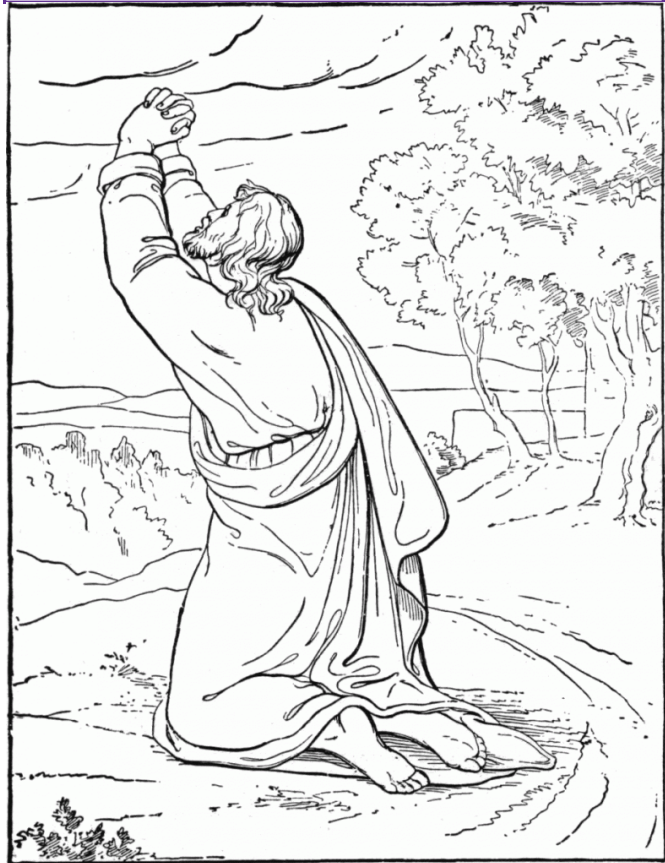
**BibleWise**


## Lord's Prayer Maze

Find your way through the maze by connecting each phrase of the Lord's Prayer. Then color the picture of Jesus at the end of the maze.

Our Father which art in heaven, Thy kingdom come,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Give us this day our daily bread. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

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Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
27 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30am	28	29	30	31 3:00pm Music Theory	1	2 3:00 pm Repose Recital (Chimes and Piano Duet)
3 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30am   Jennifer	4	5 10:00 am Bible Study	6	7 3:00pm Belle Voci	8   Sean	9 3:00 pm Chimes Practice
10 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am RALLY DAY!	11	12 10:00 am Bible Study	13	14 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:00pm Belle Voci	15	16 1:30 Worship Committee Meeting 3:00 pm Chimes Practice
17 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am Congregation Meeting	18	19 10:00 am Bible Study	20   Laura	21 12:00 pm Lunch and Learn 3:00pm Belle Voci   Ralph Joan	22	23 3:00 pm Chimes Practice   Taria
24 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am	25	26 10:00 am Bible Study	27	28 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:00pm Belle Voci	29	30 10:00 am Servant Event 3:00 pm Chimes Practice
	Notes	<b>ELDERS:</b> Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Bert Weiss (250-382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) <b>Elder of the Month:</b> Bert Weiss		<b>Altar Guild:</b> Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		

