

Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

November 2023

Volume 13 No. 11

From the Pastor

Remembrance Day bids us to recall past conflicts in the world and the souls who died in them. As we remember the dead, we also remember the values they fought for and the tyranny they fought against. In this way, Remembrance Day bids us not to forget the evils of the world, drawing us to take up the values of the past in order to work toward the future.

Remembrance in scripture is more action-based. When someone in scripture remembers something, they are not simply performing a mental exercise. A person remembers by doing something related to the memory. For example, God had made a covenant with Abraham to bring them into a promised land, make them a great nation, and cause them to be a blessing to the nations. Hundreds of years later, we hear God remembered this covenant when the Israelites groaned in Egypt under the yoke of slavery (Exod 2:24). Did our all-knowing Lord forget? Of course not! He “remembered” the covenant by enacting His promises to deliver the people from slavery to deliver them to the promised land. The Lord did not forget His valued promise of salvation for His people and fought on their behalf. Therefore, God as a man of war fought for His people by devastating Egypt and drowning Pharaoh’s army in the Red Sea (Exod 15:3).

Living in enacted remembrance means we continue in the blessings of what has gone

before. One of the reasons we persist in celebrating Remembrance Day is to persist in valuing the freedoms our nation has had in speech and conduct. We are to resist foreign tyrannies as the soldiers of old did and resist these tyrannies should they appear within our own nation. The people of Israel, remembering their deliverance from oppression, were to persist in the Passover as a memorial meal (Exod 12:14). God freed His people from slavery and now the people were to live perpetually in this freedom as God’s people. The action of remembrance in the Passover meal was the participation in this freedom.

We as Christians do not enact the Passover meal, but we do have greater fulfillments of the Exodus and the Passover. Like God freed the Israelites from bondage, Jesus freed us from slavery to sin that we might be children of God (John 8:34-36). As people feasted on the sacrificial lamb in the Passover, we feast upon the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord’s Supper for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). When we enter into this meal in remembrance of Jesus, we are actively participating in his sacrifice on the cross for our salvation. We are living in the freedom our Lord has given us when we gather in remembrance of him, eating and drinking his body and blood sacrificed to remove us from bondage to sin.

God bless,

Pastor Adam Chandler



Musical Notes



The month of November begins with All Saints Day. The All Saints Sunday service will begin with Belle Voci singing a vocal score based on Psalm 23. We sound a chime during the prayers in remembrance of each loved one who has passed away this year. The words of our hymns remind us of the hope that we will all meet again. It is a service of dignity, honour, remembrance, and embodies the essence of our faith for life everlasting.

There are repairs needed for our pipe organ, and I remind you all that all financial contributions to our congregation's organ fund will help to keep this fine instrument of ours in proper condition. Please consider a donation.

If you find that music is a solace, bring a friend to the Repose recitals for 30 minutes of meditative music. October ended with Pipes and Brass on October 28th; during November we will have a Remembrance Day service on Nov 11th at 3pm. On Dec 2nd at 3pm the Repose Recital will be Advent music with our Chime Choir and Belle Voci, followed by a potluck meal.

During December, we will have a carol sing song. In the new year, I am working on a Harp Repose Recital, and a piano/flute duet Recital. We have much to be thankful for, and many musicians to thank here at Hope.

If you like to sing, or if you play an instrument, please come and talk to me. To quote from one of our Lutheran Hymns, "All are welcome in this place".

In Christ's Service,
Barb



Ian and Barb perform the Pipes and Brass Repose on Oct 28th.

LWML-C News



Vancouver Island Zone Fall Rally 2023

On October 21, 2023, the LWML Vancouver Island Zone had our Fall Rally in Nanaimo. It was a blessing and a joy to attend along with 20 women and three pastors to learn the word of God under the theme of "Oaks of Righteousness".

