

Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

July 2024

Volume 14 No. 07

Pastor's Message

We have finally come to summer in Victoria. The season seemed to be lagging behind with cool weather hanging in Victoria for the past few months. It has been much colder this Spring than in the previous years since I came to the Island. I doubt I was the only one wondering when summer would arrive, not just on the calendar but with characteristic weather. This reminds me of this verse:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecc. 3:1).

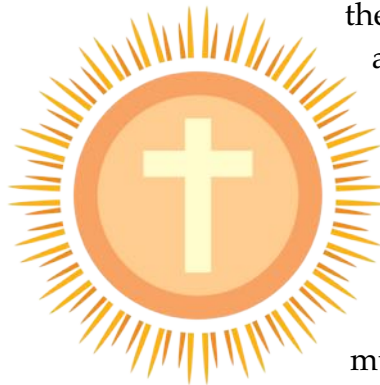
The author of Ecclesiastes is making the point that, regardless of what we want to happen and how we might try to make things last forever, change is inevitable in our world. Everything will operate according to the designs and commands of the Almighty. This notion may scare us if we want the good things we currently enjoy to persist, but change is certainly good news to all of us who hope for something better than what we find in this world. This latter category of people should include all of us.

There are horrible things going on in the world – wars (e.g. Ukraine, Israel), rumours of wars (e.g. Taiwan and the South China Sea), false Christs (take your pick of self-proclaimed prophets on television and the internet), and many more things besides. All of this reveals that we are living in the end times, and have been ever since Christ prophesied these things

2000 years ago. There have been wars, rumours of wars, false Christs, and more since Christ ascended into heaven. When will it end? The fact of the matter is that we do not know but we do know that there is indeed an end to it. There is an appointed time for all things under heaven and that includes Christ descending from heaven to do away with suffering and evil in order to bring about the new Eden he promised.

Until Christ comes again, we are awaiting him here in this world while desiring the evils to end and the good to continue. So, until worldly evils do end upon Christ's return, let us enjoy the good things that are among us. Let us enjoy

the summer that has arisen, basking in the warm weather, soaking up the sun, munching on watermelon in the breeze, and so much more. As much as God has appointed a time for the end of evils in this world, He has also appointed a season of summer for us to enjoy His creation. While we do just that, let us be mindful that all the little blessings we enjoy in this world come from the Lord and that we should thank Him for everything we love about summer.



God bless,
Pastor Adam Chandler

Music Notes



Saturday, July 6th, 3pm is our next Repose Recital!!! This Recital is all about 'majestic music', music that was written for royalty and the common people alike! The instruments being played will be trumpet (Andrew), and piano, pipe organ, and ukulele (Barb). Come out and enjoy 30 minutes of music and fellowship, bring a friend, meet a new neighbour, close your eyes and let your imagination transport you.

There will be two Choral Reading jam sessions for Belle Voci, and anyone interested in joining our community, choir this summer: Thursday July 11th at 3-4 pm, and Thursday August 29th at 3-4 pm. All welcome, bring a friend! Come to one or both!

In July, I will be selecting the Chime Choir music for the fall and through to Christmas. I have received a few special requests—thank you! If you have a favorite hymn, let me know!

Laura and Barb will be the organists for the summer, and we continue to pray for Richard's health.

Thank you to Mel, Ian, and Linda for leading two services in song this summer; it is always a welcome change, and hopefully you will be able to do this also in the fall.

Blessings to all,
Barb



LWML-C News



Thank you for honouring and sharing the gifts God has given you! As we prepare for our summer respite from regular monthly meetings, it had been my privilege to deliver the tangible gifts of love to the families and clients of both Esquimalt Neighborhood House and Fernwood Community Centre, each receiving 14 pillowcase dresses and seven quilts. Featured model is my granddaughter Makayla:



Also, with yours truly and Best Baby program coordinators (see photo below). In addition, 33 premie hats were delivered to the VGH neonatal unit. These gifts of love enable us to share our love for our neighbour as 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV) encourages: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should

do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”



As LWML members, we understand the importance of proclaiming the Gospel, mission funding, and mission service. At our National Convention on July 10-14, we will elect a new set of directors and set a new mission program in fervent gratitude for the Saviour’s dying love, and His blood-bought gift of redemption. Our goal is to do His will by bringing the lost and errant into eternal fellowship with Him.



I thank God and you for allowing me to deliver these gifts of love and experiencing firsthand the joyful smiles on the faces of the recipients. I ask you to keep the work of LWMLC in your prayers as we prepare to do His will. May we boldly sing His praises!

In His service.
Deborah

Lunch & Learn Goes to Israel

During the LWML Lunch & Learn meeting in June, Pastor Chandler gave a talk about the archaeological dig he volunteered for in 2016, at Hippos, above the Sea of Galilee, in Israel.



Pastor Chandler spoke about living on a kibbutz, in a house shared with other volunteers. They had to rise early, at 4:15am, to catch the bus to the dig site. The work involved a lot of digging, of course, as well as moving rocks, sifting dirt, and cleaning artifacts. They were back at the kibbutz by noon to wash up, have lunch, and then attend a lecture in the afternoons.