## September 2023 – Prayer Calendar

Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada [www.lbtc.ca](http://www.lbtc.ca)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A large print calendar is available upon request.					1 Please pray for God to give wisdom, encouragement, and joy to Pastor Mohr as he serves as LBTC's executive director.	2 Psalm 26:6-7 O Lord, Your most wondrous deed is salvation through Your Son, Jesus. As we give thanks aloud and tell the people around us, may they hear and believe. Amen.
3 Jeremiah 15:19b O Lord, empower people to use the Scriptures translated into their mother tongues to speak only what is precious so that, serving as Your mouth, people will be brought to faith. Amen.	4 Please pray for Kara Kuhn and Kayla Falkenholt as they get organized for another year of homeschooling all four Kuhn children.	5 Please pray for Pastor Boukar Bakari (DTA Director), that God's Word and Spirit would bring him strength, encouragement, wisdom, and joy as he serves his Saviour and His church.	6 Lord, be our great deliverer still, O Lord of life and death. Restore and quicken and bless with Your life-giving breath. To hands that work and eyes that see give Your Word's healing power that whole and sick and weak and strong my praise You evermore. Amen. LSB 846 v3	7 Rejoice with Kara Kuhn as she celebrated her birthday yesterday and give thanks to God for the countless blessings He has showered upon her throughout her life.	8 Please pray for Jubilee Kuhn as she begins her first year of official "big kids" school.	9 Psalm 32:5 O Lord, thank You for Your response to repentance, not condemnation but forgiveness for the sake of Jesus who paid for my sin with His innocent death. Alleluia! Amen!
10 Romans 13:8 O Lord, Your Word reveals that Your very nature is love. Let Your love come through unmistakably as the Scriptures are translated and proclaimed in people's mother tongues. Amen.	11 Give thanks to God for the freedom afforded the Christians in Cameroon to be able to worship our Triune God and spread His Word throughout the country.	12 Please pray for the Nizaa language community, that they would be eager to receive with joy the Scriptures translated into their mother tongue.	13 Christ, in every tribe and nation build Your temple stone by stone with Your Word as firm foundation for a faith matured and grown. You the Saviour, You the Servant, make through us Your gospel known. Amen. LSB 847 v3 alt	14 Please pray for Rev. Ted Nathalong, bishop of the Thailand Lutheran Church, that God would give him wisdom to lead that church in accord with His Word of Truth.	15 Please pray for God's blessing upon the annual Spiritual Retreat led by the DTA	16 Psalm 103:1-5 O Lord, let Your Word and Spirit remind me and all Your people of all Your benefits, both spiritual and physical. All blessing, honour, and glory be to You Gracious God. Amen.
17 Romans 14:1 & 8 O Lord, thank You that whether we are weak or strong at any given moment, we are Yours. Help us to treat others as You treat us, with forgiveness and love. Amen.	18 Give thanks and praise to God for the Canadian Sudanese pastors and the recording engineers who have given their time and efforts to produce an audio version of the New Testament in the Nuer language.	19 Please ask God to bless Pastor Kuhn and all those who are putting together reports based on the data gathered through the SURAM Cameroon project, that the results may make future Scripture use activities more fruitful.	20 Lord, as we worship You, grant us vision till Your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our world in night. Make us know the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share. Amen. LBS 848 v3 alt	21 Please pray for God to protect each member of the Kuhn family from all things that could harm the body and from all evil that could harm the soul.	22 Please ask God to bless the efforts of the Southern Thai speaking pastors and open the ears and hearts of the Southern Thai people to receive God's Word those pastors produce in their mother tongue.	23 Psalm 27:1 O Lord, so many people are living in fear these days. Grant that all would find comfort and hope when they hear Your Word of Light and Life in the language of their hearts. Amen.
24 Matthew 20:1-16 O Lord, We thank You for Your generosity toward all Your people. Keep us rejoicing in Your promised inheritance for all Your servants – an	25 Please pray for the whole Dwayo language community, that they would experience the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace and God's healing power at work among them.	26 Rejoice with Tim Kuehn (LBTC board member) as he celebrates his birthday tomorrow and give thanks to God for the countless blessings He has	27 All are redeemed, both far and wide, since Thou, O Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and grace provide to love them	28 Please pray for EELC National Bishop Baiguélé Jean and his leadership team as they prepare for the celebration of	29 Martin and Joan Weber as they prepare for a short term service in Cameroon to assist with LBTC and LBT US translation projects.	30 Psalm 25:4-5 O Lord, keep me steadfast in Your Word and Your Way and do the same for all people as they receive Your Word



eternity in Heaven with You. Amen.		showered upon him throughout his life.	all in Thee. Amen. LSB 852 v4	their church body's 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary.		in the language of their hearts. Amen.
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