*"[T]o grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD,
that he may be glorified."
(Isaiah 61:3)*

The morning started with an opening devotion led by the ladies from Port Alberni, followed by a Bible study, "Replanting the exiles", led by Pastor Chandler. We then broke for lunch, prepared by the ladies of St Paul's Lutheran Church, our host. It was a great lunch; there

was a variety of soups, breads, fruit, and sweets. Pastor Chandler continued with the second part of the Bible study, "Making the dry tree flourish".



An in-gathering offering was collected for the Crossroads Pregnancy Centre in Nanaimo. A non-profit agency providing support (practical, emotional, and spiritual) and education to women with an unexpected pregnancy or post-abortion situation.



A brief Zone business meeting followed where a delegate for the upcoming National LWML Convention in Ontario was voted in - Deborah Gruben as the delegate and Theodora Henry as the alternate.



The skit "Storms of Life" (performed by the Victoria ladies) and the closing devotion led by the Courtnay ladies taught us to lay our burdens down at the feet of Jesus, and to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding". (Proverbs 3:5)



In Christ
Theodora

Lutherfest!

Sending out a big Thank You to the LWML and the many other people involved in creating the blessed festivities our congregation enjoyed on Reformation Sunday. We had a wonderful turnout in terms of food contributions and attendees, and Pastor Chandler kept participants on their toes with a fun talk/trivia game presentation.



A special Thank You also to the LWML for their gifts of Luther Rose magnets and explanatory cards of this cherished symbol of our faith!



Opportunities for Fellowship

Potlucks and luncheons are coming back into our church life! Lutherfest allowed us to enjoy sausages and sauerkraut and the Repose music offering on Dec 2nd will provide us with a potluck early dinner!

On Christmas Day, following worship service at 10:30am, we are going to have a potluck Christmas luncheon at 11:45am! More information will be presented in the December newsletter. And yes, please, to offers of food to share and hands to help.

Blessings to you all,
Louise

For anyone sending Christmas cards to
Rev. L.M. Carson, his address is:
#114-295 Gerstmar Rd.
Kelowna, B.C., V1X 7W9
1-250-979-0624

"I am the Light of the World"

We can be sad or angry, disappointed or devastated. We can be in a time of mourning or living in fear. Emotions and our present situations are real. We are not to push these thoughts or feelings down deep inside as this can cause damage to us physically and emotionally.

On the other hand, we are not to hold on to them and lug them around like heavy weights. In the skit, "The Storms of Life" (written by L. Bathelder) and presented at the recent LWML-C Rally in Nanaimo, we heard that we are to put our troubles and worries at the base of the cross. We are to trust our Saviour, Jesus Christ! We are to remember that "God is with us, always."

Knowing that we do not have to bear our problems all by ourselves begins to put issues in perspective and give us the ability to think them through. We can start to decide which ones we can change, which ones are out of our control and which ones need acceptance of offers of help from others.

This is where trust in God comes into the equation. Negative thoughts and reactions are the darkness in our lives. Sharing our burdens with Christ in prayer and action helps to clear away our dark despair. It allows the Son of Righteousness to shine His love on us and remind us that we are not alone.

We are now looking forward to the coming of Advent and the time to celebrate the birth of the "Light of the World", Jesus.

We need to remember what John says in John 8:12; "Jesus spoke to them, saying "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but have the light of life." Amen.

Louise

May God's comfort and love be with Judith Kovats and her family on the passing of her husband, Miklos, on October 17th. Remembrance donations can be made to Parkinson Canada. According to his wishes, there will not be a service.

Judith thanks those who have sent cards for her, for their kindness, and sends her love.

Abide with Me (LSB 878)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What by Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
Victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide in me!

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the
skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

(Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847)



Looking to see if there is interest in creating a Hope Lutheran Cookbook!

If you would like to submit a recipe, please send it to Theodora via the church email address (helc@shaw.ca) or leave a copy in her mailbox.

Thank You!

God's Blessings to Everyone with November Birthdays!



Newsletter Submissions Wanted!

Please send your articles, updates, photos, stories, memories, artwork... any and every thing to do with Hope Lutheran (and our faith) to helcnewsletter@gmail.com Hard copy submissions can be left in the designated mailbox right of the members' mailboxes.