The group unearthed a chapel area, a baptismal area, a large house beside the chapel, and part of a street. They also found many pottery and glass shards. Pastor Chandler found a pottery artifact that was at first thought to be a part of multi-spouted oil lamp but even the pottery expert on site didn’t really know what it was. In the end, he was able to bring home some artifacts that were not deemed “museum worthy”.

Overall, Pastor Chandler gave a very interesting and educational talk. And everyone also got to enjoy a good lunch as well as the

cake that Sally brought to celebrate Louise's birthday.



After-Service Coffee

Looking for a new coordinator/host for the after-service coffee, beginning Labour Day weekend (Sept. 1). Please let Nicole know if you are interested in taking over this role.

Also, we need more donations of goodies for after-service coffee! Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board. Thank you.

*God's Blessings to Everyone
with July 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.

Thank You and God Bless,
Nicole

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

1924 Carrick St., Victoria, B.C., V8R 2M4

Ph: 250-592-4124

Email: helc@shaw.ca

hopevictoria.lutheranchurchcanada.ca

Pastor Adam Chandler

Ph: 778-350-9332

Email: pastorhelc@shaw.ca

Children's Corner and For Those Young at Heart

What is a "catechism"?

A catechism (pronounced KAT-eh-kizm) is a book of instruction usually written in question-and-answer form. The word "catechism" comes from the Greek word katekhein, which means "to instruct." A catechism teaches the basics of the Christian faith.

Why do we need catechisms?

While visiting local churches, Martin Luther found many pastors and their church members were unaware of the true teachings of the Bible.

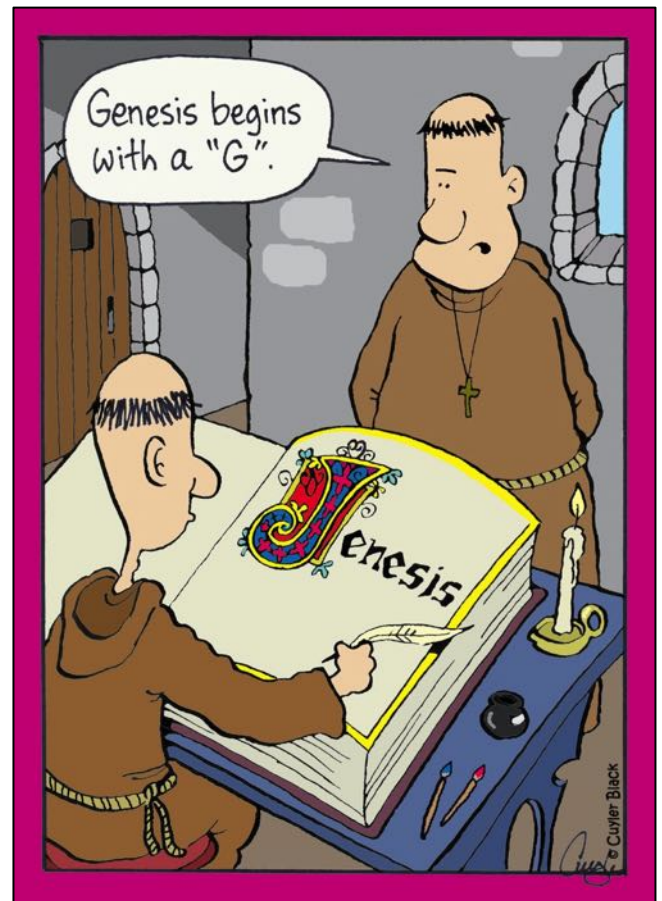





Because of this, the people were living immoral lives. Martin Luther wrote the catechisms to instruct people in the basics of the Christian faith, that they might know Christ and His forgiveness and live accordingly. We still use Luther's Large and Small Catechisms so that we never forget those things that are necessary for faith in Christ.



Consider these words from Luther: "I, too, am a theologian who has attained a fairly good practical knowledge and experience of Holy Scriptures through various dangers. But I do not so glory in this gift as not to join my children daily in prayerfully reciting the Catechism. ... For God gave the Word that we should impress it on ourselves. ... Without this practice our souls become rusty, as it were, and we lose ourselves" (Plass, Ewald M., *What Luther Says* vol. 1 [St. Louis: Concordia, 1986], 125–26).

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 6 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	1 **Pastor Chandler is away from July 1 - 25	2	3	4 2:00pm Organ Practice	5  Memory Beck Mel Klassen	6 3:00pm Repose Recital
7 7 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	8  Margaret Scherly	9	10	11 3:00pm Belle Voci Choral Reading	12	13
14 8 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	15	16  Paul Loofs	17	18 2:00pm Organ Practice	19	20
21 9 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	22	23	24	25 2:00pm Organ Practice	26	27 2:30pm Amica Prayer Service
28 10 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	29	30	31	1 2:00pm Organ Practice	2	3
	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		