Submissions are due the 26th of each month.

Thank You and God Bless,
Nicole

Children's Corner and For Those Young at Heart

What is a "parament"?

A parament (pronounced PAIR-uh-ment) is a colored piece of cloth that hangs on the important items of furniture in the sanctuary. **Can you find the altar?** You may see a colored piece of cloth hanging on it.



This parament is called the "frontal" or "superfrontal." **Can you find the pulpit?** The pulpit has a parament, too, as do many of the important furniture items in the sanctuary. Look around to see how many paraments are in your church.

Why do we use paraments?

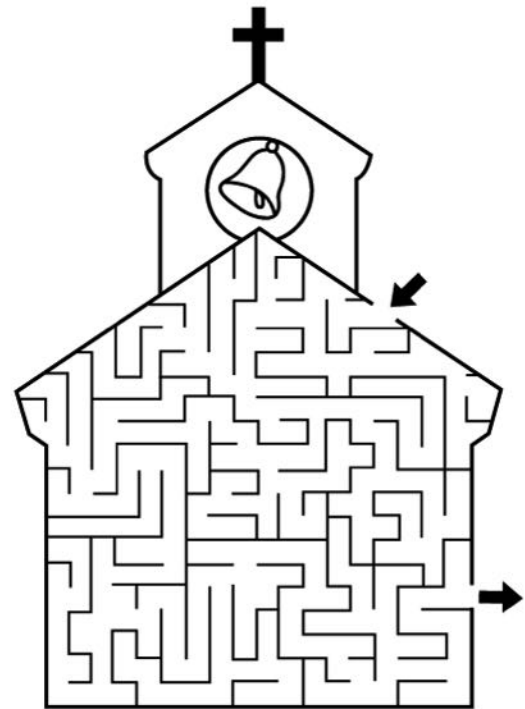
Paraments honor God and beautify His sanctuary based on the seasons of the Church Year. For example, during the season of Pentecost, the paraments are green. During Lent, the paraments are purple. The word "parament" comes from the Latin word "parare" which means "to decorate or adorn." The paraments are not silent decorations. Each parament helps to proclaim the wonderful news of salvation through Jesus Christ!



Before or after worship, allow your child to get a closer look at the paraments in the sanctuary. (Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places.) Instruct them that the colors might be different than what they would expect at certain times in the Church Year. For example, the paraments are red on Reformation Day even though it falls during the season of Pentecost.

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Church Maze



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Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
29 Reformation Sunday Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am	30	31	1 All Saints Day	2 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:00pm Belle Voci 7:00pm Langford Discussion Group	3  Julia Theim	4 10:00am Confirmation 3:00 pm Chimes Practice Set Clocks Back One Hour
5 All Saints Sunday Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am  Shane Johnson Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	7 10:00 am Bible Study	8	9 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:00pm Belle Voci	10	11 10:00am Confirmation 11:30am Youth Group 3:00 pm "Repose" REMEMBRANCE DAY 
12 24 th Sunday a Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am	13	14 10:00 am Bible Study	15	16 1:00 pm Sewing Group Heart Pillows  3:00pm Belle Voci	17	18 10:00am Confirmation 3:00 pm Chimes Practice
19 25 th Sunday a Pentecost Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am	20  Ken Dill	21 10:00 am Bible Study	22  Ashley Marie Fitterer	23 12:00 pm LWML Lunch & Learn 3:00pm Belle Voci	24	25 10:00am Confirmation 3:00 pm Chimes Practice
26 Last Sunday of the Church Year Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30am	27	28 10:00 am Bible Study  Mark Russell	29	30 1:00 pm Sewing Group 3:00pm Belle Voci	1	2 10:00am Confirmation 1:30pm Tree Trimming 3:00pm "Repose"

Notes	ELDERS: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776) Bert Weiss (250-382-2612) Fred Smale (250-652-9396) Elder of the Month: Michael Rumsch	Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton
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